



REFlection

NEWS FROM THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

David L. Ransel, Director
Vol. 28, No. 1

Jen Maceyko, Editor
February 2004

High School Exchange Bridges Gap Between American and Russian Students

by Jen Maceyko

Travel abroad is no longer an experience that must wait until college. Increasingly, high school students are choosing to see the world with their own eyes. Many teachers are taking advantage of these desires to pursue initiatives that will expand their students' outlook on the world by exposing them to other cultures and societies both in the classroom and beyond. Sarah Powley and Laura Whitcombe, English teachers at McCutcheon High School in Lafayette, are two of a handful of Indiana teachers who are leading groups of high school students in cultural exchanges this academic year with sponsorship and funding by the Secondary Schools Excellence Program (SSEP), a US Department of State initiative.

For three weeks in October and November, students from McCutcheon High School and their families hosted nine students from Pskov, Russia. In June, the McCutcheon students will travel to Pskov as the second part of the exchange. Supported by the American Councils for International Education (ACIE), the exchange is a way to educate both groups of students, introduce them to different cultures, and build international relationships.

This year's exchange is McCutcheon's second, and Powley recently received notification that the program has been approved for a third year of funding. Powley's initial interest in Russia came from a 1998 educators' exchange she took part in. She developed a desire to educate her students about the world by experiencing it first-hand. Above all, Powley wants to demonstrate to her students the commonality of people across cultures. "I want them to realize that people from afar are more like them than they are different. When people see past stereotypes, when individuals – and countries – communicate, problems can be solved," she said.

A large component of the exchange program is the development of civic responsibility and civic education. The American and Russian students worked together on a number of group projects and team-building exercises. Students volunteered their time at the YMCA Camp Tecumseh in Brookston, Indiana and at a local Community Day Care Center near Lafayette. Halloween night provided an opportunity for the students to dress up and trick-or-treat for canned goods, which they turned over to Food Finders.

The students were also fortunate enough to meet with a number of Indiana elected officials including Dave Heath, the former mayor of Lafayette, Sheila Klinker, an Indiana state representative, and Governor Joseph Kernan.

Features

High School Exchange	1
Faculty Profile: Randall Baker	3
Aral Sea Crisis	4
Voluntarism in Novi Pazar	5
Czech Library Recovery	6

News

In Memoriam: Nicolas Spulber	2
Holocaust Studies Partnership	2
Recent Graduations	2
SWSEEL 2004	7
Byrnes Memorial Contributions	11
Alumni News	13
Student News	13
Faculty News	14
International Studies Summer Institute	16

continued on page 12

INSTITUTE STAFF

David L. Ransel, Director
 Denise Gardiner, Assistant
 Director/Outreach Coordinator
 Jessica Hamilton, Administrative
 Secretary
 Lisa Giullian, Advisor/Assistant
 Director for Student Services

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Jonathan Hudgens, Outreach
 Assistant
 Jen Maceyko, Publications Editor
 Jon Giullian, Assistant to Slavic
 Bibliographer
 Rebecca Bartlett, World Wide
 Web Administrator

CONTACT INFORMATION

Russian and East European Institute
 Ballantine Hall 565
 Indiana University
 Bloomington, IN 47405-6615
 Phone: (812) 855-7309
 Fax: (812) 855-6411
 Email: reei@indiana.edu
www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/

IU Awards for REEI Alumni

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

REEI Awards**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI**

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

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

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

In Memoriam: Nicolas Spulber

We are saddened to learn of the death of Nicolas Spulber, Emeritus Professor of Economics, on January 2, 2004, at the age of 89.

Spulber joined the IU economics department in 1954 and devoted himself to the university in an official capacity for 26 years before retiring in 1980. He was appointed Distinguished Professor of Economics in 1974. Spulber continued his devotion to research and publishing even after his retirement.

Born in Romania, Spulber was educated there and pursued a career in journalism as a foreign correspondent and editor, working in Eastern Europe and France for 16 years before rejoining the academic community. He received his PhD from the New School for Social Research in 1952 and then studied at the Center for International Studies at MIT before coming to IU in 1954. He is remembered by his colleagues as one of the few who could talk about Italian literature, conflict in Indonesia, and Hungarian cooking with the same depth and interest that he spoke of economics.

"Nick had a great love of and interest in Romania, our native country," Professor Christina Illias recalled. "Because of that, he took a special interest in the development of the Romanian Studies Program at Indiana University and became one of its staunchest supporters, always in the forefront of the battle to keep the program alive in critical times, for he was deeply convinced of its merits and usefulness."

Just before his death, Spulber had the satisfaction of receiving copies of his final book, *Russia's Economic Transition: From Late Tsarism to the New Millenium* (Cambridge University Press, 2003).

IU and the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies Partnership Established

The Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has established a cooperative relationship with Indiana University's summer language program that will allow an intensive Yiddish language course to be taught during the 2004 summer session. The course is to last six weeks and is open to students and scholars who have an interest in acquiring a reading knowledge of Yiddish for research purposes. The Center will cover the cost of the course, books, and single-occupancy housing for successful applicants.

Brukhe Lang Caplan, who has taught Yiddish at the Jewish Theological Seminary and in the intensive summer program sponsored by Columbia University and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, will lead the summer language course.

This unique language opportunity will be further enhanced by weekly seminars on the Holocaust and Yiddish history and culture. These seminars will be hosted by staff and visiting scholars associated with the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies.

Applications will be accepted until March 23, 2004. For complete details, please consult: <http://www.indiana.edu/~iuslavic/swseel/languages/yiddish.shtml>.

Graduations and Defenses*MA Defense*

David Hickcox (REEI) defended his essay "Citizenship and Ethnic Integration in Latvia and Lithuania Since 1991." Toivo Raun chaired his committee.

Faculty Profile: Professor Randall Baker

by Che D. Clark

Randall Baker, a public administration professor at the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs, has recently garnered a lot of attention over his new book *Do Sofia i Nizad* (To Sofia and Back), an account of Bulgaria's difficult transition in the year 1992. The book has met with great enthusiasm in Bulgaria, as it provides an important record of the people's recent history. Baker notes its importance for the Bulgarian youth who have little memory of the events in the early 1990s. It also provides an immediate perspective on how far the state has come since 1992, and thus acts as a counterbalance to Bulgarian tendencies toward pessimism. This is what Baker calls Cassandrian Gloomism, a notorious characteristic of the Bulgarian tradition. In one article Baker writes, "although every Bulgarian believes that the end of the world should come by Thursday at the latest, the country actually proceeds rather well."

Baker recognizes that many analysts, especially in the West, are convinced that Bulgaria is in a desperate state. He argues that, while wages are low, "the standard of living is not bad, the currency is stable, salaries have been going up, the economy is growing steadily, and it's a country with future." The belief that Bulgaria's outlook is bleak has resulted in a sort of self-fulfilling prophecy. Large numbers of talented Bulgarians have been leaving the country because of a perceived hopelessness. It is this national perception that has created such an interest in Baker's book. Not only is the book vital for the memory of national history, but it also provides a reference point from which to gauge the success of Bulgaria's transition. It has also been used nationwide in

Bulgarian high schools for English translation practice.

Baker never intended to become an expert in Bulgarian affairs. He began his academic career as an African specialist. At just 24 years of age, he took his PhD from London University in 1968 — Baker is a native of Wales — with a concentration in environmental degradation and African history in Uganda. "None of this," Baker writes, "equipped me in any way to claim expertise in the field of Eastern Europe."

Baker's association with the Russian and East European region began when Alex Rabinowitch, a Soviet historian at IU and dean for international programs—now retired—contacted Baker about a faculty exchange program with Moscow State Humanities University. Baker accepted the invitation, and spent the summer of 1990 in the heart of a collapsing empire. It was during his time in Moscow that Baker attended an international conference, where he met a colleague who was associated with the founding of the New Bulgarian University (NBU). In the dramatic days of totalitarian collapse, NBU was an attempt to "break free of the ideological curriculum and politically appointed time servers among the faculties of that country's previously established institutions." Recognizing Baker's reputation for institutional development and public administration, the

NBU professor invited Baker to assist in the University's development. Baker began visiting Bulgaria in 1991 and developed a deep respect for the Bulgarian people. The rest, as they

say, is history. The entire story is recorded in his book *Summer in the Balkans: Laughter and Tears after Communism*.

Although Baker is only indirectly associated with REEI, he has played a central role in ex-

panding the institute's reach, specifically as a strong supporter of the joint REEI/SPEA Master's program. He had been recruiting SPEA graduate students from among returned Peace Corps volunteers and noticed that an increasing number had served in Russia and the surrounding region. With his experience in institution building, Baker envisioned a connection with REEI as a way to offer such students a professional degree in SPEA while simultaneously keeping them connected to Russia and developing their regional expertise. His work is in evidence today with the increasing number of graduate students working on the dual degree.

Baker's career has spanned the globe and some 97 countries. He holds honorary doctorates from universities in Azerbaijan and Bulgaria, and has worked in many exotic places. Among these experiences, he has worked with the Spanish Foreign Legion, the University of East Africa, UNESCO, the World Bank, and the Government of Fiji.

Che Clark is a graduate student in REEI.



Baker (seated) took time while in Bulgaria to sign his book for readers

Lesson of the Aral Sea Crisis

by Roman Zlotin

The Aral Sea is the first object that attracts attention when one looks at a map of Central Asia. Central Asia occupies an area of about half that of the US, with a population of 55 million. The Aral Sea basin was the center of the world's ancient civilizations. The Aral Sea was once the true heart of Central Asia and considered a spiritual treasure by several nations. Then, in less than a generation – only twenty years – the mighty sea ceased to exist and turned into a virtually lifeless shallow lake.

A Report of the UN Environmental Program released in 2001 named the three worst environmental disasters in history caused by deliberate, man-made degradation of the natural environment. These are deforestation of Amazonia, desiccation of the Aral Sea, and the destruction of unique wetlands in South Iraq, drained by Saddam Hussein to eliminate the local Shiia population.

How did this happen and what lessons should be learned from the tragedy of the Aral Sea?

Central Asia has always been a particular area of my academic interests. I first visited the region in my early student years in 1959 and since then I have attempted to return on a regular basis. After graduating from Moscow State University I started working in the Institute of Geography of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Central Asia became one of the regions of my research in biogeography. From 1962 to 1992 I organized geographic expeditions to various parts of Central Asia almost every year, each of them addressing to a different degree the problems of

the Aral Sea basin. In the last 10 years, while working at IU, I have continued to study environmental and social problems in Central Asia.

Perhaps the most striking example of human-induced environmental degradation in history, the Aral Sea crisis is a result of the dictatorial Soviet-style economic development. In the five former Soviet Central Asian republics – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan – the Soviet government was able to use the region's resources with little accountability.

Two major rivers, the Syr Darya and Amu Darya had always supplied the Aral Sea with water. Having no outlets, the Aral Sea was regulated simply by the evaporation of water from its surface. Then, in the early 1980s, the Aral Sea began to shrink at an unprecedented speed. The cause of this rapid shrinkage was the massive expansion of irrigation in the Aral Sea basin during the last several decades of the 20th century. The Russian Institute of Geography was assigned the task of determining the environmental consequences of irrigation in Central Asian deserts and began by tracing the environmental history of the region.

Until 1960s, the environmental situation in Central Asia remained relatively stable. The two rivers were only moderately tapped for low-level irrigated agriculture.

Large-scale industrialization did not affect the five Central Asian republics seriously and was quite localized. The region was given the role of supplying agricultural products (mostly grain, fruit, meat, and wool),

and certain minerals of strategic importance for the defense industry (uranium, gold, some other rare metals). The testing facilities for new types of arms, including nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, were hidden in remote parts of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan.

In the late 1950s when world prices for raw cotton jumped, the Soviets decided to reach "cotton independence" by developing a wide-scale irrigated cotton growing operation. By the 1960s, the irrigated area increased by the factor of two. The formerly productive pastures for sheep, camels, and goats were replaced with cotton fields and rice paddies.



Regression of the Aral Sea

The only way to provide enough water to irrigate crops was to divert water from the two mighty rivers into the fields. By the end of the 1990s, the network of irrigated canals that had been developed in the region

continued on page 8

Promoting Youth Voluntarism in Novi Pazar

by Alex Dunlop

A simple whitewashed cement house in the center of Tutin, a small town near the border with Montenegro, was full of activity the November Saturday that I paid it a visit. Downstairs, young volunteers were sorting six-foot-high piles of donated winter clothes: shirts and sweaters in this pile, pants in that, and jackets in a third. The following weekend the clothes were to be distributed to families who could not afford to buy them. Time was quickly passing: it was already cold and winters in the Sandzak region are known to be the coldest in Serbia. Upstairs, a small group of non-profit activists, a woman from the Center for Social Work and two high school teachers, were discussing some important problems their community faced. The atmosphere was somewhat tense, and the committed smokers in the group kept patting their pockets for cigarettes. I took a seat with this second group. First we talked about responding to recent news of a cyanide leak at a local factory that makes sponges. The factory managers, after first denying the leak altogether, claimed it was a freak accident that would not happen again. This group was not so sure. "But how can we put pressure on the factory? They won't listen to us," one in the group said. At the first sign of pressure, plant managers promptly threatened to lay off workers. The group wanted the public on its side, and appearing to instigate expensive repairs that force lay-offs would not help the cause. The group wanted to call an independent commission to make a safety assessment of the plant and the surrounding area to check lev-

els of contamination. One particularly bitter group member remarked, "Even if we get a commission together, they will be bribed by factory officials and will report that everything is fine." But everything is not fine. In this factory it is common knowledge that men and women who work there for extended periods regularly get sick, and a recent health study for the region reported an increase in cancer rates.

Next we talk about telephone lines. Getting a private-use land line for one's home in Serbia usually costs about 100Euro. In Tutin, and in other cities in the Sandzak, the price is 500Euro. Telekom Srbija says that the price difference is due to "lack of telecommunications infrastructure" in southwest Serbia.¹ This group is convinced that the company's policy is evidence of systematic discrimination against Serbia's Muslim population, which makes up more than 80% in this region. "Who in Belgrade is on our side?" they ask. "We have no real representation there." Someone tapes construction paper to the wall and we begin to brainstorm: whom do we know who can help us? How do we get the press on our side? Will anyone at *Danas*, a leading Serbia-wide newspaper, take an interest in our issues? "Wait, I know somebody at the Regional Environmental Center in Belgrade," one group member says. "Maybe she will have some ideas about what we can do about the factory." "Let's start with local radio,"

another suggests—maybe they'll want to report about the phone system. The lack of home phones is an issue many could take interest in.

This meeting was conducted by Aida Corovic and Sead Biberovic of Urban-In, a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Novi Pazar, Serbia. The



Dunlop worked with numerous youth groups in Novi Pazar

meeting was one of their many efforts to support the development and organizational skills of Impuls, a new NGO based in Tutin, this small city close to the Montenegrin border. Last fall I worked with Urban-In as a consultant, advising them on community projects and on organizational restructuring. My experience was made possible through a project of Freedom House, a Washington-based NGO with offices in Belgrade, Budapest, Kyiv, as well as many other cities in the region.² A main task of mine was to promote the idea of voluntarism and to help build a system of recruiting and managing young volunteers for various community-strengthening initiatives. Other Urban-In efforts this fall included a UNICEF-sponsored poverty assessment in Sjenica, another town in Sandzak; advocating for people with disabilities; and Truth and Reconciliation meetings, at which local government leaders, intellectuals and NGOs discuss contentious issues of culpability, responsibility and ways to move forward after nearly 15 years of violence and ethnic tension in the

continued on page 9

Library Recovery in the Czech Republic

by Emily Ray

This summer, funded by an REEI Mellon Grant-in-Aid of Research, I went to Prague to talk with librarians about the devastating floods that struck the city and other parts of the Czech Republic in August 2002. These floods, which hit the city hard, came from the heavy and constant



Books damaged by the floods are propped open to guard against molding

rainfall throughout the end of that summer. Ironically, the resulting damage was worsened by the same series of dams that were built north of Prague to protect the city from floods. Instead of allowing the engorged Vltava to disperse, the dams funneled the water directly downriver to the city. A normal day would see 300 cubic meters of waterflow per second past Prague. At the flood's high point – August 14 – approximately 5,000 to 6,000 cubic meters of water per second overflowed onto the Vltava's banks. Along with the historic sections of the city – Mala Strana and Josefov – numerous other districts along the banks of the Vltava and its tributary, the Berounka River, were flooded.

Thousands of Prague residents were forced to evacuate their homes, and many historical landmarks of Prague's medieval city center were damaged by the floodwaters. Among

Prague's threatened cultural heritage were the National Library, the Municipal Library of Prague, the Czech Museum of Music, Charles University, the Czech

Philharmonic, the National Theatre, the Bedrich Smetana Museum, Lichtenstein Palace (site of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the archive of the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs), the Institute of Philosophy, Archives of Architecture, National Technical Museum, the Archives of the Historical Institute of the Army of the Czech Republic, and the State Central Archives. Across the Czech Republic, more than 40 libraries were flooded,

700,000 books destroyed, and damages have been estimated up to \$10 million ("Povodne a knihovny" *National Library Revue* no. 4 (2002) p. 13).

Two of the most important state libraries, the National Library and the Municipal Library of Prague, were damaged by the flood. The purpose

of my visit was to survey the damage and understand the restoration decisions made by librarians at these institutions following the flood. Today there are many options in library preservation methods and technology to treat flood damaged library collections and buildings. In the aftermath of such a disaster, the choices made by the librarians in Prague may perhaps shape future large-scale flood restoration.

Before arriving, I made appointments with Jiri Polisensky, the director of the Preservation Division of the Czech National Library, Zuzana Kopencova, Director of Cataloging at the Prague Municipal Library, who is in charge of the restoration program of the rare books division, and

Jitka Fiserova, Director of Public Relations at the Prague Municipal Library, to ask them about their institutions' experiences with the flood and



Those participating in the recovery process are forced to use outdated equipment such as the machine shown

how they were restoring their collections. All three were happy to meet with me and describe the extent of the flood and the restoration efforts they personally were involved with. Dr. Polisensky spoke with me about the techniques the National Library was using to dry and restore the dam-

continued on page 7

Czech Libraries

continued from page 6

aged collections from many Prague libraries and museums. He also discussed some of the storage and space issues of the Klementinum, the main building of the National Library in central Prague. The Klementinum's collections weren't damaged by the flood, as the majority of the materials were stored on the upper floors or at the remote storage site, Hostivar. Even with remote storage, however, the National Library will soon have to decide how to provide services to future users. The directors are now faced with questions such as, should more services be provided to patrons at remote locations to alleviate storage concerns or would such a scheme make users less likely to use their services?

Dr. Kopencova of the Prague Municipal Library met with me and described the damage to the Municipal Library's rare book collection, previously stored in the flooded Ortenovo Square branch. She showed me some of the rare books successfully treated and ready to be returned to the collection, this time in a new rare-books storage facility. Both she and her colleague, Dr. Fisherova, spoke about the efforts of the volunteers who came out in the rain to help the Municipal Library remove waterlogged books from flooded buildings and send them to a commercial freezer plant before they could be destroyed by mold. Dr. Kopencova told me that when the Municipal Library announced in the media that they were looking for freezers to store the damaged books, many people called the library offer-

ing to clear out the freezers in their apartments to save a book or two. She had to tell them that the library needed a commercial freezer large enough to accommodate 20,000 books.

In addition to meeting with librarians, I personally visited the Prague Municipal Library and the Klementinum building of the National Library. Although both were damaged in the floods, they have been opened to the public, and have been providing full service for many months now. The National Library reopened the Klementinum in September following the flood. The work to restore the thousands of damaged books, however, will continue for many more years.

Emily Ray is a dual degree student in REEI and the School of Library and Information Science.

Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages

at Indiana University
June 18 - August 13, 2004



RUSSIAN

- 1st through 6th year
- 4- and 8-week courses available

EAST EUROPEAN

- 1st year Czech, Hungarian
- 1st yr. Polish, Romanian, Bosnian/Serbian/Croatian, and Slovene are tuition-free for graduate students in East European field (ACLS funded)

CENTRALASIAN and GEORGIAN

- 1st and 2nd year Azeri, Kazakh, Turkmen, Uyghur, Uzbek, and Georgian
- 1st year Pashto and Tajik

FLAS and SSRC Fellowships are available
Application Deadline for Fellowships April 1, 2004
IN-STATE TUITION for all languages

More information is available at: <http://www.indiana.edu/~iuslavic/swseel/>

Or write to: Director, SWSEEL, BH 502, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

Tel. (812) 855-2608 · FAX (812) 855-2107 · e-mail: SWSEEL@indiana.edu

Aral Sea

continued from page 4

reached 700,000 km. The longest of them was Lenin's Karakum Canal in Turkmenistan, almost 1400 km long. The efficiency of irrigation systems was estimated between 25% and 60%. The walls of canals leaked and much of water was simply lost in the desert, creating huge man-made lakes.

Initially, 90% of total water flow into the Aral Sea was drawn from Amu Darya and Syr Darya. By the late 1990s Amu Darya no longer brought any water to the sea, and the contribution by the Syr Darya had become sporadic. As a result, by 2003 the sea level fell by 20 meters, the total volume decreased more than eight-fold, and its surface area is now only 25% of that before massive irrigation began. The sea has retreated in some places by 50 miles and is now split into two smaller bodies of water.

There is nothing that can be done now to save the sea from extinction. The UN Environmental Program recently came to the conclusion that the larger southern part of the sea called the Big Aral may no longer exist by 2020.

The shrinking of the Aral Sea is an environmental and social disaster. Its unique ecosystem with a high level of biodiversity has been lost. Once rich in fish and other endemic species, the sea can no longer support these life forms. In twenty years the water salinity reached ocean levels (35%), killing the native fish. Although fishing used to be the staple of the local economy, fishing villages are

now abandoned and fishing fleets lie on the dry seabed as rusting skeletons.

The Aral Sea once had a moderating effect on the local climate. With the changing environment, however, hotter summers, colder winters, and stormy winds have become the norm. The winds transport salts and poisonous chemicals (usually pesticides and fertilizers) from the desiccated seafloor a hundred miles south and southeast into oases and villages causing secondary salinization in farms.

Pollution and shortage of clean drinking water have resulted in the outbreak of new diseases, leading to an increase in morbidity and mortality in local populations. In the Karakalpak republic, situated in the low stream of Amu Darya, 80% of pregnant women suffer from anemia, and infant mortality rates are among the highest in the world (110 deaths per 1000 newborn). Life expectancy is about 43 years.

With the USSR's dissolution in 1991, the water scarcity in the Aral Sea basin became a geopolitical issue. Water use has since increased in all of the Central Asian republics. Irrigated agriculture is still the basis of the local economy. For example, in Uzbekistan intensive irrigation consumes 90% of country's available water resources.

All five nations agreed to maintain the Soviet-era water quota system, but the quotas are unrealistic. Disputes over water and hydroelectricity have contributed to tensions between the states of Central Asia. The UN predicted recently that discord

over water supplies would escalate further and may lead to a war by 2030.

The continuing disappearance of the Aral Sea in the past decade has clearly demonstrated an inability of Central Asian governments to cooperate on vital issues of environmental and public health management. UN experts are now advising the governments to stop spending money on restoration of the sea and focus instead on evacuation of people from the ecological disaster zone.

The tragic social and environmental consequences of Soviet policy will be felt for many decades to come. The Aral Sea disaster also holds a lesson for new generations everywhere. Humans cannot sustain the economic growth and feed the world's growing population without undermining already depleted mineral resources and areas of natural environment.

Economic growth is not a panacea. It is always followed by expanding new cities, infrastructure, industries, and agriculture. The result is environmental degradation, which is inherent not only to nations with a communist-type government and command economy but also to democratic nations with their well-developed environmental policies. It is time for people and governments to change their focus from unlimited economic growth and material prosperity to policies of sustainability in their population, economy and environment.

Roman Zlotin is senior lecturer in Geography and Central Eurasian Studies. He is an REEI-affiliated faculty member.

Novi Pazar

continued from page 5

region.

The legacy of communist rule followed by thirteen years of ethnic war, sanctions, and corruption has left civil society in Serbia in a nearly non-existent state. Many Serbs feel the futility of discussing public problems because they feel unable to contribute to meaningful public change. NGOs like Urban-In and Impuls challenge that perception and encourage people to think about issues of public concern for the local community. Their message is that the solution to many social problems lies in people's hands, not the state's. ("Urban-In" roughly means "It's *in* to be *urban*," part of their effort to turn people's attention to their immediate public surroundings.) An important skill citizens of a democracy need to cultivate is the ability to organize people in order to formulate a message that can address local concerns. Urban-In acts as a meeting place for activists to discuss issues and plan a strategy to address them. The Urban-In office often reverberates with loud and intense, sometimes contentious, discussions of local concern. Yet the atmosphere there is amiable and pro-active and the emphasis is on problem-solving, not complaining.

One prominent concern for local participants is the Raška River, which runs through the center of Novi Pazar. In addition to discarded kitchen appliances, car parts and other refuse that litters the river, the water runs a deep navy blue. A local textile mill that pro-

duces blue jeans dumps its extra fabric dye into the river. Nobody seems to know exactly what chemicals are dumped by the factory. Urban-In organized citizens around this cause and articulated a strong message to local government demanding steps to clean



Urban-In marked the International Day for Disabled Persons with a fair in front of the city mall

it up. Of course, any environmental clean-up is futile until steps are taken to convince citizens themselves that their own actions—tossing trash into the river, for example—contributes to the cleanliness or dirtiness of the community. Public relations and outreach is a large part of

every community effort, because changing people's habits can be harder than affecting the city's funding for waste removal. Many Serbs are completely unfamiliar with NGOs and the work they do. Many who have heard of NGOs look on them with suspicion because of their foreign sources of funding. Because

community development NGOs like Urban-In also have active youth leadership programs, some spread the misperception that NGOs are working to somehow corrupt the youth.

But the problem of individuals' perceptions is only one of the challenges NGOs face. They also face systemic barriers. There is no Serbian law protecting the existence of non-profit organizations and defining their tax status, for example; the law on the books governing associations was written before the dissolution of Yugoslavia in 1990 and has yet to be revised. Many NGOs receive funding from western donor organizations, and they have begun to shift their funding priorities eastward to Central Asia and the Middle East, leaving the financial future of Serbian NGOs in question. Significant assistance from state and local governments is not likely in the near future. Suspicion and lack of

trust adversely affect how local governments interact with community NGOs.

Though I lived in Belgrade for four years as a child and currently study the western Balkans as an REEI student, Novi Pazar



At the Urban-In awards ceremony, the "Youngest Volunteer" and the "First-Ever American Volunteer" displayed their certificates

and the Sandzak region were largely unfamiliar territory before I arrived in September. Novi Pazar is the regional center of the mountainous southwestern corner of Serbia proper. It sits between borders with Bosnia, Montenegro, and Kosovo. Sandzak

continuation on page 10

Novi Pazar

continued from page 9

also includes areas of Montenegro and a small part lies across the Bosnian border. This makes Sandzak a flashpoint of any discussion of separating Serbia from Montenegro. Sandzak is blessed (and cursed) with rugged beautiful mountains that make travel in the region a tedious journey up and down steep, winding roads. Close to 85% of Novi Pazar's population call themselves Bošnjaci (Bosniaks) and come from families that traditionally practice Islam. "Pazar" means "market" in English, and the town has long served as a trading crossroads for much of the western Balkans and a point along the transit route for goods bound for Western Europe from Turkey and the Middle East.

During the 1990s, many in Novi Pazar enjoyed a relatively higher standard of living compared to the rest of Serbia because Milošević turned a blind eye to the smuggling and sanction-busting going on there. He desperately wanted to prevent a separatist bid from the Muslim population in Sandzak, which is politically inclined to the Party for Democratic Action (Stranka za Demokratske Akcije, or SDA), the first Muslim-oriented political party in Bosnia led by the late Alija Izetbegovic. The Sandzak branch of SDA has had a tight grip on Novi Pazar politics since the mid-1990s.

Milošević's bargain paid off: no blood was shed in Sandzak in the 1990s. None, that is, until an errant

NATO missile struck a Novi Pazar apartment building during the bombing of Kosovo and Serbia in 1999. Today the economy is struggling:



Distributing books on human rights to high school students

sanctions no longer induce the incentive to smuggle, and Belgrade has started to clamp down on tax evaders. Unemployment is widespread and the urban and regional infrastructure is crumbling. Many of Novi Pazar's textile mills, once mainstays of the local economy, have closed. Add to this systematic neglect of much of southern Serbia in terms of state assistance, and a desperate situation has resulted. Today cafés are filled during the work day with mostly unemployed men who chain smoke and drink small cups of Turkish coffee. Many have turned to Islam for community and a sense of identity. I'm told attendance at mosques and participation in Muslim holy days have increased sharply in the past five years, as has the trend for women to wear headscarves and traditional outfits. The only growing sector of the economy consists of clothing shops that sell traditional Muslim dress and religious paraphernalia. But the impression that people in the Sandzak are somehow privileged continues today in other parts of Serbia. A taxi driver in Belgrade, upon hearing where I had been living, said to me, "Ah, Novi Pazar! Richest city in Serbia!" The situation on the ground, however, runs counter to that impression.

So far Belgrade has largely ignored the Sandzak region. How will recent political developments in Serbia affect their relationship? The results of the December 28 Parliamentary elections do not bode well for the future. The ultra-nationalist Srpska Radikalna Stranka (Serbian Radical Party, or SRS) won more seats in Parliament than any other party. The founding father of SRS is Vojislav Šešelj, a paramilitary leader during the wars in Croatia and Bosnia who in 1990 publicly said he was anxious to dig out the eyes of Croats with a rusty spoon. He is now on trial in The Hague for war crimes. Milošević's party, the Socialist Party of Serbia (Socijalistička Partija Srbije, SPS) also made a strong showing in the elections. The two parties that helped bring an end to Milošević's rule in 2000, Vojislav Koštunica's Democratic Party of Serbia (Demokratska Stranka Srbije, DSS) and the late Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic's Democratic Party (Demokratska Stranka, DS), have been locked in a bitter dispute since the assassination of Djindjic in March of 2003. A coalition including DS and DSS to oppose the Radicals is unlikely. Western observers have remarked that the election results owe less to resurgent nationalism in Serbia than to dissatisfaction with the democrats' failure to push meaningful reform through parliament in the past three years. This indeed may be the case. A quick comparison to the first two rounds of democratic elections throughout Central Europe indicates that the results in Serbia may resemble the pendulum swing between former communists and reform-minded democrats in other post-socialist coun-

continued on page 11

Novi Pazar

continued from page 10

tries. In Hungary and Poland, for example, the second round of free elections (in 1994 and 1995, respectively) put parties composed largely of former communists back into power due to the public dissatisfaction with the results of economic reforms in the first years of democratic rule. Other Central and East European countries went through a similar process. Maybe the December results in Serbia are part of the general learning curve of post-dictatorship politics.

On the other hand, old hatreds may be returning. In early January inhabitants of Sjenica and Novi Pazar, both Sandak towns with a Muslim majority, woke up one morning to see leaflets posted with an alarming provocation: "Oj, Sjenice, druga Srebrenice" and "Oj, Pazaru, drugi Vukovaru" ("Hey Sjenica, another Srebrenica," and "Hey Novi Pazar, another Vukovar.")³

The posters featured the two-headed eagle crest which is synony-

mous with the Serbian nationalist stance. The message seemed clear enough: now that their party has a strong voice in parliament, Serbian nationalist elements are preparing to assert themselves.

The headlines coming from Serbia in the near future will continue to talk about failed attempts at coalition-building, shifting alliances between key politicians, and financial scandals at Belgrade banks. Fewer newspaper column inches will cover the work on the ground which has been carried out by Urban-In, Impuls, and many similar organizations throughout the country. Observers of Serbia can take heart, however, that groups like these exist. They are doing the grunt work of democracy, and they may be the only groups who really take seriously ideas of tolerance, inclusion and non-violence. People concerned about the future of democracy in Serbia would do well to become better acquainted with Urban-In and other organizations throughout the country—they are comprised of small groups of ex-

tremely dedicated people who are working hard to realize core concepts of democracy.

Alex Dunlop is a dual-degree student in REEI and SPEA.

¹ Telekom Srbija recently announced it will deploy an additional 500,000 telephone lines with the help of Alcatel, a French telecommunications firm. Those lines are marked for Belgrade, Novi Sad and Niš, not for the Sandak region. See "Telekom Srbija selects Alcatel for voice network expansion," at <http://www.telecom.paper.nl/index.asp?location=http%3A//www.telecom.paper.nl/site/news.ta.asp%3Ftype%3Dabstract%26id%3D39604%26NR%3D630>, January 21, 2004.

² The project I participated in is called American Volunteers in International Development, or AVID. To learn more about Freedom House or AVID visit their website at <http://www.freedomhouse.org>.

³ "As it tilts to right, Serbia still plagued by Milosevic-style vendetta violence," <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/news/archive/2004/01/20/international0216EST0421.DTL>, January 20, 2004. Text of the leaflets provided by Jasminka Peruncic, EU Monitoring Mission, Novi Pazar.

The Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship Fund: Supporting Academic Excellence Today and Tomorrow 2003 Contributors

We would like to thank all of those who contributed in 2003 to the Robert F. Byrnes Memorial graduate student fellowship fund. The fund is named in honor of Robert F. Byrnes, the founder, and for many years the director, of REEI. Bob Byrnes believed strongly in the importance of preparing qualified area specialists. Students of REEI continue to benefit from the legacy of Byrnes' leadership while the nation as a whole benefits from the number of REEI graduates employed in the federal government and non-governmental organizations involved in humanitarian and educational aid missions around the world.

Eleanor Byrnes and her children are the principal contributors, but many others are helping out as well. The following individuals have recently donated to the fund: Kenneth E. Armstrong, Joseph Augustyn, Benjamin and Helen Benford, Eric and Yulia Boyle, Patricia and E. Willis Brooks, John and Kristine Bushnell, Matei Calinescu, Robert and Laura Campbell, Mary and Thomas Conroy, Zita Dabars, Mari Firkatian, Denise Gardiner, Roger and Sally Hamburg, Jessica Hamilton, Sally and William Neylon, Norma Noonan, Edward O'Day, Karen and Donald Raleigh, and David and Therese Ransel, Gale Stokes, and Edward and Kathy Wynot.

High School

continued from page 1

The exposure to the government made an impression not only on the Russian students but also on the American students. One McCutcheon student realized that “when you start explaining where everything we have comes from – where the money comes from – and the answer keeps being ‘the government,’ you think differently than when you hear the usual complaints about taxes and roads and such.”

Coincidentally, the Russian students were in Lafayette at the same time as a group of Uzbek students were participating in a similar SSEP program at Jefferson High School, organized by their teacher, Todd Golding. Thus, a unique opportunity presented itself to both students and teachers. Powley was able to organize an after-school discussion session that brought together the visitors from Russia, Uzbekistan, and the American students. The group was able to talk about their own personal experience as part of these exchanges

change benefited you and your community?”

The visit provided a further opportunity for the high school to host an international dinner, at which nearly 150 students and teachers came to together to enjoy food representing cultures throughout the world.

While the McCutcheon students have already had the opportunity to interact with their Russian counterparts and discuss dozens of topics, the Indiana students still have a lot to learn about Russia before being reunited with their friends. Prior to their trip in May, they will be participating in Russian history lessons, watching Russian films, and developing survival Russian language skills. They will also be learning about Pskov through readings and the internet.

The trip to Russia will involve a number of community-building activities that were initiated with the previous group of students. Last year, they spent a short time at an ecology camp near Pskov. Powley and her Russian counterparts have decided to spend more time at the camp this year, undertaking a larger-scale beautification

project in the surrounding forests. Building on two other community programs from last year, the group will

be volunteering some of their time at a local orphanage and lending time to an archaeological dig at Pushkin Hills,

where professionals are currently excavating a church. The group will also be meeting with local government officials in order to learn more about the Russian systems of governance.

The American students have kept in almost constant contact with the Russian students since their departure. This is encouraging for Powley, who has been



Students took part in a number of team-building exercises including this high-wire rope excursion



During the exchange, McCutcheon students and faculty came together to enjoy a night of international cooking



Russian and American students pose before trick-or-treating for canned goods in October

and also responded to questions ranging from “what activities have you enjoyed most?” to “how has this ex-

change benefited you and your community?”

able to witness the building of friendships firsthand. Her students have indeed come to see the similarities between their cultures rather than the differences. Powley pointed out that such an exchange and cultivation of relationships would not have been possible even ten years ago.

Jen Maceyko is a graduate student in REEI.

Alumni News

Mark Betka (MA REEI/MPA SPEA 2003) was awarded the Esther L. Kinsey Master's Thesis Award for his essay, "Integration of Polish Farming to the European Union Common Agriculture Policy: Challenges and Opportunities." He is currently working as a Presidential Management Intern in Washington.

Hilary Brandt (BA Slavics 1991) is currently with the State Department, where she works with former exchange participants from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Paul Carter (PhD Political Science/REEI Certificate 1997) was honored at the Moscow State University (MGU) with a presentation ceremony for his book *Shef-Ideolog: M.A. Suslov i "nauka" o kommunizme v SSSR*, which was recently published by TEIS Press at MGU. The book is a revised, Russian translation of his doctoral dissertation. Carter is currently the Ukraine Desk Political Officer at the State Department in Washington.

Jennifer Day (PhD Slavics 2001) accepted a tenure-track position as

Assistant Professor of Russian at Bard College, which she began in the fall of 2003. She recently co-authored *My Petersburg/Myself: Mental Architecture and Imaginative Space in Modern Russian Letters* with Anna Lisa Crone (Bloomington, IN: Slavica, 2003).

Brian Donahoe (PhD Anthropology 2003) is a post-doctoral researcher in the Siberian Studies Centre at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle, Germany. He recently gave a lecture, "Urban Shamans and Kalachakras: Varieties of Religious Experience in the Siberian Republic of Tyva (Tuva)" at IU as a guest of the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center.

George E. Hudson (PhD Political Science 1975) is currently on sabbatical from his position as Chair of the Department of Political Science at Wittenberg University. He is conducting research at the Merzhon Center, a research institute of the Ohio State University, addressing the development of civil society in Russia.

Jared Ingersoll (MA REEI 1990/MA History 1991) has co-edited a spe-

cial edition of Slavic and East European Information Resources, entitled "Russian and East European Books and Manuscripts in the United States: Proceedings of a Conference in Honor of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Bakhmeteff Archive." It will be issued soon as a monograph from Haworth Press.

Victoria Moessner (BA Slavics 1959) had her essay, "The Religious Significance of Clothing in Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*," reprinted in Harold Bloom's new translation of *Crime and Punishment*. Her essay was originally published in the Summer 2000 issue of *Slavic and East European Journal*. She also edited *Against the Grain: Parody, Satire and Intertextuality in Russian Literature* (Bloomington, IN: Slavica, 2002).

Curt Woolhiser (PhD Slavics 1995) published "Constructing National Identities in the Polish-Belarusian Borderlands" as a two-part series for the journal *Ab Imperio* (April 2003).

Student News

Janel Anderson (REEI) delivered a lecture on cultural readjustment from Russia to the United States at the American Center in Moscow. She also participated in a training workshop for alumni of the Young Leaders for Public Service Fellowship sponsored by the Moscow office of IREX in December.

Melissa Schnyder (Political Science) attended the Southern Political Science Association annual con-

ference in New Orleans in January. She chaired a panel, "Immigration, Attitude Formation, and Problems of Collective Action." She also presented "The Role of Resource and Blame Models in Immigrant versus Citizen Collective Action" at the same conference.

Matt Konieczny (History) was selected for a 2004-05 Ambassadorial Scholar to Poland by the Bloomington Rotary Club. As an

Ambassadorial Scholar he will pursue a course of study in Polish history at Jagiellonian University in Krakow or Warsaw University in Warsaw.

Naomi Wachs (REEI/SPEA) participated in a training workshop for alumni of the Young Leaders for Public Service Fellowship sponsored by the Moscow office of IREX in December.

Faculty News

Christopher Atwood (CEUS) presented “Titles, Appanages, Marriages, and Officials: A Comparison of Political Forms in the Zunghar and Thirteenth-Century Mongol Empires” for the Symposium on Inner Asian Statecraft and Technologies of Governance at Cambridge University on October 2, 2003. He also delivered “American Archival Resources on Mongolia and the Mongols: Their Nature, Utility, and Availability” at the Conference on the Current Situation and Objectives of Research Work on Archival Materials Related to the History of Mongolia in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on September 5, 2003.

Randall Baker (SPEA) launched the Bulgarian version of his 1994 book *Summer in the Balkans* entitled *To Sofia and Back*. Baker took part in a ceremony at the US Embassy in Sofia to commemorate the release. He was also honored by the Academy of Sciences of Bulgaria for his work. Baker has been aiding the Bulgarian government in its transition toward EU membership in 2007. While in Sofia he gave the opening lecture to the Bulgarian-American Fulbright Commission conference commemorating 21 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Bulgaria.

Frederick Chary (History – IU Northwest) delivered “Bulgaria and the Holocaust: Myth and Reality” at the Bulgarian-American Conference (Columbus, Ohio) sponsored by the

Bulgarian Studies Association and the Bulgarian Academy of Science. He also participated in the Symposium on the Bulgarian Jews at Georgetown University with a historical overview sponsored by the Bulgarian-American Society in October.

Henry Cooper (Slavics) published two books last year: *Slavic Scriptures: The History of the Formation of the Church Slavonic Version of the Holy Bible* (Teaneck, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press/London: Associated University Press, 2003); and *Bilingual Anthology of Slovene Literature* (Bloomington, IN: Slavica Publishers, 2003).

Aurelian Craiutu and **Jeffrey Isaac** (Political Science) received a \$6,900 grant from the College of Arts and Humanities and \$800 from the Bar-Koon Fund to organize an international conference entitled “America Seen Through Foreign Eyes” in 2004. Craiutu published “National Reconciliation in Post-Communist Romania” in Henry F. Carey, ed. *National Reconciliation in Eastern Europe* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2003) 207-31.

Ronald Feldstein (Slavics) continues to serve on the Executive Committee of the Duke University/University of North Carolina Slavic and East European Language Resource Center, for which he recently edited an online Romanian grammar

manual and submitted an original online manual for Romanian conjugation. Feldstein also published the reference grammar, *Polish*, in collaboration with **Steve Franks** (Linguistics), who wrote the section on syntax (Munich: Lincom Europa, 2002).

Steve Franks (Linguistics) was elected to serve as vice-president of AATSEEL from January 2004 to December 2006. In October he presented “Exceptional Object Shift in Lithuanian” once at IU and again in Groningen, The Netherlands. He also presented “What Makes Clitic Doubling Obligatory?” in collaboration with **Catherine Rudin** (PhD Linguistics 1982) at the 25th meeting of the Bulgarian Studies Association.

Roy Gardner (Economics) has been named Henry Remak Professor of West European Studies, starting July 1, 2004. Support from this Endowed Chair will make it possible for Gardner to offer his course “The Economics of Europe: West and East” annually. In addition, he will offer a special honors course, W210/S201 “Introduction to Microeconomics” using examples and cases from European economics.

Halina Goldberg (Musicology) gave a paper entitled “National Identity, Assimilation, and Constructions of Jewish ‘Otherness’ in Nineteenth-Century Polish Music” in a session,

Faculty News

continued from page 14

"Nation-Building and Social Identity," at the Annual meeting of the American Musicological Society in Houston, Texas, November 13-16, 2003. At the request of the Chicago Humanities Festival, Goldberg and **Teresa Kubiak** (Music/Voice) organized a performance at the Symphony Centre, Bantrock Hall in Chicago on November 8. Graduate vocal students from the School of Music presented a candlelight recital of Polish vocal music entitled "The Voices of Poland." The Humanities Festival is a well respected event that gathers outstanding performers from various fields: music, art, film, academia, and poetry. Eight singers and two pianists from several studios performed arias and songs of Polish composers including Chopin, Moniuszko, Rozycki, Szymanowski, and Lutoslawski. The concert was well-attended, enthusiastically received and rewarded with a standing ovation. The musical program was prepared under the guidance of Kubiak. An informative commentary contextualizing the performed works in the history of Polish music was provided by Goldberg.

Mark Hooker (REEI) published *Tolkien Through Russian Eyes* simultaneously in English and in Russian in December 2003.

Dov-Ber Kerler (Jewish Studies) wrote an article, "The Soviet Yiddish Press: 'Eynikayt' during The



Goldberg's IU students (above) participated in the Chicago Humanities Festival in November

War, 1942-1945" which appeared in *Why Didn't the Press Shout?: American and International Journalism During the Holocaust* (edited by Robert M. Shapiro, New York: Yeshiva University Press, 2003). Kerler also edited a new volume of *Yerusholaimmer Almanakh*, a periodic collection of Yiddish literature and culture, which appeared in Jerusalem in September 2003. It contains over 30 original works of contemporary Yiddish prose, poetry, criticism, and articles on Yiddish linguistics, contemporary culture, and cultural and literary history.

Robert Kravchuk (SPEA) spent a portion of the fall 2003 semester as a faculty-member-in-residence at the Northwest Academy for Public Administration, St. Petersburg.

John Mikesell (SPEA) spent a portion of the spring 2003 semester as a faculty-member-in-residence at the Volga Region Academy for Civil Service, Saratov, Russia, as part of the SPEA Russian public administration partnership projects.

Marci Shore (History) took a trip to Warsaw in December to continue her research in the archives of the Minister of Interior at the Institute of National Memory.

Bronislava Volkova (Slavics)

put on a multimedia poetry performance, "Entering Light," with slide projections of her collages, dance by Contact Collective and music by Hakan Toker in the John Waldron Art Center on October 23. A CATS film has been made of this poetry performance, as well. She also read her poetry at "International Night" in Runcible Spoon on October 24. Her work recently appeared in *Vespers: Religion and Spirituality in Contemporary American Poetry* (University of Iowa Press, 2003). Volkova gave a lecture for the Institute of Advanced Study Translation Seminar on "Writing and Translating Czech Poetry" on November 10. At the end of November she participated in an International Conference of Teachers of Czech in Prague, Czech Republic, specifically discussing and representing the IU Czech Program.

Jeffrey Veidlinger (History/Jewish Studies) published "Soviet Jewry as a Diaspora Nationality: The 'Black Years' Reconsidered" in the most recent issue of *East European Jewish Affairs* 33: 1 (2003), 4-29.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S 9th Annual
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES SUMMER INSTITUTE 2004
 CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL CHANGE



JULY 11 - 24, 2004

Grade 7-12 teachers are invited to join us on Indiana University's Bloomington campus for the International Studies Summer Institute. More information and an application can be found on our website. Feel free to call 812/855-0756 or email: issi@indiana.edu

GLOBALINSTITUTES.INDIANA.EDU

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage **PAID**
 Bloomington IN
 Permit No. 2

Russian and East European Institute
 Ballantine Hall 565
 Indiana University
 Bloomington, Indiana 47405