

REEIfication

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David L. Ransel, Director
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Beslan, Chechnya, and Terror in Russia: A Panel Discussion

by Neil Gipson

On September 1, 2004, terrorists seized a school full of children and parents in the southern Russian town of Beslan, near the breakaway territory of Chechnya. Who were the terrorists? What sparked the attack? And what were its roots and consequences? On October 26th, the Russian and East European Institute arranged a panel discussion to address the origins and aftermath of the tragedy.

The panel members brought multiple perspectives to bear on the events at Beslan. Professor David Ransel, Director of the Russian and East European Institute, introduced the panel and moderated the discussion. Julie Fairbanks, a PhD candidate in the Department of Anthropology who specializes in the region, set the historical and social

context of the hostage-taking. Professor Nazif Shahrani of the Department of Anthropology discussed the role of Islam in the Chechen conflict. Professor Henry Hale of the Department of Political Science laid out some of the political consequences of the attacks and addressed the reaction of the Russian government.

Ms. Fairbanks highlighted the origins of the Chechen wars and also their recent spillover into



Beslan is located in the Russian republic of North Ossetia in the northern Caucasus near Chechnya

the neighboring regions of Ingushetia and North Ossetia. Originally, Russia subjugated the peoples of the North Caucasus in the mid-1800s

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IU Awards for REEI Alumni

1994 Irene Meister
 College Distinguished Alumni
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 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
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 2000 Helena Goscilo
 2002 Howard I. Aronson
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DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

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 1988 Robert F. Byrnes
 1989 Karen Niggle
 1996 Robert W. Campbell
 1997 Charles Jelavich
 1997 Janet Rabinowitch
 2000 William B. Edgerton

Beslan

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as part of its imperial drive to the south, meeting fierce resistance for many years. In the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Chechen political leaders renewed their drive for independence, but the Yeltsin administration in Moscow refused to sanction their secession. Two wars followed, with a lull from 1996-99, and today the fighting continues as rebels demand a complete Russian withdrawal from Chechen territory. The region outside of Chechnya proper is being drawn into the conflict partly as a result of Stalin's 1944 wholesale deportation of Chechens, Ingush, Balkars, and other peoples. On the pretext of disloyalty during WWII, the entire population of the region was shipped to the Kazakh steppe. Their political territories were dissolved and the lands repopulated by other ethnic groups. The original inhabitants were ultimately granted permission



(L-R) Shahrani, Fairbanks, Ransel, and Hale discuss the Beslan Tragedy and Terror in Russia

to return in 1957, but resulting land and property disputes were never fully resolved. As a result, tensions remain, and conflict between Ingush and North Ossetians erupted in violence in 1992. Many observers speculate that the attack in Beslan—situated in North Ossetia not far from the Ingush border—may have been an attempt to extend the war in Chechnya to the wider region.

Ultimately the war's origins have been conflated with the international war on terror and Islamic fundamentalism. The Russian government frames the war in Chechnya as an "anti-terror" operation, and it quickly blamed the Beslan tragedy on Islamic extremists. As a result, according to Professor Shahrani, the question on the minds of many is: "How could Muslims in the name of Islam kill over three hundred children in a school?"

One possible answer is that such acts simply cannot be justified by reference to the Koran or Islamic scholars. "Nobody," argues Shahrani, "is doing this for Islam. They are doing it for the cause of liberty, for what they perceive

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Faculty Profile: Dodona Kiziria

by Lyndsay Miles

Professor Dodona Kiziria has been a member of Indiana University's Slavic Languages and Literatures faculty since 1979, as well as being an affiliate faculty member of REEL. Originally from Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia, Kiziria completed the bulk of her formal education in the Soviet Union. Her credentials include a degree in Indian languages and literatures from the Institute of Oriental Languages at Moscow State University, as well as a graduate degree in film history and theory from the Institute of Cinematography in Moscow. Kiziria explains that her interest in cinema, which developed during the 1960s, largely stemmed from its position as "the most subversive art form in the Soviet Union," and therefore one of the few acceptable means of dissidence. When she relocated to the United States in 1971, and later to Indiana University, there were very few academic opportunities in film studies, especially studies in Soviet cinema. Professor Kiziria completed IU's PhD program in Slavic languages and literatures in 1979 after presenting her dissertation, "The Influence of Cinema on Literature." She also developed courses in Soviet and East European Cinema that she has been teaching for over fifteen years.

While Professor Kiziria continues to teach East European and Soviet Film as well as courses in Russian literature and Georgian

culture, language and politics also figure highly in her aca-



Dodona Kiziria has been a faculty member in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures since 1979

demic pursuits and have become a serious part of her research and teaching. Over the years she has often worked one-on-one with IU students interested in the study of her native country.

In 1986 Professor Howard Aronson of the University of Chicago, a prominent scholar and pioneer of Georgian studies in the United States, organized the first Georgian language summer workshop in the United States. Professor Kiziria taught Georgian in the Workshop for two years. In 1988, Georgian was added to the program of the Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL) at IU. In addition, with Professor Aronson she co-authored the textbook *Georgian Language and Culture: A Continuing Course*. She is currently working on a methodology for teaching Georgian, which she hopes to develop

into a textbook for teaching the language both in the classroom and to students working independently. Her study material is used by students of Georgian in many countries worldwide.

Not only is Professor Kiziria IU's local authority on Georgian language, culture and politics, she also plays an important and active role in her native country. She is known in Georgia as both a poet and a political commentator. She writes articles on current events, primarily in Georgian, and is regularly invited for roundtable discussions in the Georgian section of Voice of America. In May of 2004, she was one of four Georgians to be honored with dual citizenship by the country's new president, Mikhail Saakashvili, for her contribution to the development of democracy in Georgia.

While she acknowledges that interest in Georgian studies has been limited in the United States, she strongly encourages further academic research on the country for its "untapped treasures" in a variety of fields, including folk music, history, ethnography, and literature. To further encourage pursuits in this area, Kiziria teaches Georgian language on an independent study basis to interested students during the academic year. This year she is working with five students (including myself) whose skill levels vary from elementary to advanced.

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Voices from the Caucasus

by Julie Fairbanks

The two flags that fly atop the White House, as the government building of the Republic of Adygeia is called, offer a striking symbol of the republic's status. One is the flag of the Russian Federation, the second that of this new entity, Adygeia, formed in 1991, as the Soviet Union was breaking apart. Previously an autonomous oblast' within Krasnodar Krai, Adygeia is located on the western edge of the Caucasus mountain range in southern Russia, a half day's trip from the Black Sea. I arrived in the republic's capital, Maikop, in October 2002 to begin fourteen months of Adyghe language study and dissertation research, supported by the SSRC and IREX. While Maikop was my home for the year, I also made brief trips to Kabardino-Balkaria and Karachaevo-Cherkessia, as well as to Piatigorsk, Moscow and St. Petersburg.

My year was spent listening – to issues taken up in the press, to demonstrations and concerts, to presentations made at conferences and congresses, but most of all to the conversations taking place around me. The ones to which I paid the closest attention were those that addressed the meaning of being Adyg. Indigenous to the Caucasus, Adygs, as they call themselves, or, Circassians, as they are known to others, appear in the works of Pushkin and Ler-

montov, as well as in the writings of European travelers who made their way to the region in the nineteenth century. These accounts give an idea of Adyg society as it was at the time, when Adygs were at war with the Russian Empire for control of the territory.

Present-day Adygs still discuss



The White House of the Republic of Adygeia in the Russia Federation

these nineteenth-century descriptions; indeed, the image of that society, recreated in the republic's ethnographic museum and in verbal portraits painted by people with whom I interacted, seemed to hover in the background during my time in Adygeia. These characterizations of an earlier time figure into a complex discourse about contemporary Adyg society.

Some of this discourse praises the achievements of Adyg artists; a notable example is Adygeia's dance ensemble, Nal'mes, which represented the Russian Federation in an international festival in France in 2003. Some of the discussion celebrates new opportuni-

ties to speak and study Adyghe, which was designated a state language following the creation of the republic. Some of the discourse explores historical events not previously taught in schools but now open to examination in both scholarly and popular domains.

Other aspects of this discourse focus not on the public arena, where artists perform and laws are passed, but on the everyday life of the community. The norms of which nineteenth-century travelers wrote, I was told, no longer govern society if they ever did. The Adyghe language did not enjoy prestige under the Soviet Union, particularly in the mid-twentieth century and, as a result, many Adygs do not speak it. While acknowledging that political gains have not hampered, and have even produced, "cultural" successes, some Adygs argue that these gains have not brought about sufficient changes in the areas of life they consider most important to the vitality of their community. Another line of argumentation questions the extent to which some of these so-called successes should be maintained.

Thus, the conversation is one about fundamental values and about the characteristics that define who Adygs are. Holding divergent perspectives in tension, the discourse reclaims a past largely unnamed during the Soviet

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Alumni Profile: David Marks

by Alex Dunlop

This summer, David Marks (MA Russian Literature 1979; REEI Certificate 1981) did something few adults with steady jobs would do. He spent his four-week vacation studying Russian at IU's Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL). Marks's decision was as much one of practicality as it was his love of studying languages. He is a Foreign Service Officer (FSO) with the US Department of State, and SWSEEL was his segue from eight years of working on Japanese issues and three years in Washington to his current assignment in our embassy in Moscow. Having served in Moscow in the past and studied Russian extensively, he is not new to the language or the country.

David Marks came upon the Russian language almost by accident. After the first draft lottery in 1969, he realized his number was so low he would almost surely be drafted and sent to Vietnam. Having learned that those who enlist voluntarily have greater control over their military assignments, he signed up for the army after leaving the University of Wisconsin in 1972. The move paid off. His first assignment after boot camp was to study Russian at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California.

Marks came to Bloomington for

graduate study in 1976 after his military service, fully intending to earn a PhD in Russian literature. After three years in Bloomington he received a fellowship to study in Berlin, and his stay in Germany led to a dramatic shift in his career choice. The diplomatic



Marks received an MA in Russian Literature in 1979 and an REEI Certificate in 1981 at IU

intricacies of Berlin fascinated Marks and convinced him that his future should be in the foreign service rather than the academy. He returned to Bloomington, completed a graduate certificate with the Russian and East European Institute (REEI) and took the foreign service exam. He passed the exam and joined the foreign service in 1983.

After serving in Taipei, Bonn, and Tokyo, he finally obtained a coveted assignment in Moscow. His post in Moscow proved very rewarding. "I arrived in the Soviet Union in 1990 and left from Russia in 1992," he says. He

recalls fondly having witnessed Western and Russian leaders sign the Two-Plus-Four Treaty on Germany (known more formally as the Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany) in Moscow in September 1990, which removed the last vestiges of Allied occupation and fixed the international borders of a reunited Germany.

But there was more excitement ahead for Marks. Less than a year later he watched the collapse of Soviet Communism. The American Embassy in Moscow is located directly across from the Russian "White House," where Russian president Boris Yeltsin, the Russian Supreme Soviet, and the people of Moscow organized their resistance to the August 1991 coup attempt. It was an exhilarating moment for everyone.

What is the role of the American Embassy staff during such dramatic times of upheaval? According to Marks, two things are crucial: first, FSOs need to make sure that the latest and best information about what is happening is sent to the State Department as quickly as possible. Second, they should immediately take steps to ensure the safety of American citizens living in the country during the crisis. At the time, no one knew for sure where the crisis might lead.

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Language Opportunities Outside the Classroom

by Philip Hart

Every Friday afternoon IU Russian-language students, instructors, and native speakers descend on Bear's Place, a popular restaurant located just south of campus. The group gathers for Russian Table, an informal meeting that offers an excellent opportunity to practice Russian-language skills in a relaxed environment. Speakers of all levels of proficiency attend, from those with only rudimentary skills to the conversationally fluent. Guests often order food and drink during the meeting, and the casual atmosphere invites discussions on a wide variety of

contemporary topics. A regular visitor to Russian Table, REEI MA student Christopher Collins



Students and faculty hone their conversational Russian skills at Russian Table

comments, "Russian Table is a great opportunity for the non-na-

tive speaker, as it mixes beginning and advanced students, as well as native speakers, ...in an environment that is casual and fun, taking much of the classroom pressure out of the equation."

Russian Table is not the only opportunity for students to converse in Russian outside of a classroom setting. Russian Tea is held every Tuesday at 4:00 in Ballantine Hall 004. Students enjoy tea, coffee, and snacks while Russian-language instructors conduct informal language sessions.

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Schedule of Language Opportunities

Czech Club, Thursdays from 4-5:30 pm in Ballantine Hall 144. Contact: Jeff Holdeman jeffhold@indiana.edu

Estonian Coffee Hour, Tuesdays at 4:30 pm at Bazaar Cafe on 6th St. Contact: Piibi-kai Kivik pkivik@indiana.edu

Finnish Coffee Hour, Fridays from 3-4 pm at The City Bakery, Jordan Ave. and 3rd St. Contact: Anna Pajunen apajunen@indiana.edu

Hungarian Coffee Hour, Thursdays at 4:30 pm at Runcible Spoon, 412 E 6th St. Contact: Laszlo Bengi lbengi@indiana.edu

Latvian Coffee Hour, Thursdays at 6 pm at Bazaar Cafe on 6th St. Contact: Sarah Fogleman slspangl@indiana.edu

Polish Coffee Hour, Thursdays from 4:30-6 pm in the Polish Studies Center, 1217 E. Atwater St.

Contact: Joan Chamberlin joancham@indiana.edu

Romanian Conversation Group, Wednesdays from 5:30-7 pm in the International Center on Jordan Ave. Contact: Florin Beschea fbeschea@indiana.edu

Russian Tea, Tuesdays from 4-5 pm in Ballantine Hall 004. Contact: Jeff Holdeman jeffhold@indiana.edu

Russian Table, Fridays from 4:30-6 pm at Bear's Place, Jordan Ave. and 3rd St. Contact: Jeff Holdeman jeffhold@indiana.edu

Serbian/Croatian Coffee Hour, Thursdays from 6-7 pm in Ballantine Hall 221. Contact: Vlatka Stimac vstimac@indiana.edu

Uzbek Coffee Hour, Thursdays 4-5 pm in Ballantine Hall 004. Contact: Malik Hodjaev mhodjaev@indiana.edu

"European Security and Ukraine" Conference

by David Albright

The requirements for European security were debated at a conference on "European Security and Ukraine" in Odessa, Ukraine, on September 24-27, 2004. This conference took place under the sponsorship of the Center for the Study of Global Change, the Russian and East European Institute, and the West European Studies Center at Indiana University, and the Center for International Studies and the Department of International Relations of the Institute of Social Sciences at Odessa National University.

For analysts from Ukraine, there were two essential requirements for European security. First, NATO and the European Union should be expanded to include all the Balkans and Ukraine. Second, increased attention should be given to problems such as drug trafficking and potential sources of Islamic terrorism and ethnic conflict in the Black Sea region.

Analysts from Western and Central Europe and the United States agreed that the prime threats to European security now come from the south and particularly areas such as the Black Sea periphery, and they concurred that the security questions that these areas pose had to be addressed with vigor. But as for NATO and the European Union, they argued that these institutions should focus for the present on consolidating the

expansion that they have already approved or are in the process of negotiating.

Consideration of the admission of countries like Ukraine to either NATO or the European Union, these analysts argued, should come only after a lengthy period in which these countries



International scholars discuss security threats at the conference

demonstrate a will to meet the criteria that NATO and the European Union have set forth for admission. In this connection, they maintained that Ukraine had not thus far evidenced a real commitment to become part of Europe by undertaking the necessary reforms to do so. They also suggested that the presidential election scheduled for the end of October might well wind up being a major turning point for the country.

The conference was organized by David Albright, senior fellow at the Center for the Study of Global Change and visiting scholar at the Russian and East European Institute, Indiana University, and by

Volodymyr Dubovyk, director of the Center for International Studies at Odessa National University.

Non-Ukrainian participants were Janusz Bugajski, director of the Eastern Europe Project at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC;

Joachim Krause, director of the Institute for Security Policy at the University of Kiel in Germany, and former Deputy Director of the German Council on Foreign Relations in Berlin; Jeffrey Simon, senior analyst at the Institute for National Strategic Studies, U.S. National War College; Richard Whitman, di-

rector of the European Program at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London; Gareth Winrow, professor of international relations in the Department of International Relations at Bilgi University in Istanbul, Turkey and Ryszard Zieba, professor of international relations at the Institute of International Relations of Warsaw University in Poland.

The Ukrainian participants included Olexander Dergachev, senior fellow at the Institute of Political and Ethnonational Studies of the National Academy of Science in Kyiv; Sergei Glebov, assistant professor of international relations

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David Marks

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Only days before the coup began, Marks had met with the only military member of the Politburo. This official gave no indication whatsoever of the historic events about to take place. During the chaos, Marks was asked to coordinate the many reports delivered to the embassy and try to clarify and explain what was happening to those back in Washington.

During these experiences, Marks utilized the language training he received at IU, and considers it the most beneficial aspect of his IU education. In particular, he remembers fondly the grammar classes taught by Professor Galina McLaws. He recommends that every student of Russian take

Laurence Richter's class in Russian phonetics. It proves to be very useful when speaking with Russians, because, like English, spoken Russian does not sound the way it looks on paper. Marks states that his Russian language background has served him well throughout his career, and his participation in SWSEEL this summer helped him reestablish his proficiency.

Students studying the languages of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe often wonder if their language skills will give them an advantage in entering the foreign service. Unfortunately not—all applicants are screened on their performance on the written and oral sections of the foreign service exam. But languages *do* prove valuable once you are in

the foreign service.

What advice does Marks have for students aspiring to join the foreign service? The same advice he would give anyone: get in the habit of reading a good newspaper everyday and do not skip the stories that miss the front page. FSOs need to be able to speak clearly about how apparently minor political or economic developments can impact larger ongoing conflicts and tensions between states or ethnic groups. He adds, "Keep studying languages. They *do* come in handy."

Alex Dunlop received his dual MA/MPA from REEI and SPEA in 2004. He currently works for The Services Group, an economic consulting firm located in Arlington, VA

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IU Polish Studies Center and Director Honored in Warsaw

The Indiana University Polish Studies Center and its director, Professor Bill Johnston, received the Polish Foreign Minister Award on Wednesday, October 6, for outstanding contributions to the promotion of Poland abroad. Johnston accepted the award from Polish Foreign Minister Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz in a ceremony at the Royal Palace in Warsaw. The award, which has been presented each year since 1970, honors people and institutions that significantly enhance the promotion of Poland in the world.

Owen Johnson, the Polish Center's acting director while Johnston is on sabbatical leave, said the award was richly deserved. "But the award only tells part of the story. For more than a quarter century, the center, like other area studies centers at IU, has been opening up the rest of the world to IU students and faculty as well as to the people of the state of Indiana."

Johnston said the award provides recognition of all the work the center has accomplished in

nearly three decades of existence. Since its establishment in 1976, the center has played host to some of the most important figures in Polish politics and culture, including Solidarity trade union



IU Polish Studies Director Bill Johnston (left) accepts the Polish Foreign Minister Award from Polish Foreign Minister Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz

leader Lech Walesa and Czesław Miłosz, a world-renowned writer. Both men are Nobel Prize winners, Walesa for peace and Miłosz for literature.

The center regularly sponsors conferences, concerts, and theatrical performances. Exchange programs established by the center

with Warsaw University and Jagiellonian University in Krakow have allowed more than sixty IU graduate students and faculty to travel to Poland and more than sixty Polish scholars to come to IU.

"We provide a steady diet of programs about Poland and things Polish," Johnson said. "We also serve as hosts for Polish students and professors from universities in Warsaw and Krakow, with which we have exchange agreements."

IU-Bloomington Interim Chancellor Kenneth Gros Louis maintains that by providing students, faculty, and members of the community with the opportunity to learn about Poland and its culture, the center is a truly valuable asset to IU. He states that

the award is also special with regards to IU's diversity of international programs. "The award underlines IU's ties with so many different countries, and its relationship with Poland predates the collapse of the Iron Curtain by many years."

Ukraine Conference

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at Odessa National University; Viktor Glebov, head of the School of International Relations of the Institute of Social Sciences and International Relations at Odessa National University; Igor Koval,

chair of the Department of International Relations and Director of the Institute of Social Sciences and International Relations at Odessa National University; Igor Mingazutdinov, deputy head of the Department of International Relations and Foreign Policy at the Institute of International Re-

lations at Taras Shevchenko Kyiv National University; and Grigoriy Perepelitsa, deputy director and head of the Military Studies Department of the National Institute of Strategic Studies in Kyiv.

David Albright is Senior Fellow at the IU Center for Global Change

SWSEEL 2004 Highlights

by Lisa Giullian

We had an exciting summer filled with films, cooking, lectures, a Russian play and choir performance, and the annual Silk Road concert! Lectures covered a broad range of topics, from the Russian elections to contemporary education and culture in Uzbekistan. Students of Russian put on a play about famous Soviet figures, who share a communal apartment. It's difficult to imagine Stalin, Brezhnev and Anna Akhmatova all sharing an apartment together! Everyone was rolling with laughter! Students enjoyed the Silk Road Concert, a highlight of the summer. Artists from China, the Caucasus, Central Asia, Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan, Mongolia and the Arab world gave a stunning musical performance.

The 54th annual Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL) saw upward enrollment trends continue. Total enrollment went from 163 in 2003 to 223 in 2004, an increase of nearly 40%. The largest increases were in Russian, from 77 to 107 students, Central Asian, from 49 to 59 students, and in the addition of two new courses to SWSEEL: second-year Serbian and Croatian and beginning Yiddish.

The new Yiddish course was taught by special agreement between Indiana University and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. The nine students in the course were competitively selected and received

full fellowship funding from the museum. We intend to continue working with the museum and IU's Borns Jewish Studies Program to expand Yiddish offerings in 2005.



Tajik cooking demonstration

The 2004 workshop was successful in generating other external grant support. The East European program was awarded \$27,200 from the American Councils for Learned Societies for first-year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Polish, Romanian, and Slovene. ACLS support pays the instructor's salary and ensures that IU will offer the language tuition-free to graduate students in East European studies. The Workshop has already received notification that ACLS will support first-year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Czech, Latvian, Polish, Romanian, Macedonian and first- and second-year Estonian. The 2004 Russian and Georgian programs were awarded \$34,200 from the Social Science Research Council for sala-

ries and fellowships.

Overall fellowship support remained at a very high level. Of the 152 students in Slavic department languages (Russian, Georgian, and East European), 50 had FLAS fellowships from IU or from other Title VI centers nationwide; eight had SSRC awards; five students received awards from the CIC; one student had an individual East European Language Fellowship from ACLS; and one student was a professional from the U.S. State Department (read about him in the alumni profile on page 5 of this issue).

Stuart MacKenzie, a graduate student in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures took 2nd year Serbian/Croatian at SWSEEL in 2004. He comments on SWSEEL, "As a PhD student and Associate Instructor in IU's Slavic Studies department, I am



Russian Level 2 students with instructor Lina Khawaldah

in the unusual position of having been both a SWSEEL student and a SWSEEL instructor. I can honestly say that the program is a wonderful experience from

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Dobro Slovo National Slavic Honor Society Inductions

On April 20, 2004, the Indiana University Zeta Zeta chapter of Dobro Slovo National Slavic Honor Society held its new member induction ceremony. The IU chapter, which was re-instituted in spring 2003 after nearly three decades of inactivity, inducted twenty-one new members at the ceremony. Dobro Slovo serves as a means to recognize academic excellence in the study of Slavic languages, literature, history, and culture. The new members for 2004 are: **Matthew**

Adler (undergraduate, Criminal Justice), **Nik Borjan** (undergraduate, Business), **Bo-ra Chung** (MA student, Slavics), **Kathryn Noelle Davis** (undergraduate), **Catherine Drew** (undergraduate, Slavics

and Psychology), **Beth Ehram** (undergraduate, Communication and Culture), **Seth Clark Everett** (undergraduate, Slavics and



Larry Richter (middle) and Jeffrey Holdeman (right) congratulate Dobro Slovo inductee Stephanie Hockman

Communication and Culture), **Sarah Burns Gilchrist** (undergraduate Slavics and Comparative Literature), **Aaron Hale-Dorrell** (undergraduate, Slavics and History), **Philip Hart** (MA student,

REEI), **Stephanie J. Hockman** (MA/MPA student, REEI/SPEA), **Blake Randell Hulet** (undergraduate, Slavics and Psychology), **John Alexander Ippoliti** (undergraduate, Slavics and Classical Studies), **Andriana Ivanovic** (undergraduate, Political Science), **Aleksandra Jovanovic** (undergraduate, Slavics and Criminal Justice), **Stuart MacKenzie** (PhD candidate, Slavics and Philosophy), **Miriam Shrager** (PhD candidate, Slavics), **Michael Smith** (undergraduate, Slavics), **Michelle Stevens**, and **Amy M. Zerebnick**

(undergraduate, Slavics and French). **Melinda J. Fountain** was inducted into the honorary category. Congratulations to the new members of Dobro Slovo!

Voices

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period, but also recalls the role of the Soviet government in developing a writing system and fostering Adyghe-language media. It mourns changes in family structures and interpersonal relations while questioning the restrictions such structures place on individuals. It argues for the significance of Adyghe at the same time as it encourages proficiency in Russian and other languages.

The possibilities of the present, the setbacks and gains of recent

history, and the glories of a more distant past all figure into the debate. In a context in which current conditions are changing and the historical record is being reevaluated, the content of Adygs' discourse, with its juxtapositions and internal tensions, warrants careful consideration. It speaks both to the influence of the wider society and to the role of nostalgia in shaping communities' senses of who they are in the post-Soviet milieu.

Julie Fairbanks is a PhD student in the Department of Anthropology.

Faculty Profile: Dodona Kiziria

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Kiziria plans on retiring from her position at Indiana University in the next couple of years. However, she expects to continue her work in Georgian politics, culture and education for many years to come.

Lyndsay Miles is an MA student in REEI.

Beslan

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as their liberty.” Instead of a conflict between Islam and the West, the war in Chechnya should be understood as a struggle for community self-governance. According to Shahrani, the problem is fundamentally a political one, resulting from conflict between the state and its constituent parts and exacerbated by the increasing centralization of power.

This centralization process may have accelerated in the wake of the Beslan tragedy, as the government initiated reforms that it claimed would prevent such terrorism in the future. Professor Hale examined five of these major reforms and concluded that

while some were meant to address terrorism directly, most are designed to “address broader issues of state decay” at the expense of regional power and democracy. For example, one potentially positive development occurred when President Putin replaced his envoy to the North Caucasus region with Dmitry Kozak, whose reputation as a tough but democratically-minded ally of the president may promote stability in the region. On the other hand, President Putin has also moved to end the direct election of regional governors and also to gain greater control over the loyalty of a parliament already dominated by the party he endorses. Additionally, President Putin’s administration has begun to crack down on in-

dependent civil society—a move couched in the language of supporting an “organized and united civil society”—because its very independence threatens the state. According to Hale, these reforms are designed less to prevent terrorism than to strengthen centralized political control over the country.

The future of the region remains unclear. The attack on the school focused international attention once again on the conflict, but it did not apparently open any new political or military avenues to resolution. In Beslan the victims are buried; in Moscow the politicking continues. Meanwhile, in Chechnya, the war grinds on.

Neil Gipson is an MA/MPA student in REEI and SPEA.

Language Opportunities

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Students are presented with opportunities to hear and speak Russian using culturally relevant media, such as Russian films, songs, and stories.

Opportunities for extra practice are available for a variety of languages other than Russian. Czech, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Latvian, Polish, Romanian, Serbian/Croatian, and Uzbek coffee hours are held once a week at various locations on and near campus.

This schedule can be viewed on page 6 of this newsletter and online on the “Calendar of Events” page of the REEI website.

Philip Hart is an MA student in REEI

SWSEEL 2004

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both perspectives. As a student, I have enjoyed the luxury of concentrating on one subject and feeling my own skill develop. My SWSEEL instructors have been extraordinarily influential in my approach to language acquisition and in developing my own teaching skills. As an Instructor

of Russian in SWSEEL 2002, I found it very fulfilling to devote myself to teaching intelligent, highly-motivated students in a long-established and extremely well-run summer program. It was genuinely gratifying to see the rate at which students’ language skills improve under the near-immersion conditions that SWSEEL affords them, and I have been delighted to see students from past workshops

returning to the program and telling us their success stories. Also, I found that my fellow instructors were very committed to pedagogical excellence, which is reflected in the annual pedagogy workshop organized by the program.”

Lisa Giullian is a Student Advisor and Assistant Director for Student Services for REEI.

Students News

Janel Anderson (REEI) is working for Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska as a staff assistant focusing on federal health issues and social security.

Jane Charney (Journalism) received the first-place award given for level 2 heritage learners in the ACTR National Russian Essay Contest conducted in the spring.

Christopher Collins (REEI) was elected treasurer of the IU Baltic and Finnish Studies Association.

Sarah Fogleman (REEI) was elected vice president of the IU Baltic and Finnish Studies Association.

Neil Gipson (REEI/SPEA) received one of two first-place

awards given for level 4 non-heritage learners in the ACTR National Russian Essay Contest conducted in the spring.

Stephanie Hockman (REEI/SPEA) participated in the "Terrorism and War on Terrorism Student Forum" at Indiana University on November 12. She spoke on an "International Perspectives" panel about her first-hand experience with terrorism last summer while interning at the U.S. Embassy in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, and discussed the ways that America's War on Terror affects its interactions with the government of Uzbekistan. She also co-moderated a panel on the "Public Discourse on Terrorism."

Siobhan Reardon (Slavics) received one of five third-place awards given for level 4 non-heritage learners in the ACTR National Russian Essay Contest conducted in the spring.

Ben Thorne (History) presented his paper "Multiculturalism and Holocaust Studies: The Roma as Case Study" at an international conference titled "The Challenges of Multiculturalism in Central And Eastern Europe," held in Iasi, Romania, from October 28-30 at Alexandru Ioan Cuza University.

Amy Zerebnick (Slavics/French) received one of five third-place awards given for level 4 non-heritage learners in the ACTR National Russian Essay Contest conducted in the spring.

Alumni News

Rebecca Bartlett (MA REEI/MLS SLIS 2004) is working as a cataloger at the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Craig Bell (MA REEI 1993), a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army, spent the last three years as the Nuclear Branch Chief in the On-Site Directorate of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, where he was responsible for monitoring the closing of Russian plutonium production reactors. From April through July 2004 he worked in Iraq as the deputy commander

of the DTRA Task Force, where he administered nonproliferation programs. In October, he was reassigned to the Pentagon as the Senior Presidential Translator and Chief of the Washington-Moscow Direct Communications Link (the Hotline--the President's 24/7 crisis communications link with Moscow since 1963).

Michael Katula (REEI MA 1998) has accepted a position as a Foreign Service Officer for the U.S. Department of State, in Warsaw, Poland. He has been working as a Foreign Service Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Brian Randall (SPEA MPA 2002) has accepted a position as a Foreign Service Officer for the U.S. Department of State. He will begin his assignment on January 10, 2005. Location to be announced.

Jeanne Wilson (PhD Political Science 1983) published *Strategic Partners: Russian-Chinese Relations in the Post-Soviet Era* (Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe, 2004). She is professor of political science at Wheaton College in Massachusetts and research associate at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University.

Faculty News

Christopher P. Atwood (CEUS) delivered the paper "Symbiosis and Conflict in Post-Imperial Mongol-Turk Relations" in Ulaanbaatar on September 28, 2004, at a major conference on Turkish-Mongolian Relations through history. At the Annual Conference of the Central Eurasian Studies Society held in Bloomington on October 15-16, he served as chair and discussant for the Mongolia Society panel of "Education in Mongolia," addressed the question of "Is Mongolia Part of Central Eurasia?," and was discussant for the panel "Art, Death, and Money." On October 21, he spoke on the "Many Faces of Genghis Khan" in the history lecture series at the University of Southern Illinois at Carbondale. On October 27 he kicked off Harvard University's Inner Asian and Altaic Studies Committee luncheon series by speaking on "The Secret History of the Mongols: The View From the Veritable Records."

Malcolm Brown (Musicology) and his colleague George Buelow were honored on their 75th birthdays at the "Celebration of Scholarship" on October 16. Three scholars presented on Russian music: Richard Taruskin (UC-Berkeley) presented a paper entitled "Evrei i zhidy," Laurel Fay (Russian music specialist) spoke on Shostakovich's Dialogue with His Conscience," and Simon Morrison (Princeton) discussed "Prokofiev's Emigration."

Maria Bucur (History) recently received a contract for an edited volume on *Gender and War in Twentieth Century Eastern Europe*, co-edited with Nancy M. Wingfield (Indiana University Press). She also recently published "Fascism and Modernism in Twentieth Century Romania," Angelica Fenner and Eric D. Weitz, eds., *Fascism and Neofascism: Critical Writings on the Radical Right in Europe* (New York: Palgrave, 2004).

Aurelian Craiutu (Political Science) spoke on the upcoming Romanian elections at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (Kokkalis Program) on November 17. He also attended a roundtable on Romanian elections sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars in Washington, DC, on November 19.

Andrew Durkin (Slavics) presented a paper at the recent NEH-supported symposium "Chekhov the Immigrant: Translating a Cultural Icon" at Colby College, Waterville, ME, October 8-9, held to mark the centenary of Chekhov's death. The paper was titled "Hunters off the Beaten Track: The Dismantling of Pastoral Myth in Chekhov and Crane." He also gave a talk titled "Chekhov's Cherry Orchard: A Century Later" for Theater Circle before the opening of IU Theatre's production of "The Cherry Orchard."

Roy Gardner (Economics and West European Studies) served as an expert at the Economics Education and Research Consortium (EERC)-CIS conference on research in transition economics in Kyiv, July 9-11. He will also serve in this capacity at the next EERC-CIS conference in Moscow, December 17-19. In addition, in his role as Academic Director of EERC-Kyiv, he participated in the International Advisory Board annual meeting in Kyiv, October 16-17.

Halina Goldberg (Musicology) organized jointly with colleagues from other departments a visit by Dr. Gottfried H. Wagner, the great grandson of the composer Richard Wagner and the great-great grandson of the composer and piano virtuoso Franz Liszt, on October 26-27. Wagner presented two lectures: one on the role of Richard Wagner's music in the Third Reich and the other contrasting the composers Kurt Weill and Bertold Brecht. The visit was sponsored by the School of Music Lecture Fund in collaboration with Germanic Studies, Institute of German Studies, Jewish Studies, and the Office of International Programs.

Henry Hale (Political Science) recently presented a paper titled "Cause Without a Rebel: Kazakhstan's Unionist Nationalism and Patterns of Secessionism in the

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Faculty News

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Former USSR” at the Central Eurasian Studies Society annual meeting in Bloomington on October 16. He also served as a discussant on the panel “Inclusion or Exclusion: Ethnic Minorities and the State” at the meeting. He spoke about his forthcoming article “Making and Breaking Ethnofederal States: Why the USSR Broke Apart While the Russian Federation Survives” at a discussion organized by IU’s Department of Political Science on October 28.

Mark T. Hooker (REEL) delivered a slide show of the Russian illustrations of J.R.R. Tolkien’s *The Hobbit* at the Art History Brown-Bag lecture on October 27 in Bloomington. The presentation demonstrated the myriad challenges facing translators trying to bring Tolkien to the Russian reading public by pointing out the confusion arising from the Russian translation of “feet” as “*nogi*.”

Bill Johnston (TESOL/ Applied Linguistics) published two new translations, both by Witold Gombrowicz: *Bacacy* (Archipelago Books) and *Polish Memories* (Yale University Press). He also published shorter pieces in the *New England Review* and the *Georgia Review*. In addition, Slavica Publishers recently bought out *The Other in Polish Theater and Drama*, which Johnston co-edited with Kathleen Cioffi, as vol. 14 of *Indiana Slavic Studies*.

Dov-Ber Kerler (Germanic Studies) participated in a panel discussion on the future of Yiddish language at the Institute for Jewish Research on November 18 to celebrate the publication of *Words of Fire* by Dovid Katz (Basic Books, 2004).

Vince Liotta (Music) recently returned from a residency in Romania, where he staged the opera “Madama Butterfly” for the Opera Magiara Cluj-Napoca, Romania. This was the first time an American was invited to stage an opera in Transylvania.

S a r a h Phillips (Anthropology) participated in an international workshop titled “Understanding the Transformation of Ukraine: Assessing What Has Been Learned, Devising a Research Agenda” at the University of Ottawa on October 15-16. Eighteen scholars from the disciplines of Political Science, History, Anthropology, Sociology, and Economics discussed the past and future of Ukrainian Studies in their respective fields, and interdisciplinary approaches were highlighted.



Phillips at the University of Ottawa

Csaba Pleh (CEUS), the Visiting Hungarian Chair, announces the annual symposium sponsored by the György Ránki Hungarian Chair and the Hungarian Studies Program of the Indiana University Department of Central Eurasian Studies on April 2-3, 2005. Information regarding the time, place, and presenters will be featured in the February issue of the newsletter.

Nazif Shahrani (CEUS) recently published an article titled “Afghanistan’s Presidential Elections: Spreading Democracy or a Sham?” on *Middle East Report Online*. This article can be accessed at <http://www.merip.org/mero/mero100804.html>.

Marci Shore (History) signed a contract with Yale University Press for her manuscript “Caviar and Ashes: A Warsaw Generation’s Life and Death in Marxism, 1918-1968.” The manuscript also won the Fraenkel Prize in Contemporary History for 2004. In November she presented two papers at the University of London: “A Funeral for Futurism: Or, How the Polish Avant-Garde Came to Marxism in the 1920s” and “When God Died: Žižek on Modernity and Revolution in Eastern Europe.”

Jeffrey Veidlinger (History) published “From Boston to Mississippi on the Warsaw Yiddish Stage” in Kathleen Cioffi and Bill Johnston eds., *The Other in Polish Theatre and Drama* (Indiana Slavic Studies, Volume 14, 2003).

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