



REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

Maria Bucur, Acting Director
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Amy Luck, Editor
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Director's Notebook by Maria Bucur

My tenure as acting director of the Russian and East European Institute during the academic year 2006-2007 has started on a high note. This year REEI was successful again in winning its Title VI grant over the next four academic years and retaining its position as one of the premier National Resource Centers in our area of expertise, with outstanding marks and superlative words of praise from our evaluators. I am grateful to the hard work that faculty and staff have put into making our application for the Title VI grant a success, especially to Denise Gardiner, Assistant Director of the Institute. This grant will enable REEI to continue fulfilling its essential role in helping to teach the languages of our area, to support the research and pedagogical work of faculty, to fund outstanding graduate students enrolled in our program, and to make important contributions to the knowledge of our area by the broader community, both near to Bloomington and nationwide.

REEI started this academic year with a new crop of M.A. students whose diverse interests range from child welfare questions to international security issues, and whose geographic focus spans the entire region, from the Czech Republic to the Caucasus. Our first event of the semester was the annual fall party, where these new members of the REEI community were able to meet our faculty and the continuing students. We were also privileged to welcome Rachel Factor, from New York City, and Zoe Higginbottom, from Lafayette, Indiana, the first two recipients of the Daniel Armstrong scholarship for incoming freshmen. Longstanding friends of REEI, the Armstrong family has supported our teaching mission by first endowing an essay prize, and subsequently increasing their commitment by adding this support for an undergraduate pursuing the study of Russian or an East European language. At this event the Daniel Armstrong Memorial Essay prizes were also awarded, for the first time in three categories: the undergraduate prize went to Jeremy Stewart; a first time M.A. thesis graduate prize went to Andrew Burton; and the graduate essay prize went to two co-winners, Nicole McGrath and Anna Muller.

REEI is also pleased to welcome several new faculty: Olena Chernischenko, Wook-Jin Cheun, Brian Rathbun, Nina Rathbun, Regina Smyth, and Frances Trix (see profiles on page 5).

We have an exciting year ahead, with several events that will bring together nationally known and foreign scholars. In October, the Cardinal Stage Company, a Bloomington-based theater group, will stage the Vaclav Havel play "Unveiling"—later to be presented as part of the Havel theater festival taking place in New York City in November. As part of this Havel celebration, on October 20, Bronislava Volkova, Jeff Holdeman and I will present a teacher training workshop entitled "The Playwright who would be President. Vaclav Havel's 'Unveiling' and the Art of Dissent in Communist Czechoslovakia." On December 2, a number of prominent scholars, including Jean Cohen and Andrew Arato, will participate in a one-day symposium entitled, "Transnational Democracy at the Crossroads? The EU's Constitutional Crisis," organized by

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IU Awards for REEI Alumni

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

REEI Awards

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

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

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

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

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William Scheuerman, with support from IU's West European Center and EU Center for Excellence.

In the spring REEI will help sponsor three major events. First, on March 22-24 we will host the conference "The Hour of Romania," which will bring together senior and younger scholars who work on Romania to reflect on the current state of Romanian studies (from language teaching to interdisciplinary research). The conference will focus on the changes in the field likely to occur in relation to Romania's accession to the EU, as well as various scholarly changes in the humanities and social sciences. Second, the annual Roundtables on Post-Communism will take place on March 29-30, with a spotlight on public health. We hope to bring to campus scholars working on Russia, China, and the EU. Finally, on April 19-21, the Polish Studies Center will host the international conference "Polish-German Post/Memory: Aesthetics, Ethics, Politics," with support in part from REEI.

We look forward to seeing you at these events and at our annual alumni party at the AAASS held this year in Washington, DC, on November 17.

Juneteenth Freedom Celebration Draws Community Interest

On Saturday, June 24, 2006, the Russian and East European Institute took part in Bloomington's 8th annual Juneteenth Freedom Celebration. The celebration pays tribute to those American slaves who remained in bondage until June 19, 1865, two and a half years following the January 1863 signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Our professional display and interesting Russian and East European artifacts drew the attention of nearly every passer-by. The children loved the Matroshki dolls, and both students and adults were puzzled by the "backwards" letters on the cover of the 2004 movie "I Robot" (Я РОБОТ).

A majority of those stopping by our booth were not familiar with the Russian and East European Institute and were interested to hear about our program, our students, and what countries and languages we offer. Students were especially excited to learn about SWSEEL and FLAS fellowships for studying foreign languages, while others were merely interested in what Russia or Eastern Europe was like. Where is Macedonia? Have these nations completely parted with their Communist past? How cold is it in Siberia?

One gentleman, who spent quite a few minutes at our booth, has since invited an REEI representative to speak at the Bloomington Rotary Club, as well as his church, about present-day life in Russia. REEI's participation in the Juneteenth festival contributed to the atmosphere of diversity and culture and helped to better acquaint the community with our unique program of study.

AAASS Reception reminder:

REEI will host its annual alumni and friends reception at the 38th AAASS Conference in Washington, DC. Please join us on Friday, November 17, 2006, from 9-11 pm in Congressional Rooms A & B at the Omni Shoreham Hotel.

Romania Revisited: Bucharest summer proves full, familiar

The first time I realized I was really going back to Romania was when I boarded my Bucharest-bound British Airways flight in London. When I heard the familiar sounds of mothers chiding their children, girlfriends whispering in their boyfriends' ears, and young men talking politics (all in the language I knew but hadn't heard for over three years)—I felt I was headed home.

I love Romania. I love the dusty streets and the old Dacia cars (although there are fewer of them now), the sludgy green salata de vinete (roasted eggplant dip) and the hilarious taxi drivers. But living in Romania this past summer would prove a completely different experience than the last time I was there. This time I was an intern at the Cultural Affairs Office, Public Diplomacy Section of the US Embassy in Bucharest.

At first I was worried about working at the Embassy, alongside politicians and dignitaries, but I quickly learned the best policy: to throw myself in and never be afraid to tell my boss what I was interested in. And she was eager to put me to work. My first week, I helped run a conference on the life and influence of Benjamin Franklin. The event was attended by students from the American Studies program at the University of Bucharest, as well as representatives from the Fulbright program and other organizations. I also went with the Ambassador and various others to open an American Corner (a room set aside in a regional library for collections of American materials) in Constanta, on the Black Sea. After that, I was thrown into helping organize the opening of a photography exhibit on the Native American history and culture at the National Museum of Art in Bucharest. At the same time, I visited five local high schools to encourage three hundred students to participate in

our Flag Day activity that would take place at the Ambassador's residence.

The students prepared posters on each of the fifty states and those posters were judged and awarded prizes. After the awards, we gave the students a good dose of American culture by eating popcorn and showing *Napoleon Dynamite* on the big screen in the garden.

Throughout the summer, I aided in the evaluation of recipients of the



REEl student and US State Department intern Meagan Call with Romanian president Traian Basescu

Democracy Small Grants program, and traveled to Bacau, Cluj-Napoca, and Brasov to speak to students and representatives from local NGOs and county government. One of the main highlights of my time at the Embassy was the 4th of July party at the Ambassador's residence where I met President Traian Basescu, Prime Minister Calin Tariceanu, and other Romanian government officials.

In short, my summer was busy but tremendously beneficial. The internship especially helped me prepare for my M.A. thesis, as I plan to research the inequities of access to primary education for the Roma minority in Romania. During this trip, I was able to access a network of individuals working on the Roma issue in Romania, and I also had the opportunity to work with two organizations with a special Roma focus: Asociatia Ovidiu Rom and Romani CRISS, two NGOs that promote ethnic equality in Romania. In working with these two organizations, I found that one of the issues that exacerbates discrimination against the Roma minority is that most government policies and programs are focused on helping the Roma minority (increasing Roma childrens' attendance in primary school or improving Roma access to health care) rather than promoting change across ethnic lines. The problem is still being attributed to the Roma rather than the nation as a whole.

I enjoyed my time at the Embassy and learned a lot while I was there, yet the best part about this summer was simply being back in Romania. Speaking the language again, remembering fun idioms I had long since forgotten, being with friends I had not seen in three years, and making new ones—these were the highlights and memories I will not forget.



Roma children at Ovidiu Rom's summer school

Meagan Call is a graduate student in the REEl and SPEA M.A. programs.

Summer in Sakhalin: Internship Raises Orphan Awareness

“Sakhalin” conjures up dramatic images for Russians and non-Russians alike. Claims to this Pacific island have been contested over the centuries by China, Japan, and Russia: the neighboring Kuril Islands are still under dispute between the latter two countries. Russian penal colonies once dotted the island, and Anton Chekhov detailed his journey to Sakhalin and the research he conducted there among the prisoners in the famous *The Island: A Journey to Sakhalin*.

This summer I was fortunate to spend six weeks on this fascinating island as an intern for Kidsave International, an NGO whose mission is to move older children out of orphanages and into long-term home-based care. As part of this mission, Kidsave facilitates the placement of children with host families for short-term homestays during summer vacations, winter vacations, and weekends. This allows the children to experience family life, and many of these initial hostings turn into permanent placements. Since 1999, the Russia programs in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Smolensk have been quite successful. Although the Kidsave office in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (the capital of the Sakhalin region) was established in 2005, actual operations started at the beginning of 2006.

Our goal for this summer was to place 15 children with host families for part or all of the summer. In order to make this possible, we focused on three main aims: to prepare host parents and the orphanage children for what to expect from each other so that the summer stays would be successful; to educate the public about the benefits of adoption and to dispel unfounded fears and incorrect information about adoption; and to raise funds from the local business community to provide stipends for the short-term summer homestays. Kidsave hopes that by funding and encouraging short-term visits, host parents will then desire to continue the relationship by hosting the child on weekends and winter holidays, and perhaps even becoming long-term caregivers.

Upon my arrival in mid-May 2006, I had two main duties. The first was to assist in the logistics of the June 1st Miracle Walk, a 1.5 km walk-a-thon through the center of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. Walkers included children from area orphanages, local schoolchildren, and representatives from sponsoring businesses. The goals of this event were to raise public awareness of the large numbers of orphanage children on the island; to help people see that children from orphanages are normal children and not to be feared; to help recruit more host parents for the summer home-stay program; to raise money from area businesses; and to help schoolchildren interact with their orphanage peers and dispel stereotypes at an early age.



Melinda Richards (right) with Kidsave orphans in Sakhalin

My second duty was outreach and fund-raising amongst the expatriate community on the island. Because of large multinational oil and gas projects in the Sakhalin region, there are many well-to-do foreign companies and employees on the island. I recruited several businesses to help support our Miracle Walk and to finance some stipends for the summer home-stays. I also started a quarterly newsletter about our activities and have volunteered to continue writing this newsletter from the US. Finally, I composed articles for the local English-language newspaper about our activities.

Since I left Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk in late June, I was not there to see the final results of the summer campaign; however, my co-worker sent word that 22 children spent time in families this summer, well over our initial goal of 15. The summer activities also expanded in July and August to include summer job placement of some of the older girls in a local restaurant, providing invaluable work experience; and preparation for an upcoming conference with the Sakhalin regional department of education about family-based care, as the Russian government is quite interested in this option of caring for its unprecedented number of orphans.

I am very grateful for the chance to take part in this pioneering effort and am indebted to REEI for the opportunity. I first found out about Kidsave International through former REEI staff member Lisa Giullian, who connected me with Eric Batsie (B.A. '94), an REEI alumnus who worked in the Kidsave Moscow office for many years. In addition, an REEI travel grant provided funding that helped make my summer internship possible.

Melinda Richards is a 2006 SPEA graduate.

REEI Welcomes New Faculty/Scholars for 2006-2007

Several academic departments announced new hires or promotions of faculty members and scholars that yield considerable interest for those studying in REEI.

First and foremost, *Maria Bucur*, associate professor of history and a specialist on the history of East-Central Europe and the Balkans, will serve as acting director of REEI while David Ransel is on sabbatical. Professor Bucur obtained her undergraduate degree at Georgetown University and her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign under the direction of Romanian historian Keith Hitchins. She has been teaching at IU since 1996. In addition to managing the institute, Professor Bucur will also be filling in as co-director of the new European Union Center for Excellence. Her scholarly interests embrace a wide range of topics, including politics and eugenics, gender, and memory.



Maria Bucur

Frances Trix, who has taught at IU for a year as a visiting lecturer, was appointed associate professor in Linguistics and Anthropology. She works as an anthropological linguist with a focus on discourse analysis of face-to-face interaction, transmission of spiritual knowledge, Islam in the Balkans, and language and gender. Her books include *Spiritual Discourse: Learning with an Islamic Master* (1993) and *Albanians in Michigan* (2001). She is also the recipient of many national awards, including an NEH and IREX grants.

The Slavic and East European Studies collection at the Wells Library will see a new addition in *Wook-Jin Cheun*, who has been appointed to the position of Slavic Bibliographer. His career encompasses a wide range of experience working with Slavic collections, both as researcher and as library employee in Slavic cataloguing and as assistant to the previous Slavic bibliographer, Murlin Croucher. Cheun completed his M.L.S. from Indiana University in 1993 and also holds an M.A. in Russian History from Indiana University, an M.A. in European History from Dankook University in Seoul, Korea, and a B.A. in Korean History from Dankook University.

The Political Science Department announced two new faculty members this year. *Brian Rathbun* will be an

assistant professor and comes to IU from McGill University. Rathbun completed his Ph.D. at the University of California at Berkeley and has recently published a book entitled *Partisan Interventions: European Party Politics and Peace Enforcement in the Balkans* (2004), which explores the effect of partisan ideology on definitions of national interest, with a particular focus on humanitarian intervention. His courses will focus on international relations theory, human rights, foreign policy, and international organizations. Also, *Regina Smyth* joins the department as an assistant professor. Professor Smyth recently completed a book entitled *Candidate Strategies and Electoral Competition in the Russian Federation: Democracy without Foundation* (2006). Her current work, funded by a collaborative grant from the National Science Foundation, focuses on the interaction between parties and party systems in post-communist legislatures. Smyth comes to IU from Penn State University.

Nina Rathbun will be a lecturer and research associate with the EU Center for Excellence in 2007-2008. Rathbun received her Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley with a dissertation entitled "Ruling the Media: The Creation of Independent Press and Broadcasting in Central and Southeastern Europe." Beginning next year, she will be the instructor for the REEI required introductory M.A. course, R600.

In the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, *Olena Chernishenko* accepted a lecturer position and will teach Advanced Russian, Russian Syntax and Stylistics, and Beginning Ukrainian language classes. Chernishenko is completing her Ph.D. at Princeton University with a dissertation on "Control in Slavic."

The School of Public and Environmental Affairs is hosting *Dr. Natalia Ermasova*, a Fulbright Scholar, during the fall semester. Professor Ermasova is on the faculty of the Stolypin Volga Region Academy for Civil Service



Olena Chernishenko

Faculty Profile: Justyna Beinek

A native of Poland, Justyna Beinek is an assistant professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures. She received her Ph.D. from Harvard University in 2001 and was then granted a Mellon post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Toronto. She currently teaches the History of Polish Literature, *Body/Text: Representations of the Body in Polish Literature and Culture*, Polish Cinema, and 2nd and 3rd year Polish on the Bloomington campus. In the following interview, Professor Beinek discusses her love of Polish literature, her interest in the theme of "memory", and her current projects.

What first attracted you to literature?

I have always been a book monger; my attitude toward books has not changed since I can remember. Literature offers a parallel universe, a place where imagination comes alive; it allows us to go beyond "the prose of life," as they say in Polish. Culture - film, fine arts, music, theater - is a space where people ask the most important questions about the human condition and express what they feel, as opposed to the realm of work and everyday affairs which privilege factuality, praxis, and analysis. By studying literature and culture we learn about societies or time periods different from ours through the lens of free expression embodied in cultural artifacts, which is just as important as using the science-based tools of, for example, economics and archeology.

What interests you in the specific time period you admire?

My first book is on Romanticism, which has fascinated me because of the wonderful artists who created roughly in the first half of the nineteenth century: writers such as Goethe, Blake, Byron, Shelley, Keats, Hugo, Pushkin, Lermontov, Mickiewicz, and Slowacki; composers such as Chopin, Beethoven, Schumann, Liszt, and Wagner; and painters such as Goya, Delacroix and Corot, just to mention a few. But even more importantly, Romanticism was obsessed with issues that seem crucial today: memory, nationalism, nature, love, friendship, death and fragment. Today many intellectual inquiries go back to Romantic artists who asked some of the most insightful questions about the essence of memory and remembering (one of the key issues in academia today) and the development of national movements (also a primary concern of many fields: literary and cultural studies, history, and political science). My book-length project focuses on a crucial, yet frequently overlooked, cultural object of the Romantic epoch: the album. The album was an ornate scrapbook in which the owner's family and friends made inscriptions and which also served as a book of autographs. Inscriptions often took the form of improvised poems and



BACKGROUND BRIEF:

- * Undergraduate degree: Catholic University of Lublin, Poland
- * Graduate degrees: M.A. Comparative Literature, UC--San Diego; Ph.D. Slavic Languages and Literature, Harvard University, 2001
- * Post-doctorate fellowship: Mellon Fellowship, University of Toronto, 2003-2005
- * Past positions: Business consultant at McKinsey & Company, in Warsaw, Poland from 2001-2002; Lecturer at Harvard and New York University from 2002-2003
- * Current status: Assistant Professor of Slavic Languages and Literature at IU (since 2005)
- * Research interests: 19th and 20th century Polish and Russian literature and culture, Polish cinema, Romanticism, post-communist cultures, national and authorial identity, issues of memory and collecting, autobiographical writings, and representations of the "West" in Polish/Russian literature.
- * Courses taught: Survey of Polish Literature and Culture 1 ("The Middle Ages to 1900") & 2 ("The Twentieth Century"); *Body/Text: Representations of the Body in Polish Literature and Culture*; 2nd and 3rd year Polish; Polish Cinema

were accompanied by drawings, watercolors, letters, caricatures, locks of hair, drops of blood and other memorabilia. Albums - rich collections of verbal and iconic elements - refract Romantic preoccupations and concerns, ethics and aesthetics of the times. They show us how even 200 years ago cultural production, even at the salon or domestic level, through poems or drawings that explored themes of death and remembrance, was focused on a symbolic "postponing of death," as the sociologist Zygmunt Bauman called it.

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Profile

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In general, American students who have studied literature (mostly American and British) have had limited exposure to writings from the rest of the world. What do you think are important themes that have emerged or are emerging currently from that body of work?

If we read both nineteenth and twentieth-century Polish works, the issue of regaining political independence - either becoming a nation-state after a period of partitions or overturning communism in the post-war period- is a dominant theme of Polish literature. That's why the study of literature helps us understand the historical development and political changes in Eastern Europe. Polish literature and culture post-1989 and after Poland joined the EU in 2004 keeps on changing and refracts the present moment. New books and films present the workings of the new, democratic society in the post-communist period, and discuss all the problems that were taboo topics previously (homelessness, child abuse, corruption of government officers, mafia, war crimes, etc.). The best contemporary writers are engaged with this new reality in their works.

What makes the Polish literature/film you teach so interesting?

Twentieth century Polish poetry is some of the most intellectually provoking, incisive poetry written anywhere in the world, with two Nobel prizes to prove it (Czeslaw Milosz in 1980 and Wislawa Szymborska in 1996). Witold Gombrowicz's and Bruno Schulz's prose is unmatched in its imaginative, grotesque rendering of the world. When it comes to Polish film, Krzysztof Kieslowski, Roman Polanski, and Andrzej Wajda need no introduction: one cannot seriously study world cinema without exploring these directors' films.

You have an interest in the theme of memory. Specifically in the case of post-communist countries, how do you see memory as important in today's society?

How do we remember, individually and collectively? Do we create national or ethnic histories by shaping our collective memory in order to make it "fit" a narrative we see as correct? How do societies create their histories through selective remembering and equally selective forgetting? What and how do we remember through monuments and museums? Is our society obsessed with "stopping time in its tracks" through video recording, photography, and album/keepsake keeping? What's the function of tourist souvenirs; how and what do we remember through them? These questions show, I think, that whether we just take a picture or ponder collectively how to remember/honor the victims of a tragedy such as 9/11, we keep coming back to that essential human need to either "capture a moment" or keep an event, people, or an idea alive through and in the process of remembering it.

What are some of your current projects?

I am working on several projects: a book entitled, *The Album in the Age of Russian and Polish Romanticism: Memory, Nation, Authorship*; articles on Romantic memory and Witold Gombrowicz's idea of the "West" in his diaries (1950s-60s); and editing of a guidebook on Gombrowicz. I'm also currently co-organizing a conference on Polish-German issues titled "Polish-German Post/Memory: Aesthetics, Ethics, Politics" to be held at IU in April 2007. We're organizing it with the Herder Institute in Marburg, Germany and colleagues from Harvard and the University of Missouri. We expect 30 guests who will discuss Polish-German relations as well as strategies of political and cultural remembering.

New Faculty/Scholars

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and Saratov Technical Institute in Saratov, Russian Federation. Her research project is about optimal decentralization in the Russian Federation and involves an analysis of intergovernmental fiscal relations in a number of developed, developing, and transition countries. Professor John Mikesell is her academic host and research advisor. Also, in conjunction with a policy partnership project sponsored by USAID, three Russian faculty members from the Higher School of Economics in Moscow, Vladimir Eliseenko, Alexey Konov and Aleksey Sokhnev will reside at SPEA during fall 2006. They will collaborate with colleagues on research projects with assistance from the Russian and East European Institute and will prepare policy research reports on performance measurement in government as well as government accountability and regulation of corruption and budget transparency.

Alumni News

Mary Dakin (Ph.D. Political Science/M.A. REEI/REEI certificate 1998) is Senior Planning Associate in the Office of the Dean of Humanities & Sciences at Stanford University.

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

Mari Firkatian (Ph.D. History/REEI certificate 1991) is Assistant Professor of History at Hillyer College, University of Hartford. This April she published the article "Struggling for Each Other: The Stancioff Family at Work" for the *Journal of Family History: Studies in Family, Kinship, and Demography*.

Robert Fleisch (B.A. History/B.A. Slavic/REEI certificate 1980) is Assistant Inspector General for the Department of Defense.

Neil Gipson (M.A. REEI/M.P.A SPEA 2006) was Resident Director, Russian Language & Area Studies Program at Herzen University in St. Petersburg, Russia this past summer. He will spend the 2006-2007 academic year studying at St. Petersburg State University on the Flagship Russian Language Program.

Andrew Kohlhepp (M.A. REEI 1998) is Grants & Contracts Analyst with the Institute of International Education and is currently pursuing a graduate certificate in Nonprofit Management from George Mason University.

Katherine Metzo (Ph.D. Anthropology/Minor REEI 2003) will be visiting researcher with the Siberian Studies Group at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle, Germany from January-December 2007.

Richard Miles (M.A. Political Science/REEI certificate 1964) retired from U.S. government service in August when his assignment as Ambassador to the Republic of Georgia ended. In April 2006 he was appointed Executive Director of the Open World Leadership Center of the Library of Congress.

Randal Munsen (M.A. History/REEI certificate 1989) is Professor of History at Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona. He recently received a doctorate degree in Education at the University of Arizona College of Education and published, "Stephen the Great: Leadership

and Patronage on the Fifteenth Century Ottoman Frontier" in the Fall 2005 edition of the *East European Quarterly*.

James Niessen (Ph.D. History/REEI certificate 1989) is World History Librarian at the Alexander Library, Rutgers University. His forthcoming publication "Museums, Nationality, and Public Research Libraries in Nineteenth Century Transylvania" will appear in the Fall 2006 edition of *Libraries & the Cultural Record*.

Tom Nicholson (B.A./REEI certificate 2004) is Russia Project Manager at Partners in Health, a non-profit organization based at Harvard Medical School. He oversees the implementation of a large grant from the Global Fund Against TB and Malaria to improve treatment for drug-resistant tuberculosis nationwide in Russia. Tom splits time between Boston, Moscow, Tomsk and Siberia.

Jennifer Paustenbaugh (M.A. REEI/M.L.S. SLIS 1992) is Associate Dean of Libraries for Planning and Assessment at the Edmon Low Library at Oklahoma State University. She is a co-author of the first-ever *Oklahoma Women's Almanac* (December 2005) and recipient of the National Association of Commissions for Women's Achievement Award. She has also been elected chair of the Oklahoma Commission on the status of Women.

Valery Perry (M.A. REEI 1994) completed her Ph.D. in conflict analysis and resolution, defending her dissertation "Democratic Ends and Democratic Means: Peace Implementation Strategies and International Intervention Options in Bosnia and Herzegovina" at George Mason University. Valery lives in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, where she is Deputy Director of the Education Department at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.



Richard Miles (middle, bottom row) is Executive Director of the Open World Leadership Center of the Library of Congress

Faculty News and Publications

Jack Bielasiak (Political Science) published "Party Systems and EU Accession: Euroskepticism in East Europe," in *Public Opinion, Party Competition, and the European Union in Post-communist Europe* (2006), edited by Robert Rohrschneider and Stephen Whitefield. He was also featured as the Professional Night Speaker at the Advanced Placement Political Science meetings in June 2006, delivering a lecture on "Extending Democracy around the Globe? Causes and Outcomes of Democratization."

Aurelian Craiutu (Political Science) has published *In Praise of Moderation* [in Romanian] (2006). The book was officially launched at the International Bookfest in Bucharest (June 25) and was the subject of a lecture given at the Romanian Cultural Institute (June 12). Professor Craiutu also taught an intensive Ph.D. seminar on the doctrine of the "third way" at the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration in Bucharest (May 2006).

Steven Franks (Slavic/Linguistics) co-authored the volume *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 14: The Princeton Meeting 2005* with James Lavine, Mila Tasseva-Kurktchieva, and Hana Filip. He also published "Case and Word Order in Lithuanian" (co-authored with James Lavine) in *Journal of Linguistics* 42 (2006): 239-288 and wrote "Another Look at li Placement in Bulgarian" for *The Linguistic Review* 23.2 (2006).

Roy Gardner (Economics) will present the paper "Repression Cycles in the USSR" at the Conference on Economic Theory and Applications to Transition Economies, Kyiv, Ukraine, October 13, 2006. He will also participate in the panel "EU Effects on Democratization in the Next-Round EU Candidates" at the AAASS meetings in Washington DC, November 18, 2006.

Owen Johnson (Journalism/History) delivered a paper on "National Censorship in a Multi-National State: Communist Slovakia Before the 'Prague' Spring," at the 2006 World Congress of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences, Ceske-Budejovice, Czech Republic this past summer. Also, his paper "Radio & the Making of a Nation: Slovak Radio in World War II and the Cold War (1938-1968)" was awarded the prize for Top First Faculty Paper at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in San Francisco.

Janet Kennedy (Art History) was Council of the Humanities and Class of 1932 Fellow in Slavic Languages and Literatures at Princeton University, where she taught a one-semester class on Russian art during the spring semester of 2006 and

gave a public lecture on her recent research, "Recovering Rococo: Alexandre Benois, Konstantin Somov, and Russia's World of Art." During the spring, she also delivered lectures at the Princeton University Art Museum, Rutgers University, and Columbia University.

Robert Kravchuk (SPEA) has published "Kuchma as Economic Reformer" in *Problems of Post-Communism* 52 (September-October 2005): 48-58; and "The Ukrainian Elections of 1994 as an Economic Event" in *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 38 (2005): 131-165 with Victor Chudowsky.

Bryan McCormick (Health & Physical Education) presented a paper entitled, "The Everyday Life of Psychiatric Clients: A Comparison Study," at the World Psychiatric Association 2006 International Congress in Istanbul, Turkey on July 15. The paper was the result of collaborative work with colleagues at IUB and Health Center, Valjevo, Serbia. Both the study and presentation were supported in part through funding from REEI.

William Alex Pridemore (Criminal Justice) has published, "Heavy Drinking and Suicide Mortality in Russia," in *Social Forces* 85 (2006): 413-430 and (with S. W. Kim), "An Exploratory Analysis of Homicide Victims, Offenders, and Events in Russia," in *International Criminal Justice Review* 16 (2006): 5-23. This summer he developed a course on "Law, Crime, and Justice in Post-Soviet Russia," which he will be teaching for the first time this spring.

David Ransel (REEI/History) has won a Bogliasco Fellowship to the Liguria Study Center near Genoa in the spring to work on his book about the social and personal identity of an eighteenth-century Russian merchant.

Jean Robinson (Political Science) published "Solidarity's Disappearing Women: Review of Shana Penn's *Solidarity's Secret: The Women Who Defeated Communism in Poland*" in *The Women's Review of Books* 23. 4 (July-August 2006): 8-9.

Jeffrey Veidlinger (Jewish Studies), together with Dov-Ber Kerler (Germanic Studies), traveled to Romania, Moldova and the Ukraine in May and June as part of the Archive of Historical and Ethnographic Yiddish Memories Project (AHEYM) to collect videotaped interviews with Yiddish-speakers in the region. Professor Veidlinger also presented a paper, "Du Lebst Mayn Folk: Dovid Bergelson's 'Prince Reuveni' in Historical Context."

Student News

New M.A. Students

Ruby Baxter is from Fairbanks, Alaska and graduated in from Oberlin College in 2002 with a degree in Physics and Russian/East European Studies. She has traveled and volunteered in Russia, and her academic interests include civil society and current affairs in Russia and Poland.

Laura Belden is originally from Beverly Hills, Michigan and graduated from Boston College in 2005 with a degree in History. Laura is interested in the history and politics of the Cold War.

Colin Dietch grew up in Reidsville, North Carolina and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2005, with a Bachelor's degree in French and Russian & East European Studies. Before beginning his graduate studies at REEI, Colin spent a year working at the HEC School of Management, near Paris, France. He has traveled in the Balkans and Central Europe and is particularly fond of Bulgaria. His interests lie in Russian policy towards conflict zones within the CIS. Colin is the recipient of this year's Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship Award.

Dan Tam Do is from Chicago and graduated from Amherst College in 2001 with a degree in Music. She has spent time teaching English and studying in various Czech cities and is currently pursuing a dual degree with REEI and Library Science. Her interests include folk/classical music, Czech film, literature, and nationalism and minority issues in Central Europe.

Jennifer Evans grew up in Houston, Texas and graduated from Rice University in 2006 with a degree in Political Science. She is interested in press freedom in Russia and Eastern Europe as well as relations between Russia and the United States. After receiving her degree at IU, she plans to enter the Foreign Service.

Ryan Kilgore is originally from Rochester, New York. He graduated from Indiana University in 2006 with a major in Slavic Languages and Literatures and a minor in Chemistry. Ryan is interested in ethnic and religious minority issues in Russia and Eastern Europe and plans to continue his studies to earn a Ph.D. in Russian Sociology or History.

Ian Lanzillotti is from Tampa, Florida and graduated from the University of South Florida in 2005 with a Bachelor's



New M.A. students Ian Lanzillotti (far left), Jennifer Evans (middle) and Ben Vranian (far right) socialize with returning M.A. students James Young (second from left) and Brant Beyer (second from right) at the REEI Fall Reception.

degree in History and Russian. He has traveled to Russia several times to study Russian at Moscow State University's Center for International Education and take part in an American Councils sponsored Russian language/area studies program at the Saint Petersburg State Pedagogical University, Herten. Ian has also volunteered at the Committee of Soldiers' Mothers and at the State Museum of the Political History of Russia (formerly the museum of the Great October Socialist Revolution). He is interested in Russian/Soviet nationalities policy, the peoples and cultures of the North Caucasus (especially the Cherkess) and the history of the Russian civil war.

Amy Luck grew up in Wheaton, Illinois and received a degree in English and Secondary Education from Wheaton College in 2002. Following graduation, Amy studied Victorian Media and Culture at the University of London—Royal Holloway and then worked for nearly three years in the editorial department of McGraw-Hill Higher Education—Business/Economics. During the latter, she took leave-of-absences to volunteer in the Transylvanian region of Romania with two separate NGOs working in state and privately-run orphanages/group homes. Amy is interested in child welfare system reform, Romanian (orphan) education, literature and media under communism, and nationalism in contemporary Eastern Europe.

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Student News

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Justin Otten is originally from Indianapolis, Indiana and graduated from IU in 2002 with a degree in Anthropology. Upon graduating, he taught English as a Peace Corp volunteer in Delcevo, Macedonia until August 2004. Since then, he has worked largely in the field of international education in Washington, DC with the National Youth Leadership Forum's program for Defense, Intelligence and Diplomacy (NYLF-DID) and the Global Young Leaders Conference (GYLC). Justin spent this summer as a Political Intern at the US Embassy in Skopje, Macedonia, largely monitoring the Parliamentary campaign and elections themselves and attending meetings with American and other foreign diplomats, particularly from the EU. He is interested in development, security, and politics in Macedonia, the former Yugoslavia, as well as the greater Balkan region.

Maren Payne is from Eden Prairie, Minnesota. She graduated from Brigham Young University in August 2006 with a major in Political Science and a minor in Russian. Her current focus is on Poland, which she became interested in while living in Warsaw and Krakow during an 18 month mission trip. She is also interested in gender relations throughout Eastern Europe. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. and eventually teach at the university level.

Jeremy Stewart is originally from New York. He graduated from Indiana University in 2006 with a major in Political Science and a minor in West European Studies. Jeremy is currently pursuing an MA through REEI and is interested in post-communist politics in Russia and Central Europe, with a focus on Romania. He plans to work for the federal government when he completes his degree.

Ben Vranian graduated from Dickinson College in 2002 with degrees in Russian Languages and Literature and Russian Area Studies. Commissioned through ROTC as a Chemical Officer in the Army, he was stationed in Germany and served a tour in Operation Iraqi Freedom in Baghdad. His experience in Russia/East Europe includes a semester and summer in Moscow abroad as an undergraduate; travel to Estonia, Latvia, and Kazakhstan; and working in an official capacity with an Army mission in 2005. His main area of interest is security considerations in the Caucasus region.

Returning Student Updates

Paul Anderson and *Leigh Bernstein* both spent this past summer studying Russian—Paul at IU's Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages (SWEESL) and Leigh in Russia at St. Petersburg State University.

Brant Beyer worked in Budapest, Hungary this summer in the political section of the US Embassy. The main event was an official visit by President Bush to Budapest, and Brant was the site officer for the President's visit with the Hungarian Speaker of Parliament, Dr. Katalin Szili, whom he met. He was also responsible for monitoring the summer session of the Hungarian Parliament.

Meagan Call spent this summer working as an intern in the Public Diplomacy section of the US Embassy in Bucharest, Romania. For this internship she acted as a Cultural Assistant to the Cultural Attache, traveling throughout Romania to speak to students and special interest groups; monitoring and evaluating NGOs that received Small Democracy Grants from the Embassy the previous year; working with various high schools in Bucharest to set up programs about the United States; and helping to organize the opening of a major art exhibit at the National Museum of Art in Bucharest. She also met the president and prime minister of Romania. (For more on Meagan's summer, read her article on page 3.)

Joe Crescente spent the summer in Ukraine attending a summer language program at Ivan Franko National University in L'viv, he studied Ukrainian for six weeks and traveled to the Carpathians and Donetsk. He also conducted research in various cities and regions in Ukraine (Kyiv, L'viv, Crimea, Vinitsiya province) on the topics of identification, identity, representation and language use through the pop-cultural persona of Verka Serdiuchka (alter ego of actor/singer Andrei Danilko).

Aimee Dobbs spent the summer at a Harvard-Koc University summer abroad program studying Ottoman Turkish in Ali Bey Adasi (Cunda), Turkey and also visited Baku, Azerbaijan on a pre-research trip. She is pursuing a doctoral degree in history focusing on the establishment of girls' schools in Azerbaijan just after the turn of the twentieth century.

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Student News

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She is interested in issues of colonialism, nationalism, and modernization among Turkic groups of the Russian Empire.



Aimee Dobbs (second from right) in Baku, Azerbaijan

Richard Fitzmaurice interned in the International Affairs and Trade section of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington, DC this summer. While at GAO, he researched and evaluated U.S. government strategic communications programs, including foreign media monitoring and audience polling. In addition, he participated in the EU Center of Excellence's Graduate Seminar in Europe.

Denise Mishiwiec spent the summer in Azerbaijan working with the Azerbaijan Young Lawyer's Union and doing research on civil society development, interviewing nearly 50 people, including local and international NGO staff, journalists, political party members and members of parliament. She also participated in a NATO conference and now writes for the Azerbaijan page of *Neweurasia*, a news blog on the region affiliated with *Transitions Online*.

Elizabeth Raible worked in Belgrade this summer with Women in Black—Belgrade, a pacifist and feminist organization. Her major project was to translate and proofread documents for the English version of the group's website. Processes of confronting the past and feminist responses to nationalism and militarism were the main themes of her activities. As part of her internship and on other travels, Elizabeth visited other towns in Serbia, as well as Sarajevo and Srebrenica.

Josh Ruegsegger spent the first part of the summer in Europe participating in the EU Center of Excellence's Graduate Seminar. He particularly enjoyed the trip because of the many people and students he met with similar interests but different perspectives. The second half of his summer semester, he improved his Russian

grammar and writing skills as a participant in SWSEEL.

James Young worked as a law clerk at the Michigan 33rd Circuit Court in Charlevoix County this past summer. He drafted judicial rulings, advisory memorandums, a mediation plan which was approved by the Michigan Supreme Court.

Student Graduations: B.A. Minors/M.A. Degrees/Ph.D. Defenses

The following students graduated with REEI B.A. minors during the 2005-2006 school year:

Rhys Anderson, Daniel Bulla, Kyle Carmichael, Kathryn Davis, Brandon Elkins, S. Clark Everitt, Aaron Hale-Dorrell, Neil Harris, Stephan Jerabek, Ryan Kilgore, John Knifley, Elizabeth Komoroski, Paul Martin, Jay McClurg, Michelle McNew, Aaron Minkus, Jean Morrison, Ashley Noel, Kathryn Pardo, Catherine Percy, Siobhan Reardon, Julia Sands, Lara Schillizzi, Philip Sherman, Jeremy Stewart, Andrew Storrs, Paul Thacker, and Ellie Zusstone.

The following students graduated with REEI M.A. degrees during the 2005-2006 school year:

Richard Bakewell-- "Beluga Sturgeon Conservation in the Caspian Sea: Collective Action for Species Conservation Among Newly Independent States"; *Vicky Meretsky* chaired his committee. Richard is an analyst at the Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Andrew Burton-- "Minority Self-Government: Minority Representation in Flux for the Hungarian Roma"; *Beate Sissenich* chaired his committee. Andrew is now pursuing a Ph.D. in Political Science at IU.

Neil Gipson-- "HIV/AIDS Threatens Russia's Economy, Security and Stability"; *Henry Hale* chaired his committee. Neil is spending the current academic year studying at St. Petersburg State University.

Stephanie Hockman-- "Conversation Superhighway: The Internet as Public Space in Uzbekistan"; *Leslie Lenkowsky* chaired her committee. Stephanie is an analyst at the Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Student News continued on page 15

Student News

Student Awards

Daniel Armstrong Memorial Awards

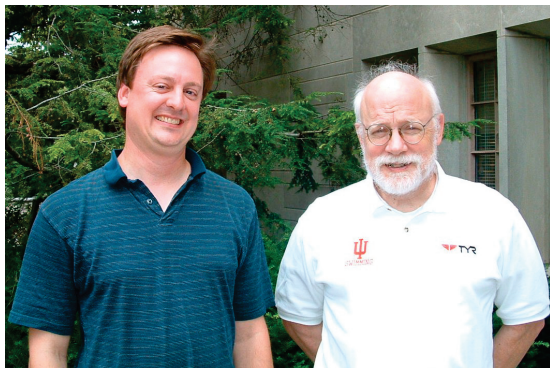
The 2005-2006 winners of the Daniel Armstrong Memorial Essay Awards were presented at the Russian and East European Institute's annual Fall Reception, September . Acting Director Maria Bucur recognized the recipients for their thorough, well-written pieces of work concerning Russian and East European topics during the previous school year. This year's graduate division shared two winners: Nicole McGrath and Anna Muller. Nicole wrote "The Tercentenary Celebrations and the Romanian Identity Crisis". Anna wrote "To Not Yield Means to Win' Fordoniarki – Stalinist Women Prisoners: The Experience, Sense of Suffering, and Memory of Women Fighters". Both papers were written for Jeff Veidlinger's course HIST-H 740 Seminar in Russian History. The Master's Essay division winner, Andrew Burton, wrote "Minority Self-Governance: Minority Representation in Flux for the Hungarian Roma" for the course REEI-R 601 Interdisciplinary Colloquium in REEI taught by David Ransel. His committee chair was Beate Sissenich. Jeremy Stewart recieved the Undergraduate division award for "An Explanation of Differences in Hungarian and Romanian Responses to Perestroika" for the course POLS-Y 499 Undergraduate Honors Thesis taught by Dina Spechler. (Stewart is now pursuing a Master's Degree with REEI. More about Jeremy can be found in the New M.A. Student section on page 11.)



Graduate division co-winners Nicole McGrath (left) and Anna Muller (right) with REEI Acting Director Maria Bucur (middle).

Robert F. Byrnes Fund

Also recognized at the Fall Reception was the recipient of this year's Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship Fund, Colin Dietch (more about Colin can be found in the New M.A. Students section on page 10). This fellowship preserves the memory of the first director of REEI by supporting an outstanding incoming student with a stipend and fee remission during the first year of study and is then renewable for a modest stipend in the second year. REEI would like to thank all those who have contributed to the 2006 Fund and especially recognize Eleanor Byrnes and her children, the principal contributors of the award.



Hasek Graduate Student Award winner Kevin Grieves (left) and Journalism professor Owen Johnson (right).

Jospeh Hasek Graduate Student Award

Journalism Ph.D. student Kevin Grieves has been awarded the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences Joseph Hasek Graduate Student Award recognizing the best graduate paper in the U.S. on a Czechoslovak-related topic for his paper, "An Uncertain Image: U.S. Television Coverage of Czechoslovakia, the Czech Republic and Slovakia." Grieves, who wrote the paper for his International Newsgathering (J414—Spring semester) class taught by Owen V. Johnson, will receive a monetary award and a year's membership in the society.

IU Participants in the AAASS Convention

The 38th National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) will be held in Washington, DC, November 16-19, 2006.

Faculty Papers

Maria Bucur (REEL/History): "Gender, Religion, and War Remembrance in 20th Century Romania"
 Lidija Cvikic (Slavic): "Croatian as a Second Language at American Universities"
 Owen Johnson (Journalism/History): "Redefining the Nation: Slovak Mass Media, 1938-1945"
 Elena Petroska (Slavic): "The Use of IT in the Teaching of Macedonian"
 Bodgan Rakic (Slavic): "Double Dialogue: Traditional Elements in the Poetry of Georg Nikolich"
 K. Andrea Rusnock (Art—South Bend): "Country Space Meets City Space: The All-Union Agricultural Exhibition of 1939"
 Martin C. Spechler (Economics—Indianapolis): "Central Asia between East and West"
 Jeffrey Veidlinger (History): "The Transformation of Jewish Public Culture"

Student Papers/Participants

Bora Chung (Slavic): "The Image of Shop in Prus's 'The Doll' and Schulz's 'Cinnamon Shop'"
 M. Benjamin Thorne (History): Revisiting Mihail Sebastian's "Journal" 10 Years After its Publication
 Deanna Gayle Wooley (History): "Teaching the Barricades: Normalization-Era Commemorations of Revolution in Czechoslovakia"

Panel Chairs

Hiroaki Kuromiya (History): Building National Identity through Cultural Consumption: The Youth of Soviet and Post-Soviet Ukraine and Problems of Cultural Identification
 Maria Bucur (REEL/History): Revisiting Mihail Sebastian's "Journal" 10 Years After its Publication
 Charles Jelavich (History): Serbian, Croatian and Slovene History Textbooks After the Collapse of Yugoslavia
 Paul Foster, Jr. (Center for Languages of the Central Asian Region): New Directions in Macedonian Language Pedagogy

Panel Discussants

Ben Eklof (History): Education and Social Integration in Late Imperial Russia
 William Fierman (CEUS): New Developments in Central Asia
 Berndt J. Fischer (History—Ft. Wayne): Albania in Transition 1900-2005: An Appraisal
 Nina Perlina (Slavic): Biblical Texts and Subtexts in Dostoevsky
 Bodgan Rakic (Slavic): Culture of Yugonostalgia

Roundtable Participants

Justyna Beinek (Slavic): Polish Literary Studies and Comparative Literature; Representations of America and the West in Contemporary Slavic Cultures
 Aurelian Craiutu (Political Science): The End of Postcommunism in Romania? Assessing the Basescu Presidency and its Dilemmas
 Roy Gardner (Economics/West European Studies): EU Effects on Democratization in the Next-Round EU Candidates
 Jeffrey Holdeman (Slavic): Notes from the Field: Current Research in Old Believer Studies
 Hiroaki Kuromiya (History): Directions in the Study of Soviet Identities: Why the Provinces Matter
 Frances Trix (Near Eastern Languages and Cultures): Islam and Postsocialism: Interdisciplinary Approaches

Alumni News

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Donald Reindl (Ph.D. SLAV 2005) is an instructor for the Faculty of Arts at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, and recently founded the Ljubljana-based translation company DEKS d.o.o.

Paul Richardson (M.A. Political Science/REEI certificate 1988) is president and publisher of Russian Life Magazine. Russian Life was recently the subject of an extended story on the NTV television station in Russia.

Daniel Stone (Ph.D. History/REEI certificate 1972) has published "Tadeusz Korzon: Patriotism in History," in *Nation and History: Polish Historians from the Enlightenment to the Second World War* (2006). This December he will retire from the University of Winnipeg after 37 years of teaching and plans on researching Polish and Jewish ethnic history in Winnipeg.

Cynthia Werner (Ph.D. Anthropology/REEI certificate 1997) is Associate Professor of Anthropology at Texas A & M University. She recently traveled to Mongolia to begin a project on Kazakh migration from Mongolia to Kazakhstan.

Elizabeth Winship (M.L.S. SLIS/REEI certificate 1986) is Regional Head of Mission at the United Methodist Committee on Relief and currently resides in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Faculty News

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at the Yiddish Language and Culture in the Soviet Union conference held in Moscow in July.

Bronislava Volkova (Slavic department) gave a 30-year anniversary reading of the CD release *The Slightest Reminder of Your Being...(Three Decades of Exile: 1974-2004)* in February and presented "Exile Inside and Out" at the Writer Uprooted conference in March. She has also been invited to give a lecture and reading at the University of Chicago under the title of "Poetry of Exile."

Charles Wise (SPEA) presented "Prospects for Passage of Reform Legislation in the New Ukrainian Parliament" at the conference Prospects for Reform Under the New Ukrainian Cabinet and Rada for the US State Department and Central Intelligence Agency in Arlington, Virginia on September 8, 2006.

Student News

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The following students successfully defended dissertations to complete Ph.D.s with REEI Minors:

Kara Brown (Education)-- "Learning the Language: International, National, and Local Dimensions to Regional-Language Education in Estonia"; Bradley A.U. Levinson chaired her committee. Dr. Brown is now Assistant Professor of Education at the University of South Carolina.

Bjorn Ingvaldstad (Communication & Culture)-- "Globalization, Post-Socialism, and Popular Culture: Contemporary Lithuanian Media and Media Audiences." Barbara Klinger chaired his committee.

Mimoza Rista-Dema (Teaching English as a Second Language)-- "Inverse-order Constructions in Albanian English: Discourse and Prototype Effects"; Beverly S. Hartford chaired her committee. Dr. Rista-Dema is now a Visiting Assistant Professor of TESOL at Oklahoma City University.



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