

REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

Maria Bucur, Director
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Brooke Swafford, Editor
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Director's Notebook by Maria Bucur

The academic year 2010-2011 has started on a high note for the Russian and East European Institute community. In August we received notification about the success of our Title VI application, which will ensure the continuation of ongoing programming and commitments to teaching less commonly taught languages, as well as enable us to undertake new and exciting projects. Among our continuing commitments are the "Postcommunist Roundtables," now transformed into a similar annual event entitled "Lessons from Postcommunism." The themes of interest for the next four years will be: the economic recession and its challenges (2011); energy and conservation policies (2012); migration and civil society (2013); and the past and future of social welfare (2014). We will continue to bring prominent scholars from/working on Eastern Europe, Russia, Central Asia, and East Asia to engage in comparative analyses that address these themes. In its revised format, the roundtable will also take up theme-related pedagogical questions. As such, we invite faculty with interest in teaching on these topics to participate in the teaching workshop. We will have a small number of grants to facilitate travel.

Other on-going commitments will bolster our partnership with the IU Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL) which celebrates its sixtieth anniversary in 2011. We will enhance our offerings in advanced mastery language classes and continue to provide instruction in Georgian and Ukrainian, two languages rarely taught in American summer language programs. In collaboration with the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, REEI will help expand SWSEEL to include a course in Tatar. In addition, the SWSEEL teachers' workshop will continue to be offered, enhancing pedagogical skills for K-16+ language teachers, many of whom will be able to participate with the support of REEI travel grants.

Our continuing programming is especially rich in the area of outreach, where we will continue to work with K-12 teachers in the Midwest to protect current programs for teaching Russian. Such offerings are constantly under threat of termination, due to the severe reduction of state funds in K-12 public education, but we will do our best to assist Russian language teachers in their work by providing them with new teaching materials and continuing to organize the Illinois/Indiana Olympiada of Spoken Russian, which has emerged as a notable regional success in the last Title VI cycle. We are heartened by the results of our efforts in pre-college Russian-language education, especially among K-6 students. A Saturday morning Russian language program launched last year by Mark Trotter, REEI Assistant Director and Outreach Coordinator, has blossomed into a large-scale activity that currently comprises a class for non-heritage learners and a class for heritage learners, with a total of enrollment of twenty-six students. We hope these students and their parents will become our partners in advocating for the addition of Russian language classes to the middle/high-school curriculum in a few years.

New programs will include the development of more course offerings for professional schools, such as a course on public health in Russia and Eastern Europe and a course on business Russian, to be developed during the first year of

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IU Awards for REEI Alumni

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

REEI Awards

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
 1988 Alexander Rabinowitch
 1988 Charles Gati
 1995 Gale Stokes
 2000 Helena Goscilo
 2002 Howard I. Aronson
 2002 William Hopkins
 2009 Donald Raleigh

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

REEI Students and Kolodziej Recognized at REEI Fall Reception

On September 8, REEI honored the work of students **Lauren Butt** (REEI), **M. Benjamin Thorne** (History), and **Kylie Poulin** with Director Maria Bucur's presentation of the 2009-10 Daniel Armstrong Memorial Essay Awards. Poulin's political science paper "Circumstantial Engagement: Soviet Military Intervention in the 1956 Hungarian Revolution," won in the undergraduate division. The graduate division included Thorne's paper "The Anxiety of Proximity: The Cultural and Social Origins of the 'Gypsy Question' in Romanian Society During the Interwar Period" as well as Butt's master's essay, "Authentic Bosnia: (Re)constructing Nostalgia in Post-War Bosnia and Herzegovina." Each student received a monetary prize and a framed certificate of recognition for their contributions to Russian, East European and Central Eurasian studies.



REEI and Slavic students Meg White (L) and Clint Casteel

The arrival of a new Daniel Armstrong Memorial Scholarship recipient, **Chelsea McShurley**, also perpetuated the memory of IU Slavics alumnus, teacher, scholar and administrator Professor Daniel Armstrong (1942-1979). **Rebecca Baumgartner, Charles Krull, and Caroline Martin** are all returning recipients. This scholarship is given to incoming freshmen who have a record of academic excellence and have committed to pursue the study of Russian or an East European language throughout their graduate careers.



Maria Bucur presents Jerzy Kolodziej with an REEI Distinguished Service Award.

REEI also recognized incoming graduate student **Elizabeth Trammell** with its Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship, a two-year fellowship that commemorates the work of REEI's founder and early director. **Meghan White** is the returning recipient.

Other students committed to REEI include the following FLAS Fellows: **Kathleen Hiatt, Zachary Kelly, Coady Kleinert, Kelly Lostroscio, Brian Oches, Katherine Pruess, Herman Reinhold, April Wilson, Melissa Witcombe, Emily Young** and **Michael Young**.

Additionally, in honor of his long service to REEI as a professor at Slavic Languages and Literatures and director of the SWSEEL program, Professor Emeritus **Jerzy Kolodziej** was awarded a Distinguished Service Award.

Notice

Robert C. Tucker, distinguished Princeton University political scientist and Stalin biographer, died at his home on July 29 at the age of 92. The December issue of *REEIfication* will feature a full-length tribute to the former IU professor, written by Alexander Rabinowitch.

REEI is pleased to announce the new Master of Arts in Russian and East European Studies and Master of Public Health joint degree program. For more information, please see:

http://www.iub.edu/~reeiweb/academic_programs/IU_REEI_MA_MPH.shtml.

Director's Notebook

the grant and then offered at regular intervals. Such courses will enable us to strengthen current dual degrees programs that REEI has initiated with a variety of professional schools at IU: Health, Physical Education, and Recreation; Business; Public and Environmental Affairs; and Library and Information Science. We will work to develop dual degrees with the School of Law and School of Education as well. Outreach to other institutions of higher education will include new efforts to internationalize the curriculum offerings at regional community colleges, especially Ivy Tech, the largest of its kind in Indiana. Finally, in response to the call to improve our knowledge of societies with significant Islamic populations, REEI will work with our faculty to develop various types of linkages with institutions of higher education in the relevant areas, from Russia to the Balkans.

Most importantly, the Title VI grant and the ongoing commitment of Indiana University to offer an outstanding international education means that we can continue to attract outstanding students to our undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs. This year's crop of new MA REEI students (their brief bios can be found in this issue) reflects these high standards. Having met them just a month ago, I am certain they will excel in the program, given their impressive knowledge of the chosen field and their linguistic abilities.

I look forward to working with our students, with the excellent faculty that enabled us to be so successful in the Title VI competition, and with the visiting scholars that enhance our expertise and help broaden the horizons of students at IU. Thank you all for the hard work!

Student News

New MA Students

Charles Bonds, a native New Mexican, attended Portland State University for Russian and history. By the grace of several gods he found himself in love with Russia during a study abroad semester in the fall of 2008. He has diverse interests and is humbled and excited by the prospect of joining ranks with the fine scholars at REEI and Indiana University. He plans to continue his studies in a doctoral program after picking up some Yiddish and cementing his historiography skills at REEI.

Olia Bueva received an undergraduate degree in Translation Studies from Moldova State University in 2005. In 2009 she graduated from Indiana University with a BA in International studies. Her research interests include gender, nationalism, and gendered representations in Eastern European contemporary art.

Crystal DeCell grew up in Idaho and graduated from Mount Holyoke College in 2007 with a major in Russian and Eurasian studies and from the University of Idaho in 2010 with a major in history. She is interested in the impact of political regimes on the practice of science and how nations use technology and natural resources in pursuit of security and political supremacy.

Joshua Harris graduated with a BA in Russian and English literature from the University of the South in 2007. He spent a year in fourteen eastern and central European countries pursuing a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship project entitled *Blades and Rails: Ice Hockey, Train Travel, and Slavic Culture in the Former Soviet Bloc*. Post-soviet Polish cultural studies and Russian postmodernist literature are the focus of his current studies. He hopes to join the MPA program at SPEA and pursue a career in development or foreign service.

Austin Kellogg graduated from Rutgers University with BS in Environmental Policy, after which she served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Republic of Armenia. She is pursuing a MPA/MA degree with a focus on nonprofit management and study of the Balkans region. Her interest lies in youth and gender development in the Caucasus and Balkans.

Leonard Leid grew up a farmer in rural Pennsylvania and graduated in 2008 with a Bachelor's degree in International Relations. A series of trips to Romania in the past several years kindled his interest in Romanian studies. More specifically, he is interested in the movements of trafficked people, the Romani in Eastern Europe, and collective memory of the communist years. He feels privileged to have been able to participate in SWSEEL 2010 by studying Macedonian.

Robert A. McVey, Jr. is originally from Park Ridge, IL. He graduated from Loyola University in Chicago in 1999 with a degree in political science and minors in international studies and Spanish. Robert also holds an MS from the Florida Institute of Technology. He served for the past year in the U.S. Embassy - Kyiv's Office of Defense Cooperation and taught at the National Defense University of Ukraine's Multinational Staff Officer Center. A U.S. Army Foreign Area Officer, Robert is interested in the politics, history, culture, language and militaries of the region.

McCloskey Fund Celebrates Fifth Anniversary

Established in 2005, the McCloskey Fund honors and perpetuates the memory of Frank McCloskey, a former US congressman, mayor of Bloomington, and IU alumnus. While representing Indiana's 8th district from 1983 to 1995, McCloskey took a passionate interest in the tragic conflicts which ravaged the Balkans in the 1990s. Withstanding the resistance of his party and the White House, McCloskey persistently advocated for US action to stop the genocide in the former Yugoslavia. His efforts in large part spurred US involvement in the diplomatic process that eventually led to the signing of the Dayton Accords in 1995. After an unsuccessful re-election campaign in 1994, McCloskey devoted all of his energies to the cause of ending ethnic strife in the Balkans, making six trips to Bosnia and serving the National Democratic Institute as Kosovo Director.

The McCloskey Fund commemorates the life and work of Frank McCloskey through the McCloskey Fellowship, an exchange program between the US and countries of the former Yugoslavia for scholars and civic activists committed to his vision of peace and freedom in the Balkans. McCloskey Fellows from the Balkans travel to the US, where, as scholars-in-residence at Indiana University, they work on a project that addresses an aspect of democratic change in the Balkans. McCloskey Fellows from Indiana University travel to the Balkans to pursue internships or field research in the area. The McCloskey Fellowship is jointly administered by REEI and the National Democratic Institute.

On April 29, over forty supporters gathered in the Bloomington City Hall/Council Chambers to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the McCloskey Fund at a fund-raising breakfast featuring remarks by former Indiana Congressman Lee Hamilton and Indiana State Representative Ed Delaney, colleagues of Frank McCloskey who spoke of his legacy as a crusader for peace and civic justice in the Balkans, and appearances by three recipients of the McCloskey Fellowship: Ramayana Hidic-Demirovic (2007), Lauren Butt (2009), and Boshko Stankovski (2010). A doctoral student in history at IU and a Bosnian war survivor, Hidic-Demirovic used her McCloskey Fellowship to travel to Croatia and Bosnia in the summer of 2007 and complete preliminary research for her dissertation on Sephardi women in interwar Bosnia. As a McCloskey Fellow, Butt, who has just defended an MA in Russia and East European Studies at IU, completed an internship in the Public Affairs Section of the US Embassy in Sarajevo, Bosnia and conducted research on historic preservation and memorials in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Boshko Stankovski is a young Macedonian lawyer who co-founded and served as first president of the Center for Inter-

cultural Dialogue, an NGO in Kumanovo, Macedonia, before taking up a position in the Cabinet of the Macedonian Prime Minister with a focus on international cooperation among political institutions. As a McCloskey Fellow in residence at IU in April and May of this year, Stankovski conducted

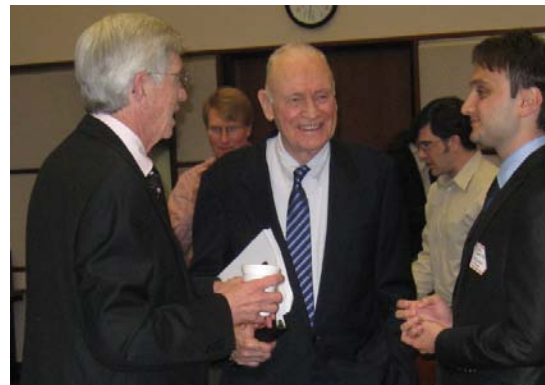


Photo of Frank McCloskey

research on the topic of youth involvement in politics. During the course of his fellowship, Stankovski consulted with IU faculty and local government officials and civil activists. He also travelled to Washington DC for meetings with representatives of the National Democratic Institute, Rock the Vote, the Corporation for National and Community Service, DC Youth Council, and other organizations. While on the IU campus, Stankovski delivered a public lecture on "Kosovo Independence and International Law on Self-determination and Secession." Since leaving Bloomington, Stankovski has entered the doctoral program in Department of Politics and In-

ternational Studies at Trinity College, Cambridge University on a full scholarship.

Participants in the breakfast fund-raiser were able to meet with these McCloskey Fellows as well as with four members of Frank McCloskey's family who were on hand for the occasion: Helen McCloskey (daughter), Pat McCloskey Kuhna (sister), Michael McCloskey (brother), and Tim McCloskey (nephew). The event culminated a spring fund-raising drive that yielded more than \$4000 in gifts to the McCloskey Fund from over 60 donors. Those interested in making a gift to the McCloskey Fund can do so on-line at <http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/giving/index.shtml> or by using the form on page 11 of this issue of *REEification*.



McCloskey Fellow Boshko Stankovski (right) in conversation with Congressman Lee Hamilton (center) and State Representative Ed Delaney (left) at the McCloskey Fund-Raising Breakfast

Preparing Ukrainian Peacekeepers

by Robert A. McVey, Jr.

In the Soviet Union's Red Army there was a common saying, "Будет война, будет телеграмма," or, 'If there's a war, a telegram will tell us,' that clearly demonstrated a Soviet military officer's mindset. In essence, this popular phrase implies that Soviet officers did not strive for innovation or preparation because when the time came to act, they would be told exactly what to do and any deviation from these instructions was not accepted. My experience as a US Army Foreign Area Officer (FAO) stationed in Kyiv, Ukraine over the past year, showed me that these old stereotypes do not ring true with today's generation of Ukrainian military officers. As the "Soldier-Statesmen" of the Army, FAOs combine professional military skills with regional expertise, language competency, and military-political awareness in order to advance US interests. They enhance the Army's effectiveness as assets to establish and maintain contact with foreign militaries and civilian groups, while fulfilling a variety of other jobs as attaches, security assistance officers, political-military advisors, staff officers, or instructors.

This past year, I served as an instructor at the National Defense University of Ukraine's Multinational Staff Officer Center (MSOC).

According to its mission statement, the MSOC "performs officers' training for the purpose of their further duties related to cooperation with UN, NATO, OSCE and EU, during the preparation phase and conduct of Peace Support Operations." As a faculty member, I taught self-prepared lessons on Operational Planning Process (OPP), the NATO and international standard of military decision-making process; rules of engagement and ethical considerations in peacekeeping operations; and civil-military coordination in planning and conduct, among other topics.

In-class discussion, a "foreign" practice to my Ukrainian students, accustomed to less interactive lecture styles, was particularly insightful to me as an instructor. Our conversations primarily addressed the horizontal and vertical nature of OPP, a collaborative planning process that stands in stark contrast to what the Armed Forces of Ukraine inherited as a legacy from the Soviet Army. Besides differences in planning processes, it was interesting to discuss various understandings of military tradition and thought that Western and former Soviet armies have had with respect to rules of engagement and ethical considerations during peacekeeping operations. Needless to say, they diverged significantly. In addition, the difficulty Ukrainian officers had with coordinating civil-military actions represented the broader problem within Ukraine

of a lack of an effective "inter-agency" governmental process.

Throughout the courses, the participants' viewpoints changed as students applied theories from the course to practical exercises. I would be remiss if I did not add that my time as an instructor at the NDUU presented me with an outstanding opportunity to challenge my own military experience and assumptions. I learned as much from my Ukrainian colleagues as I shared with them, and I understand that US or NATO answers are by no means the only viable solutions. Ukrainian military officers will have to devise "Ukrainian" approaches to questions that arise about peacekeeping as they continue their proud tradition of service.

Since 1992, when a Ukrainian military contingent was dispatched to the former Yugoslavia, Ukraine has actively participated in international peacekeeping operations. At present, Ukraine has 516 servicemen and one civilian participating in eight multinational peacekeeping missions. As I noted earlier, the current generation of Ukrainian officers are not "waiting for the telegram." Rather, they are actively preparing to play a constructive role in the world, as evidenced by their preparation to lead their forces on peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance or search-and-rescue operations as a member of the international military community.

In addition to helping train these Ukrainians for their peacekeeping deployments, my tenure at the MSOC allowed me to assist with Ukraine's goal of Euro-Atlantic integration and with the US goal of building partnership capability within the Armed Forces of Ukraine. My service as an MSOC instructor not only advanced both Ukraine and US objectives by enhancing Ukrainian military professionalism, it also represents what Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich calls "practical implementation" of Ukrainian state policy, which aims for Euro-Atlantic integration and the spread of European and international standards in all governmental institutions. I look forward to continuing my studies of the former Soviet Union here at Indiana University and returning to the region to represent the US and promote its interests.

This article presents the opinions of the author and should not be taken to represent the views of the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense, or the United States government.

Robert A. McVey, Jr. is an MA student at REEI.



Author Robert A. McVey, Jr. (in fatigues) with his Ukrainian colleagues.

Outreach Notes

Third Year of Successful Russian Language Competition

by Brooke Swafford and Mark Trotter

On April 24, 2010, the Illinois-Indiana Regional Olympiada of Spoken Russian celebrated its third year of competition (following contests in 2003 and 2009) with a record turnout of twenty-nine high school students from Chicago-based schools Noble Street College Prep, Pritzker College Prep, Rickover Naval Academy, and Roosevelt High School, the host of this year's activities. The financial and logistical support of Indiana University's Russian and East European Institute (REEL), University of Chicago Center for East European and Russian Eurasian Studies (CEERES), and University of Illinois' Russian, East European and Eurasian Center (REEEC) enabled the participating youth to push their language skills to new heights while interacting with other Russian learners.

Under the general guidance of the American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR), Olympiadas have taken place in various regions of the United States since the 1960s. These contests generate and sustain excellence in the study of Russian language and culture, while



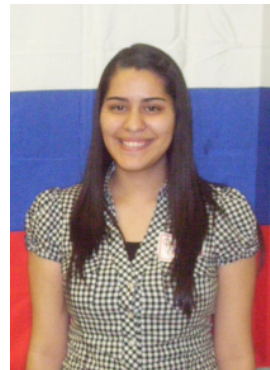
The a cappella ensemble *Golosa* (left) entertained Olympiada participants after a day of hard work. Fabiola Pina (right) took home the top prize.

reflecting aspects of Russian life directly, as they draw inspiration from a long history of oral exams and competitions in the Russian education system. The event challenges students to demonstrate superior knowledge in Russian at five different skill levels in three separate categories – non-native speaker, heritage speaker and native speaker. Tasks include everyday conversation, poetry recitation, summarizing previously read texts, and fielding questions about Russian civilization. At Roosevelt, the contestants performed before a distinguished panel of judges, all native speakers and university teachers of Russian: Liza Ginzburg (DePaul University), Viktoria Ivleva (University of Chicago), and Yelena Zotova (University of Illinois at Chicago).

Reflecting on her work with Olympiada participants, Noble Street Russian teacher Alyssa Silverman commented that “[S]ometimes the journey is just as significant as the destination. Preparation was a blast, with a tight-knit community of myself and seven girls who signed up, and since the Olympiada material paralleled what my students were learning in class, the girls’ mastery of the subjects taught increased one hundred fold. Their hard work paid off at the

competition when Noble Street took home six gold medals and one silver. The majority of the students who competed are now taking Russian in college.”

This year's all-around top scorer, Fabiola Pina, was a student of Silverman's and is now a freshman at Princeton University, where she continues to study Russian. In remarks to *REELification*, Pina elaborated on the challenges and rewards of the event. “Training for Olympiada came at the end of an eight-hour school day, and it required absorbing endless information. It was worth all the work because it allowed me to learn Russian that I would have not learned



just by attending my Russian class. I had never participated in the Olympiada or anything like it before. In fact, this was the first year my high school took part in such a competition. I signed up for the Olympiada because I wanted to expand my knowledge of the Russian language, which is exactly what the competition allowed me - and my Olympiada mates - to accomplish. That in itself was an amazing reward.”

In addition to Pina, other gold medalists from Noble Street included Yesenia Aguila, Bertha

Yareli Contreras, Aimee Morales, Jimena Ramirez, and Ruby Roman. Their classmate Linda Sancen finished the competition with a silver medal. Pritzker Prep fielded the largest contingent with a team of ten students at the Olympiada, including gold medalists Clarissa Granados, Helia Garcia, and Jezzle Pacifico-Patterson. Pritzker students Christina De-Anda, Jeanette Fernandez, Alejandra Mendoza, and Trinidad Reyes took home silver medals, and their classmates Helvia Garcia, Daniel Gutierrez, and Yasmin Hernandez were among the bronze medalists. The Roosevelt “home” team featured gold medalist Sevda Kurbanova and bronze medalists Ariadne Calva and Diana Zapeda. Roosevelt students Eric Correa, Dean Fife, Rehab Ghasim, Lashay Kilpatrick, and Jeryis Martinez also received honorable mentions at the contest. Under the leadership of Russian teacher Anna Niazov, the small but spirited Rickover team included silver medalist Stephanie Gaspar, bronze medalist Miquel Pelayo, and Lisa Larson, who finished with an honorable mention.

Ryan Kasak, a Russian teacher at Pritzker College Prep, confirmed that the Olympiada is “very empowering” for the students, and his colleague, Phillip Stosberg, acknowledged

Outreach Notes

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that while the students who choose to participate are often the strongest in the subject, the Olympiada experience filters down to others, “because it creates a buzz among the students when they see the certificates and medals that have been awarded.” Ultimately the event bolsters their school’s Russian program, too, because, “parents get to see that their children can actually speak Russian.”

Roosevelt Russian teacher Josh Bloom (REEI MA 2009) and his students provided a hearty welcome to all the visiting students, teachers, judges, and others involved with the Olympiada. In a specially appointed classroom, students prepared for the competition and had a chance to wind down afterwards by listening to Russian music, watching Russian films, and playing Russian games. A lavish buffet lunch with delicacies from local Russian grocery stores provided a tasty meal for all participants. Following announcement of the contest results, the Chicago-based a cappella ensemble Golosa performed a series of traditional Russian folk songs to the delight of all assembled.

While the success of this year’s Olympiada has brought a sense of achievement to all participants, it is an outcome of continuous efforts exerted by the teachers and students, as well as the quality of the pre-college Russian programs that REEI supports in both Illinois and Indiana. According to Kasak, “REEI has been kind enough to provide me with opportunities to attend symposia on Russian and foreign language pedagogy down in Bloomington, and it has kept me abreast of opportunities for professional development in the Chicagoland area.” Stosberg hopes that some of his and Kasak’s students will consider furthering their knowledge of Russian by studying the language at Indiana University.

Regardless of their destination, however, participating schools report that many of their graduates extend their Russian studies to the collegiate level. For example, of Noble Street’s 300 graduates since 2008, over thirty have taken Russian in college. Through initiatives like the Illinois-Indiana Regional Olympiada of Spoke Russian, REEI and its partners at Chicago and Illinois strive to raise these numbers and enhance the vitality of Russian language education in the United States.

Brooke Swafford is a PhD candidate in Anthropology. **Mark Trotter** is Assistant Director and Outreach Coordinator for REEI.

Student News: New MA Students

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Kristopher Mitchell is a US Army Foreign Area Officer (FAO), and is currently working on his master’s in Russian and East European Studies. His last posting was at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, where he attended resident courses in Eurasian Security Studies and studied the Russian language. Additionally, he served temporarily at the Office of Defense Cooperation at the US Embassy in Kiev, and one in Astana, Kazakhstan under the Officer of Military Cooperation. Upon graduation he will continue to serve in the army as a Eurasian FAO.

Herman (Blake) Reinhold is an Air Force brat originally from New York State. He graduated from Stony Brook University with a degree in political science and minor in Russian in 2007. Since then, he served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the NGO development program in Ust-Kamenogorsk, Kazakhstan, and has translated and taught in Sochi, Russia. Blake is interested in Russian politics and foreign policy, as well as Russian literature and language.

Zachary (Sebastian) Schulman received a BA with Distinction in History and Jewish Studies from McGill University in 2006. Since then, he has worked at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, the Workmen’s Circle and other non-profits as a teacher, translator, researcher and coordinator of educational programs. As recipient of a Jewish Service Corps Fellowship by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, he assisted in revitalizing Jewish life in Minsk, Belarus and Kishinev (Chisinau), Moldova in 2007-2008. His research interests include Jewish history and culture in the former Soviet Union. This summer he got married and shortly thereafter began studying Russian at SWSEI on a FLAS fellowship.

Jennifer Strayer is pursuing a dual degree with REEI and SLIS, and hopes to be a government or academic librarian. She graduated in 2009 from Hastings College with a degree in Musicology and History. Her interests include history and culture of the Balkans and cultural destruction in times of conflict. In her free time, she is a member of IU’s All Campus Band.

Elizabeth Trammell graduated from Wesleyan University in May 2010 with a BA in Government and Russian & East European Studies and a certificate in Environmental Studies. As an undergraduate, she studied in Irkutsk and worked for Great Baikal Trail, an environmental organization that builds hiking trails and provides environmental education to the Baikal region. Originally from Indianapolis, Elizabeth is happy to be back in her home state to pursue research in Russian environmental policy and comparative politics. Eventually she hopes to enter a PhD program in Political Science.

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Student News: New MA Students
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Jason Vincz, a Florida native, grew up mostly in southern Indiana, surrounded by stonemasons and academics. After graduating from Harvard and writing film criticism for the *Village Voice*, he moved to Iowa to earn the very lucrative Master of Fine Arts in Poetry, since which, of necessity, he has developed interests in cuisine, agriculture, and labor politics. He has joined the Russian and East European Institute in hopes of studying the ethno-political and economic structures of Transylvania and Siberia.

April Wilson graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a BA in Russian and Chinese. She received her JD from Indiana University Maurer School of Law. April is currently pursuing a dual MA/MPA with SPEA. She is interested in international law and policy, focusing on transition economies and development.

Student News

Aimee Dobbs (History) received a summer research fellowship from the American Research Institute of the South Caucasus (ARISC) for archival and library research in Tbilisi, Georgia this summer. Before leaving, she presented some of her findings in a presentation entitled, "Nineteenth-Century City of Colonial Convergence: The Role of Tiflis in the Development of an Azerbaijani Intelligentsia."

Brent Hierman (Political Science) participated as an invited presenter at the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) panel discussion "Preventing Ethnic Violence in Kyrgyzstan: Too Little, Too Late?" in Washington, DC on June 28.

Kelly Loistroscio (REEI) recently received an EOF and a FLAS. In addition to publishing a paper in the *Western Balkan Policy Review*, she presented at a conference in June that was hosted by the Kosovo Public Policy Center. She also studied Russian at SWSEEL this summer and participated in a 2-week intensive Croatian trip funded by the Ministry of Education in Dubrovnik.

Joanna M Matuszak (Art History) taught her own self-designed course for undergraduate students, A200 "Women and Art Behind the Iron Curtain," during Summer Session I. In May she presented a paper entitled "Controversial Performances at the Moscow Gallery on Trëkhprudnyi Lane" at Ohio State University's "The Art of Scandal" graduate student conference.

Michael Paul McGuire (Linguistics and Second Language Studies) presented a second language acquisition research study, "The Acquisition of the Unaccusative/Unergative Distinction in Russian," at the Midwest Slavic Conference in April.

Chris Molnar (History - IU, Southeast) presented a paper titled "The Transnational Family: Yugoslavian Guest-workers and War Refugees in Munich," at the *Zeitgeschichtstage* conference in Vienna, Austria, on May 28th.

M. Benjamin Thorne (History) was accepted to this year's Junior Scholars Training Seminar in East European Studies, which was held August 13-16 at the Woodrow Wilson International Center in Washington, DC. His op-ed piece, "Sixty-Five Years Later, The Roma Nightmare Continues," appeared in the September 13, 2010 edition of the History News Network.

Faculty/Staff News

Maria Bucur (History, REEI) recently published "Of Crosses, Winged Victories, and Eagles: Commemorative Contests between Official and Vernacular Voices in Interwar Romania," *East Central Europe*, no. 37 (2010): 31-58. She presented "Gender and Religiosity in Communist Romania," at the symposium "Secularization in Southeast Europe" at the National School for Political Science and Public Administration, Bucharest on May 18, and "Citizen Doina Flushes the Toilet: Gender and Everyday Citizenship in Communist Romania," as part of the Monica Lovinescu Series of Lectures, at the Institute for the Investigation of Communist Crimes and the Memory of the Romanian Exile on May 22. During her trip, Bucur was interviewed on Romanian Public Radio on May 30 for a segment on gender relations broadcast that evening on the Daily News Show.

Owen V. Johnson (Journalism) taught a three week course, "Ernie Pyle: Hoosier Vagabond & Wartime Correspondent," for IU Continuing Studies, Apr. 22-May 6.

Padraic Kenney (History) presented a paper entitled "Electromagnetic Forces and Radio Waves, or, Does Transnational History Actually Happen?" at a German Historical Institute conference on "Transnational Perspectives on Dissent and Opposition in Central and Eastern Europe" in Warsaw.

William Alex Pridemore (Criminal Justice) delivered a lecture, "Three Views of the Russian Mortality Crisis: Hazardous Drinking, SES Differentials, and Homelessness," on April 23. The event was moderated by Dr. Judyth Twigg, Associate Professor, School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University.

IU Participants in the ASEEEES Convention

The 42nd National Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEEES) will be held in Los Angeles, California on November 18 – 21, 2010.

REEI will host an Indiana University Alumni Reception on Friday, November 19, 2010 at 8:30 pm in Beaudry B.

Faculty Papers

Justyna Anna Beinek (Slavic Languages and Literatures): “Authoring, Owning, Collecting: The Case of the Romantic Album”
 Maria Bucur (History, REEI): “The Everyday Experience of Women’s Emancipation in Romania in the Twentieth Century and Beyond”
 Ben Eklof (History): “Nikolai Charushin, Creator of the Viatka Republic”
 Iwona Ewa Dembowska-Wosik (Slavic Languages and Literatures): “Culture Clash for Polish Heritage Speakers”
 Alexander Rabinowitch (History, Emeritus): “The Impact of the Military Crises of 1919 on the Development of the Soviet Authoritarian Political System: The View from Petrograd”
 Sara Stefani (Slavic Languages & Literatures): “From the Other Shore: The English Theme and National and Historical Identity in ‘War and Peace’”

Student Papers/Participants

Erin Kay Biebuyck (History): “How to be Good: Defining Sexual Morality in Communist Romania”
 Lauren Butt (Political Science): “Mosques, Memory and Money: (Re)construction in Post-War Bosnia”
 Jolanta Mickute (History): “Politics of Identity: Zionism and Jewish Women Nationalists in Interwar Poland”
 Christopher A. Molnar (History): “Identity and Integration among Yugoslavian Guest-workers in Bavaria”
 Colleen M Moore (History): “Village, Factory, and Front: Moscow Province’s Experience of the Great War”
 Anna Muller (History): “Learning a Cell and Learning Oneself: Women Political Prisoners in Stalinist Poland”
 Benjamin Joel Stellwagen (History): “Being Soviet Germans: The Complex of German Associations in Interwar Moscow”
 Michael Benjamin Thorne (History): “În loc de un monument: Memory, Commemoration, and Conflict in Recognizing the Persecution of Romanian Roma during World War II, 1946-2006”
 Deanna Gayle Wooley (History): “Commemorating the Great November Velvet Revolution”

Panel Chairs

Michael V. Alexeev (Economics): Liquid and Real Resources in Russia
 Padraic Kenney (History): Identities, Bodies, and Symbolic Capital: Discourse and Experience in 19th and 20th Century Poland
 Anna Muller (History): War and Peace: Memorials, Memory, and Commemorations I
 Alexander Rabinowitch (History, Emeritus): The Cultural, Economic and Geo-strategic Thought of Leon Trotsky: A Retrospective Analysis 70 Years after His Assassination
 Jeffrey Veidlinger (History): Experiments in Belonging: The Politics of Jewish Identities in Interwar Eastern Europe

Panel Discussants

Justyna Anna Beinek (Slavic Languages and Literatures): The Rise and Fall of Central Europe
 Erin Kay Biebuyck (History): History, Religion and National Identity
 Maria Bucur (History): War and Peace: Memorials, Memory, and Commemorations II
 Ramajana Hidic-Demirovic (History): War and Peace: Memorials, Memory, and Commemorations
 Barbara Junisbai (Political Science): Prospects for Change in Central Asia
 Nina M. Perlina (Slavic Languages and Literatures): Varieties of Dialogism: Dostoevsky in Southeastern Europe
 David L. Ransel (History): Russian Mothers: Past and Present
 Jeffrey Veidlinger (History): Being German in Poland, Russia, and Kazakhstan before and after World War II

Roundtable Participants

Maria Bucur (History): Presidential Plenary Session – War and Memory
 Owen V. Johnson (Journalism): Outside Aid in the Transition: The Polish and Czechoslovak Cases
 David L. Ransel (History): Americans Encounter the Soviet Union in War and Peace

Receptions and Luncheons of Note:

12:00 PM on Saturday, November 20 – Association for Women in Slavic Studies Luncheon, Awards Presentation and Business Meeting – Palos Verdes (Luncheon by ticket only; business meeting open to all. For tickets e-mail Maria Bucur – mbucur@indiana.edu.)

Come visit IU at one of our three booths in the Exhibit Hall: Slavica Publishers at booth 214, IU Press at booth 216, and REEI at booth 218. The Exhibit Hall will be open from 9 am to 6 pm on Friday and Saturday, and 9 am to 1 pm on Sunday.

Faculty/Staff News
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David Ransel (History), in collaboration with **Sarah Phillips** (Anthropology) hosted an international, interdisciplinary workshop at IU, May 13-15, on “Everyday Life in Russia: Strategies, Subjectivities, and Perspectives.” Historians, anthropologists, and literature specialists from Russia, Europe, and America participated. Among the moderators and paper presenters were former IU history graduate Choi Chatterjee, and current IU faculty and administrators **Maria Bucur**, **Janet Rabinowitch**, **Ben Eklof**, **Jeffrey Veidlinger**, **Padraic Kenney**, and **Alex Rabinowitch**.

Mark Roseman presented a paper, “Hitler’s Henchmen in History and Memory,” as the first of a series of invited talks on History and Memory at the University of Western Michigan, Kalamazoo.

Mark Trotter (REEI) delivered a presentation “Russian Proficiency Assessment at Indiana University SWSEEL” at the NRC, FLAS and LRC Directors’ Meeting in Arlington, Virginia in September. His article “Post-secondary Support for Pre-College Russian: Challenges and Opportunities” appears in the October issue of the ASEES NewsNet.

Jeff Veidlinger (History) won the 2010 J. I. Segal Prize in English Non-Fiction on a Jewish Theme for his book *Jewish Public Culture in the Late Russian Empire*, as well as the 2010 Helen and Stan Vine Canadian Jewish Book Award for Scholarship.

Alumni News

Tim Borden (History, PhD 1999) is an editor and contributor to a volume on Polish Americans in northwest Ohio, to be published by the University of Toledo Press. Any contributors with an interest in the topic are encouraged to contact him at borden@bex.net. Borden has retained his day job as a federal law enforcement officer. After several years in Detroit, he was recently promoted to Supervisory Officer in his agency’s Chicago field office.

Shoshana Keller (History, PhD/REEI, Certificate 1995) was just promoted to the rank of full professor at Hamilton College, where she has taught since 1995. Her most recent publication is a contribution to a web-based teaching resource that REEI students may find useful: “On-Line Histories of Central Asia,” a three-part website with lecture materials, maps, images, bibliographies, and other helpful sources for instructors who would like to include material about Central Asia in their courses, but cannot do the research themselves. The site was sponsored by Social Science Research Council, and may be accessed at <http://onlinehistories.src.org/centralasia/> She wrote the “Mobile Identities Through Time” section. Keller is starting a new project on the creation of modern childhood in Soviet Central Asia.

Barbara Junisbai (Political Science, PhD 2009) pursued her research project “Economic Reform Regimes, Elite Defection, and Political Opposition in the Post-Soviet States” as Title VIII-Supported Research Scholar at the Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson Center from December 2009 through July 2010. She has also accepted a position as Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Studies at Pitzer College to begin in fall of 2010.

Michael A. Lally (REEI, MA 1992) was recently promoted to the Senior Foreign Service. He completed intensive Turkish at the U.S. State Department’s Foreign Service Institute for an assignment as Commercial Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, Turkey in summer 2010.

Robert Montgomery (History, PhD/REEI, Certificate 1995) presented a paper in November 2009 at the 41st National AAASS Convention in Boston titled “Buryats in the 1905 Revolution and its Aftermath” and is revising it for publication. In summer 2009, he used a Post-Secondary Curriculum Development Program Grant from the University of Michigan Center for Russian and East European Studies to gather materials on nationalities and the 1905 Revolution. Over 2009-2010, he published several book reviews in *Sibirica* and *Russian Review*.

Randal H. Munsen (History, MA 1983; REEI Certificate 1989) has been elected Chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral Science at the Northwest Campus of Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona.

Nathan Wood (History, PhD 2004) has just won a W. T. Kemper Award for Teaching Excellence at the University of Kansas. With the support of an IREX Short Term Grant, he spent five weeks this summer conducting research in Poland and Ukraine for his second book project about the age of speed in Poland. Wood’s first book, *Becoming Metropolitan: Urban Selfhood and the Making of Modern Cracow* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2010) was published in June.

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Giving Opportunities

General Fund

The REEI general fund supports a wide 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, by supporting 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/ or contact Mark Trotter, Assistant Director of the Russian and East European Institute, at martrott@indiana.edu or (812) 855-7309.

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