



REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

Maria Bucur, Acting Director
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IU Reunion for Airmen Proves Memorable

From May 22–24, 2006, Indiana University proudly hosted the first reunion of the Russian II United States Air Force Russian Language School detachment, forty-four years after its students graduated from their training course. For more than nine months during the academic year 1961–1962, fifty-two members of the United States Air Force Security Service underwent intensive Russian language preparation for assignments as Russian linguists.

The airmen's grueling course of study at Indiana University included six hours of language study per day (not including homework) for more than nine months, followed by equally intensive military intelligence training in San Angelo, Texas, lasting another three months. Upon completion of this program, approximately one-third of the linguists went on to the National Security Agency at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland for three more months of training. The remaining members of the Russian II detachment went to survival school and flight training prior to their assignment to bases throughout the world.

Though the linguists would eventually take on specific positions and duties in the Air Force, their primary mission was to intercept Soviet communications and extract strategic intelligence for the National Security Agency. Thanks to their advanced linguistic and military training, members of the IU Air Force detachment would play pivotal roles in intelligence gathering during the Cuban Missile Crisis and throughout the Cold War.

For most of the airmen, the 2006 reunion in Bloomington was the first opportunity to see each other since leaving San Angelo, Texas in the fall of 1962. Half of the original members of the detachment attended the reunion. Two of the veterans had passed away, five could not be located, and the rest were unable to attend due to personal reasons.

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The 1961-1962 class of U.S. Air Force Russian II airmen

INSTITUTE STAFF

Maria Bucur, Acting Director
 Denise Gardiner, Assistant
 Director/Outreach Coordinator
 Lance Erickson, Advisor/Assistant
 Director for Student Services
 Jessica Hamilton, Administrative
 Secretary

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Amy Luck, Publications Editor
 Richard Fitzmaurice, Website
 Administrator
 Aimee Dobbs, Outreach Assistant
 Sarah Fogleman, Library Assistant

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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

1998 Alexander Rabinowitch
 1988 Charles Gati
 1995 Gale Stokes
 2000 Helena Goscilo
 2002 Howard I. Aronson
 2002 William Hopkins

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

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

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The reunion officially began with a reception in the Indiana Memorial Union, followed by an informal gathering at the group's most memorable establishment — Nick's English Hut on Kirkwood Avenue. The next morning the retired airmen went on a walking tour of campus and visited their old detachment facilities. After lunch, the group met in Ballantine Hall, where IU Vice President Lynn Coyne welcomed the former detachment back to Bloomington and addressed the topic "The Changing Face of the IUB Campus: 1962–2025." In his speech, VP Coyne pointed out the expansion that has taken place at IU since 1962 and outlined plans for new construction, which incidentally included the demolition of the detachment's former dormitories Brown, Green, and Monroe Halls. That afternoon also included a cultural program organized by the Russian and East European Institute. REEI director David Ransel delivered a talk entitled "Russian Leaders: a Historical Perspective and Some Conclusions about Putin." Chair of the Slavic department Ronald Feldstein then spoke about "Modern Changes in the Russian Lexicon," which reminded the former linguists of the countless hours they had spent in Bloomington trying to learn this language. To the pleasant surprise of many of the veterans, the heavy influence of English business, computer and pop culture terminology seemed to make learning Russian today somewhat easier. Immediately after the speeches, the veterans gathered to sing a few Russian songs from their past. Emotions ran high as they reminisced about former teachers and fellow students.

Two members of the detachment returned to earn degrees from the IU Slavic department after completing their service in the Air Force. John Sheehan (BA '66 and MAT '67) and David Matousek (BA '69). To some of the veterans 1962 seemed like a lifetime ago. Forty-four years had come and gone, the Soviet Union had fallen, and the Cold War had ended; yet, Indiana University had forever left its mark in the lives of these young Air Force Russian linguists. The group is continuing a website (<http://www.russian-two.org/>) and plans another reunion in 2008.

Paul Anderson is an REEI MA student.



U.S. Air Force Russian II class reunion, May 23, 2006, attendees were, from left, fourth row: Beall Bowden, Dave Clark, Richard Edmonds, Ben Butler, Jim McGee, and Bill Purdy; third row: Dave Matousek, George Fowler, Steve Dershimier, Norm Blackburn, and John Dudinskie; second row: John Mulvey, Kent Jenkins, Gene Phelan, Bill Duncan, Bob Stromberg, and Loren Myers; first row: Jim Artlip, Gene Tharp, John Sheehan, and Bill Kilian. Not pictured: Roger Gillespie, Chuck Kerwood, Austin Miller, Gordie Swanson, and Nelson Whitt

Into the EU: What January 1, 2007 Means for New Members

Romania

Finally, Romania's long wait is over. On January 1st, 2007, the country will be admitted into the ranks of the European Union after more than eleven years of moving forward, and sometimes backward, on the road of reform. The Romanian public is overwhelmingly in favor of EU accession, but the path to Brussels has often been a hard one. It was only four years ago that the January 2007 date was set for Romanian accession, but even this date became questionable after a 2004 decision to introduce a 'safeguard clause' allowing the European Council to delay entry by another year.

Some might argue that this arduous path to accession for Romania has been a good thing for the country. In 1997, despite an apparent blow to Romanian pride in its rejection from NATO, the EU Commission decided that the Romanian political system fulfilled EU requirements. By 2002 the regular report of the EU Commission concluded that Romania had made significant steps to stabilize its economic system but insisted on further administrative reform.

From 1989 until 2004, with the exception of a four year term under the leadership of Emil Constantinescu, the country was in the hands of former communist apparatchik Ion Illiescu. But in December 2004, to the great surprise of outside observers, Romania finally elected a man capable of making the necessary reforms. Traian Băsescu, a ship captain during the communist era and the former mayor of Bucharest, won a run-off election against Illiescu's successor Adrian Nastase on the Democratic Party ticket.

Since coming to power, Băsescu has made a concerted effort at weeding out high level corruption and now, in 2006, his efforts have been rewarded. For Romania, EU accession means access: access to highly desired foreign aid, access to Common Agricultural Policy subsidies, access to the Schengen regime, and eventually, access to the euro. While



Bulgaria

Bulgaria does not often grab headlines, but the European dailies will surely cover the EU flags waving at the upcoming New Year celebrations in Sofia's Alexander Battenberg Square, where Georgi Dimitrov's mausoleum once stood. Bulgaria will formally join the European Union on January 1st, 2007, in what may be the last round of EU expansion until 2010.

The road to Brussels has not been an easy one for Bulgaria in the eleven years since it first applied for membership. The country has worked, with varying levels of enthusiasm and success, to meet the EU's demands, especially in its troubled judicial system. Other areas of reform outlined in the *acquis communautaire* include an improved environmental policy and better treatment of Turkish and Roma minorities.

The political climate in Bulgaria is pro-EU, as evinced by the victory of the ruling Socialist Party in the recent presidential elections, despite low turnout and a surprisingly strong showing by a nationalist candidate. Bulgaria's GDP still lags well behind Western Europe, corruption is rampant, and organized

crime is too organized for comfort. But progress is being made. Bulgaria's efforts to meet European Union standards range from the very promising (a rise in prosecution of corrupt officials) to the comically feeble (anti-corruption CD-ROM tutorials for judges). In response to environmentalist pressures, Bulgaria will permanently shutter the two remaining Soviet-built reactors at the Kozloduy nuclear power plant, Europe's aging Chernobyl-in-waiting, sacrificing the energy exports that the creaking facility currently generates.

The percentage of Bulgarian workers in the agricultural sector, though not as large as Romania's, is significantly higher than the EU average. Bulgarian farmers will benefit from the Common Agricultural Policy with subsidies phased in over several years. The policy itself will help Bulgarian farmers to modernize agriculture, bringing food safety practices up to the EU standards, and ensuring Bulgarian exports don't

A Grateful Farewell to a Popular Professor

Dodona Kiziria received her PhD from Indiana University in 1979, but she started teaching here eight years before that. This year, she retired after 35 years in Bloomington classrooms, three top teaching awards, and many accolades.

Her route to Bloomington was circuitous and fortuitous. Her scholarly endeavors took her first from Tbilisi to Moscow, where she studied Indian literature at Moscow State University. It was a practical choice based on her general love of literature and the opportunities afforded by joining a nascent field of study. However, even before she graduated, obstacles began to appear on her scholarly path. She ran into difficulties with the KGB for being too friendly with foreigners and was told she was politically unreliable. She was barred from a trip to India with her classmates. If she could not go to Soviet-friendly India, she wondered where she could go. She went back to Georgia, but could only find unsatisfactory work as a French teacher.

"Plan B" turned out to be something of a blessing, since theater and cinema had always been among her passions. She went back to Moscow to study at the All-Union Institute of Cinematography. At 25, she was considered too old for acting and she felt unsure about directing. That left the history and theory of cinema, and thus she began work she has continued ever since. After finishing her studies in Moscow, opportunity did not knock in the Soviet Union, but fate brought her to Bloomington. She married a graduate student at Indiana University whom she had first met in the Department of Oriental Languages at Moscow State.

Upon her arrival, then chair of the Slavic department, William Edgerton offered her a job teaching Georgian — something for which she is now well-known, but which she found at the time "devastating." This was not her specialty or even an area of interest; she was merely a native speaker. The job was as appealing as teaching French in Georgia, but she took it anyway. However, enthusiasm turned out to be weak all around and the class was only offered for a year.

Unable to follow the scholarly pursuits she had begun in Moscow, she went back to school as a graduate student at IU in the Slavic department. During her coursework, she gave a talk on Bulgakov and her classmates were so impressed that they asked the chair of the department to let her teach Russian literature. Consent was granted and she became both a visiting lecturer and student at the same time in the same department. Nine years later, she defended her dissertation, "The Influence of Cinema on Literature." Her courses on Russian and East European film have been among the most popular in the department.

Kiziria's run of teaching literature and film at Indiana University ended last semester. Her last Georgian language course was in summer 2006. She has won the FACET award for excellence in teaching, the IU Frederic Bachman Lieber Memorial Award for outstanding teaching, and the Slavic department best teacher award. In her final evaluations last semester, one student wrote: "The beauty with which you speak about literature and passion is rare... you inspire me." Such comments are typical, but this year Kiziria felt particularly moved to have them in her final semester.



Retired Professor Dodona Kiziria

Kiziria has no particular teaching philosophy, but says, "I just love very much everything that I teach. Maybe this is something the students feel. ... Maybe this is the only thing that I loved in my life and this love lasts."

If she was initially unhappy at the thought of teaching Georgian, Howard Aronson of the University of Chicago changed her mind in an unusual way. He used her as a native-speaker "informant" in his own research, and the questions he asked her and the observations he made about her speech piqued her own interest in her native tongue. "Gradually, teaching Georgian became a new area with which I fell passionately in love," she says.

Kiziria has taught Georgian every summer for the last 20 years, the last 18 at SWSEEL in Bloomington. She has also offered upper-level Georgian to students as an independent study course. She collaborated with

Freedom is Blue Jeans!

During the week of October 10th-16th, first year M.B.A. students at the Kelley School of Business participated in a case competition focused on the popular Russian firm "Gloria Jeans." Founded in 1988 while still part of the Soviet Union, Gloria Jeans sells denim and casual apparel for children, teens, and young adults across Russia and the CIS. Based in Rostov-on-Don and led by CEO Vladimir Melnikov (recently named one of Russia's top 500 executives by the Russian Managers Association), the firm achieved sales of over \$117 million in 2005.

After receiving the case developed by Kelley Professor Idie Kesner in conjunction with Melnikov, M.B.A. students were asked to play the role of consultants and offer strategic advice with only four days to prepare. Although competing teams varied in their final suggestions, all employed business tools and skills acquired in the fall semester, from pro forma to capital asset pricing. Some of the ideas presented included launching a premium brand, diversifying into foreign markets beyond Russia, addressing supply chain and inventory problems, floating an IPO on the Russian stock exchange, and even expanding into the teen undergarment / lingerie market.

Judged by Kelley faculty and visiting executives from around the country, three winning teams were selected based on criteria such as content, analysis, and professionalism. Teams had only fifteen minutes to walk judges through their presentations and another fifteen minutes for Q&A. For his part, Melnikov was pleased with the results and the opportunity to interact with top-notch business students and faculty.



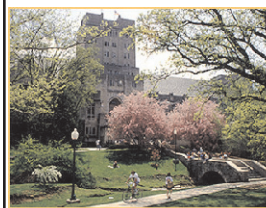
Post competition, Gloria Jean's founder spoke to the student body about his company and the hardships he endured both as an entrepreneur and dissident during Soviet times in the 1970s and 1980s. Sentenced in 1988 to seven years of prison for trying to convert rubles into dollars in order to purchase western manufacturing equipment, Melnikov was released in 1992 under a general amnesty for those accused of "economic crimes" under communism. With this in mind, the CEO made it a point to stress his admiration for the United States and its economic freedoms asserting that "business is life and impossible to kill." When asked about how the brand name "Gloria Jeans" was derived, Melnikov stated that it stood for "glorious freedom," as jeans were a very difficult good to obtain under communism. When later



(From left to right): Professor Idalene Kesner, Kelley School of Business; Vladimir Melnikov, Founder and CEO Gloria Jeans; and Patrick Burlingame, dual degree REEI MA/ MBA student

questioned about his current target consumer, Melnikov answered that clothes represented a much larger status symbol for Russians than Americans. He also added that every Russian woman had the right to feel like a princess or "Cinderella."

Patrick Burlingame is a dual MA/MBA student in REEI and the Kelley School of Business.



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50th Hungarian Uprising Commemoration

On October 23rd, the IU Hungarian Cultural Association commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Uprising, when the Hungarian people rose up against the communist government, resulting in the Soviet Union's invasion of Hungary. The event was attended by more than 60 faculty, staff and students, and the *Indiana Daily Student* ran an article about the event.

The commemoration began with an address by Professor Ágnes Fülemile, this year's visiting György Ránki Hungarian Chair, coming from the Institute for Folklore of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest. Professor Fülemile, focused her comments on the suppression of discussion about the 1956 Uprising by the Hungarian communist government. After the address, a Hungarian choir sang two pieces by Zoltán Kodály: *The Peacock* (lyrics by Endre Ady) and *In András Fáy's Album* (lyrics by Mihály Vörösmarty). Afterwards, Eszter Kiss recited György Faludy's *1956, the Star*, followed by Joshua Lindsay's singing of a Maros Rudolf song.

The Hungarian Cultural Association would like to thank the Denis Sinor Institute for Inner Asian Studies, the Department of Central Eurasian Studies, and the Russian and East European Institute for their support with the commemoration.

Kiziria

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Aronson on a textbook, *Georgian Language and Culture: A Continuing Course*. This and other study materials she prepared are now widely used.

Dodona Kiziria loves her work in the classroom, but she is also active outside of it. She is an accomplished poet, but "every Georgian writes poetry," she modestly says. She is also a public intellectual engaged in the politics of Georgia.

Larry Richter recalls that when he was last in Georgia in 1994, his group was assigned a young college student who knew some English to function as guide. In his first conversation with the guide, Richter mentioned that he had a good friend back home who was Georgian and had grown up in Tbilisi. The guide asked the friend's name, and as soon he heard the response "Dodona Kiziria," he immediately started reciting Dodona's poetry by heart. "He was thrilled to learn that I knew her and said she was by far his favorite Georgian poet," Larry says.

In 1987 Kiziria made her first extended stay in Georgia since leaving and thereafter, as the independence movement grew and challenges mounted following independence, she returned at least twice yearly. She became a frequent commentator on the Voice of America and in the local Georgian press. Kiziria built a reputation as a keen analyst of political affairs who deeply cared about Georgia but did not have ties too strong to any party or faction to taint her arguments with deep partisanship. Poems were written to her and she was twice asked to be a presidential candidate, but she declined, preferring to keep the distance necessary to be an astute observer.

Bringing intellectual rigor to public life is important to Kiziria. For her, there are few boundaries between scholarly, public, and private life. This is evident in her teaching as well. "I taught about literature and cinema, but I also taught about it as part of my life. I grew up with these books and poetry. They had significance for life in the Soviet Union. Students are interested to hear what it was like to read *The Gulag Archipelago* or *The First Circle* when they were banned," she says.

Kiziria looks back with pride on her achievements as a teacher and public intellectual, but what gave her joy daily over her long years at Indiana University was her colleagues. Their warmth, friendship, and acceptance gave her a sense of belonging and made Indiana University feel like home.

Janis Cakars is a PhD student in Journalism.

Romania

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it may be a few years before Romanians can travel with complete freedom through the Schengen zone and even a few more before Romania can adopt the euro, many EU benefits will be seen sooner rather than later. Agricultural subsidies, for instance, will provide an unprecedented boost for the world's eleventh largest agricultural producer.

But, despite these soon-to-be received benefits, Romania's journey into the European Union cannot stop with accession. The country must not quit its reforms now that the decision has been made. Even while admitting Romania and its neighbor Bulgaria, the European Commission has insisted that these countries continue to reform, among other things, their judicial systems, lest they be excluded from certain areas of the EU. Indeed, the report makes it clear the commission believes Romania lags far behind other former communist states of the region and that, as Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso states, "immediate corrective action" is needed. While the restrictions placed on Romania may not be quite as strict as those on Bulgaria, they are still substantial and aim to keep Romania on its fast-paced road of reform.

Provided that President Băsescu continues his battle against corruption, and that the politicians in Bucharest continue to embrace reform, the coming years should be good ones for Romania. New Year's Day in Romania will be one of great celebration, as the country meets a long-awaited goal.

Jeremy Stewart is an REEI MA student.

Bulgaria

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undercut European food prices.

As for fiscal reforms, Bulgaria must wait at least two years and likely longer before adopting the euro. The EU's conditions for joining the monetary union include exchange rate and inflation stability, as well as tougher government spending rules. After Bulgaria adopts the common currency, however, there is still no guarantee, as demonstrated by France and Germany's regulation-shattering deficits.

For increased fiscal stability, once Bulgaria's judicial climate and transparency improve, this country may become a fine investment environment for EU enterprises, and the flow of euros into the country will only increase as infrastructure improvements facilitate integration. The hospitality, however, may not be returned: Sweden, the UK, and the Republic of Ireland have already announced restrictions on immigration from Bulgaria and Romania, and other states will likely follow suit.

While the EU is not a panacea for Bulgaria, integration will bring sorely needed economic and political reforms and their resultant benefits. In addition, successful Bulgarian membership could prove a valuable model for the turbulent Balkans.

Colin Dietch is an REEI MA student.

IU Cooperation with the University of Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, Macedonia

In the summer of 2006 Indiana University and the University of Cyril and Methodius (UKIM) in Skopje, Macedonia signed an agreement of cooperation which has laid the groundwork for future collaborative projects and exchanges between the two partners. As the first concrete result of this agreement, the two universities agreed that Dr. Elena Petroska, associate professor in the department of Macedonian and South Slavic Languages in the Faculty of Philology "Blaže Koneski" at the UKIM would be in residence in Bloomington during the 2006/2007 academic year. Petroska will teach Macedonian language during the academic year and at the Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages in 2007. IU is interested in expanding the scope and quantity of courses in Macedonian studies and will work with UKIM and the Macedonian community in the United States to develop other research and language study opportunities for American students. (For more on Dr. Elena Petroska, see page 13.)

Teaching Havel

This fall the Cardinal Stage Company and REEI collaborated on a teacher workshop entitled, *The Playwright Who Would Be President: Václav Havel and the Art of Dissent in Communist Czechoslovakia* featuring Havel and his play *Unveiling*. On October 20th fourteen teachers and two high school students from around the state convened in Bloomington to enjoy both the workshop, which included history, music, and literature presentations, and an evening performance of the play. Dr. Jeffrey Holdeman opened the workshop with a soulful rendition of Karel Kryl's *Bratříčku, zavírej vrátka* (Little Brother Close the Gate), followed by Dr. Maria Bucur's presentation, *Communist Czechoslovakia during the Era of Normalization (1968-1989)*, which also included discussion with the participants. After a short intermission, Dr. Holdeman performed *Havlíku, Havle* by Jaroslav Hutka and gave a succinct introduction to Czech dissident music. Dr. Bronislava Volkova followed with a literature presentation entitled, *Václav Havel: From Playwright to Dissident to President to Person*. A

question and answer session that included all panelists, as well as Randy White, director of the play, followed.

The workshop introduced middle and high school teachers to playwright and former Czech President Václav Havel, as well as the history of Czechoslovakian literature and society under communism and post-communism. The goal was to bolster teachers' knowledge regarding the literature, drama, society and history of

Czechoslovakia so that they may use the materials and information in their future course curriculum.

The John Waldron Arts Center was sold-out for the evening performance, and for good reason. Cardinal Stage Company opened with a dramatic reading of Havel's play *Protest* and followed with an inspiring performance of *Unveiling*. Using Jan Novak's translations, director Randy White artfully captured Havel's 1975 play through the talents of local performers, Diane Kondrat, Mike Price, and Bill Simmons. In fact, the Company recently received a shining review from nytheatre.com of their performance of *Unveiling* at Columbia University's

New York festival in honor of Havel's 70th birthday. Reviewer Ivanna Cullinan touted the production as "rich with detailed delights,...well-directed throughout," and "a full-on commitment to hilarity."

Overall, teachers' reaction to both workshop and performance was quite positive. A number of teachers conveyed their interest in incorporating the

material into their classrooms, while others expressed their appreciation for the information given by the presenters. REEI is continuing to receive comments and requests for more information concerning the workshop and plans to upload all teacher materials onto the Internet for those who could not attend.

Aimee Dobbs is a PhD student in History.



Jeff Holdeman on Czech dissident music

Student News

Richard Fitzmaurice (REEI/SPEA) has accepted a position in the U.S. State Department Foreign Service as a Junior Officer in the political career track. He will graduate with a joint MA/MPA degree and marry REEI/SPEA alumna Stephanie Hockman this December.

Richard Holmes (REEI) will participate in an internship this summer with the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, Ukraine. He recently married fellow REEI MA student Maren Payne this past November.

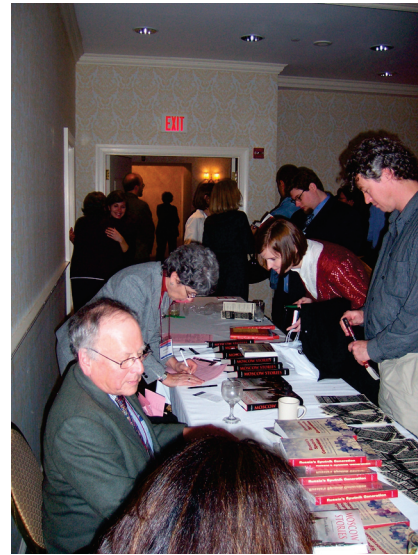
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Notes on the Ground: A Report on the 2006 AAASS Conference

The thirty-eighth annual American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies Convention was held on November 16-19 in Washington, DC at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. This year's conference offered a stunning array of over three hundred panels and roundtables concerning the countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union—spanning all related disciplines. Yet, and young Baltic scholars take note, there was ample room for greater representation of the Baltic states! Attendance for many IU graduate students was made possible by the generous provision by REEI of two vans from the IU motor pool. A hearty thanks to all those involved in coordinating (and driving) the rides to DC!

In many ways, my time at the conference was an important experience: meeting scholars in the flesh; feeling that exciting, new monograph in my hands; hearing brilliant presentations in panels; the constant buzz of intense conversation; the many foreign languages blending together into an erudite Babel of the mind. First and foremost, the experience was intellectually formative, enabling me to get an up-close view of my own field—history.

Friday evening, REEI held a reception for faculty, staff, friends, and alumni. The event represented a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with former colleagues and forge ties with new ones. Attending were a number of graduates of IU, including professors Mark von Hagen, Martin Blackwell, and Michaela Pohl, as well as the ambassador of Macedonia, HE Ljupco



Book signing at the IU Alumni Reception

Jordanovski. The event also presented an opportunity to display REEI-related material written by present and former members of the IU community and published by Indiana University Press.

A significant number of IU faculty and students made contributions to this year's conference, including Owen V. Johnson, Jeffrey Veidlinger, Martin Spechler, and Deanna Wooley. (See the October issue of *REEIfication* for a complete list.) Indeed, the most interesting panel I attended, concerning memory and war in Southeastern Europe, included a presentation by REEI's very own acting director, Professor Maria Bucur. As a first-time AAASS presenter myself, I had initially dreaded what awaited me. Would I be eviscerated by my discussant or members in the audience? Happily, I can report that the experience was a positive one and afforded me the opportunity to receive feedback from and establish contacts with recognized experts in the field. I heartily recommend to my fellow graduate students in the research stage to consider submitting paper or panel proposals for next year's convention in New Orleans. Overall, attending the conference truly allowed me to feel the pulse of my profession.



Professor Nathan Wood (PhD History, 2004), REEI Acting Director Maria Bucur, Professor Jeffrey Holdeman, and Professor Mara Lazda (PhD History, 2005)

M. Benjamin Thorne is a PhD student in History.

Russian Media: Full Freedom of the Press?

The murder of Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya on October 7, 2006 caused an international outcry on an old situation. Her tragic death is just one example among many of the deteriorating environment in which Russian journalists have to work. She was shot and left in the elevator of her apartment building just before she was expected to publish a piece on human rights abuses by Ramzan Kadyrov, Chechen prime minister. Politkovskaya had been threatened multiple times previously, even leaving the country when her life was threatened by a major in the Russian Interior Ministry force in 2001. That same year she was apprehended by Russian forces in Chechnya and accused of spying; she was released only when a Russian human rights group was informed by two men who were later killed.

The international outcry by Western governments, Russian and Western journalists and human rights organizations, has been acknowledged by President Vladimir Putin, who also said that Politkovskaya had had little influence through her work. *Novaya Gazeta*, a biweekly newspaper for which she had worked, did not expect the official investigation to be concluded because no investigation into the murder of a journalist in the last 10 years has been solved. Twelve journalists have been killed in Russia since 2000.

A further ramification of her death is the death of former FSB officer Alexander Litvinenko, who was hospitalized on November 1 and died November 23 from radiation poisoning. The poison used was polonium-210, which is produced in a nuclear reactor or particle accelerator. He had been investigating the murder of Politkovskaya. As of November 27, other locations in London were being checked for indications of radiation, possibly including the offices of Boris Berezovsky, friend of Litvinenko and former majority shareholder of TV6, the last independent television station in Russia which was bankrupted in 2001. Finally, on November 24, according to *Novaya Gazeta*, two of its employees received death threats, one of which concerned the investigation into Politkovskaya's murder.

This is not the first time Russia has received much warranted criticism for violations on press freedom. *Reporters sans frontiers* ranked Russia 138 out of 167 countries in terms of freedom of the press in their most

recent review, due to the deaths of journalists, rampant harassment, and the lack of independent national television stations. The last two, NTV and TV6, were taken over by the state in 2001 after money problems led to buyouts. NTV, owned by Media Most owner Vladimir Gusinsky was highly critical of the first war in Chechnya and did not endorse Putin for president in 2000 as many other stations did. The company was in dire financial straits and looking for increased foreign investments. Prior to the takeover, NTV offices had been stormed by men in masks and searched, and Gusinsky had fled the country for safety.

These tragedies and takeovers have occurred despite the protection offered by the Russian Constitution, which states that freedom of mass information is

guaranteed and that censorship is prohibited. Although there is no official censorship, the Index on Censorship and other watchdog organizations are rife with reports of journalists who practice self censorship to avoid harassment, financial punishment and death. The Law on the Counteraction of Extremist Activity, adopted in 2002, allows for restrictions to be placed on the media in emergency situations. Even though the Law



Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya

on Mass Media protects journalists' right to access places of conflict, journalists must receive special accreditation to work in Chechnya.

Although investigative reporting still exists in Russia and reporters like Anna Politkovskaya are willing to risk their lives for their work, the situation has deteriorated in the last six years. President Putin may say that a free press is vital to democracy, but human rights organizations and others around the world question his sincerity with good reason. Even if he has not ordered the murders and the takeovers have been within the law, he has also not prevented the takeovers or forced serious investigations. Actions may speak louder than words, but inaction speaks even louder. Although Russia has made great strides since the days of communism, the continued suppression of an independent press will darken its accomplishments.

Jennifer Evans is a dual MA/MPA student in REEI and SPEA.

Alumni News

Brenda Bonine (MS Geography/REEI certificate 1977) teaches social studies at Tucson Accelerated High School in Tucson, AZ. In 2004 she was named as a Smith Scholar at the University of Arizona, and in 2006 she was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for a five week seminar on *The Great Plains from Texas to Saskatchewan*.

Paul Burns (PhD History/REEI certificate 1967) is Professor Emeritus at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and an adjunct professor at Minnesota State University in Mankato, MN.

Thomas Dumstorf (MA REEI 2003) is Visiting Professor of Russian/Russian Studies at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. He is currently working to establish a Russian Studies Program at the university, including a multi-level exchange program with Perm, Russia, the Russian Sister City of Louisville, Kentucky.

Steven Duke (PhD History/REEI Minor 1999) is Assistant Program Director for Education Abroad at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Simone Giger (MA REEI 2003) is a Junior Professional Officer for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

Stephanie Hockman (MA REEI/MPA SPEA 2006) has accepted a position with the U.S. State Department as a political officer. She will marry dual degree student (REEI/SPEA) Richard Fitzmaurice at the end of this year.

Sharon Horn (BA Journalism/BA Slavic/REEI certificate 1987) is Associate Professor of Counseling Psychology at the University of Memphis. She was named a 2005-06 Academic Fellow in Higher Education by the Open Society Soros Foundation in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, and she continues to work with non-profit organizations that provide social services in Russia.

Michael Lally (MA REEI 1991) is Commercial Counselor at the United States Embassy in Mexico City, Mexico. This year he received a Management Program Certificate

from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business.

B. Michael Long (PhD SLAV 1994) is Associate Professor and Director of Slavic & East European Studies at Baylor University. This past summer he also assumed the position of Interim Chair for the Department of Foreign Languages.

Jared Ingersoll (MA REEI/MLS 1990) will publish "Romanovs' University: Libraries, Books, and Learning in Imperial Russian Prisons" in *Books, Bibliographies, and Pugs: A Festschrift in Honor of Murlin Croucher* (2006).

Kathleen Kennedy (BA History/REEI certificate 1985) is an instructor of History at Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon, IL.

Gene Madding (MA History/REEI certificate 1975) is a senior analyst for arms control with the U.S. government.

Martha Merritt (MA Political Science 1986) is Associate Dean of International Education at the University of Chicago.

Robert Montgomery (PhD History 1994) was recently granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in the Department of History at Baldwin-Wallace College. This year his book *Late Tsarist and Early Soviet Nationality and Cultural Policy: the Buryats and their Language* (2006) was also published.

Charles Norton (BA IMP/REEI minor 2005) is an agroforester in the United States Peace Corps stationed in Bangou, Cameroon.

Pamela Sanford (BA SLAV/REEI certificate 1981) is senior analyst, International Programs, at the Department of Defense Intelligence Agency.

Thomas Specht (MA Central Eurasian Studies/REEI certificate 1979) is a senior imagery analyst with SAIC in McLean, VA.

Faculty News and Publications

Matthew Auer (SPEA) served as an academic advisor to South East European University in Tetovo, Macedonia in the fall of 2006. Dr. Auer helped the Department of Public Administration at SEEU to redesign its bachelor's degree in public administration. He also helped develop a new degree program in public administration at the master's level.

Aaron Beaver (Slavic) won the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature Faculty Mentor of the Year Award 2005/06; he was selected by graduate students in the department. In March he participated in an interdisciplinary roundtable at a conference on time in world poetry held at IU. In May he gave a paper entitled "Two Kinds of Unknowability in Derzhavin" at the University of Chicago's annual Slavic Forum.

Andrew Durkin (Slavic) presented his paper "Models of Artistic Discourse in Chekov's 'In Exile' and 'The Student'" at the Philosophy of Anton Pavlovich Chekov international conference on Lake Baikal in June. An REEI Mellon Endowment Grant-in-Aid supported his travel. Durkin also participated in a panel in memory of Professor Robert Maguire of Columbia University at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and Eastern European Languages (AATSEEL) convention in Washington, DC in December.

Ben Eklof (History) presented a series of papers this past year, beginning with one in May on the Russian historical profession in the post-Soviet era to a conference on "What is Soviet now: Nostalgia for the Past" at the University of Toronto. In June, he gave a paper on pre-revolutionary libraries at a conference on the history of the book at the University of Illinois (both papers will be published in forthcoming collections). In October, he contributed to a regional archival conference in the city of Kirov and was interviewed twice on television and for an article in a local newspaper *Slobodskoi Kurant*. Additionally, he had two lengthy review essays published, both on the topic of defining a "school culture" (one in *History of Education*, and the second in *Forum*, an on line anthropological journal of the University of St. Petersburg).

Bernd Fischer (History, IU—Fort Wayne) published a chapter on Albania/Germany collaboration during World War II in the edited volume, *The Case for Kosovo, Passage to Independence* (2006). He has also presented several talks, including one entitled, "The Long and Winding Road: Albania in the Age of Transition," to the Albanian Studies Program, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College, London in October; and "Albanian Democracy Today" to the Association for the Study of Nationalism conference on Globalization, Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict in the Balkans and its Regional Context, in Belgrade in September. Fischer was also recently elected to the Albanian Academy of Sciences.

Steven Franks (Slavic) will present "Splitting Puzzles in South Slavic" (with Anita Pet-Stantic) at Formal Description of Slavic Languages 6.5 in Nova Gorica, Slovenia, in December. He will also present "Deriving Discontinuity" at AATSEEL in Philadelphia, where he is a vice president). Franks has recently edited an issue of the on-line journal *Glossos*, 8 (Fall 2006), which can be accessed at: <http://www.seelrc.org/glossos/issues/>.

Jeffrey Holdeman (Slavic) presented *Surnames of the Russian Old Believers of the Eastern United States: Who, What, Where, When and Why* at the Midwest Slavic Conference in Columbus, Ohio this past March.

Owen Johnson (Journalism/History) has received a grant from the Overseas Conference Fund administered by the IU Office of International Programs to support his presentation of "Begetting & Remembering: Creating a Slovak Collective Memory in the Post-Communist World," a paper given in Prague at the Historical Revisionism Workshop. The workshop was organized by the Institute of Contemporary History of the Czech Academy of Sciences, held October 19-20. On October 5, he addressed Media Conference 2006 in Tallinn, Estonia, on "The Winding Road to Freedom of Speech in the United States." This year's conference, devoted to the topic "How Free is Freedom of Speech?", was organized by Estonian Television and Estonian Radio.

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Elena Petroska (Slavic) has joined the faculty in the Slavic Languages and Literatures Department as a teacher of elementary Macedonian. She previously taught at the University of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, where she earned her PhD, with a dissertation on “The Categories of Quantity in Contemporary Macedonian.” This past year, Petroska presented the paper, “Basic Forms for Omnitemporal and Iterative Present in Macedonian Compared to the Other Slavic and Balkan Languages,” at the VI Macedonian-North American Conference on Macedonian Studies in Ohrid, Macedonia (August 2006). She also gave a lecture at the Seminar for Macedonian Language, Literature and Culture in Ohrid, Macedonia (August 2006) – “Categories of Distributivity and Collectivity in Macedonian”. Petroska is currently working on a project on Balkan languages (Balkanisms) with the Center for Areal Linguistics at the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Skopje, Macedonia.

William Alex Pridemore (Criminal Justice) has published (with M. B. Chamlin) “A Time Series Analysis of the Effects of Heavy Drinking on Homicide and Suicide Rates in Russia,” in *Addiction* 101 (2006) and (with A. Stickley) “The Social Structural Correlates of Homicide in Late Tsarist Russia,” in *British Journal of Criminology* 47(2007). In October he gave an invited presentation, entitled “Change and Stability in the Characteristics of Homicide Victims, Offenders, and Incidents During Rapid Social Change (in Russia)” in Kyiv, Ukraine, at a symposium on “Mortality in Countries of the



Elena Petroska

Former USSR Fifteen Years after Break-up: Change or continuity?”

Dina Spechler (Political Science) published (with Martin C. Spechler) “Trade, Energy, and Security in the Central Asian Arena,” in *Strategic Asia* 2006-07 and “Trade, Interdependence, and Security,” edited by Ashley J. Tellis and Michael Wills in *National Bureau of Asian Research* (2006): 205-40. She will present her joint paper with Leonid Karabeshkin on the Baltics in Russian foreign policy at a conference in Moscow, December 6, sponsored by the U.S. State Department.

Martin Spechler (Economics) gave a paper, “Authoritarian Politics and Economic Reform,” at the Central Eurasian Studies Society in Ann Arbor, Michigan, September 28, 2006.

Student News

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Anna Urasova (Political Science) was one of two winners of the 2006 Association for Women in Slavic Studies Graduate Essay Prize, receiving the award at this year’s AAASS convention.

Alumni News

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Doyle Stevick (PhD Education 2006) and *Kara Brown* (PhD Education/REEI minor 2006), both at the University of South Carolina, were invited to Lenoir-Rhyne College, North Carolina, this past August to present a talk entitled, *The Role of Education in Estonian History, National Identity and Culture.* Stevick and Brown, who were both Fulbright Fellows in Estonia and conducted dissertation research there, are helping to coordinate cultural exchanges between Lenoir-Rhyne College and Estonian schools.

Summer Learning and Having Fun: SWSEEL Completes its 56th Year

Since 1951, thousands of students have come to Indiana University for summer study of Slavic, East European, and Central Asian languages. Jerzy Kolodziej, the director of the program, looks forward to thousands more. In comments at the closing concert he implored the students to “go forth and multiply, and send us your children. If you have no children, come back and study another language.”

This year, 44 instructors taught 212 students 20 languages: 73 took Russian, 28 studied East European languages, 28 the languages of the Baltic states, 63 in Central Asian languages, 9 in Georgian, and 11 in Yiddish.

The Baltic courses were available this year and last because of Indiana University’s participation in the Baltic Studies Summer Institute, a program run by a consortium of universities that host it in turns.

Despite — or perhaps because of — four hours of intense language instruction and three hours of homework daily, plus a lively cultural program including sports, poetry, choir, cooking, drama and an evening lecture series, students were impressed and pleased with the workshop. Lisa Reijula, who studied Estonian, appreciated the intensity of the program. “It was amazing how much we learned,” she says. “Because you don’t have other classes you can devote all your energy to your language.... It was fun meeting other people interested in the Baltics and the region.” After SWSEEL, Reijula took her new language skills on a Fulbright to Estonia.

There were a few changes in the workshop this year. These included a rejuvenated sports program, including a high profile golf tournament. Living accommodations were moved from the Ashton to the more

luxurious Forest dormitory. Forest afforded comfortable lounges, air conditioning, and double rooms for single students.

New tests were also devised this year. In addition to the usual pre- and post-course tests, 12 brave students volunteered for a five-hour battery of new written and oral exams from the Russian Ministry of Education administered by Edna Andrews (PhD ‘84) and Tatiana Nesterova, a philology professor from St. Petersburg University.

Every year, Kolodziej enjoys the way “the various components that make up the Summer Workshop work together to put on a very complex program: The Russian and East European Institute, the Slavic department, the Inner Asian Center and Central Eurasian Studies, the BALSSI program, the US Holocaust

Museum and Jewish Studies, external funding agencies and the College of Arts and Sciences, all doing their part.”

Success in generating external funding has been crucial to the success of SWSEEL and this year was no different. The 2006 workshop was awarded \$23,000 from the American Council of Learned Societies for Bosnian/Serbian/Croatian, Romanian, and Slovene. The Social Science Research Council provided \$10,000 for Russian and \$14,976 for Georgian. Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowships accounted for \$178,000 of funding for Slavic languages.

Next year, ACLS will provide \$42,500 for Albanian, Bosnian/Serbian/Croatian, Macedonian, and Romanian, as well as \$15,000 for a new advanced mastery training course in south Slavic languages. SSRC and FLAS funding will remain steady, and Kolodziej

looks forward to the joy of welcoming “the unending supply of new, intellectually stimulating people” that come to the workshop.



SWSEEL students come from all over the U.S., from schools such as Georgetown, Stanford, and the University of Illinois

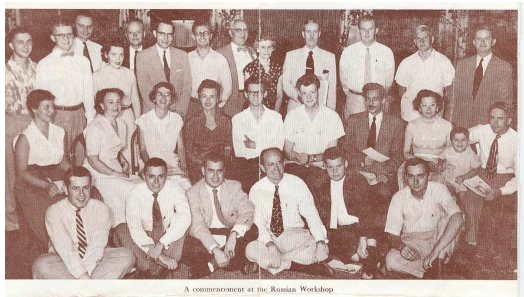


Romanian professor Christina Illias speaks to students during a class session

SWSEEL Throughout the Years

This past summer, SWSEEL completed its 56th year. But as times have changed, SWSEEL remains at the forefront by offering the most pertinent Slavic, East European and Central Asian languages. The number of languages offered has grown considerably, while the quality remains the same. SWSEEL has been and will continue to be one of the premier summer language programs available anywhere.

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1950s

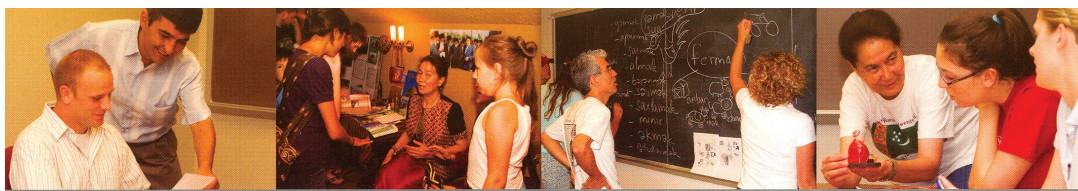


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