



# REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

Maria Bucur, Director  
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## Reports from the Field: Notes From the Moscow Archives by Colleen Moore

I am spending the 2009-2010 academic year in Moscow, Russia, on a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad fellowship. The topic of my dissertation is the Russian peasantry's experience of World War I. There is, of course, no single archive of sources on peasants or on the First World War. In addition, as a largely illiterate segment of the population, peasants rarely left behind written records of their own thoughts and deeds. I am therefore exploring the ways and reasons why peasants participated in the war effort by looking at interactions between peasants and officials during the war. Russian authorities required the peasantry to supply men, horses, wagons, grain, and livestock for the army. Yet they were apprehensive about relying so heavily on the peasant population given that peasants' loyalty to the regime and its agents in the countryside was ambiguous, at best. This apprehension manifested itself in the form of tens, perhaps hundreds of thousands of official telegrams, circulars, and reports on peasant actions and attitudes in wartime. Moscow is home to several archives and libraries that contain such materials.

Since arriving in Moscow in mid-September, I have been working primarily in the Central Historical Archive of Moscow, more commonly known by its Russian acronym, TsIAM. TsIAM contains most of the prerevolutionary (before October 1917) records of Moscow and Moscow province, such as those of the governor's office, district and canton-level government offices, local police organizations, military administrations, land captains (administrative and judicial officials in rural Russia), and *zemstvos* (institutions of local self-government). For those who are unfamiliar with Russian archival terminology, I will offer a few words of explanation. Each archive has a guide (*putevoditel'*), which lists the collections (*fondy*) held by that archive. In most cases, each fond has one or more registers (*opisi*), which list the files (*dela*) of that *fond*. In principle, a researcher uses the *putevoditel'* to determine which *fondy* he needs and then consults the *opisi* for those *fondy* to identify which *dela* he wants to order.

As anyone who has conducted research in Russian archives will tell you, however, the procedure is rarely ever that simple. The *putevoditeli* in the archive are outdated; they were published in 1961, and TsIAM has been reorganized at least twice since then (fortunately, an updated version is available online). Locating relevant *dela* in the *opisi* is in itself a formidable task. The number and size of *opisi* vary widely, depending on the *fond*. For example, the *fond* of the Dmitrovsk district police administration has four *opisi*, whereas the *fond* of the office of the Moscow general-governor has more than 300, some of which are several hundred pages in length. According to the archive's regulations, each researcher is allowed to request ten *dela* per day. In actuality, researchers are allowed to request only three, and each request form takes three days to process.

I am currently examining the file of the office of the Moscow governor on preparations for mobilization. This file contains telegrams, reports, Imperial Decrees, and official orders sent and received by the governor explaining how the process of mobilization was to be carried out in Moscow province. It also in-

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## IU Awards for REEI Alumni

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

## REEI Awards

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

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

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

1988 Theofanis Stavrou  
 1988 Robert F. Byrnes  
 1989 Karen Niggle  
 1996 Robert W. Campbell  
 1997 Charles Jelavich  
 1997 Janet Rabinowitch  
 2000 William B. Edgerton  
 2007 Denise Gardiner  
 2009 David L. Ransel

*Notes From the Moscow Archive*, continued from previous page

cludes instructions to local police officers about maintaining the strictest surveillance over the mood of the population and about taking any and all necessary measures to prevent the occurrence of popular disturbances in response to the declaration of war. One such measure was prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages during mobilization; another was increasing the police presence around factories, to discourage workers' strikes. Approximately half of these documents are handwritten and thus extremely difficult to read. Yet, all these obstacles make archival research in Russia all the more rewarding. The documents I am examining have survived two world wars, a revolution, a civil war, and the collapse of two social and political systems (one in 1917, another in 1991). The very fact of their continued existence is remarkable. I consider myself privileged to have been granted both the opportunity to devote a whole year to research and access to such priceless, historical artifacts.

**Colleen Moore** is a PhD candidate in  
 the Department of History.

## REEI in Bayou Country

At the end of October, Emily Liverman, REEI's Academic Advisor, attended the South Central Modern Languages Association's (SCMLA) annual conference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This year's conference theme, dedicated to "Continuities and Displacements," included sessions on everything from language pedagogy and Flannery O'Connor to The Southern Vampire (Sookie Stackhouse) series as Gothic literature.

Emily chaired a panel on Russian Language and Methodology that featured presentations on authentic materials in language instruction and outside the classroom. Presenters included Alexandra Kostina, Instructor of Russian at Rhodes College, and Anna Shishkina, Fulbright Teaching Assistant at Rhodes College.

When she was not busy chairing or attending a panel, Emily represented the Russian and East European Institute, West European Studies, African Studies, Central Eurasian Studies, and the Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages at the conference exhibition hall, where she promoted IU's offerings in less-commonly-taught languages. People from Puerto Rico to Texas, and as near as Louisiana State University, came to the exhibit, interested in Indiana's offerings.

This small, but lively regional conference actively engages professors, independent scholars, and graduate students in an academic conversation. Conferences like these provide graduate students and new scholars with an excellent opportunity to meet people with similar research interests and expand their personal networks. Regional conferences are also another avenue for students to present their papers. Both the University Graduate School and REEI have travel grant funds for graduate students to present at such venues.

This was REEI's first appearance at the SCMLA conference, and Emily is hopeful that many more will follow at this annual gathering. The 2010 Conference will be held October 28 – 30 in Fort Worth, Texas, and the theme is "New Frontiers."

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 the newsletter by email instead of in paper form.

## *Reports from the Field: A View of Macedonia* by Erika Steiger

I love walking down Partizanski Odredi, one of the main boulevards in Skopje, Macedonia, and the street on which I currently live. You might think the noise from the traffic and the constant construction in the area would be annoying, or the fumes from the cars would make it hard to breathe, or the occasional dumpster full of burning trash would make me wish I were somewhere else, but you would be wrong. I love it.

There is something about not being sure which language I will need to speak next, about passing churches and mosques and

hearing both church bells and imams' calls to prayer, that just makes me feel exhilarated. It is deeply satisfying to walk around the city and be able to see all the layers of history that coexist here. There are elegant Ottoman era buildings and twentieth century concrete block monstrosities up against each other. There are women

in tight and skimpy outfits that even in the US would raise eyebrows, and others who are loosely covered from hair to ankle in hijab, all passing each other on the street without batting an eye.

That is not to say that all this coexistence is peaceful. On the surface, perhaps, most of the time it is. There are as many layers of interaction as there are of history. All these layers are constantly brushing one another.

Only last night some kind of demonstration was happening on my street. I heard loud chanting I could not quite decipher, whistles, and something I hope was firecrackers, rather than guns. I would not be surprised if both were taking place. I was not entirely sure whether the people involved were angry or celebrating something. It can be difficult to tell the difference sometimes.

Things like that do not happen every day, but they are not unusual either. Most days everyone seems to interact quite peacefully, each person simply going about his or her business, but I do get the distinct sense that the surface calm is fragile, with strong currents ready to unsettle it at any time, like a deep ocean. The sun may be

shining, and the mild waves that constantly cross the surface may not indicate any danger, but a storm may happen quickly if anything changes.

To me, this is not necessarily a bad situation. Of course, life would be better here for everyone if economic, political and historical tensions would decrease, but the situation here is so complex that I doubt the tensions will

ever completely disappear. That may be just fine. It may even be a positive element of life in Macedonia. Reconciling conflicting points of view is probably impossible, but finding a means of balancing them in a stable, yet flexible fashion seems a reasonable goal.

The network of conflicting undercurrents that can always be felt here, even when it is not seen, is what gives the place its dynamism.

The clash of different points of view may sometimes cause strife, but it can also stimulate creativity. We experience the same phenomenon in the United States. As long as everything is kept in balance, there is more positive than negative effect.

It is this cauldron of potential I feel as I walk through Skopje. All the different influences are coming through, passing each other by, clashing, and sometimes generating something new. It is the excitement of witnessing all this dynamism that makes me so interested in this part of the world, draws me back, and makes me smile as I walk down Partizanski Odredi.



A view of Partizanski Odredi from the author's balcony

**Erika Steiger**, an MA student in REEI, is currently studying Macedonian and Albanian in Skopje on a fellowship from American Councils. She was also a Peace Corps volunteer in Macedonia from 2005 to 2008.

## *Reports from the Field: The Past is a Foreign Country - A Report from Warsaw* by Owen Johnson

History has been important in the Polish conversation for centuries. Even Victor Ashe, who recently returned to Tennessee after five years as US ambassador in Warsaw, picked up on that theme when he welcomed this year's group of Fulbright professors, scholars and teachers to Poland in September.

He noted it had been five years since Poland had joined the European Union, ten years since it had joined NATO, twenty years since a roundtable brought a negotiated end to the rule of communism in Poland, and seventy years since the country was invaded by Germany and the Soviet Union, starting the military conflict of World War II in Europe.

For many people around the world, the fall of the Berlin Wall epitomized what happened twenty years ago as crowds of East Germans flowed through the wall into the West. Twenty years later, world attention turned to Berlin again for the celebration of those events. Of the hundred or so students in my two classes this fall, only one has any significant memories of those events twenty years ago. She is a non-traditional student working on a graduate degree after having established herself in an earlier career.

The courses I am teaching as Distinguished Chair of East European Studies at Warsaw University bracket those events of twenty years ago. One of them is devoted to the history of the communist mass media in the Russian and East European area. The other focuses on the mass media in the area since the fall of communism. The courses are based in Warsaw University's Institute of East European Studies, which offers a master's degree not only to Polish students, but also to students from Ukraine, Lithuania, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Uzbekistan, Hungary and other countries that used to be part of the "communist bloc". To help promote Poland as a regional power, many students from the former Soviet Union receive scholarships. While some of the students may come from families that have struggled in the changing political and economic conditions of the last twenty years, few can begin to imagine what life was really like under communism.

Today's Polish public narrative of communism is that it was all bad. The lessons are pounded home in museums such as the "Roads to Revolution" exhibit in Gdansk, which I visited recently. The exhibit is just down the street

from the Gdansk shipyard that was the scene of heroic protests against communist rule in the 1970s and 1980s but was practically shut down. The communists were all bad, these museums contend, and all those who worked against communist rule were heroes. What gets left out of the story is much of the everyday reality of life under communism.

In my communist media history class, I try to describe the complexity of journalism in the communist period. Some communist countries, including Poland, had censorship offices, but others did not. The regimes had other

forms of control, many of which journalists accepted because they saw themselves as professionals who could contribute to people's betterment. Some subscribed to communist ideals; many did not.

Too often the students think that the journalists should have objected more to the controls, not realizing that if a journalist were to push too far too fast the price could be a job with all the benefits that

job brought, including access to scarce goods. If a journalist was fired, there was little possibility of finding another journalism job.

Most of today's younger generation enjoy access to computers, iPods, iPhones and all the other digital wonders of the twenty-first century and find it hard to focus on the past. Under the surface, though, some young people have a more empathetic sense of the past. They have grandparents who were exiled to Siberia during or after World War II and who returned home years later. Others have grandparents who once lived in what used to be eastern Poland, but is now Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine, or who settled after the war in western Poland in areas once inhabited by Germans.

But the reality of the communist period too often eludes them. This year's November celebrations have not captured the reality of that part of their past.



Gdansk Shipyard

**Owen Johnson** is the sixth person to serve as Fulbright Distinguished Chair of East European Studies at the University of Warsaw. The first was Jane Leftwich Curry, who earned an MA in political science from Indiana University. Another was IU's Jack Bielasiak (Political Science).



## Faculty Profile: Sara Stefani

by Coady Kleinert

Sara Stefani, a newly appointed visiting assistant professor of Russian literature and language at Indiana University in Bloomington, received her PhD from Yale University in 2008 where she held a faculty position teaching and lecturing over the academic year 2008-2009. Dr. Stefani specializes in Russian literature of the twentieth century, and also teaches Russian language.

Dr. Stefani is currently teaching two literature courses at IU – Bloomington: “Pushkin to Dostoyevsky” (a survey of Russian literature) and “Readings in Russian Literature” (in Russian). In her highly engaging classes, Dr. Stefani presents students with samples of visual art and music from the same period as the literature they are studying. This interdisciplinary pedagogical approach places the written word within a broader, vibrant cultural context, enabling the reader to appreciate the influence of contemporary art and music on the literature and to more fully grasp the meaning of the work. An appreciation of the interplay between various art forms helps students better understand Russian literature. For example, poems of the Futurists, which were an experiment in language and form, break down language to its elemental parts and recombine these parts in new ways. Often students have trouble making sense of these poems until they see that they are the linguistic equivalent of an abstract painting, which attempts to deconstruct visual art into its constituent parts.

Dr. Stefani’s interest in Russian language and literature dates back to her years as an undergraduate at Washington University in St. Louis, where she initially studied French.

The fall of the Berlin Wall and the other dramatic events of 1989 in East Europe prompted her to start taking Russian language classes. She is particularly fond of Russian prose of the 1920s, but her interests in Russian literature are many and always evolving.

Although Russian literature from the twentieth century is Professor Stefani’s specialty, she considers nineteenth century literature very important for students’ initial introduction to Russian literary history. When most students think of Russian literature, the works that come to mind are those of Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky. When they sign up for a Russian literature class, it is those authors they want and expect to read. For Dr. Stefani, who has read the great nineteenth-century novels like *Anna Karenina* and *The Brothers Karamazov* many times, the most interesting aspect of teaching nineteenth century Russian literature is watching her students’ reactions to these books. Each student finds something different in the texts, their personal interpretations framed by their own life experiences. Thus, it is always rewarding to go back to such classics.

Dr. Stefani arrived in Bloomington with her cat Zosia at the beginning of summer 2009. She enjoys living in Bloomington, especially since it is larger than the last two towns in which she lived. (In the recent past, she spent a year teaching at Grinnell College in Iowa, and a year at Oberlin College in Ohio.) She will be here in Bloomington for the next two years, so if you can, you should definitely take one of her classes!

**Coady Kleinert** is an MA student in REEl.

## Polish Studies Conference at IU

On September 18, the Polish Studies Center convened a one-day symposium marking the twentieth anniversary of Tadeusz Mazowiecki’s election as Poland’s first freely-elected non-Communist prime minister since World War II, an event that ushered in the first Eastern bloc government to make the transition to democracy in the *annus mirabilis* of 1989. The symposium, “The Rebirth of Polish Democracy: A Twenty-Year Retrospective,” was sponsored by the Polish Studies Center and the Office of the Vice-President for International Affairs.

After welcoming remarks by Vice-President Patrick O’Meara, the morning panel was devoted to political aspects of Poland’s transformations. Andrzej Rychard, visiting from the Polish Academy of Sciences, provided a sociological interpretation of the institutional legacies of Solidarność. Padraic Kenney, Professor of History, analyzed the legacies of 1989 with a view toward understanding who really won and lost. Daniel Cole, Professor of Law at IUPUI, placed Poland’s democratic constitution crafted after 1989 within the context of Poland’s earlier constitutions, beginning with the significant 1791 constitution. Greg Domber, Assistant Professor of History at the University of North Florida, spoke on the successes and limitations of the American influence on the rebirth of Polish democracy.

Regina Smyth, Associate Professor of Political Science, chaired the panel and provided comments.

The afternoon panel focused on societal and cultural developments since the events of 1989. Anna Zachorowska-Mazurkiewicz, visiting from Jagiellonian University, summarized the changing role of Polish women in the workforce. Mira Rosenthal, a doctoral candidate in Comparative Literature, considered the challenges for translators in creating an American audience for newer poetic trends in Poland. Daniel Bishop, from the Jacobs School of Music, explored the musical scores of Kieslowski’s film “Three Colors: Blue” to expose its underlying political concerns. Justyna Beinek, Assistant Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, looked at the fringes of artistic life in Poland after 1989. Bill Johnston, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, chaired the panel and provided comments.

In addition to the two panels, Professor Marek Konarzewski, Minister Counselor of Science and Technology Affairs from the Polish Embassy, delivered a keynote address that examined concerns about global climate change from a uniquely Polish perspective.

**Mira Rosenthal** is a PhD student in Comparative Literature.

## East European Music in Bloomington by Leah Tannen

Bloomington has always been known for its School of Music and booming Indie music scene. Recently world music and, in particular, East European music has become more popular from venues such as the well known Lotus World Music and Arts Festival, which just held its fifteenth annual edition in September 2009, to much smaller events and performances.

I have lived in Bloomington since I came here to study at the School of Music over twelve years ago. After the initial shock of being in a small town, I discovered how special Bloomington was and saw the important role music played. Little by little, I went from passively observing the music scene to being an active participant. My initial involvement with Peasant

Disco, Lotus Fest, WFHB radio and many other music and arts organizations are consequently more a result of spontaneous participation rather than long-term planning. Nevertheless, I will attempt to provide a condensed version of my experiences and hopefully encourage others to participate.

Peasant Disco was born as an idea of a few REEI and Slavic Department students who wanted to organize an East European dance party at one of the language tea hours. My involvement started when I found a venue willing to host such an experiment: Second Story, which was also home to the popular Latin Dance Party at that time and, as I found out later, the place where Lotus Fest started. The path from the first Peasant Disco nearly four years ago to this year's edition has been rocky at times, but I have learned a lot and have been introduced me to so many world music supporters and organizations.

Many people ask me why we called it Peasant Disco. The choice of such a silly name was a long and hard decision made by my partner-in-crime, REEI alumnus Joe Crescente, and me. We wanted to come up with something that would most accurately describe the music we intended to play. The music was international, but we did not want people to think that we were imitating Lotus Fest. Peasant

Disco's music is essentially pop-dance music with some folk elements. This genre would be called Chalgа in Bulgaria or Turbofolk in Former Yugoslav countries. Hence the name: *Peasant* stands for the folk elements and international origin and *Disco* signifies a dance club atmosphere.

Peasant Disco was only the beginning of my association with the Bloomington World Music scene. My

next activity was with the local community radio station, WFHB (91.3/98.1 FM). The station already featured a wide variety of international news and music, but not an East European show. After a little training, Joe Crescente and I got our own show dedicated to East European Music. On the radio we did not stick to just dance music. So once a week a

motley assortment of Kino, Ivo Papasov, Vysotskij and

many others graced the airwaves of early morning commuters. Our show is no longer on the air, but the station continues its international programming, including both music and news.

Lotus Festival is yet another venue where one can find East European music in Bloomington. Every year the festival invites many international artists from every corner of the world. For a weekend in the fall, rain or shine, Lotus takes over downtown and the streets are filled with sounds from Mongolian rock to Hungarian Gypsies to the electronic world fusion sounds of Watcha Clan. It is always great to see the excitement of the people attending, the artists and around 500 volunteers that help make it happen.

The end of Lotus is probably the saddest time of year for me. However, there continue to be great events like the Hungarian Cimbalom virtuoso who played at the Waldron Auditorium, or most recently the Bulgarian Accordionist who played a free show on campus. A small group of us will continue to bring you these events, so come on out and experience East European music at its finest!

**Leah Tannen** is an MA student in REEI.



A typical scene at Peasant Disco

## 1989 Commemoration: Twenty Years After the Fall

REEIfication asked members of the REEI community to share their memories of the dramatic events of 1989.



Padraic Kenney (right), then a stringer for the Boston Globe (and a PhD candidate at Michigan), interviews a miner at strike headquarters in Jastrzebie Zdroj, Poland in late August, 1988.

"I, along with a colleague, Michael Carrington, was in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, the day the wall came down. I was scheduled to give a lecture there. Mike and I tried to get to Berlin but all the plane flights and trains were filled. We tried to rent a car but we were told that, because we would have to drive through East Germany, getting gas for the car might be a problem. So we gave up and drank beer and danced in the street like everyone else in Rotterdam."

-William P. Hojnacki

Professor Emeritus of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University

"In the fall of 1989, I was researching my dissertation in Warsaw. Most days, I would hurry from my apartment in the Zoliborz district to the state archives in Mokotów, stopping only to pick up *Gazeta Wyborcza* on the way. In those days, it was a thrill every morning to see what unthinkable thing had just occurred somewhere in the region. More than once, a passerby would run up to me and ask where I had gotten the paper. One day, on the bus, I read in the paper that the statue of Feliks Dzierzynski - on what was then Dzierzynski Square, now Bank Square - would be removed that morning, ostensibly for street repairs.

I cancelled my research plans, hopped off the bus, and joined the crowd around the statue. Some were wielding crowbars to help in the demolition - no one wanted to see the statue return! I still have, in my office, a piece of the statue: most of the 'N' from 'Dzierzynski'."

-Padraic Kenney

Professor of History, Indiana University

"I was celebrating with my high school friends when the wall came down. The next year I trav-

eled to the USSR. It was a great time to be young and it felt like an era of fear was coming to an end."

-Sarah Gilchrist, Slavics, BA 2004

"The smell of gunpowder has finally started to give way to the smell of sausages being fried, of baking pies, of Christmas. Two weeks ago I was thinking how hard it would be to celebrate this joyful occasion in a country that had become spiritually and morally paralyzed. On the night of December 17, I looked on with admiration at the people of Timisoara who spontaneously decided to give themselves a last chance at freedom and the values of human life: morality, dignity, the concept of beauty.

Since then, the streets of Bucharest and many other cities in Romania have been filled with a solidarity for this newfound freedom and a common understanding that it is only through peaceful means that the Revolution they had be-



Military personnel were omni-present during the revolution in Romania. Here, Maria Bucur poses with a few of her new friends in 1989.

gun could be put to rest. This Christmas gave me back an almost lost faith in the great human possibilities. Romania has a lot to learn from the 'outside' - about the world, about itself. By the same token, we may be learning courage and faith from Romania's people."

-Maria Bucur, excerpt from her 1989 journal, Bucharest Director, Russian and East European Institute, Indiana University

"You can't imagine the emotional significance of this little piece of concrete. One of my great aunts, Tante Techla, at the age of 82, took it upon herself to get on the train in Trier, Germany and ride an entire day to Berlin just so that she could collect up some of these chunks."

-John Washbush



## Outreach Notes

### REEI-Affiliated Russian Programs Thriving in Indiana

by Sara Ronald and Mark Trotter

In this issue of REEification, Outreach Notes continues its tour of area high school Russian programs. Turning our gaze a little closer to home, we focus on the state of Indiana, where Russian is thriving, thanks to these hard-working instructors and their dedicated students. REEI hails their efforts!

#### **Merrillville High School (Merrillville, IN).**

For the first time in his career as a Russian teacher at Merrillville, Al Stoner is working with two classes of Russian, distinguished by level, as opposed to the mixed-level classes which he has always had to teach. Continuing students of Russian rated their introduction to the language as one of their favorite classes and Al looks forward to seeing more students when they resume their language classes in the second trimester. While his current first-year class is small, with just seven students, Al is pleased to note that they are "serious-minded." The proximity and scheduling of the upcoming Russian Olympiada will enable Merrillville High School to take part in the competition in 2010, another first for the Russian program there.

#### **Andrean High School (Merrillville, IN).**

At Andrean, Becky Goins presides over a small but vibrant Russian program that also hosted Jeff Holdeman this past spring. At the request of Becky and her students, Jeff taught them how to play such Russian children's games as *karavai*, *zhmurki* (Russian blind man's bluff), and *koshki-myshki* (cats and mice). This past summer, Becky contributed her pedagogical talents as a co-teacher in the Russian section of the Gary SAILS program (featured in "Outreach Notes" that ran in October 2008 issue of REEification). She hopes to bring some of her Andrean students to the Russian Olympiada next April.

#### **Jefferson High School (Lafayette, IN).**

Twenty students currently study Russian at Jefferson, where IU alumnus Todd Golding (Slavic MA 1993, Slavic MAT 1996) has sustained and built interest in the language by creating a large body of his own teaching materials, bringing exchange students from Russia to his school, and organizing student tours to the former Soviet Union. Todd has also provided valiant service to the profession by coordinating Jefferson students and staff when the school hosted the first two Illinois-Indiana Russian Olympiadas in 2003 and 2009

(see "Outreach Notes" in REEification of April 2009). He is particularly proud of his two fourth-year students Chelsea McShurley and Jasmyn Mudrich. Chelsea recorded the highest score at the Russian Olympiada in March and travelled to Kazan, Russia this past summer as a student in the prestigious National Security Language Initiative program. Jasmyn also took a gold medal at the Olympiada and has recently been named an ACTR Russian Scholar.

#### **Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities (Muncie, IN).**

Russian teacher Maria Staton is proud to report that Russian is "alive and well" at the Indiana Academy, where two levels of Russian are offered. She works with Heather Rogers as a team, sharing feedback and all manner of useful information. Maria's second-year class has started practicing immersion activities. Early in the fall, they engaged in a role play activity centered on shopping in a Russian grocery. Students made Russian money and prepared other realia, like supermarket baskets and grocery items for this unit. Maria hopes that the program will soon incorporate computer-assisted language instruction. At the most recent Russian Olympiada, all three



Roosevelt student Nariman Karimov impresses judges Ekaterina Cervantes, Svitlana Melnyk and Veronika Trotter (left to right) at the Illinois-Indiana Russian Olympiada in March 2009. Karimov took a gold medal in the Native Speaker category of the competition.

Indiana Academy contestants took gold medals, and both teachers and students at the school are eager to extend this record of accomplishment at Roosevelt next April.

**Arsenal Technical High School (Indianapolis, IN).** At Arsenal Tech, IU alumna Kate McDonough (MA Slavic 1986) runs the only high school Russian program in Indianapolis. In the past three years, her students have taken in a performance by the world-famous Moiseev Dance Company and hosted Jeff Holdeman for a presentation/sing-along devoted to Russian folk music. Kate is working to introduce Advanced Placement Russian at Arsenal and also hopes to bring a delegation of students up to Chicago for the Russian Olympiada in April.

REEI and Outreach Notes wish these programs the best of luck in the future and their students and teachers a successful and productive 2010!

**Sara Ronald** is an MA student in REEI.

**Mark Trotter** is Assistant Director and Outreach Coordinator for REEI.



## REEI at AAASS

The 41<sup>st</sup> annual National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies met in Boston, Massachusetts from November twelfth through the fifteenth. The theme of this year's convention was "Reading and Writing Lives," and many of the panels and roundtables focused on everyday life histories and other accounts of individual lives. IU was well represented by many accomplished professors, alumni and students. (For a com-



Maria Bucur presents awards of distinction to alumnus Donald Raleigh (left) and former REEI Director David Ransel (right).



IU alumnae Choi Chatterjee (left) and Sudha Rajagopalan

plete list, see the October issue of *REEIfication*.) Because this year marks the twentieth anniversary of the fall of state socialism in Eastern Europe, many of panels and roundtables discussed the revolutions of 1989.

On Friday night, REEI hosted the annual IU alumni reception where David Ransel was honored with an award for Distinguished Service to REEI and Donald Raleigh was named a Distinguished Alumnus of REEI. Over seventy-five alumni attended and partook in the festivities.

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## Alumni News

**Choi Chatterjee** (History, PhD 1996) will be hosting a scholarly workshop from May 14-16, 2010, entitled "Everyday Life in Russia: Strategies, Subjectivities and Perspectives," with David Ransel (IU, History), Sarah Phillips (IU, Anthropology), Karen Petrone (University of Kentucky, History), Mollie Cavender (University of Ohio, Mansfield, History). The interdisciplinary workshop will feature invited scholars from the US, Russia, and Europe.

**Jill Massino** (History, PhD 2007) recently co-edited the collected volume *Gender Politics and Everyday Life in State Socialist Eastern and Central Europe*. In June, she gave a talk entitled "Gendering East European History: Stories from Romania" at the Sudöt Institut at the University of Regensburg, Germany, and in November, at the AAASS, she participated in the roundtable "Gender and Everyday Life in State Socialist Eastern Europe and Russia." She is currently an adjunct professor at De Paul University.

**Chris Meyer** (REEI, MA 1992) has been working in Warsaw for Allianz, the German financial services company, as Deputy Chief Operating Officer since March 2008. Together with his wife Agnieszka, they are now up to 4 Polish-American children, ages 12, 10, 7 and 2.

**Lyle Neff** (Musicology, PhD 2002) participated in a symposium entitled "Pushkin and Opera" on the stage of the Hudson Guild Theatre in New York City in conjunction with the Little Opera Theatre of New York's production of Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's *Mozart & Salieri* and Cesar Cui's *Feast in Time of Plague*. The latter opera was performed for the first time with Neff's English translation of the libretto. In October, Augsburg Fortress published a collection of fifteen arrangements by Neff of church hymn-tunes under the title "Hymn Inspirations for Organ."

## Faculty Updates

**Bernd Fischer** (History – IU, Fort Wayne) has published a chapter entitled “The Second World War in Albania: History and Historical Agendas” in an edited volume *Albanische Geschichte: Stand und Perspektiven der Forschung*. In October, he delivered a paper entitled “Religion and the State in Albania” at an international symposium on Bektashism held at the European University of Tirana, Albania. A Serbian translation of his book, *Balkan Strongmen*, has appeared as *Balkanski Diktatori: Diktatori i autoritarni vladari jugoistocne Evrope*.

**Charles J. Halperin** (REEI) has published “Paradigms of the Image of the Mongols in Medieval Russia,” in *The Early Mongols: Language, Culture and History*, edited by Volker Rabatzii, Alessandra Pozzi, Peter W. Geier, John R. Krueger. He has also published “Ivan IV and Kiev” in *Rus’ Writ Large: Languages, Histories, Cultures*.

**Jeffrey Hart** (Political Science) delivered a paper entitled “The Transition to Digital Television in the United States: The Endgame” at a conference on Digital TV Transitions at Columbia University in October. In September, he presented on “Theories of International Relations” to the IU Student Foreign Policy Initiative. His publications include *The Politics of International Economic Relations*, with Joan Edelman Spero and two chapters in edited volumes: “Toward a Political Economy of Digital Culture” in *International Cultural Policies and Power* and “Video on the Internet: The Content Question” in *Television Goes Digital*. He continues to act as the Chair of the International Political Economy Section of the International Studies Association until February 2010.

**Owen Johnson** (Journalism) gave a lecture at the Institute of History of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava, entitled “Journalism in Slovakia, 1948-68: A Force for Change.” He also gave the keynote address, “Serving the People, Serving the State: Slovak Mass Media, 1989-2009,” at the conference in Bratislava, *Transformation of Media in Slovakia and the Countries of Central & Eastern Europe After 1989*, held in conjunction with the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the founding of the Bratislava School of Law.

**Padraic Kenney** (History) has had a busy commemorative season, with conferences and talks celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the fall of communism. His travels to discuss the events of that year have been as far away as Kaunas, Lithuania, and as close as Purdue. He also organized a one-day symposium at IU, in September, to coincide with the twentieth anniversary of Poland’s (and East Europe’s) first non-communist government. The season closes in December with the publication of his new book, *1989: Democratic Revolutions at the Cold War’s End*.

**Sarah D. Phillips** (Anthropology) was named co-winner of the 2008-2009 American Association for Ukrainian Studies Prize for Best Book in the fields of Ukrainian history, politics, language, literature, and culture, for her book *Women’s Social Activism in the New Ukraine: Development and the Politics of Differentiation*.

**William Alex Pridemore** (Criminal Justice) was recently promoted to Full Professor. He has also accepted a position as Associate Director of the new Consortium for Education and Social Science Research here at IU. His recent REEI-related publications include “Reduction in Suicide Mortality Following a New National Alcohol Policy: An Interrupted Time Series Analysis of Slovenia” in *American Journal of Public Health*, (with Aleksandra Snowden), “Differences in Male and Female Involvement in Lethal Violence in Russia: An Analysis of Homicide Characteristics When Women are Victims or Offenders” in *Journal of Criminal Justice* (with K. Eckhardt) and “The 2003 Slovenian Alcohol Policy: Background, Supporters, and Opponents” in *Contemporary Drug Problems*, (also with Aleksandra Snowden).



Sarah D. Phillips

**Jerry Wheat** (Business Administration – Southeast, Emeritus) has published two articles: “Financial Systems and Business Activity in Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia,” in the *Journal of International Business Research*, with Brenda Swartz (Southeast) and Frank Wadsworth (Southeast), and “Corruption in the Baltic State Region,” in *International Business & Economics Research Journal*, also with Brenda Swartz.

### Giving Opportunities

#### General Fund

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

#### Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship

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

#### McCloskey Fund

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

#### Daniel Armstrong Memorial Research Paper Awards

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

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

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