

REElification

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

David L. Ransel, Director
Vol. 23, No. 4

Janis Cakars, Editor
December 1999

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Director's Notebook

by David L. Ransel

It is good to be back at REEI and in daily contact with our excellent office staff and outstanding students and faculty. The institute is the focal point for the intellectual and administrative energies of students and colleagues in a dozen departments and seven professional schools as well as seven regional campuses, and these energies continually reinvigorate the staff and directors, making our tasks interesting and challenging. It is an exciting place to work.

I want to thank Professor Roy Gardner for serving as acting director during my sabbatical year. Roy had to weave this job into the several others he does, plus teach an overload to cover needed courses, and I appreciate enormously his willingness to shoulder this burden.

During the spring semester, I was in Russia, researching a new study on the provincial merchant class. This was my first trip to Russia since the collapse of the ruble in August 1998, and changes were obvious. Stores in the large cities were featuring fewer foreign-made goods than before, and Russian products were again in evidence. This was a hopeful sign, even if the national economic statistics were not yet showing a substantial boost in employment and productivity. I can add that the Russian products did not strike me as inferior, indeed in some cases were superior, to the foreign imports, which are often low-end output with poor market prospects in the West. Most Russians seemed pleased with this development. It was easy to see that many people had become disillusioned with the enticements of foreign goods and supported the idea of greater self-reliance.

The two features of Russian life that struck me most strongly were Americanization of popular culture and religious revival. Each morning I woke up and turned on the radio to find virtually the entire spectrum of stations running an American-style blend of popular music, hip patter and jokes, telephone call-ins, short news and weather breaks, frequently punctuated by ads and commercial prize contests. Except for the use of Russian, I might have been back home. The music was in English for the most part. I asked a school teacher of my age whether she was not offended by this cultural invasion, and she replied that Russians had outgrown such negative feelings by this time. While it is clear that not everyone would share this friendly stance, it is hard to imagine what Russian popular culture would be after the demise of the thumpingly patriotic Soviet radio and television shows and also of their antidote in the dissident balladeers (although a new generation of balladeers is emerging and addressing current issues). Newspapers and magazines, too, were heavily influenced by Western format and tending ever more toward the tabloid model. The more controlled medium of television was still culturally more Russian than foreign, though a good number of foreign shows were being played.

Alongside this stream ran an equally powerful current of religious revival. This is symbolically most evident in the great cathedral of Christ the Savior in Moscow and

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**REEI Distinguished Alumni &
Distinguished Service Awards**

This award program was initiated at the 1988 Midwest Slavic conference in celebration of REEI's 30th anniversary.

ALUMNI AWARDS

1988 Alexander Rabinowitch
1988 Charles Gati
1995 Gale Stokes

SERVICE AWARDS

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

Working in Slovak Telecommunications

by Hyun-Hee Do

I spent last summer in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, working as an intern in a telecommunications company called PosTel. I served as a researcher and English instructor. PosTel was founded by a young Hungarian entrepreneur in 1992 and is a distributor of telecommunications products. The youthful spirit of the firm was immediately noticeable by the casual dress of the employees and limited formalities in conversation. They even called the director by his first name.

During my internship, PosTel was working on Internet phones. It plans to offer phone-to-phone and PC-to-phone services (there is currently no such service in Slovakia). To achieve this, a large investment is needed. We were busy looking for investors and preparing a business plan. It was not easy because most foreign investors are more interested in the Czech Republic. In fact, many telecommunication companies in Slovakia are operated as subsidiaries for those in the Czech Republic. Many Slovaks perceive their economy as being in the shadow of the Czech republic's and Czech dominance is seen as a hindrance to the development of the Slovak telecommunications industry. The Internet telephone system in Slovakia lags behind that of the Czech, but the director of PosTel sees this as an opportunity and not a handicap.

Slovakia is located in the center of Europe. It shares borders with the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and Austria. Therefore, I had a chance to travel throughout the region. Train travel is relatively inexpensive, and I was able to buy tickets to different cities almost every weekend.

On my weekend excursions, the language barrier caused me numerous problems. I expected to find people who knew either Russian or English, but this turned out not to be the case. Once, while returning from Hungary, I found myself on the wrong train due to a miscommunication. I then discovered the only way to rectify the situation was by bribing the conductor and I was out of cash. Only through a miraculous act of Slovakian kindness that was I able to get out of the unfortunate situation. A fellow traveler paid the bribe for me. I later repaid him, but it must not have been easy to lend money to a stranger.

Compared with that of Americans, the behavior of Slovaks is group-based. I spent a great deal of time with my coworkers, both in and out of the office. The director was even able to guess my questions before I asked them. I went out with my Slovak friends from time to time, but had difficulty convincing them that I do not drink. If someone suggested going to bar, everyone was expected to go for beer, not for coffee.

Slovaks are exceedingly generous and kind. My coworkers and friends were very helpful. They accompanied me when I bought train and bus tickets, exchanged money, and bought food. Perhaps they thought that it was their responsibility to take care of me. Even so, I know that it is not easy to spend time on others' business. All in all, my internship in Slovakia provided both adventure and education and was an example of the valuable experience of working abroad.

Hyun-Hee Do is an REEI MA student from South Korea.

Her area of concentration is business.

Võro in Vogue?

by Kara D. Brown

When I visited the Kreutzwald School in Võru, Estonia, the teacher introduced me to twenty of her fourth grade students, “Today we have visitor with us who has come all the way from the United States, from the state of Indiana, so that she can learn the Võro language. Now class, can you imagine how lucky you are that you don’t have to travel so far to learn our beautiful language and how important it is that people are coming from all over the world to learn our language?” With this introduction, I was thrust into the promotion and revival of the Võro language (*võro kiil*), a movement occurring throughout southern Estonia. The movement includes teachers, politicians, poets, geographers, and administrators, who are attempting to increase the usage of the Võro language, which is currently spoken by approximately 35,000 people in southern Estonia. The majority of fluent Võro speakers are elderly Estonians who continue to live in the rural parts of southern Estonia. The Estonians leading the Võro language revival are all fluent speakers as well, but most are young and living in Võru, the urban center of the region.

The status of Võro is questioned in multiple ways. One question revolves around whether Võro is a language or a dialect. Many Estonians I talked with, even ones from Võro county, posit that it is an Estonian dialect. Other Estonians, mostly native speakers, argue that it is a language, which has more in common with Finnish than Estonian. Estonians in the “Võro language camp” also maintain that Võro is closely related to another Estonian dialect-language – Setu. Ironically, those who do not get involved at all in the language-dialect debate are usually the elderly native speakers, who are identified by those in the revival movement as “the last real speakers” of Võro. One Võro speaker, who is in her later seventies, explained her lack of involvement to me, “I don’t care what it is I just speak it.”

In addition to the elderly, there are also many younger Estonians participating in the Võro language revival who are more concerned with the survival of the language than with how to label it.

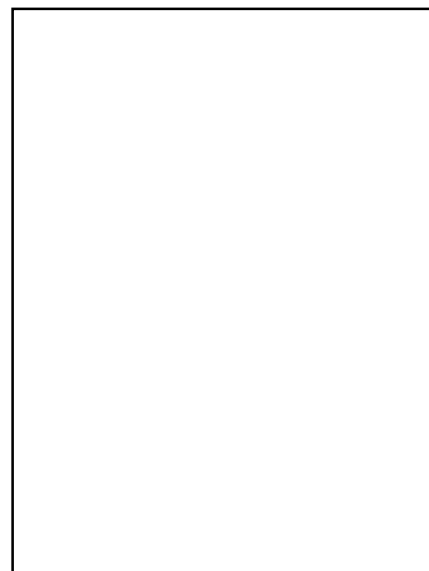
Another question concerns the prestige of Võro, especially since its use in southern Estonia has gradually declined in the past century. The decline is primarily a result of the ban on the instruction and speaking of Võro in schools during the Soviet period and of the push to speak only Estonian in schools during the interwar period. As a result of these efforts to discourage the use of written and spoken Võro, many native speakers consider it to be a language that should be spoken in more informal settings, with friends and family and not one to be used in the formal, professional spheres of work, school and government. The prestige of written and spoken Estonian, which is called the “language of letters” (*kiräkiil*) by many Võro speakers, is reflected in its public usage. In downtown Võru, most of the shop and street signs are in Estonian and one hears primarily Estonian spoken in the stores.

For the past ten years, there have been formal and organized attempts to revive the Võro language. The revival movement is driven by multiple forces. For some Estonians, losing the language means losing family connections, especially since Võro is often the language spoken at home between grandparents and grandchildren. Others are driven to maintain the language out of concern that a way of life and a way of seeing the world will be lost if Võro dies. There are several clear goals of the revival movement: the creation of an orthography, the publication of textbooks and literature, the organization of language classes in schools, the training of language teachers, the expansion of Võro language usage in local media, and the collection of historical place names in Võro. The Võro Institute has made considerable progress in the

last four years. Currently, thirteen schools offer Võro language classes as an elective course, maps have been printed with Võro place names, and dozens of books and tapes have been published in the language.

One of the greatest challenges that the Institute faces in reviving the language is to convince the youngest generation of students to take Võro in school. In most southern Estonian schools, the popularity of English language and computer classes is undermining the development of and enrollment in Võro language classes. An additional challenge to the success of the movement is that the language is spoken primarily in southern, rural Estonia. As a result, if young people are planning to move from Võro county to one of the two largest cities in Estonia, Tallinn or Tartu, they will not need to know and probably will not be able to use their Võro skills. Since the future of Võro is connected with its use among the young, these are serious impediments to the language revival.

Kara D. Brown is a doctoral student in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies



Typical building in the City of Võru

Assessing Technology in Slavic Language Teaching: Current Trends and Future Directions

by *Yekaterina Vernikov*

On October 29-30, the IU Slavic Department and REEI hosted a conference devoted to the latest developments and practices in the use of technology in Slavic language pedagogy. This was the second in a series of four conferences sponsored by a grant from the Department of Education, which was obtained in 1997 by George Fowler. This conference's primary organizer was Nyusya Milman.

The subfield of Slavic language teaching today is faced with a whirlwind of changes: computers and multimedia technology are rushing into the classroom faster than the eye can follow; computer- and multimedia-based language teaching projects are developed and become out-of-date by the time they hit the publisher's and teacher's desk. This workshop provided a valuable summary of the ways technological methods have been used to date in Slavic language pedagogy, assessed the relative strengths of competing packages and methodologies, and set an agenda for the incorporation of technology in the development of new teaching materials.

The conference started with a panel devoted to the nuts and bolts of the matter. The first presentation was by the Director of the IU Language Lab, Jerry McCune, who gave a detailed description of the technology support available for foreign language instruction. A hope for improved facilities was expressed. This was followed by Scott Sheridan's account of his experience in creating a functional language resource center at Illinois Wesleyan University. Both presenters came to the conclusion that "If you build it, they will come." One of the conference's key presenters, Valentina Troufanova, from the Russian State University for the Humanities, provided a thorough description of the use of technology in teaching Russian as a foreign language in Russia. George Gutsche, of the University of Arizona, gave an informative account of various possibilities for Slavic languages in "the

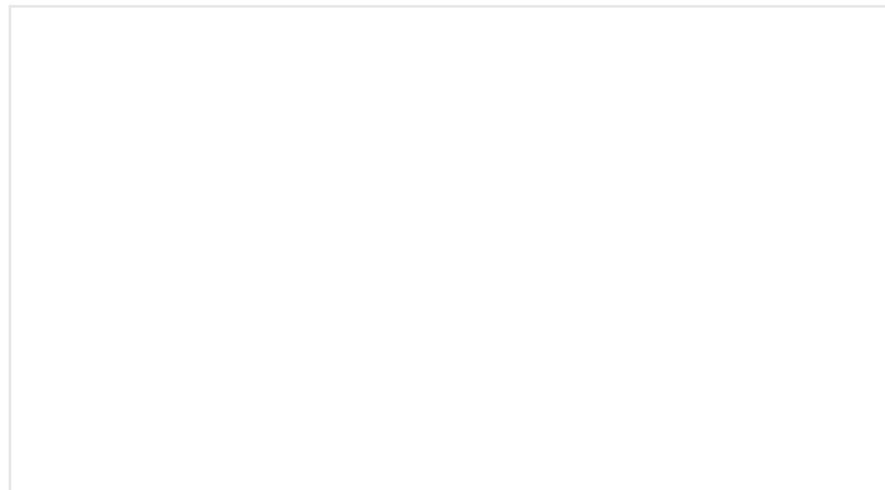
New Learning Environment." He left the audience to ponder the profound insight, made by the President of Lehigh University, that "most of our future lies ahead of us."

Melissa Smith, from Youngstown State University, described how computer technology has helped her manage a one-person Russian department. IU's own Nyusya Milman made a multi-media presentation, which provided an argument for the way the natural appeal of technology offers a unique opportunity to arouse students' curiosity about Russian culture. To this end, she demonstrated the way her CD-ROM, "Russian for Business and Pleasure," manages to sneak even high culture into a language classroom. The first day's presentations were concluded by George Mitrevsky of Auburn University. His paper dealt with the hundreds of web-based video and audio exercises, designed originally for his beginning-level students, but now a great potential resource available for general use.

The second day of the conference was opened with a demonstration by Konstantin Kustanovich of Vanderbilt University, on how materials may be made available for classroom use on "homemade" CD's. The discussion that followed addressed the issue of copyrights, which is at present a topic of great concern for

educators. Philip Watkins from the University of Michigan then presented a paper on the preparation of popular Russian songs for classroom use. This idea and methodology was developed at the University of Michigan by Nyusya Milman in the late 1980s. The conference's final presentations were made by Slava Paperno of Cornell University, one of the earliest proponents of technology in language pedagogy and Edna Coffin of the University of Michigan "Project Flame" (Foreign Language Assessment in Media Environment). Paperno's presentation focused on a successful experiment for a first year Russian course based on the extensive use of digital video materials, which are currently accessible by means of the Internet. Coffin talked about her efforts to create an "electronic multimedia anthology in fiction and poetry" and showed the impressive results of her work.

Instrumental to the conference's success were the numerous hours put into matters of logistics by Robert Efirid and assistance with technology by Devon Sanner (both graduate students in Slavics). The conference concluded with all participants taking part in the annual Russian Halloween Party at the home of Nyusya Milman.



Conference attendees unwind at the annual Russian Halloween Party

“What exactly were you doing in Poland for the last two years anyway?”

by Daniel Sargent

I spent the last two years in Poland researching social change. I arrived in Poland in July of 1997. As it turned out, this was good timing. Thanks to the relative economic and political stability that had been achieved in Poland, and also to a period of generous foreign funding, social development really began to build momentum in the mid 1990's.

That summer, I took part in the Democracy and Diversity Workshop, a three-week program put on in Krakow by the New School for Social Research in New York. I had two courses during that program: “Theories of Gender,” and “Problems in Democratic Society.” These courses acted as theoretical warm-ups for the research I was planning to do over the following school year in Warsaw.

During the 1997-1998 academic year I participated in the exchange program between Indiana University at Bloomington and Warsaw University. I was researching the activities of Polish women's organizations and the ways they are addressing domestic violence issues. There was a public awareness campaign being carried out at the time, which featured billboard and newspaper advertising. The series of

four ads showed battered women and children posed beneath the reasons given for the beatings they received. These included “because the soup was too salty” and “because he had to act out somehow.” Meaningful public discourse regarding domestic violence is just now getting started in Poland. Many Poles still tend to think of domestic violence as an individual problem, not one shared by society as a whole.

There are more women's organizations in Poland than I had previously imagined. However, most of them are small, local in the scope of their activities (if, indeed, they are active at all), and have formed few links or networks for cooperating and communicating with one another. Furthermore, organizations that are involved with domestic violence issues are almost never purely “women's” organizations. Rather, they are “social organizations” (*społeczne organizacje*), and they deal with a variety of issues. These facts made my original project somewhat problematical.

By a stroke of luck, an old friend of mine, who was visiting Poland and doing some research of her own, introduced me to some people in Warsaw with whom she used to work. This team of Poles was re-

sponsible for implementing the Agency for Educational Development's Democracy Network Project in Poland. Following completion of that program, they registered as an independent association called the Academy for the Development of Philanthropy in Poland and began their present agenda of NGO development work. Their particular focus is on developing a network of community foundations. These are charitable financial institutions that build endowments in support of “socially useful initiatives.” It is their hope that these community foundations will be able to fill the gap being left behind as large foreign grant-making institutions withdraw their funds from Poland in order to provide support to other, more needy regions of the world.

I began to work for the Academy as a full-time volunteer in August of 1998, doing translations and interpreting during meetings and interviews. The decision to make their field of activity the topic of my MA thesis research soon followed. I worked with the Academy until the end of May 1999, when I returned to the US and resumed my studies at REEI.

East European Poster Exhibit

Now that modern technology has made a graphic artist out of anyone within reach of a computer, poster art may be a dying craft, but the genre has enjoyed a long history as an important popular and public art form. An exhibition of Polish and Romanian posters held last month at the School of Fine Arts Gallery provided a glimpse into the medium during the communist era in East Europe.

The show was entitled *Behind the Iron Curtain: Poster Art from Poland and Romania* and ran from October 22–November 21. It was sponsored by the Russian and East European Institute, the Polish Studies Center, and the Henry

Radford Hope School of Fine Arts. The exhibited Romanian posters were borrowed from the National Office for Documentation and Art Exhibits, Bucharest, Romania. In all, 39 posters were displayed. Opening night featured a lecture by Marius Marcu-Lapadat entitled “Graphic Art in the Eastern Bloc in the Post-Stalinist Period.” Mr. Marcu-Lapadat is a lecturer at the University of Architecture and Urban Planning in Bucharest. The lecture was followed by the traditional wine and cheese art gallery reception.

The displayed posters reflected not only cultural and artistic differences be-

tween Poland and Romania, but regime differences as well. After Stalin's death, Polish poster art began to ignore the dictates of socialist realism and to exhibit a wide variety of styles. In Romania, Ceausescu established one of the most authoritarian and dictatorial governments in the region and the heavy hand of the regime was evident in a smaller sampling of creative influences and a greater number of propaganda posters. All the posters, however, were remarkable for their ability to quickly convey their messages at a glance, but retain a measure of craftsmanship worthy of being called art.

Baltic and Finnish Studies Association Founded at IU

On October 1, 1999, twelve students founded the Baltic and Finnish Studies Association (BaFSA). The organization was duly registered with Indiana University on October 4 and since that date its membership has grown quickly.

IU has been a longtime supporter of Baltic and Finnish studies. Eminent scholars such as Felix Oinas, Janis Penikis, Toivo Raun, and Inta Carpenter have served or continue to serve as IU faculty members. Recently, IU hosted both the 16th conference of the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies and the Baltic Studies Summer Institute. IU also regularly offers three levels of both Finnish and Estonian. BaFSA is an outgrowth of this commitment and corresponding student interest.

BaFSA aims to support and promote a multidisciplinary community of scholarly inquiry into Finnish, Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian society, history, culture, and language. In pursuit of this goal,

BaFSA sponsors academic and cultural events. The association also acts as a link to other organizations and institutions engaged in like-minded activities. Special emphasis is put on encouraging interest among those still unacquainted with Baltic and Finnish studies. Membership is open to all interested persons wishing to participate in the association and the general public and undergraduate students are strongly encouraged to attend its activities. BaFSA is affiliated with both the Central Eurasian Studies (CEUS) department and the Russian and East European Institute (REEI). The organization's faculty advisor is CEUS chair and professor Toivo Raun.

The association sponsored or co-sponsored four events this semester. The first was a lecture by Kalevi Kull of Tartu University on "A Teleology of the Estonian Research Tradition" on November 4, which focused on the works of Karl Ernst von Baer, Jakob von Uexkull, and

Juri Lotman (see below). On November 10, there was a video presentation of *Waterbird People* (*Veelinnurahvas*, 1970) and *Winds of the Milky Way* (*Linnutee Tuuled*, 1977). Both films are ethnographic documentaries on Finno-Ugric peoples by the current president of Estonia Lennart Meri. A commemoration of Latvian Independence Day at the Faculty Club on November 18 featured a poster exhibition, poetry reading, musical performance, and a speech on the meaning of independence day by Linda Grinberga, a Latvian visiting scholar. The traditional celebration of Finnish Independence Day at IU was continued this year with the support and participation of BaFSA. In addition to these special events, BaFSA holds monthly meetings and weekly coffee hours for all four languages (see page 16).

For more information see the BaFSA website at <http://www.indiana.edu/~bafsa> or email bafsa@indiana.edu.

Kalevi Kull and the Estonian Research Tradition

At the Seventh International Congress of Semiotics in Dresden last October, Kalevi Kull was one of eight Estonians in attendance. He calculated that in proportion to population, Estonia sent the largest delegation of any nation. He explained that science in small cultures tends to deviate to a certain extent from the mainstream. Semiotics is still not a household word in most places, but in Estonia this field is gaining a large following. Kull's specialization is Biosemiotics.

A month later, Professor Kull found himself in Bloomington. He was invited to IU by Thomas Sebeok, for whom he is guest editing a special issue, dedicated to Jakob von Uexkull, of the journal *Semiotica*. While here, Kull also gave a lecture entitled "A Teleology of the Estonian Research Tradition." The presentation focused on three world-renowned scientists who lived and worked in Estonia: Karl Ernst von Baer (1792-1876), Jakob von Uexkull (1864-1944), and Juri Lotman (1922-1993). He discussed their work, their

impact on Estonian and world scholarship, and Estonia's influence on them.

Karl Ernst von Baer, in addition to having discovered the human ovum, was mentioned by Darwin as a forerunner of his work. Von Baer was, however, critical of Darwin's theory of evolution. Darwin saw evolution as determined by external factors of environment and evolution as a group process. Von Baer believed Darwin treated the concept of causality incorrectly and did not consider the internal strive for perfection of individual organisms.

Tartu University in the 19th century was a leading center for research and theory in the natural sciences. The term biology was actually first coined by Tartu University Professor K. Burdach, and some of the first courses on Darwinism were offered there.

Following in von Baer's tradition, Jakob von Uexkull made his mark in 1920 with the book *Theoretical Biology*, but he is best remembered for his work *Theory*

of Meaning, which remains a classic of semiotics. In this later work, von Uexkull describes living systems as sign systems. Building upon this work, Juri Lotman established his school on the semiotics of culture.

Why did this tradition arise in Estonia? Kalevi Kull explains that the Romantic era of intellectual culture lasted longer in Estonia and produced views different from those of mainstream western science. This smaller world of Estonia imbued these men with a unique vision. Their international contacts enabled them to find a wide audience and gain greater influence. But possibly the explanation lies beyond science, Kull added with a smile. Lotman and von Baer were both born on February 28 and lived on the same street. Can this be explained by coincidence or fate? Maybe it is just something in the water. Regardless, a strong research tradition in natural sciences and semiotics has become established in Estonia, and Kalevi Kull continues this pioneering work.

Notebook

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the millions being spent on it, but it could be seen in smaller ways in every locality from the daily overflowing church in my Khamovniki neighborhood of Moscow to the beautiful new timber mosque in the section of Kazan where I lived for a while. Indeed, an equivalent to Moscow's Christ the Savior cathedral is now going up in Kazan in the form of an enormous Middle-Eastern style Kul-Sharif mosque in the city's ancient kremlin. It is as unrepresentative of the usual, delightfully intimate and tasteful mosques of the Volga Muslims as is Christ the Savior cathedral of the typical Russian Orthodox church. But the shape and imposing size of the new Kazan mosque symbolizes well the connection of the Volga Muslims to a larger world of Islamic belief and culture. This world has always been important to the Tatar elites. Now it is taking on greater significance in the identity formation of the common people as well.

To stay with Tatarstan, I should add how refreshing it was to observe several peoples (Tatars, Russians, Chuvash, East Finnic peoples) living side by side, recapturing forgotten and suppressed knowledge of their pasts and fashioning post-Soviet identities for themselves based in their ethnic and religious traditions, yet doing so without violent conflict and, to all appearances, a minimum of tension. Much credit goes to the president of Tatarstan, Mintimir Shaimiev, and

other republic leaders, who have succeeded in arguing for the autonomy of their republic in terms of the benefits it brings to all ethnic groups rather than its advantages for Tatars alone. They back up this rhetoric with generous personal and republic contributions to the reconstruction of major Orthodox as well as Muslim cultural and religious institutions. Along with the huge new mosque in the kremlin, restoration of the ancient Annunciation Cathedral in the same site is going forward. The magnificent Raifskii monastery about 30 minutes outside the city has been largely restored already with funding from Tatar political and economic leaders as well as from Russian contributors.

It is a shame that more attention is not given to Tatarstan and other republics in which enlightened leaders have been able to create conditions favorable to the shaping of post-Soviet identities based in religion and culture and yet tolerant of other faiths and capable of cooperating with fellow citizens from a variety of heritages. These examples deserve study and publicity so that people elsewhere will learn about positive options for multi-ethnic development and will perhaps be able to apply these lessons in their own commu-

Timber Mosque in Kazan

nities.

So far, this religious revival and search for identity in Russia has coexisted peacefully with the Americanized popular culture. It is true that anti-American feeling was palpable during the Kosovo War, but it seemed to arise out of a sense of isolation and betrayal and did not imply rejection of the material and pop-cultural manifestations associated with America. One may nevertheless wonder how long these two seemingly incompatible forces can exist in tension.

Want a Job after Graduation? Serve an Internship!

Serving an internship, whether based in the US or abroad, can impact your life and career in a number of ways. The opportunity to work in the field is unparalleled, and in today's tough job market, having concrete work experience on your resume gives you a definite edge. Internships also provide a valuable opportunity for networking and extending contacts within and without the field, allow for additional research, and expand upon

the academic foundations you have already established.

In an effort to encourage students to include internships in their course of study, REEI has begun compiling a resource file on internship opportunities. Numerous opportunities (domestic and foreign, paid and unpaid) are listed. In addition, the advisor will be available to assist you in locating an internship in your desired field. To begin the process,

simply make an appointment, detail your goals and requirements for the internship (work interests, experience, pay required, location desired), and let the staff go to work for you.

For more information, or to make an appointment, call 812-855-7309 during business hours.

Faculty Profile: Janet Kennedy

by Walter Jensen

The visual arts are often neglected as a component of Russian areas studies curricula, but Indiana University is fortunate to have on its faculty the distinguished Russian art historian Janet Kennedy. Her expressive style of communication makes her a very popular teacher and a highly sought-after speaker. In the classroom, Professor Kennedy's straightforward presentation of her subject matter brings Russian art to life. Her expertise and love of Russian art is evident to all of her students.

Janet Kennedy has been a familiar face on the IU Bloomington campus since 1975. After working as an instructor and curator at Vassar College, she came to IU as Assistant Professor of Art History and became an Associate Professor in 1983.

Kennedy's interest in Russia began in the ninth grade while she was studying Russian at The Baltimore Friends' School. There she developed an interest not only the Russian language, but also in Russian culture. After graduating from The Friends' School, she enrolled in Swarthmore College, earning a Bachelor of Arts in 1969. Kennedy continued her studies at Columbia University and received an MA degree in 1970 and a PhD (awarded with Distinction) in 1976. Her dissertation on "The 'Mir Iskusstva' Group and Russian Art, 1898-1912" was published a year after completion as part of a series of dissertations in the Fine Arts (New York: Garland, 1977). Dr. Kennedy conducted part of the research for her dissertation in the Soviet Union in 1973 while on an IREX grant. Since then she has made numerous trips to the region, both before and after the fall of the Soviet Union, studying not only Russian art but architecture as well. She has been awarded numerous grants and awards for her research and her wealth of first-hand experience, extensive study, and related travel comes across in the classroom.

Dr. Kennedy has written numerous articles, many of which are related to the

Russian art of the *Mir Iskusstva* (World of Art) movement. In her studies, she focuses on trends in Russian Realism at the end of the nineteenth century. Professor Kennedy relates the movement to the unstable political climate at that time. She is particularly interested in how the paintings of this period reach beyond previous attempts to depict contemporary politics and peasant hardships.

Her recent work has focused primarily on visual arts, theater, and music. Her focus hits close to home. She is interested in how Russian art has been presented and received by audiences and critics outside of Russia. She witnesses this process everyday as she presents Russian art to her own classes. In this way her life parallels her studies in a unique way. She has devoted much attention to how Russian theatrical productions have, at times, been altered to show Russia in a more favorable light to western Europeans; for example, the presentation of "Boris Gudinov" by Serge Diaghilev in France. Her courses integrate history and add a temporal dimension to this area of study. Professor Kennedy's ability to tie Russian history to Russian art makes her subject matter come alive for her students.

Unfortunately, not a single university in the United States sponsors a professor to focus exclusively on Russian art. Therefore, in addition to Russian Art History, Professor Kennedy is currently teaching a course on Dada and Surrealism. While at Indiana University, she has also offered classes on 20th century art, Picasso, and pop art. However, her broad expertise, rather than diluting her work on Russian art, gives it a fresh perspective and a basis for comparison. Her extensive knowledge is evident in every course she teaches, and students affirm that her enthusiasm is contagious.

Without understanding Russian history, understanding Russian art can be very difficult. Professor Kennedy's dedication to Russian history, language and

art make her a true expert in her field. Additionally, her ability to communicate this knowledge articulately makes her one of Indiana University's great assets.

Janet Kennedy's recent publications include:

"S.S. Mamontov: a Fin-de-Siecle Romance" in *Experiment (A Journal of Russian culture)*, edited by John E. Bowlt (vol. 1, 1995), pp. 25-34.

"Realism, Surrealism, Photorealism: The Re-Invention of Reality in Soviet Art of the 1970s and 1980s in *Gulag to Glasnost* (New York: Thames and Hudson, 1995), pp. 273-293.

"Vadim Rokhlin: Speaking Through the Body" in *The Fantastic Art of Vadim Rokhlin* (New Brunswick, NJ: Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 1997), pp.1-27.

"Vladimir Kandelaki's 'Festive Processions,'" in *Vladimir Kandelaki*, edited by Norton Dodge (Ronkonkoma, NY: Sunstorm Arts Publishing, 1998), pp. xxiv-xxxii.

"Triumph of Harlequin: Commedia dell'Arte Motif in the Works of Alexandre Benois and Knostantin Somov," *Silver Age I* (1998), pp. 33-67.

"Shrovetide Revelry: Alexandre Benois's Contribution to *Petrushka*" in *Petrushka: Texts and Contexts*, edited by Andrew Wachtel (Northwestern University Press, 1998).

"Lines of Succession: Three Productions of Tchaikovsky's *Sleeping Beauty*," *Tchaikovsky and his World*, edited by Leslie Kearney (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1998), pp. 145-162,

"The World of Art and Other Turn-of-the Century Russian Art Journals, 1898-1910" in *Defining Russian Graphic Arts 1898-1934*, edited by Alla Rosenfeld (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1999), pp. 63-78.

Alumni Profile: Helena Goscilo

REEI is pleased to announce that it will bestow its Distinguished Alumni Award on Helena Goscilo (Slavics MA, 1968; PhD, 1976) in Spring 2000. She will be only the fourth person to receive the highly selective award and the first woman as well as the first from the field of literature. The award was established in 1988. Goscilo is currently Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Pittsburgh and the author of numerous books, articles, and translations focusing on the writing and culture of Russian women. Janet Rabinowitch of IU Press praised her work, saying that it played a “pioneering and absolutely central role in the development of Slavic Women’s Studies.”

Originally from Edinburgh, Scotland, with Polish as her first language, Goscilo received her higher education in the United States. She took a BA in Russian from Queens College of the City University of New York in 1967 and came to Indiana University as a graduate student the same year. She received an MA just one year later from the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and went on to a PhD, which she was awarded in 1976. Her dissertation was entitled “From Dissolution to Synthesis: The Use of Genre in Lermontov’s Prose.” The chair of her committee, Eva Kagan-Kans, encouraged Goscilo to get involved in women’s studies.

Before settling in at the University of Pittsburgh, Goscilo taught as an Associate Instructor, Instructor, Assistant Professor, and Associate Professor of Russian at IU. She also spent a year teaching English and American Culture at Kiev State University in 1973. While working on her dissertation, Goscilo was an instructor in Russian Language and Literature at St. Lawrence University in upstate New York. She enjoys a reputation as an exceptional teacher, known for her imaginative courses. At the University of Pittsburgh, she regularly draws 180 students to her course on “Russian Fairy Tales”

and teaches other popular courses such as “Vampire: Blood and Empire” and “Sci-Fi: East and West.”

It is for her work on literature by Russian women that Goscilo is best known. The freshness of this field attracted her to it. She wrote in the opening lines of her preface to her acclaimed edited volume *Balancing Acts: Contemporary Stories by Russian Women* (IU Press, 1989):

Contemporary feminism has revolutionized educated readers’ concepts of literature through its (re)discovery of neglected women writers and its revisionist, gender-focused readings of what have conventionally been deemed mainstream texts. The reverberations of that revolution, however, have yet to reach Russian literature and its critics.

Goscilo’s contributions have greatly advanced the scholarship of Slavic Women’s Studies. She has written, edited, or translated 10 books on the subject and published and presented dozens of papers dealing with Russian and Polish women writers and culture. Her noteworthy recent publications include *Skirted Issues: The Discreetness and Indiscretions of Russian Women’s Prose* (M.E. Sharpe, 1992), *TNT: The Explosive World of Tatyana Tolstaya’s Fiction* (M.E. Sharpe, 1996), and *Dehexing Sex: Russian Womanhood during and after Glasnost* (University of Michigan Press, 1996). Goscilo’s current projects include a monograph on Liudmila Petrushevskaja, a collection of and commentary on essays on contemporary women’s culture, and a cultural study of the “New Russians” (with Nadezhda Azhgikhina).

Goscilo’s work on the “New Russians” marks something of a departure for her. It is focused not on the intelligentsia, but their cultural antagonists – a group of people who reject their ideals and embrace a new capitalist materialism and often join with some of the more unsavory elements of Russian society. It is a battle between the Russian intelligentsia and the shady nouveaux riche over Russia’s cultural and

national self-definition that frames this work. David Ransel has noted that Goscilo “remains very close to the Russian cultural elite and is one of our best informed and most incisive interpreters of their works. This puts Goscilo in an excellent position from which to launch such a project.” While this undertaking can be seen as a departure from her previous work in some respects, there is also continuity in that it is pioneering and original.

REEI congratulates Dr. Goscilo on her award and is proud to have her as an alumna. She represents the best traditions of Indiana University’s commitment to Slavic Studies.

US and Polish Students Talk Business

“Go AIESEC!” was the cheer by Chuck Bolanis III at the conclusion of an exciting video-linked panel discussion between IU and Warsaw University on October 23. The high-tech discussion was part of a weekend seminar on corporate culture in Central Europe hosted by the International Association of Students in Business and Economics (AIESEC).

Mr. Bolanis was justifiably pleased with the efforts of his organization. AIESEC has grown to be the largest non-profit, student-run, international exchange program in the world, and the relationship developed between the IU and Warsaw University chapters has proved particularly fruitful. During the seminar, internship exchangees, professors, and business people discussed their cross-cultural experiences with a view to discovering ways to achieve more efficient and effective business relationships between US and Central European companies and illuminate the legacies of communist planned economies.

Faculty News

Matthew R. Auer (SPEA) and **Eve Nilenders** (REEI/SPEA graduate student) presented a "Workshop on Geographic Information System (GIS) as a Teaching Tool: an Introduction to GIS with an Environmental Case Study from the Baltic Sea Region" on November 17.

Maria Bucur-Deckard (History) received an Overseas Conference Travel Grant to attend the conference "Writing Women's History in Countries in Transition," which took place in Minsk, Belarus, September 29-October 2. She is a recipient of a RUGS Faculty Summer Research Grant for June-July 2000. She also took part in a roundtable discussion on "Gender and Postcommunist Transition: Critical Perspectives" on November 16 at IU.

Robert Campbell (Emeritus, Economics) is spending the fall semester in Bishkek at the American University of Kyrgyzstan, working with the university to develop its curriculum, faculty, and library resources in economics. His work is part of a three-year effort by Indiana University, financed by a grant from USIA, to assist the university as a whole. A number of young faculty members will be coming to Indiana next year under the same program. Campbell reports that the American University of Kyrgyzstan is the "brightest spot on the higher educational scene" in the republic and that he and his wife, Laura, are enjoying their stay.

Andrew Durkin (Slavics) is presenting the paper "Chekhov's 'Supruga': Close Reading and Closed Reading," at the 1999 AATSEEL conference in Chicago, December 27-30. He will be part of a panel on close reading of Chekhov.

Halina Goldberg (Musicology) presented the paper "Nurturing a Genius: the Polish Context of Chopin's Music" for the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, on October 2. Later that month, she read "Does Four Equal Twelve? Chopin's Works with the Orchestra as Arranged for the Salon" at the International Chopin Congress in Warsaw. In both instances,

she was also interviewed on the Radio (WETA in Washington and Warsaw 2 in Poland).

Douglas Hofstadter (Cognitive Science) read selections from his recently published verse translation of Pushkin's "Eugene Onegin," at the Ohio State University Faculty Club-Grand Lounge on October 27. A discussion and book signing followed the reading.

Mark T. Hooker (REEI) published the fourth revised edition of his book, *Implied, but not Stated: Condensation in Colloquial Russian*, this month. The book is designed to teach advanced non-native students of Russian how to deal with new words produced through the process of condensation. It presents a series of models, describing how words and word collocations longer than three syllables can be condensed in colloquial Russian. It then shows the student how to apply the models to recover the parts of the condensed words that are implied, but not stated. The book includes an extensive index and keys to the exercises. It is available from Universal Publishers and Slavica Publishers.

Charles Jelavich (Emeritus, History) presented a lecture on November 5 at the University of Wisconsin at Madison on "Yugoslavism in Interwar Education 1918-1941."

Owen V. Johnson (Journalism/History) recently published "Power from the People: News Media in and about East Central Europe," in *Media Studies Journal* (13:3, Fall, 1999, pp. 190-201). Johnson also joined two of the other authors of the journal in a panel discussion at the Freedom Forum Media Studies Center in New York City, October 20.

Bill Johnston (Linguistics) gave a bilingual reading of his translations of poetry by Polish poet Krzysztof Kamil Baczynski at the annual meeting of the American Literary Translators Association in New York City in October.

Dodona Kiziria (Slavics) served as an observer for the November elections in Georgia.

Nyusya Milman (Slavics) organized two conferences at IU this year, "Reflecting Cross-Culturally" in April and "Assessing Technology in Slavic Language Teaching: Current Trends and Future Directions" in October. In April she team-taught a mini-course entitled "Gender Issues in Post-Soviet Russian Society" with Liudmila Petrushevskaia. Milman also received a grant from REEI for the development of Political Russian: an interdisciplinary course for undergraduates.

Felix Oinas (Emeritus, Slavics) published a book entitled *The Wind Goes to Bed and Other Essays* (Tallinn: Keel ja Kirjandus, 1999, 276 pp., \$50). It is a collection of 18 essays on the folklore and mythology of Finno-Ugric, Baltic, Slavic, and Siberian peoples. It is devoted to clarification of the distribution and origin of a group of legends and myths, applying a geographical-historical method. This is Oinas' 26th published book. It is in Estonian with a lengthy English resume and contains an afterward by Jaan Undusk.

John Patrick (Education) was the keynote speaker for a panel discussion on "Human Rights Education in Post-Communist States" at the University of Iowa on November 1. Patrick is the Director of the IU Social Studies Development Center.

Thomas A. Sebeok (Emeritus, Linguistics and Semiotics) was unanimously re-elected Editor-in-Chief of *Semiotica* in October at the 7th Congress of the International Association for Semiotic Studies, held at the University of Dresden, for an unprecedented sixth five-year term. Sebeok has continually edited this bilingual journal of the Association since 1969. The organization's flagship periodical, *Semiotica* appears in 2,000 pages per year, is printed in Great Britain, and is published by Mouton de Gruyter. It is currently in its 130th volume.

Gyorgy Sebok (Emeritus, Music) Distinguished Professor of piano died on Sunday, November 14. He was 77 years old. Born in Szeged, Hungary, he studied at the Ferenc Liszt Academy and became a professor of piano at the Bela Bartok Conservatory. He moved to Paris after the

Hungarian Revolt of 1956. He came to IU in 1962. He will be greatly missed by his students and colleagues.

Martin Spechler (Economics) participated in the NATO Economics Colloquium on "Economics and Security" in Brussels, Belgium, November 3-5. On November 17 he spoke to the World Affairs Council in Indianapolis on the topic "Who Lost Russia? Is It Lost?" On October 23 Spechler spoke at the Dean's Day International Colloquium at IUPUI on "The Euro: Economic Background and Theoretical Justifications."

Jeffrey Veidlinger (Jewish Studies/History) gave the lecture "What is Jewish Culture?" on October 6 at the Hillel Foundation Dining Room.

Bronislava Volkova (Slavics) published a new bilingual book of poetry under the title *Motaky do usi peny/Prison Notes Smuggled into the Ears of Seafoam*. It is part of the poetry series of Edwin Mellen Press, New York. She gave a poetry reading and signing on November 16 at Barnes and Noble in Bloomington. She is currently working as the Resident Director of the CIEE Program in Prague. She has also recently published her poetry in the journal *Transformations* and two of her stories in the Czech journal *Listopad*.

Nina Warnke (Germanic Studies) presented "Kraytser Sonata or What is to Be Done?" at the Russia/US: Reflecting Cross-Culturally II conference at IU, April 1999, and received a REEI/Mellon Endowment Faculty International Travel Award to present "The Child that Doesn't Grow Up: Yiddish Theatre and Its Critics" at the International Academic Workshop on Yiddish Drama, Theatre, and Performing Arts, Oxford University, England, June/July 1999.

Charles R. Wise (SPEA) and **Volodymyr Pigenko** (SPEA graduate student), published "The Separation of Powers in Ukraine: Sorting Out Responsibilities and Relationships between President, Parliament, and Prime Minister," in Taras Kuzio, et. al. eds., *State and Institution Building in Ukraine* (London: Macmillan, pp.25-56).

Student News

Thomas Cooper (CEUS) gave a presentation entitled "Strange Harmonies of Hungarian Music" on November 10. The presentation focused on the similarities between the melodies and harmonies of Bela Bartok and Ferenc Liszt. Cooper accompanied his discussion with a performance of several passages from the works of these innovative Hungarian composers, who were deeply influenced by folk music.

Deborah Howard (History) gave birth to a daughter on September 21. The baby girl's name is Katya.

Peter Marsh (CEUS) was selected to offer the course "Music, Youth, and Popular Culture in Central Eurasia" for the Central Eurasian Studies department in spring 2000. The course will explore youth culture and popular music in Central Eurasia from the perspectives of history, cultural studies, and ethnomusicology. The main focus of the course will be on Hungary, Uzbekistan, and Mongolia.

Dennis Metro-Roland (REEI) gave a talk on October 27 entitled "Communism in Hungary: From Stalinism to the 'Happiest Barrack' in the Eastern Block." The talk was for non-specialists and intended as an introduction "for those who know something about communism and nothing about Hungary, those who know something about Hungary and nothing about communism, and especially those who know nothing about either communism or Hungary."

Nikita Nankov (Comparative Literature/Slavics) won a grant for the publication of his book of fiction *Prazni prikazki* (Nonsense Talk/Tales) from the Open Society Fund this July, and the book appeared this November by Sonm Press (Sofia, Bulgaria). Nankov's other recent publications include: "Umberto Eco: Two Portraits of a Proteus," *The Comparatist*, 1999, 164-67; "Umberto Eco: The Neo-Avant-Gardist as a Neo-Cartesian," *Publications of the Arkansas Philological Association*, vol. 25, number 2, 47-64;

"Dva kolumbovska putovanja Gea Mileva: hermeneuticki ispit zapadne drugosti kao bugarskoga boljeg ia" (The Two Columbian Journeys of Geo Milev: A Hermeneutic Test of the Western Other as a Better Bulgarian Self), *Knjizevna smotra* (a major Croatian journal for literary history and theory) 1999, 111 (1), 41-47; "Zapadniiat Drug kato po-dobry bylgarski Az?" (The Western Other as a Better Bulgarian Self?) *Literaturen vestnik* (Literary Newspaper, Bulgaria), October 5-12, 1999: 1, 10-11. Nankov also read his paper "Liudmil Stoianov and Edgar Allan Poe" at the International Poe Conference, in Richmond, Virginia, October 7-10. He is teaching as a Future Faculty Fellow at IUPU Columbus for the 1999-2000 academic year.

Mariya Niendorf (CEUS) and **Liz Peterson** (Linguistics) presented their study "Variation in the Finnish Possessive Form" on September 21. It was the first presentation of the fall semester Linguistics Lunch Series.

Lynn Sargeant (History) has been invited to participate in the European Science Foundation Project "Musical Life in Europe, 1600-1900" as a member of the working group "Music Education in Europe (1770-1914)." She recently presented her paper "Ambivalence and Desire: Music Education and Mechanisms of State Control in Late Imperial Russia" at the October meeting of the working group in Brussels, Belgium.

Jason Vuic (History) led the history graduate student intramural flag football team Shaka Zulu to a resounding 27-7 win over the Pink-Eyed Panthers in their first game of the season on October 14. His dazzling kick returns and receptions stymied the timid felines, who were unable to make a first down the entire game.

James Wilson (CEUS/History) gave a lecture on November 17 entitled "The Medieval Hungarian Mission to the East" about four Hungarian Dominican monks who traveled across the Russian steppe in 1235 to convert the far-away pagans and the surviving monk's report on the harrowing journey and approaching Mongols.

Alumni News

Eric Boyle (REEI MA/SPEA MPA, 1999) was hired as the Director of Finance and Administration for the Caucasus office of Catholic Relief Services in Yerevan, Armenia. His duties include overseeing the daily operations of an office of 32 people, financial forecasting, assisting with grant writing, and training the national staff. Catholic Relief Services is one of the world's largest humanitarian relief organizations, operating in over 80 countries with a budget of over \$300 million.

Amy Caiazza (Political Science PhD, 1999) defended her dissertation, "Military Service and Maternal Obligation: Gender, Citizenship and Civil Society in Contemporary Russia, 1993-1997" in April.

Jared Ingersoll (REEI MA, 1990; History MA, 1991) started a new position as Slavic and East European Studies Librarian at Columbia University in November. He previously held the post of Bibliographer for East European and Slavic Studies at the Ohio State University.

Gale Stokes (History PhD, 1970) participated in a seminar on "Borders and Ethnicity: Solutions in the Balkans" at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars on October 28. Stokes is Professor and Chair of History at Rice University.

Willard Sunderland (History PhD, 1996) gave the lecture "Commemorating Conquest: The Story of a Russian Imperial Shrine" at the University of Michigan. Sunderland is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Cincinnati.

FALL 1999 REEI MELLON ENDOWMENT AWARDS

Faculty

Maria Bucur-Deckard (History) received an international travel grant to attend the Writing Women's History and History of Gender in Countries in Transition conference at the Centre for Gender Studies at the European Humanities University in Minsk, Belarus (September 29-October

30), where she presented her paper "The Gendered Construction of Heroism in Commemorations of the Great War in Romania."

Ben Eklof (History) received an international travel grant to London for the annual meeting of the Study Group on Education in Russia, the Independent States and Eastern Europe where he presented the keynote address "Educational Policy and Educational Realities in Post-Soviet Russia" on November 13.

Steven Franks (Slavics/Linguistics) received an international travel grant to attend the Third International Conference on Formal Description of Slavic Languages in Leipzig, Germany (December 1-3), where he presented his paper "The Origin of Prepositions."

Halina Goldberg (Musicology) received an international travel grant to attend the International Chopin Congress at the Polish Chopin Academy in Warsaw (October 10-17) where she presented her paper "Does Four Equal Twelve? Chopin's Works with the Orchestra as Arranged for the Salon."

Paul Marer (Business) received an international travel grant to Kazakhstan (summer 1999) where he completed work on his research project "Business Culture in Market and Transforming Economies."

Dina Spechler (Political Science) received a research grant to support hiring of research assistants for her project on "When Nation's Change Course: Understanding Major Innovations in Foreign Policy."

Students

Barbara Allen (History) received a conference travel grant for AAASS where she presented her paper "Alexander Shliapnikov and the Russian Metalworkers' Union in the Transition to the NEP."

Brian Donahoe (Anthropology) received a conference travel grant for the Society for Human Ecology International Conference in Montreal, Canada (May 27-30), where he presented his paper "Institu-

tional Upheaval and the Decline of Reindeer Herding in the Republic of Tuva."

Dennis Metro-Roland (REEI) received a research grant to support his travel to Budapest, Hungary in November where he completed oral history research on his project "The People's College Movement of Stalinist Hungary."

Tracie Wilson (Folklore) received a conference travel grant for the Society for Human Ecology International Conference in Montreal, Canada (May 27-30), where she presented her paper "Where the Bison Still Roam: Wildlife Conservation and Animal Welfare Issues in Poland."

Saera Yoon (Slavics) received a conference travel grant for the Pacific Northwest Modern Language Association Conference in Portland, Oregon, this November, where she presented her paper "Pseudo-devils in *Zoya's Apartment*: in comparison with *The Master and the Margarita*."

Recent Contributions to the Robert F. Byrnes/ REEI Endowed Fellowship Fund

The Byrnes Family and the Russian and East European Institute created the Robert F. Byrnes Fellowship three years ago as the principle memorial to the founder of REEI. It is awarded to one incoming student each year. This year's recipient is Renne Traicova.

The goal of the Fellowship Fund is to build an endowment that will sustain a full fellowship in perpetuity. Recently, generous donations have been received from the following contributors:

Sandra Kowalda Nichols

James M. Powell

Rolf H. Theen

Persons wishing to support this fellowship can send contributions to: Robert F. Byrnes/REEI Endowed Fellowship Fund, Account Number P-38-AS32-02-7, IU Foundation, P.O. Box 500, Bloomington, IN 47402

Famed Polish Poet Visits IU

The leading contemporary Polish poet Bronislaw Maj came to IU October 26 and presented a morning lecture and evening poetry reading. Under martial law, Maj helped create an independent forum for intellectual and artistic thought through the spoken journal *Nagoz*. Contributors to the journal avoided censorship by meeting informally and presenting their work orally. Attendance for these events sometimes ran into the thousands. His poetry has been translated by Czeslaw Milosz, Leonard Nathan, Richard Lourie, Bob Haas, Stanislaw Baranczak and Clare Cavanagh. In addition to six volumes of poetry and two of essays published in Poland, Maj has appeared in the *Partisan Review*, *Salmagundi*, *TriQuarterly*, *The Manhattan Review*, and *Translation*.

While at IU, Maj gave a lecture at the Polish Studies Center on "The Polish School of Poetry." Ironically, Maj had never heard the phrase "Polish School of Poetry" until he visited the US in 1996.

While here, he was called upon to discuss this genre, which to him was "as natural as breathing" and had not previously entered his mind as a subject of inquiry. Czeslaw Milosz coined the term and meant it to refer to the specific characteristics determined by the distinct nature of the Polish language and people. The Polish "school" is particularly noteworthy because it has produced two Nobel Prize laureates in recent times.

Maj attributes the high-standing of poetry in Polish culture to history. He explained that during the long years of partition, Poland was unable to create anything of value, except poetry. The poet became a moral authority, a teacher and a spiritual leader. Stylistically, the 20th century Polish school of poetry evinces a tradition of individualism and loyalty to reality, but Maj cautions against over-generalization and pointed to diversity within the "school." He also noted changes in Polish poetry since 1989. Po-

ets no longer perform the substitute social roles and speak with the moral authority they once did. They are subject to new influences, noticeably the New York school of poetry.

Following the lecture, an evening reading of Maj's poetry was held in the conducive and relaxed setting of the University Club. The reading was preceded by a concert of Polish music, performed by Wanda Jaworowski (violin) and Diane Rivera (piano). Bronislaw Maj — introduced by Prof. Bozena Shallcross as the leading voice of his generation — read ten of his selected poems in Polish and two in English. This was interspersed by the reading of his other poems in English by Dave Shallcross. Maj was so moved by Mr. Shallcross' reading that he requested a tape be made of his recital. A brief reception followed the reading. Both events of the day were sponsored by Horizons of Knowledge and were particularly well attended.

Visiting Scholars

Indiana University is currently hosting three American Councils (ACTR/ACCELS) fellows from Ukraine and Russia. The visiting scholars are taking part in the Junior Faculty Development Program and Regional Scholar Exchange Program and will stay at IU for up to a year. From diverse backgrounds, all the scholars plan to investigate American teaching methods and research techniques in order to incorporate them into their curriculum and research after they return to their home university.

Mayya Volodimirivna Garbolinska came to IU from Odessa State University, where she is a junior faculty member in economics. The Economics Department at Odessa State was only recently established and Ms. Garbolinska hopes to use her IU experience to improve its curriculum. She is particularly interested in the uses of technology and case studies, which have not been widely appreciated

thus far in Ukraine. In addition to exploring new techniques for the classroom, Ms. Garbolinska is continuing her research on the topic of international strategic alliances and government policy while at IU. She already teaches microeconomics, international economic relations and international finance and is currently preparing courses on corporate finance, advanced game theory, and industrial organization. Her mentor at IU is Roy Gardner.

Elena Georgievna Dotsenko is interested in the problems of theatrical convention and modern English and American drama. Her work has devoted special attention to Samuel Beckett. She is a junior faculty member at Ural State Pedagogical University in the Department of Russian and Foreign Literature. In Russia, Ms. Dotsenko teaches the courses "20th Century European and American Literature" and "Modern Drama from

Maeterlink to Beckett." While studying at IU she plans to develop the courses "Theatrical Convention in Modern Drama," "Beckett: From Anti-Drama to Anti-Theater," and "Contemporary American Drama and Post-Modernism." Her Indiana University faculty mentor is Timothy Wiles.

Yelena Ivanovna Yakushkina is a lecturer in the Department of Cultural Studies at Voronezh State University. She has taught courses on the history and theory of culture, American studies, youth culture, and the problems of modern Russian culture. While visiting Indiana, she is gathering materials for a course on gender studies and researching American women's values. She is preparing several items for publication based on her work at IU and hopes to use her experience here to improve her regularly offered course on American culture. Her IU faculty mentor is David Ransel.

Outreach Notes

by Denise Gardiner

FREE Curriculum Materials Available

“The Great Powers and the Small Powers in Central and Eastern Europe, 1919-1939” is a new curriculum unit authored by Professor Frances C. Brown, a teacher of world history at Brescia University in Owensboro, Kentucky. Professor Brown received a travel and research grant from REEI to complete the project with assistance from IPFW faculty member Bernd Fischer during the spring 1999 semester. The unit is appropriate for undergraduate college students in courses dealing with 20th century European history, foreign policy, and international relations. It is 63 pages long and includes maps, references to primary source documents, discussion questions, and bibliography.

“Behind the Iron Curtain: Poster Art from Poland and Romania” is a nine-page color brochure from the recent poster art exhibit of the Indiana University School of Fine Arts Gallery. The brochure features 12 color prints of posters, a listing of selected readings and web sites, and two essays by REEI faculty members: “Polish Poster Art in the Late Soviet Era” by Timothy Wiles and “Romanian Posters During the Ceausescu Period” by Maria Bucur-Deckard.

“Business Perspectives on Central and Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States” is an eighty-page report containing demographic, geographic, economic, political, trade, and business information about the region. Statistics on Indiana and U.S. exports to Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States are also included, as is a list of resources for further information

Please contact the REEI Outreach Coordinator, Denise Gardiner, Indiana Univer-

sity REEI, Ballantine 565, Bloomington, IN 47405, 812-855-7309, E-mail: reei@indiana.edu to request your free copy or copies of any of the above three publications.

REEI Represented at Regional Outreach Events

The Indiana University Joint Outreach Council sent delegations of outreach coordinators to several regional outreach events this fall. An IU display table of curriculum materials and consulting contact information for the different world area centers was featured at meetings of the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association, the Indiana Humanities Council, the Indianapolis International Festival, the Lotus World Music Festival, and the Future Farmers of America. IU's delegation of two outreach staff and seven international students mounted a “Global Village” at the 1999 National Convention of the Future Farmers of America in Louisville which included presentations by international scholars from Russia and Central Asia.

Grant Opportunities for Educators

The **Summer Russian Teachers Language Program 2000**, sponsored by the American Councils for International Education and the U.S. Department of Education, will provide funding for selected candidates to study Russian, foreign language pedagogy, and Russian literature in six week program (June-July) at Moscow State University. Applicants must be in-service high school or university level teachers of Russian language and culture, or graduate students who intend a teach-

ing career in the field. Contact ACIE Summer Russian Teachers Program, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 833-7522, E-mail: outbound@actr.org. Deadline: February 15, 2000.

The **University of Michigan Center for Russian and East European Studies** offers summer 2000 post-secondary curriculum development grants for faculty at two- and four-year colleges and universities in the Midwest and at historically and predominantly black colleges and universities to travel to Ann Arbor and complete work on projects that will strengthen teaching related to the countries of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Contact Donna Parmelee, University of Michigan CREES, Suite 4668, 1080 S. University Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48109, (734) 647-2238, E-mail: parmelee@umich.edu. Deadline: March 10, 2000.

Temporary Advisor Replacement

REEI Advisor Sophie Christoff will be taking a leave of absence beginning January 3, in order to complete twelve weeks of student teaching at Bloomington North High School. Provided dealing with freshmen day in and day out is not the end of her, Christoff will return to service on April 1, 2000. During her absence, Matt Pauly will assume advising duties, and will be available to assist students in locating internships.

New From Indiana University Press

AWHOLE EMPIRE WALKING: REFUGEES IN RUSSIA DURING WORLD WAR I

Peter Gatrell

This book offers a fresh perspective on the social and political upheaval in Revolutionary Russia through a close examination of population displacement during the Great War. Involuntary migrations – in part the consequence of defeat on the battlefield, in part the result of deliberate action by tsarist generals – led government officials and educated society to question to prevailing modes of thinking about social identity and the nature of the social order in an unraveling polity. Following a detailed discussion of the origins of displacement and its political implications, Gatrell provides a close analysis of humanitarian initiatives and of the relationships between settled communities and refugees. Particular attention is given to the experience of displacement and to the process whereby the category of refugee came to be constructed. Drawing upon hitherto unused archival material in Russia, Latvia, and Armenia and informed by the perspectives of social and critical theory, *A Whole Empire Walking* is essential reading for historians of late imperial and revolutionary Russia and for anyone interested in World War I as a critical juncture in modern history.

Peter Gatrell is Professor and Head of the History Department at the University of Manchester. His previous books include *The Tsarist Economy 1850-1917* and *Government, Industry and Rearmament in Russia, 1900-1914*.

Part of the Indiana-Michigan Series in Russian and East European Studies – Alexander Rabinowitch and William G. Rosenberg, general editors

368 pages, 18 b&w photos, 3 b&w illus., cloth, \$35.00

TILL MY TALE IS TOLD: WOMEN'S MEMOIRS OF THE GULAG

Edited by Simeon Vilensky

Translated by John Crowfoot, Marjorie Farquharson, Catriona Kelly, Sally Laird, and Cathy Porter

During the Soviet era, millions of Soviet citizens were denounced, arrested, and imprisoned on fabricated charges of conducting anti-state activities. *Till My Tale is Told* recounts the testimonies of women whose family lives and careers were brutally disrupted by the nightmare of false accusation, torture, humiliation, hunger, and unspeakable deprivation. The women in this book were fortunate: unlike many others, they survived.

Published in Moscow in 1989 and now translated into English for the first time, the narratives collected in this volume were written illegally and for many years hidden away from public view. Although in 1956 political prisoners began to be officially rehabilitated, their writings were repressed as slandering the Soviet system. What emerges from these moving testimonies is not only the brutality these women endured, but also the extraordinary tenderness, kindness, and humanity they maintained in unimaginably barbarous conditions.

Most authors were arrested in the Great Purges of the 1930s, but the selections span the entire history of the gulag, adding another 16 distinctive voices to the accounts published in the west by Yevgenia Ginsburg and Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

Simeon Vilensky, a former political prisoner, a writer, and a poet, is a founder of *Vozvrashchenie*, an organization in Moscow dedicated to preserving and publishing testimonies of Stalin's victims and aiding camp survivors.

400 pages, 17 b&w photos, cloth, \$35.00

KEYS TO HAPPINESS

Anastasya Verbitskaya

Translated and edited by Beth Holmgren and Helena Goscilo

Keys to Happiness was the most sensationally popular Russian novel of the early 20th century. Against a panorama of Russian society on the eve of World War I, the novel recounts the stormy life of Manya Yeltsova, a Russian “new woman” and free spirit who captivates, among others, a socialist Jewish tycoon and a reactionary Russian nobleman and attains fame and notoriety as a dancer. In its day, *Keys to Happiness* crossed the boundaries of gender and class to define a new type of literature in Russian society. Keying in on themes of art, love, politics, and personal freedom, the novel combines the philosophical preoccupations of the age with the era's cult of self-gratification and pleasures of the flesh. The sparkling abridged translation brings Anastasya Verbitskaya's bestseller to English readers for the first time. The translator's informative introduction places the novel within its cultural, political, and social context, and illuminates its literary and historical significance for today's readers.

Anastasya Verbitskaya (1861-1928) earned her reputation as the creator of the modern bestseller in Russia. Her other works include *Discord* and *The Yoke of Love*.

Beth Holmgren is Associate Professor of Slavic Literatures at the University of North Carolina. She is the co-editor (with Helena Goscilo) of *Russia, Women, Culture* (IU Press).

Helena Goscilo is Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Pittsburgh. She is the author of *Skirted Issues: The Discreetness and Indiscretions of Russian Women's Prose*.

336 pages, cloth \$39.95, paper \$18.95

Weekly Conversation Clubs

Czech Coffee Hour meets Wednesdays at 5:30 at Mother Bear's (1428 E. 3rd St.).

Estonian Coffee Hour meets Fridays at 4:00 at the Runcible Spoon (412 E. 6th St.).

Finnish Coffee Hour meets Thursdays at 6:00 at Bear's Place (1316 E. 3rd St.).

Hungarian Coffee Hour meets Sundays at 5:00 at the Runcible Spoon.

Latvian Coffee Hour meets Fridays at 5:00 at the Runcible Spoon.

Lithuanian Coffee Hour meets Fridays at 6:00 at the Runcible Spoon.

Polish Coffee Hour meets every other Thursday at 7:00 at the Polish Studies Center (1217 Atwater).

Russian Tea meets Tuesdays at 4:00 in Ballantine Hall 004.

South Slavic Language Club meets Thursdays at 6:30 at the Runcible Spoon.

Upcoming Events

February 1, 12:00, IMU Walnut Room.

Lecture: Paul Valliere (Butler University) "The Russian Church Today: Report on a Decade of Liberty."

February 29-March 5

One week visit by Adam Michnik.

March 25, The Seventh Annual Central Eurasian Studies Conference at Indiana University, Bloomington.

Abstracts of proposals are due January 8. For more information see: <http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/reeiconf.html>

April 1-2, Midwest Slavic Conference

The Russian and East European Center of the University of Illinois, Campaign-Urbana is hosting the 2000 Midwest Slavic Conference. For more information see the conference web site at: <http://www.uiuc.edu/unit/reec/midwestslavic.htm>

September 16-17 Conference: "Polonophilia and Polonophobia of the Russians." Paper proposals may be on any aspect of the history of Russia's alternating attraction to and repulsion of Poland's cultural expression. Deadline: February, 15, 2000. For more information email: reei@indiana.edu