

# REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

David Ransel, Director  
Vol. 32, No. 1

Maren Payne-Holmes, Editor  
February 2008

## Spelling Separatism

by Colin Dietch

Students of conflict and nationalism can rarely avoid entering the linguistic maze that frequently accompanies separatism and political tension. Volumes of debate on federalism are contained within the expressions “the United States *is*” and “the United States *are*.” The choice of Latin or Cyrillic alphabet conveyed information about actors in the countries of the former Yugoslavia. Speakers of Russian understand the significance of the prepositional complement of “Ukraine,” just as speakers of English understand the contentious distinction between “Ukraine” and “the Ukraine.” Few conflicts are as troublesome to the Western analyst as the frozen conflict in Moldova, where a largely Russophone population on a sliver of land between the Dniester river and Ukraine has enjoyed *de facto* autonomy since 1991. Since the 1992 ceasefire that ended armed hostilities, authorities in Chisinau and Tiraspol (the capital city of the separatist region) have engaged in a war of words. The rhetorical battle has complicated the task of the disinterested observer, who risks being drawn into one side of the political battle through careless use of language.



Map of the separatist region and Moldova (courtesy of Wikipedia)

The name of this separatist region lies at the center of the conflict. The reader will note that I have judiciously (if somewhat awkwardly) avoided assigning it a name. Before heading into the morass of Moldovan political geography and place names, it is important to appreciate the complexity of Moldova’s linguistic composition. Moldova is a multi-ethnic and multi-lingual state with large minority populations of Russians and Ukrainians. The separatist region east of the Dniester has a particularly high concentration of Russian and Ukrainian speakers. There are large numbers of Russian speakers in the rest of Moldova as well as a high level of Moldovan-Russian bilingualism. The

ethnic and linguistic diversity of Moldova contributes to the pitched political debate and creates challenges in writing about the conflict.

A cursory examination of journalistic and scholarly articles on the long-running conflict reveals a surprising diversity of terminology. Some in the West call this unrecognized separatist region *Transnistria*, from the Romanian for “across the Dniester [Nistru] river.” Others prefer *Transdniester* or *Transdniestria*. Still others use the Russian *Pridnestrovie* or *Pridnestrov’e* meaning “along the Dniester.” Each of these appellations presents its own set of problems to authors and audiences writing in English.

A Google search suggests that *Transnistria* is the most common usage, returning 545,000 English-language hits including the BBC and several other major media outlets. It is also the easiest to pronounce for English-speaking non-specialists. It is important to consider, however, that *Transnistria* is taken from

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## INSTITUTE STAFF

David Ransel, Director  
 Mark Trotter, Assistant  
 Director/Outreach Coordinator  
 Andrew Burton, Advisor/Assistant  
 Director for Student Services  
 Marianne Davis, Administrative  
 Secretary

## GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Maren Payne-Holmes, Publications  
 Editor  
 Richard Payne-Holmes, Website  
 Administrator  
 Brant Beyer, Outreach Assistant  
 Jennifer Evans, Library Assistant

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Russian and East European  
 Institute  
 Ballantine Hall 565  
 Indiana University  
 Bloomington, IN 47405-6615  
 Phone: (812) 855-7309  
 Fax: (812) 855-6411  
 Email: reei@indiana.edu  
 www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/

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the Moldovan/Romanian language. Using the preferred terminology of the central Moldovan state may suggest sympathy with a political agenda, even where none exists.

Authors using *Transdniester* and *Transdnestrria* attempt to avoid the appearance of bias in favor of Chisinau by using the Slavic *Dniester* in place of the Romance *Nistru*. These terms may present some phonetic challenges to an English-language audience unfamiliar with the exotic *dn* consonant cluster. This odd collision of Latin and Slavic morphemes may be difficult to spell and to say, but at first glance, it appears to avoid the problematic appearance of partisanship presented by *Transnistria*.

A closer examination, however, reveals a subtler semantic problem. *Trans-*, of course, means “across” or “on the other side of.” When broken down into their linguistic components, *Transdniester* and *Transdnestrria* have a single meaning: “on the other side of the Dniester/Nistru river.” Therefore, when an author uses *Transdnestrria* or *Transdniester* to refer to the political entity, he or she is necessarily situated to the west of the river and facing east. The implicit suggestion is that the author belongs to a group situated across from (i.e. to the west of) *Transdnestrria*, the political “other.”

*Pridnestrovie* and *Pridnestrov'e* are transliterated forms of the Russian name of the region, which means simply “along the Dniester.” While these terms avoid the loaded *Trans-* prefix, they are problematic nonetheless. First, they are almost impenetrable to English speakers who are not familiar with Slavic languages. English and the Romance languages share the *trans-* prefix, and it is immediately comprehensible. *Pri-*, on the other hand, does not exist in English, and conveys less geographical information than *trans-*. In addition to the intimidating *dn* consonant cluster, the reader or speaker must grapple with a mysterious apostrophe, which stands in for an equally mysterious soft sign. The political content of *Pridnestrovie* and *Pridnestrov'e* is also potent: the self-proclaimed republic proclaims itself the *Pridnestrovskaya Moldavskaya Respublika*, or PMR. Use of the Slavic name for the region inevitably recalls the political assertions of its leaders and may suggest that the author favors independence for the PMR.

How, then, should one write in English about Moldova’s frozen conflict, especially to a non-expert audience? Commentators wishing to avoid adopting an explicit political position on the status of *Transdnestrria* (if they choose to call it so) must balance an awareness of the rhetorical fight with the need for clarity. It is difficult to blame the reader who throws up his or her hands in bewilderment over the problem of nomenclature, to say nothing of the complex political issues underlying the conflict. This confusion exists because no linguistic norms have yet emerged in English. If a consensus emerges and the English-language community settles on a single name for this turbulent region, these loaded terms will begin to lose their political potency. Alternatively, the parties may reach an agreement and settle the long-running conflict, rendering the discourse about the discourse as obsolete as “White Russian” or *Malorossiia*. Until then, those wishing to understand and explain separatism in Moldova shall have to choose their words with care.

Colin Dietch is an MA student  
 in the REEI

## REEIfication online

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## Recruiting for American Councils

by Joe Crescente

I arrived in Vladivostok on August 25, 2007 to start work for American Councils after undergoing training in Kyiv, Ukraine. My position was that of participant recruiter for the FLEX program (Future Leaders Exchange). FLEX is a federal government program that provides opportunities on



Author at a presentation in Blagoveshchensk

a competitive basis for high school students from Eurasia to spend a year in the United States, living with a family and attending a US high school. The program was founded in 1992 by Bill Bradley, Senator from New Jersey at the time, and has been widening contacts between the countries of the former Soviet Union and America ever since.

My job was to travel around the Far East of Russia and conduct the competitions for the program. I traveled to eight cities: Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Blagoveshchensk, Khabarovsk, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskii, Chita, Ulan-Ude, Irkutsk, and Magadan. The main task while in the Vladivostok office was to set up dates and confirm with the testing centers, contact the Russian Ministry of Education, and prepare the copious amounts of travel related paperwork: applications, tests, forms, surveys, and leaflets. Our reception varied from city to city. Occasionally we were welcomed at the airport and taken around by a personal driver but at other times our arrival was greeted less enthusiastically.

There are three levels in the FLEX competition. The first level is a simple fifteen question English language test. I call this part of the competition the "elimination" round, as only a small percentage of students pass from round one to round two. Round two consists of three parts: a listening section, a reading comprehension section, and an essay. Rounds one and two are handled in one brief trip usually consisting of no more than a few days. However, each recruitment trip covered two cities, as travel in the Russian Far East is far from cheap. About one month after

round two we received a list from Moscow of students accepted into round three.

Round three was the most challenging from a mental standpoint. This final step of the competition begins with a meeting and a question and answer session with the students who had passed the second round as well as their parents. Additionally, we explained how to fill out the extensive application, which includes recommendations, transcripts, photos, letters, health forms, and related information. Immediately following this meeting all of the students composed one more essay. The final portion of the third round consists of interviews spread out over the course of the next few days. For the recruiter, the interviews are the most draining part of the process, as we are often compelled to interview ten students a day and fill out the various forms outlining each student's suitability for participation in this program. We also conducted a group activity with five students at a time in order to give us an idea of how each student interacted with others.

The program is, foremost, a cultural exchange rather than merely a year of free English lessons. The students have to be flexible because they cannot choose the family with whom they will live, the city or state in which they will reside, the school they will attend, or even the grade in which they will study. The popularity of this competition has waned in recent years in Russia, as some parents choose to finance their children's participation



One of the temples in the Datsun, the largest Buddhist monastery in Russia

in a paid exchange program abroad where everything is predetermined. In other countries of the former Soviet Union, such as Ukraine and Georgia, the popularity of the FLEX program has increased in the past few years. Two years ago in Tblisi 1500 students showed up for the initial round of the competition; this year in Magadan we had fewer than 80.

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## Remembering the 1941 Baltic Deportations

by David Stira

Using life histories as primary sources is an emerging method of studying the former Soviet world. Thanks largely to efforts of local historical groups, and since people no longer need pass their stories by censors, many former Soviet citizens are now publishing their own stories of important historical events. One such event is the June 1941 deportations from Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. By adding deportees' life histories into the existing historical narrative, we are able to supplement our understanding of these events.

As with any source, life histories have their share of advantages and disadvantages. This literature is most useful in situations like the Baltic deportations, where public information is sparse. The Russian government is well-known for its tight grip on archival material, especially pertaining to politically charged issues such as this one. Life histories present several challenges, however, especially in objectivity and accuracy. Seeing events through the eyes of a human being can be a disadvantage, since accounts are often colored by the author's biases or spotty memory.

After the outbreak of World War II in Europe, the first wave of deportations occurred in the Baltic region. While the Soviets succeeded in eviscerating the intelligentsia and middle-class, this only happened at the cost of widespread resentment. Elderly people, women, and children of every age were forced into train cars and sent to Siberia because the Stalin regime considered their spouses or relatives to be counter-revolutionaries. In what may have been a calculated effort to dehumanize the deportees, rather than using passenger cars, the Soviet government herded thousands of Balts into cattle cars as they were forcibly relocated to far-away regions like Altaiskii Krai (near Novosibirsk), Irkutskaiia Oblast' (north of Lake Baikal), and even as far as Iakutia province (half of which is above the arctic circle).

The ultimate destination of deportees was, to some extent, determined by sex and nationality. While Balts were relocated initially to Western Siberia, their accounts indicate that, in many cases, they spent a year or less there, before

being moved elsewhere. Men were generally sent to work in labor camps while women were relegated to supposedly less strenuous work. For men, typical destinations were the infamous coal mines of Vorkuta or the smelters of Noril'sk – places where the Soviets were extracting natural resources. Women generally ended up wherever the Soviets needed agricultural work or food processing done. Many

more women survived to write life histories than did men.

Life in the camps was uniformly terrible, especially sanitary conditions. Every available life history mentions the ubiquitous lice, which found fertile breeding grounds on the emaciated bodies of forced laborers. Numerous other maladies sprang up as well, including

measles, typhus, dysentery, scurvy, and tuberculosis. A kilogram of bread was considered a blessing, and most received fewer than 800 grams of bread per day as their only nourishment. This quantity was even lower for children or invalids who could not work. Frostbite, sometimes resulting in gangrene and amputations, was common. Accounts indicate that deportees with medical training were valued and treated better by Soviet officials than other deportees, because they could provide unpaid and immediate medical care. Clearly productivity, rather than curing sick people, was Soviet officials' focus.

Seeing how people preserved their humanity in unbearable conditions is where life histories offer something that simple historiography cannot. Each life history has within it many different ways that deportees remained sane in the harshest of environments. Deportees had to make a concerted effort to stave off depression – some learned new skills, such as how to catch birds for extra food, while others cared for the indigent or even adopted orphaned deportee children. The authors of these narratives recall day-to-day events that kept them from giving up hope, and some even recall day-to-day humor. For example, a Lithuanian woman recalls how she and a friend comically smuggled ice-cold fish back to their camp by stuffing them down their pant-legs.



Map of Siberia (courtesy of Microsoft)

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## Romanian Studies Organization Brings *Juliet* to Bloomington

by Amy Luck

On December 6 and 7, the IU Romanian Studies Organization brought Andras Visky's, *Juliet: A Dialogue about Love*, to the John Waldron Arts Center in downtown Bloomington ([www.juliet-tour.com](http://www.juliet-tour.com)). The Hungarian-Romanian playwright's drama tells the story of an East European Juliet in communist Romania... without a Romeo. The piece serves as a dialogue between the playwright's mother, Juliet, and a God who has seemingly betrayed her when needed most. In 1939, Visky's father fled from Romania to Hungary, where he met his future wife. After the end of World War II, the couple decided to return to Transylvania, then a part of Romania, because, as his father said, "A servant of God must always choose the hard way." Visky's father was sentenced to prison for 22 years for involvement with the Hungarian Reformed Church, and Visky's mother and their seven children were sent to a Romanian prison camp far from their home.

Melissa Hawkins gave a powerful 90 minute portrayal of a multi-dimensional Juliet, a woman who suffers deeply in her circumstances but who is still capable of finding joy in her memories, her family, and even her dismal surroundings. Hawkins' own involvement in the English production began when the play was passed on to her while she worked in Budapest's "Studio K." Impressed with the play's "uncompromising marriage of faith and art—two ideals that all too often destroy each other," she contacted the author to arrange a meeting the next time he was in Hungary. Visky responded by inviting her to his home in Cluj, Romania. Hawkins accepted, and after a week with the Visky family, she was asked by the playwright to perform the English premiere of *Juliet* in the fall of 2006. *Juliet* has been performed in Hungarian at the Thália Theatre in Budapest since the fall of 2002. It has also been translated into Romanian, opening at the Romanian National Theatre in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, last year.

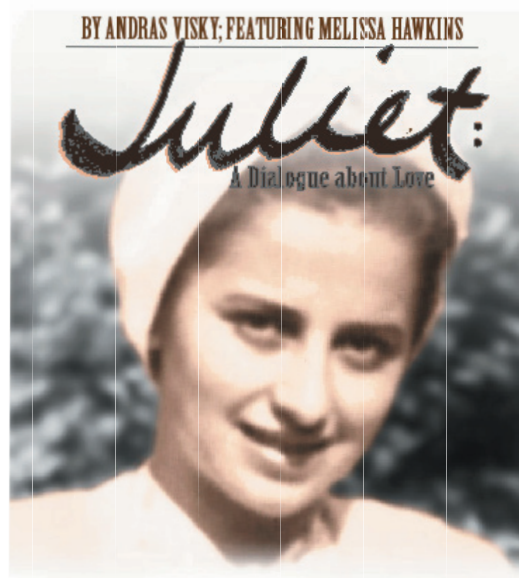
Originally a political dissident in Romania, András Visky is an acclaimed writer, poet, and essayist. He is the dramaturg of the State Hungarian Theatre and Associate Professor of Aesthetics at the University of Babeş-Bolyai, both in Cluj. His play *Disciples* is currently running in Cluj and two newer plays, *The Escape* and *The Alcoholics*, premiered last year in the Romanian cities of Târgu Mureş and Sfântu Gheorghe. His most recent play, *The Unborn*, is a stage adaptation of *Kaddish for an Unborn Child* by Imre Kertész (winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, 2002).

The performances drew an international audience which included students and professors of Romanian, Hungarian, Polish, and Brazilian origins (to name a few) studying in a range of area studies programs and disciplines at IU. Before the play's start, audience members were able to see artifacts from Juliet's life and photographs of the Visky family from the 1940s and 1950s. Several persons remarked that they enjoyed viewing a video which featured interviews (conducted in Hungarian) of some of the key players surrounding the "Juliet" story. After both performances, Melissa Hawkins graciously offered talk-back sessions in which the

audience could ask questions regarding different aspects of the play. During the Friday session, IU professors Maria Bucur (History) and Ágnes Fülemile (CEUS) joined Ms. Hawkins in answering questions and providing background information on the Hungarian and Romanian context in Romania after World War II during the setting of the play.

The Romanian Studies Organization was formed this fall to promote and celebrate Romanian language and culture at Indiana University and in the wider Bloomington and Indiana community. Other co-sponsors of the play were REEI, the Inner-Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, the IU Student Association, and the IU departments of Central Eurasian Studies, Comparative Literature, History, and Slavic Languages and Literatures.

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Poster for the play *Juliet*

## Faculty Profile: Nina Rathbun

### Interview by Kristen McIntyre

Nina Rathbun is a lecturer and research associate in Political Science. She received her PhD from the University of California, Berkeley and served as a Foreign Affairs Officer with the US State Department. She has taught classes in Globalization, Identity and the State, Public International Law, Introduction to International Relations, and International Organizations as well as the Proseminar in Russian and East European Studies. In the following interview, Professor Rathbun discusses the intersection of law and politics, creating independent media in Eastern Europe, and the usefulness of nuclear weapons agreements.



*What first attracted you to the study of political science?*

I had the opportunity to live in Moscow for several months while I was in high school through the Reagan-Gorbachev cultural exchange program. My school provided an unprecedented opportunity to study Russian from seventh grade and was therefore selected as one of a handful of schools to participate in this exchange program. This same exceptional program produced many Russian experts, including IU's own Professor Regina Smyth. The excitement created by the possibility for reform (*perestroika*) and openness (*glasnost*) and the frequent protests was fascinating and exhilarating. Living with a family and discussing the pros and cons of the communist political and social system forced me to think hard about how governments influence most aspects of daily existence. If change was to be possible, it seemed to me that it would likely have to be done through changes of law. This directed my interest to how law and politics intersect – how politics influences the creation and implementation of law and how law affects the behavior of politicians. I find similar questions regarding international law also fascinating. Why would states create and follow international law when there is no one to enforce it?

*What important experiences and knowledge that you gained from working as a Foreign Affairs Officer do you hope to integrate into your teaching?*

The most important knowledge I gained at the State department was how our foreign policy is actually formulated. I hope to impart to my students a sense of how theories of government or foreign policy relate to actual practice. While I had studied bureaucratic politics before, it had not prepared me for the virulent and personal nature of some of the major fights over how to best prevent states from proliferating nuclear weapons, a goal which we all share. While I had expected that different agencies would have different perspectives, I had not anticipated

\*Degrees: BA, Wesleyan University, MA, University of California, Berkeley, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

\*Honors/Fellowships:

Political Science Department, UC Berkeley Dissertation Fellowship 8/00-6/01

Center for German and European Studies Predissertation Fellowship 5/99-9/99

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) Fellowship 6/98-9/98

University of California Graduate Opportunity Fellowship 8/96-6/98

Phi Beta Kappa 5/95

Thomas J. Watson Memorial Scholarship 9/91-5/95

\*Past Positions: Assistant Professor, Concordia University, Foreign Affairs Officer, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Nonproliferation, Visiting Scholar and Lecturer, The Ohio State University

\*Current Status: Lecturer and Research Associate in Political Science at Indiana University

\*Research Interests: Democratic development and party politics in Eastern Europe, International Law development, Nuclear nonproliferation, Counterterrorism

the degree to which one's own ideological beliefs about the usefulness of laws and treaties would come into decision-making. There is a strong divide between those who believe that states are likely to change their behavior when they make a legal commitment to do so, as long as there are monitoring mechanisms to catch them if they cheat, and those who believe that creating new treaties or strengthening old ones only makes us less safe because it gives us a false sense of security. It is impossible to bridge this divide because any monitoring mechanism to provide more information and therefore increase the likelihood that states will follow their own commitments will only make those who fear a false sense of security more fearful that such a treaty will inspire faith rather than cause the

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government to prepare for cheating by other states. I hope to teach students the influence of their own (and others') assumptions on their critical analysis and to assist them in understanding these underlying ideological beliefs.

*From your research on the creation of independent media in central and southeastern Europe, what do you consider to be the most important factors in transitioning countries when defining the relationship between the government and the media?*

My research demonstrated the importance of political ideology on the willingness of governments to enact legislation that would prevent them (and future governments) from influencing the media. In Eastern Europe during the early 1990s there were several political parties that believed in restraining government power and some of these parties gained office. These governments tended to enact legislation allowing for more independent media, through independent regulating agencies for allocating broadcasting licenses and more independent state broadcasting boards for state TV and radio. Surprisingly, political parties whether in or out of office tended to act in a principled way and follow their beliefs about the relationship of media and government. Some parties believe that government should have some influence over media because the government represents the people's choice and deserves to be able to explain their policies to the people. These parties vote to increase government influence on the media even when they are out of power, regardless of the fact that this will allow their opponents in government more influence over the general public. Different characteristics of media legislation also had an important influence on the ability of later governments to gain control over the media. The most important characteristic was the number of layers of insulation between the regulatory boards and managers of public TV and radio and the appointing officials. Poland, for example, had three layers between the political officials and the managers of public TV and radio. In other words, the political officials would appoint a board, who would appoint a board, who would appoint the managers of public TV and radio.

*You have also written articles on nuclear non-proliferation. What is the most important step that the next US president should take in regards to preventing the spread of nuclear weapons?*

The most important step is to regain the trust of the international community. No state can monitor and prevent other states from pursuing nuclear weapons alone. This needs to be a joint effort, not only because of the time and resources involved, but also because of the way proliferation occurs today. The fear is no longer that major

powers will gain this knowledge in order to better protect themselves against weak commitment from a superpower ally, as it was during the Cold War. Rather, the fear is that individuals and some states outside the nonproliferation regime with this knowledge will work together to proliferate for gain or because they believe the current system is unfair. In order to combat this new proliferation, we need to strengthen and rethink the current nonproliferation regime. The nuclear nonproliferation treaty is the only treaty on weapons of mass destruction that allows some states to retain the WMD weapon prohibited for others. This is inherently discriminatory. While I believe that it is unlikely that we will get rid of nuclear weapons in my lifetime, there is much that can be done to lessen the discrimination. We need to work with Russia to negotiate new nuclear arms reduction treaties with monitoring mechanisms, which the Moscow Treaty does not have. We need to make a negative security commitment – which is a promise not to strike first with nuclear weapons against a non-nuclear weapon state (a state without nuclear weapons). In other words, if the US is involved in a conflict with a state without nuclear weapons and an ally of that state with nuclear weapons used nuclear weapons against the US, the government could retaliate against the state without nuclear weapons with nuclear weapons (as well as the state that attacked us), but we would not otherwise use nuclear weapons against a state without nuclear weapons. We need to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and pledge not to test new nuclear weapons. When we debate the usefulness of new mini nuclear weapons on attacking terrorists or for targeted use on a battlefield, we undermine the nonproliferation effort. For if nuclear weapons are useful, then the fact that some states are allowed to have them and others are not is unsustainable. We also need to strengthen the current methods for uncovering clandestine nuclear programs. This administration has developed some promising new mechanisms for doing this, including the Proliferation Security Initiative to intercept transfers of nuclear technology and materials before they reach their destination. But this needs to be pursued multilaterally, not just with our friends. Since the counterproliferation effort will never be perfect, we also need to strengthen the commitment of states to nonproliferation by making it easier for them to enjoy the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and technology without greatly increasing the potential for proliferation. With developing countries (and developed ones for that matter) needing more and more energy and the goal to reduce greenhouse gases by cutting reliance on fossil fuels, nuclear energy is making a huge comeback internationally. We need to ensure that states that want nuclear power plants have a secure and reasonably priced nuclear fuel supply.

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## Belarusian Studies Organization

by Yuriy Napelenok

Прывітаньне! (Hello!) After a successful turnout at the first informational meeting held on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007, IU's Belarusian Studies Organization is looking for more people interested in studying Belarus, a unique and fascinating country, with a variety of themes and subjects interesting people in all fields.

Belarus, with a population of 10 million, is a critical transit country west of Russia and east of Poland. It is a crossroads of civilizations and a home to the Orthodox, Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim faiths. Its long history began with the principalities of Kievan Rus of the 9<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. Belarusian culture and language dominated the Grand Duchy of Lithuania from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, but their influence waned following the union with Poland and the creation of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. After the partitions of Poland in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Belarusian lands were incorporated into the Russian empire. World War I ravaged the population from 1914 to 1918. The Bolsheviks took power in 1918 and established the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic. Nothing devastated Belarus more than World War II. Between a quarter to a third of the population perished, especially the large Jewish population.

Devastation revisited Belarus with the explosion of reactor number four at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine. Much of the fallout contaminated large portions of Belarus. Following the dissolution

of the Soviet Union, Belarus gained independence. The first democratic elections were held in 1994. A former collective farm manager, Aleksandr Lukashenka, was

elected President of the Republic of Belarus. He has been described as the "last dictator in Europe." By restricting freedoms, intimidating opposition, and falsifying election

results, Lukashenka maintains tight control over the citizens of Belarus.

Belarus boasts a rich literary heritage. In the early sixteenth century, the Belarusian Francysk Skaryna was among the first in the Orthodox world to publish translations of several books of the Bible in vernacular East Slavic, a

language from which modern Belarusian, Ukrainian, and Russian emerged. A literary culture emerged in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries with the writings of Kastus Kalinouski and Vintsent Dunin-Martsinkievich. The height of Belarusian literature came in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Yanka Kupala and Yakub Kolas propagated a national revival through Belarusian poetry about historical events and the life of Belarusian peasants. This tradition continued through the writings of Uladzimir Karatkevich. Soviet Realism came to dominate literature, but author Vasil Bykau (Vasili Bykov) broke away from the model. He wrote prose about World War II, using existential themes. Bykau was critical of Soviet power and became, until his death in 2003, a vocal critic of Lukashenka.

In addition to literature, music is an important part of Belarusian culture. Folk music has a unique vocal sound. Belarusian musical instruments include the parnyia dudki (double pipes), the hammer dulcimer known as cymbaly, and the lyra. Contemporary music is thriving in Belarus. While the authorities control popular music, many artists are still able to operate underground. Rock music was an important part of the opposition to Communism and now it has been transformed into an important part of the opposition to Lukashenka.

Anyone with an interest in Eastern Europe or the former Soviet Union or a desire to learn about a fascinating country is welcome to join the Belarusian Studies Organization. The first activity of the organization was a film showing of *Ploshcha* on November 13<sup>th</sup>. This



Library Minsk. Photos courtesy of author



Victory Square-Minsk



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The following is an interview with Melissa Hawkins of *Juliet: A Dialogue about Love*:

*Has your interpretation of the play changed in any way since you began performing it?*

It changed much more significantly during the rehearsal process than it has in performance. At the beginning I approached the text very tragically, according to the playwright, who threatened my life if I ever returned to my original melodramatic interpretation. I needed his permission to be as playful with her life and losses as I am now. With this new spirit of irony, the play developed a rhythm all its own – a drive that carries me through the 90 minutes alone, whereas initially the director himself slept during rehearsal. I'm told that the play has changed a lot since it opened, but I am too close to it to really be able to tell you how specifically. I hope I have developed more freedom inside the "dance" which is now so familiar to me that I could not get lost even if I tried.

*How do you balance the specific historical details of the play with the universal emotional aspects?*

I tend to be a very detail driven artist. I could spend as much time researching a show as rehearsing it if I had my way. Initially, I wanted to know every factual detail: timeline, middle names, first date...etc., but when I approached András about those details, he acted as though they were utterly irrelevant. He believed the play to be much more of a universal story than a biography and wanted me to fill in the blanks and invent my own framework. We settled somewhere in the middle. I believe the geographical details to be critical (I decided to have a slight Romanian accent) and developed the details of Juliet's life using dozens of actual family photographs. I developed a relationship with the man in the pictures – creating a separate understanding of love than I have ever known in my own wonderful marriage. Her romance is not a universal one in the sense of being common. Where her faith was concerned, though, I found that I could only relate to God the way I know how – or to the extent that I know Him, which has inevitably continued to stretch me with each performance.

*Why is the play a significant piece of literature? What made it stand out when you first read it?*

I have never read any piece of theatre that speaks of faith in a concrete factual manner without being presumptuous and manipulative: ineffectual propaganda. I knew immediately after reading it that it could be years before I came across

something like this again, and I became determined to meet the playwright. We speak of people who are writers (and happen to be Christians), rather than Christian writers. I consider this play an example of the difference. First and foremost, it is a brilliant piece of literature, impeccably woven together, beautifully written, challenging and moving. Secondly, it discusses the life of a woman who was in love with God. It cannot be done in any other order – at least not if it hopes to compete in the world.

*What are the challenges of playing the character of Juliet?*

There are several I suppose – some inherent to the solo aspect: the need for constant and heightened imagination to fill the space with all the other people described in the play—the lack of actual outside stimulus; the reliance on the audience as the counterpart (how dangerous that is when the audience is dead); the stamina required – the marathon that it can feel like, when you're counting down the pages in your head (very bad sign by the way!).

The actual challenges that I've had with her character include discovering her playfulness – really enjoying her sense of humor as much as I can; arriving at her circumstances in my own sense of reality prior to the start of the play – it's not easy to truthfully imagine lying on a pile of dead bodies for two days with nothing left to your name and no knowledge of your husband's circumstances or your children's fate; developing her (trial by fire) relationship with God to the extent that I can; following the stream of her consciousness (with or without an understanding of the actual connections). But by far the greatest challenge is to have the spiritual epiphany that she has at the climax of the play every time and on cue. I have had to develop allowances for myself, figure out how to move on and finish the play, even when I never really got there – and it happens more often than I would like to admit.

*What are your next steps with the play? Are you traveling overseas with it to perform or to do any other "research"?*

We are travelling back to Eastern Europe this May to perform in Bucharest, and we continue to perform it here in the States: A full run in Chicago this spring, as well as performances scattered around (prisons, conferences, universities...etc.). We hope *Juliet* will have a long touring life, continuing as we add to our Visky repertoire.

Amy Luck is an MA student in the REEI and the School of Education



A scene from *Juliet*

## Preview of Upcoming Events

### February

February 25 REEI's Contemporary Russian Film Series *The Return* 7 pm Ballantine 215

February 28 Czech Film Series *A Report on the Party and the Guests* (1966) 7pm Lindley Hall 102

February 28 Polish Film Series *Warsaw* 7 pm Swain Hall East 105

### March

March 4 2008 Romanian Studies Student Conference Kelley Business School Keynote Address: Marius Turda-Oxford Brookes University 4:10 pm 421 Kelley Business School

March 6 Polish Film Series *Palimpsest* 7 pm Swain Hall East 105

March 17 Belarusian Studies Organization showing of *Ploshcha*

March 18 Hungarian Commemoration of 1848 5:30 pm IMU Faculty Club

March 26 Slavic/East European Career Night Career Development Center 6:30-8:30 pm 625 N. Jordan Ave

March 21 Panel on Russian Elections 12:00-2:00 pm IMU State Room James Collins-Carnegie Endowment for International Peace US, Ambassador to the Russian Federation, 1997-2001; Stephen Hanson- University of Washington; Elizabeth Wood- MIT; Regina Smyth- Indiana University

March 22-3 Central Eurasian Studies conference

March 24 REEI's Contemporary Film Series *The Island* 7 pm Ballantine 215

March 26 Joerg Hackmann lecture "Another Associational World: Clubs and Societies in the Baltic Region Under Tsarist Rule" 12:00 pm Ballantine 004

March 27 Czech Film Series *Loves of a Blonde* (1965) 7 pm Lindley Hall 102

March 27 Islam and Post-Communism Round Table 3-5 pm IMU Dogwood Room Zaindi Choltaev- Chechen political analyst; Edmund Waite- London University; Kristen Ghodsee- Bowdoin College; Nazif Shahrani, Indiana University; Abdulkader Sinno, Indiana University; Gardner Bovingdon, Indiana University.

### April

April 4-6 Ránki Symposium on the Táncház movement

April 7 REEI's Contemporary Russian Film Series *Peter FM* 7 pm Ballantine Hall 215

April 14 Slavic Spring Tea Awards Ceremony

April 17 Czech Film Series *Daisies* (1966) Lindley Hall 102 7 pm

April 16-20 New Directions, New Connections: Polish Studies in a Cross-Disciplinary Context 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Polish Studies

April 18 Lecture by Kathryn Hendley of UW-Madison "Mobilizing Law in Putin's Russia" 3:30-5:00 pm IMU Oak Room

April 21 Belarusian Studies Organization showing of *Chernobyl Heart*

April 22 REEI Book Reception to celebrate faculty publications from the past year

For information on future REEI activities please see our online calendar at [www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/events/events.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/events/events.shtml)

Stira continued from page 4

As one can see through these works, life histories can provide a human touch – a story of survival that shows a remarkable retention of dignity and humanity despite conditions that would depress even the cheeriest optimist. As today’s Estonians, Latvians, and Lithuanians look into the future, they are redefining their past. For years, under the Soviet regime, the topic of these deportations was taboo. Only with the advent of perestroika and the subsequent disintegration of the Soviet Union did deportees’ stories begin to be published. As more and more stories come out, they will continue to bear testament to the resilient and heroic nature of the Baltic peoples.

*Sources for this report and further reading:*

Dalia Grinkevičiūtė, *A Stolen Youth, a Stolen Homeland* (Vilnius: Lithuanian Writers’ Union Publishers, 2002)

Vanda Kašauskienė, “Deportations from Lithuania under Stalin 1940-1953,” *Lithuanian Historical Studies*, 3 (1998)

Tiina Kirss, Ene Kõresaar, and Marju Lauristin, eds., *She Who Remembers Survives: Interpreting Estonian Women’s Post-Soviet Life Stories* (Tartu: Tartu University Press, 2004)

Tiina Kirss, “Survivorship and the Eastern Exile: Estonian Women’s Life Narratives of the 1941 and 1949 Siberia Deportations,” *Journal of Baltic Studies* 36 (2005)

Kristi Kukk and Toivo Raun, eds., *Soviet Deportations in Estonia: Impact and Legacy* (Tartu: Tartu University Press, 2007)

Anda Līce, ed. and Astrid Sics, trans. *We Sang Through Tears*. (Riga: Jānis Roze, 1999)

Romuald Misiunas and Rein Taagepera, *The Baltic States: Years of Dependence 1940-1990* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993)

Pavel Polian, *Against Their Will: The History and Geography of Forced Migrations in the USSR* (Budapest, Central European University Press, 2004)

Kārlis Skalders, *Under the Sign of the Times: The Story of a Latvian* (Riga: Jumava, 2000)

Suzanne Stiver Lie, et al, eds. *Carrying Linda’s Stones: An Anthology of Estonian Women’s Life Stories*. (Tallinn: Tallinn University Press, 2006)

Matilda Strimaitytė-Mélienė, *Crosses in the Arctic*, trans. Nijolė Beležka Gražulis (Detroit: Lithuanian National Guard in Exile, Inc., 1987)

David Stira is an MA student  
in the REEI

Crescente continued from page 3

An average city in the Far East had 20-30 participants in the final round, with the exception of Irkutsk, where we worked for almost two weeks and interviewed nearly 70 students. American Councils has offices all over the former Soviet Union. However, none administers as vast a territory as the one in Vladivostok. Although most recruiters travel by train to their locations, that is not an option for the Russian Far East office because trains do not run to many cities in our region, or if they do, they can take up to three days.

At the end of this experience I am exhausted, which is how trainers in Kyiv said we would feel. All those trains, planes, airports, hotels, papers, and schools, not to mention the occasional 12-14 hour days and seven-day work weeks add up! It was a good season and a great experience but now that it is over, I am happy to move on.

Joe Crescente graduated from IU with an MA  
from REEI in 2007

Rathbun continued from page 7

*What topics are you currently researching? Are there certain classes that you would like to develop and teach in the future?*

I am currently researching the decision to apply international nuclear safeguards to American peaceful nuclear facilities. Since the US already has nuclear weapons, the nuclear nonproliferation treaty does not require that we allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors monitor our nuclear facilities. However, in the 1970s, the US decided to sign an agreement with the IAEA to do just that. The goal was to demonstrate to other countries that the costs of inspection would be equally shared by all states, regardless of whether or not they had nuclear weapons. I am researching the impact of that decision on other states’ willingness to allow IAEA inspectors to monitor their facilities. I am currently developing a new class on weapons of mass destruction that I will teach next fall. I would like to teach a class on diplomacy in the future.

Kristen McIntyre is an MA student  
in the REEI

## Student News

New REEI student **Joel Kleehammer**, originally from Dayton, Ohio, earned his BA from Central State University in Ohio in Psychology. Kleehammer has served 14 years in the US Army, both enlisted and as an officer. He was commissioned as a Field Artillery Officer and served during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He studied Russian at the Defense Language Institute and worked as a Russian translator/interceptor in Germany and the US. He received instruction in Ukrainian at the Defense Language Institute in Washington, DC and also studied at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch, Germany and the L'viv National University of Ivan Franko. He served internships at the US Embassies in Kyiv, Ukraine and Dushanbe, Tajikistan. His research is focused on anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe and how it has become an accepted institution. He is married and has seven children.

**Patrick Burlingame** (REEI MA/Kelley School of Business MBA) recently accepted a position with General Electric's consumer finance division (GE Money) in the Chairman's "Experienced Commercial Leadership Program" (ECLP). The ECLP is GE's premier two year rotational program designed for high-potential MBA candidates with marketing and sales backgrounds. Before beginning the program Patrick will spend his last semester on an MBA exchange in Hungary at the University of Budapest (Corvinus) while working part-time in the marketing department at Budapest Bank (GE Money subsidiary). Patrick looks forward to putting both his REEI MA and his MBA to use working for GE Money as it continues to expand into the East European market.

**Ramajana Hidic Demirovic** (History) recently presented a paper titled "To Stay Silent or to Speak: Women

Survivors and the Memory of Genocide in Bosnia" at The International Conference on Women in War, at Ohio State University. She also presented "Remembering Jasenovac: From Universal Heroism to Anonymity" at the AAASS conference in New Orleans.

**Bora Kim** (Slavic) and **Kristin Reed** (Comparative Literature) presented at the AATSEEL conference in December. The title of Kim's paper was "Distribution of Vowel Quantity in Czech Dialects" and Reed's paper was titled "The Power of Babble: Moscow Conceptualism and Postmodern Language Critique."

**The Romanian Studies Organization  
is proud to announce the**

### **2008 Romanian Studies Student Conference**

**Indiana Memorial Union  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
March 4, 2008**

This interdisciplinary conference will promote graduate studies of Romania in the United States and facilitate interaction between the next generation of Romanian scholars.

Keynote address by Marius Turda  
The RCUK Academic Fellow in  
20<sup>th</sup> Century Central and  
Eastern European Biomedicine  
At Oxford Brookes University

Belarus continued from page 8

documentary depicts the events that lead up to and followed the presidential elections of 2006. Our future plans include weekly meetings, more film showings, and other activities. This semester, the organization plans to show several movies showcasing history, politics, and the aftermath of Chernobyl. On February 18<sup>th</sup> we showed *Mysterium Occupation*, an independent film about Belarusian partisans. For the second anniversary of the presidential elections and failed Denim Revolution, the organization will re-show *Ploshcha* on March 17<sup>th</sup>. For the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the nuclear catastrophe we will show *Chernobyl Heart* on April 21<sup>st</sup>. This HBO documentary follows a team of humanitarians from the Children of Chernobyl project through the most devastated regions of Belarus as they help children affected by the radioactive fallout. We at the Belarusian Studies Organization are excited about the upcoming events and are looking forward to meeting new people interested in Belarus.

For more information or suggestions for future activities, e-mail Yuriy Napelenok at [ynapelen@indiana.edu](mailto:ynapelen@indiana.edu).

Yuriy Napelenok is an MA  
student in the REEI

## Alumni Updates

**Gary Aguiar** (PhD Political Science 1996), Assistant Professor at South Dakota State University, has received a Fulbright Scholarship to the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia for spring 2008.

**Ted Barrall** (MA REEI 1993) is the Director of International Human Resources at Hines, a real estate company with properties in over 100 cities world-wide.

**Rebecca Bartlett** (MA REEI 2004) has recently been hired as the Adult Services Coordinator at the Cedar Rapids Public Library in Cedar Rapids, IA.

**Janel (Anderson) Causey** (MA REEI 2004) recently spent time in Russia working for a private company contracting with Gazprom and other companies. She has since moved to Hawaii where she is one of four policy analysts for the governor. Her work has included drafting legislation and working with legislative issues in the fields of land and natural resources, transportation, and commerce.

**Lori Citti** (PhD History/REEI minor 1994) is the Deputy Director of the Office of International Programs at Georgetown University.

**Colin Connor** (BA Political Science/BA Spanish/REEI minor 2005) is a second-year law student at Indiana University-Bloomington.

**Jane L. Curry** (AM Political Science 1972) and **Sharon Wolchik** (AM Political Science 1972) have published a new text, *Central and East Europe: From Communism to Democracy* this past December. This edited volume includes chapters on individual states such as Ukraine, as well as chapters thematically devoted to key issues such as EU and NATO expansion, political reform, and the role of women. The text is dedicated to their professor at Indiana, Vaclav Benes.

**Annette Fromm** (PhD Folklore 1992) was appointed Coordinator of Museum Studies and promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Art and Art History at Florida International University. She is also the Membership/Education Coordinator at the Miami Beach Botanical Garden.

**Charles Gati** (PhD Government/Certificate REEI 1965) is the only two-time winner (1987 and 2007) of the Marshall Shulman Book Prize for outstanding monograph on international relations, foreign policy, or foreign-policy

decision-making in any of the former Soviet Bloc countries. His first book to win the prize was *Hungary and the Soviet Bloc* (1986 Duke); his most recent is *Failed Illusions: Moscow, Washington, Budapest, and the 1956 Hungarian Revolt* (2006 Stanford), which appeared in paperback in January 2008 with a new preface. Using CIA archives and hundreds of interviews with participants in Budapest, Moscow, and Washington, *Failed Illusions* challenges the traditional David and Goliath-type story that is generally accepted. Gati is the Senior Adjunct Professor of European Studies at the Johns Hopkins University.

**Brad Gutierrez** (MA REEI 1995) is the senior International Affairs Advisor at the Operations Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security.

**Jacquelyn Henderson-Zhorzh** (MA REEI/ MPA SPEA 2005) is a Foreign Service Consular Officer for the US Department of State in Washington DC.

**Michael Kandel** (PhD Slavic 1971) is the assistant editor at the Modern Language Association and recently attended Polcon, a science fiction convention, in Warsaw.

**Michael Long** (PhD Slavic 1994) is a Professor of Russian and the Director of the Slavic and East European Studies program at Baylor University.

**Nick Miller** (PhD History 1991) was named to Chair of the History Department at Boise State University and has recently published *The Nonconformists: Culture, Politics, and Nationalism in a Serbian intellectual circle, 1944-1991* (CEU Press) and "Return Engagement: Serbian Intellectuals and Nationalism," in *The Collapse of Yugoslavia: State Failure in Southeastern Europe* (Purdue 2007), eds. Lenard Cohen and Jasna Dragovic Soso.

**Rebecca Olson** (MA REEI/MLS SLIS 1999) and **Brad Warren** (MLS SLIS 1999) had their first child, Archer Lewis Olson Warren, on October 25, 2006.

**Patrick O'Neil** (PhD Political Science/REEI Minor 1995) has been promoted to Professor and continues to serve as the Chair of the Department of Politics & Government at the University of Puget Sound. His textbook, *Essentials of Comparative Politics* (WW Norton 2006), recently appeared in its second edition.

## Faculty News and Publications

**Michael Alexeev** (Economics) and co-author Sunghwan Kim recently had their article “The Korean Financial Crisis and the Soft Budget Constraint” accepted by the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*. Alexeev was also invited to present “Determinants of VAT Collections: Panel Data Analysis” at a conference in honor of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Academy for National Economy, Moscow, Russia. He presented the paper “Who Responds to US News & World Report’s Law School Rankings?” co-authored with Jeff Stake, at the Midwestern Law and Economics Association, Minneapolis, MN, October 2007.

**Cigdem Balim-Harding** is the Director of Graduate Studies and Language Instruction at the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures as well as a Senior Lecturer in Turkish Studies. She has recently become affiliated with REEI. Balim-Harding teaches courses on languages, linguistics, immigration and social linguistics. She speaks a number of Turkic languages including Turkish, Crimean Tatar, Azerbaijani, and Uzbek. She recently published, with several co-authors, *Meskhetian Turks: An introduction to their history, culture, and resettlement experiences* as part of the Culture Profile Series (CAL 2006). She also published “Turkish Literature 10<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries” in *The New Cambridge History of Islam vol 4* and “Writing Alternative Histories: Aitmatov’s ‘The Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years’” in *Black Holes in History*.

In December 2007, **Justyna Beinek** (Slavic), with Dr. Jessie Labov from Stanford University, gave a lecture titled “Agnieszka, Angela, Aniela: Presence/Absence of Women in Polish Film (1976-2006)” at the conference “Gaps, Silences, Concealments, and Erasures in the Great Narratives of the 20th Century” at Warsaw University, Poland. While in Warsaw, Beinek also gave a presentation on Polish Romantic albums at the Stara Prochownia Theater (The Old Powder House Theater) in Warsaw and was able to continue this research at the Russian State Archive of Literature and Art (RGALi) in Moscow, Russia, thanks to a College of Arts and Humanities (IU) travel grant she received.

**Halina Goldberg** (Musicology) received the 2007 Dragan Plamenac Publication Endowment Fund Award from the American Musicological Society to support the publication of her book *Music in Chopin’s Warsaw* by the Oxford University Press. Her article “Nationality and Narrative in Polish Fantasias of the First Half of the Nineteenth Century” (in Polish) has been published in a volume of materials from the conference National Topos

in the Polish music of the First Half of the Nineteenth century. On December 7, 2007 Goldberg presented “Chopin’s late fantasia pieces in the context of nineteenth-century fantasia genres” (in Polish) at the VII International Academic Conference Chopin’s Musical World: The 1840s, organized by the Fryderyk Chopin Institute and presented (by proxy) a paper entitled “Belonging through music: the contribution of Jews into musical Polishness” (in Polish) for the conference National Topos in the Polish Music of period of Post-Romanticism and Young Poland, at the Music Academy in Warsaw.

Goldberg received an International Exchange Affiliations Grant as the Project Director for collaboration on “Teaching Repertoires from the Peripheries of the Musical Canon,” between the Musicology Department of the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University and the Institute of Musicology of the Jagiellonian University, for 2006-2008.

**Charles J. Halperin** (REEI senior fellow), published “Ivan IV’s Insanity,” in *Russian History*, 34:1-4 (2007), and “The Scourge of God: The Mongols and Violence in Russian History,” in *Times of Trouble: Violence in Russian Literature and Culture* edited by Tatyana Novikov and Marcus C. Levitt (University of Wisconsin Press, 2007).

**Jeffrey Hart** (Political Science) delivered several talks and presentations at IU throughout the past semester including “Democracy in the Age of the Internet: An Analysis of the Net Neutrality Debate of 2006” and “Security Arenas and Their Impact on Business.” He also participated in a panel discussion on “University Governance Reform: Academic Policy, Autonomy, and Government Regulation” at the Transatlantic Policy Consortium Colloquium. In addition, Hart delivered presentations on “International Regimes for Information and Communications Technologies: Towards a New Research Agenda” at the Institute for Globalization and International Studies, George Washington University, Washington, DC and “Video on the Internet: The Content Question” at the Center for International Tele-Informatics, Columbia University, New York. His reviews of *Multinational Firms in the World Economy* by Giorgio Barba Navaretti and Anthony J. Venables and *Digital Formations: IT and New Architectures in the Global Realm* edited by Robert Latham and Saskia Sassen appeared in *Comparative Economic Studies* (49:2007) and *Perspectives on Politics* (5:September 2007).

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*Beyond Bree*, Mensa's newsletter devoted to J.R.R. Tolkien, accepted a new article, "Thee Hobbit," by **Mark Hooker** (REEI senior fellow). The article examines how the second person pronoun (you) in the dialogues of the hero of *The Hobbit* (Bilbo Baggins) was translated into Russian, Polish, Czech, Bulgarian, German and Dutch. The wide range of solutions to this translation problem found in the nine Russian translations demonstrates exactly how hard a problem it is to solve, because the translator must decide whether to use the familiar or the deferential form of the second person pronoun. Reviews of Hooker's monograph (*A Tolkienian Mathomium*), a collection of articles on the works of Tolkien, based primarily on comparative translation analysis, have appeared in the premier American and German academic journals on the works of J.R.R. Tolkien. Planning is underway for a second volume of Hooker's articles. The working title of his new book is *The Hobbitonian Anthology*.

Two new translations by **Bill Johnston** (TESOL/Applied Linguistics) were published this past fall: Magdalena Tulli's novel *Flaw* (*Skaza*) (Archipelago Books, 2007) and

Jan Kochanowski's Renaissance verse drama *The Envoys* (*Odprawa posłów greckich*) (Księgarnia Akademicka). Johnston is currently translating Jerzy Pilch's 2000 novel *The Mighty Angel* (*Pod mocnym aniołem*) for the publishing company Open Letter. In November, at the annual conference of the American Literary Translators Association in Dallas, Johnston gave a talk on literary translation in Poland. In January, as part of IUPUI's Rufus and Louise Reiberg Reading Series he spoke in Indianapolis about his translations of contemporary Polish poet Tadeusz Różewicz.

**Padraic Kenney's** (History) *The Burdens of Freedom: Eastern Europe Since 1989* has just been published in Croatian as *Breme Slobode. Istocna Europa nakon 1989. godine* (Zagreb: Srednja Europa, 2007). Kenney will spend May through August researching South African political prisoners in archives and libraries in Johannesburg, Pretoria, and Cape Town from May to August 2008 thanks to the New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities Exploration Traveling Fellowship he received.

**The Polish Studies Center  
is proud to announce**

**New Directions, New Connections:  
Polish Studies in a Cross-  
Disciplinary  
Context 2nd International  
Conference on Polish Studies**

**Polish Studies Center  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
April 16-20, 2008**

This conference will present current research in Polish literature and culture against the background of  
i) innovative theoretical and conceptual approaches and ii) new alignments of Polish Studies with other disciplines and area studies.

*The Bolsheviki in Power*, a new book by emeritus professor **Alexander Rabinowitch** (History), has been published in English by IU Press and in Russian by the Moscow publishing house Airo XXI. In connection with the latter, at the beginning of November, Rabinowitch participated in book launches in Moscow and St. Petersburg and the book was subsequently featured in *Literaturnaia gazeta*. Rabinowitch has been awarded an International Projects and Activities Grant by the Office of the Vice President for International Affairs to help support research for a new book on the Petrograd Bolsheviki during the political, military, and economic crises of 1919-1920.

**Beverly Stoeltje** (Anthropology) was promoted to full professor last year and is chairing the organizing committee for a symposium on Race in the Americas: Anthropology, Politics and Policy which will take place this April 18-19.

**Martin C. Spechler** (Economics, IUPUI) published "Authoritarian Politics and Economic Reform in Uzbekistan: past, present, and prospects" in *Central Asian Survey*, vol. 26, no. 2 (June 2007).

For more information on our faculty, students, and activities please see our website at

[www.iub.edu/~reeiweb](http://www.iub.edu/~reeiweb)



## Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages June 13–August 8, 2008

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