



REEIfication

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Outreach Notes: Documentary Collection for K-12 Social Studies

by Karissa M. Jackson

The REEI media collection has an extensive documentary section covering a wide array of topics that would complement any classroom. Below I would like to summarize just a few titles that I have watched recently that I think students and teachers alike would find intriguing.

Homage to Chagall (1977) is a documentary film of an intimate interview with the artist, Marc Chagall, as he approaches his 90th birthday. Chagall continues to receive critical acclaim for his painting and stained glass, as well as a multitude of other artistic formats, including ceramics, tapestries, book illustrations, and costume and scenic design for theatre. The film follows the evolution of the artist's style, displaying his works in chronological order while Chagall reminisces about his process and experiences. His mother's unwavering confidence in his talent served as lifelong motivation to continue his work, and his fascination with birth and death are indicative of the Hasidic influence that is present in his early work. Chagall considers his time in France incredibly formative for his style, which he attributes to his success as an artist. Driven from Paris in the midst of WWII, Chagall lamented the fate of martyred artists, who haunted him in his guilt for fleeing to America. Many applaud his ability to portray biblical scenes in his work, while Chagall insisted that "[he] couldn't see the bible; [he] was dreaming it." Central to his worldview and approach to art is the importance of love, and it is a common theme throughout the interview.

In the Footsteps of Chopin (2007) is part of a series that follows the experiences of the world's greatest classical music composers; in the case of Frederic Chopin, an early 19th century composer, this journey begins in Poland and leads to France and Majorca. Lauded as "Warsaw's own little Mozart," Chopin was composing his own tunes at the age of seven. He quickly established himself as a prodigy before leaving Poland at the age of twenty, just a month before the Polish uprising against Tsarist Russia. While Chopin's impassioned music has been recognized as a symbol of Polish national identity and, during WWII, a form of political resistance to the Nazis, the young composer experienced great guilt for prioritizing his art over revolutionary engagement. He eventually settled in Paris, where he became acquainted with the latest piano models and contemporaries, including Franz Liszt and Robert Schumann, who regarded Chopin's compositions as "cannons concealed amongst flowers." Supporting himself by giving lessons to eager students, Chopin preferred to perform in intimate spaces as opposed to large, public concerts. His substantial, original contributions to piano composition distinguished him from his contemporaries; he transformed the quality of the note and amplified the melody by creating a hidden harmony. Succumbing to illness before his time, Chopin remains a legendary figure in classical music.

Spring 2017

Features

Outreach Notes	1
Faculty Profile: Emma Gilligan	2
Russian Studies Workshop Conference	3
Litsevoi letopisnyi svod XVI veka	4
Romanian Studies Conference	5
"China, Russia, and the World: Focus on Central Asia"	6
The Central European- International University	8

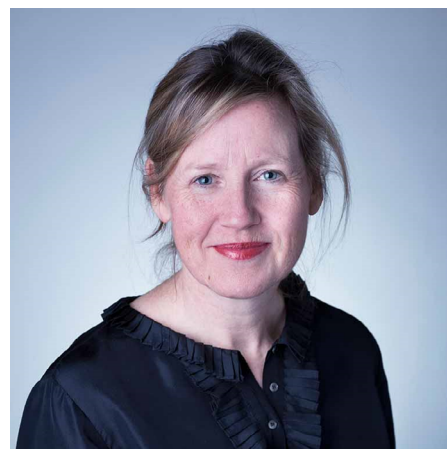
News

Faculty/Staff News	4
Visiting Scholars	7
Gifts in 2016	9
Alumni News	10
Student News	11

Faculty Profile: Emma Gilligan

by Jeff Wineberg

Professor Emma Gilligan began her new role as an associate professor in Indiana University's School of Global and International Studies in Fall 2016. Professor Gilligan brings an impressive array of research and teaching experience relating to human rights broadly, and human rights within Chechnya specifically. After receiving her PhD in Russian history from the University of Melbourne, in Australia, Professor Gilligan was a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of History at the University of Chicago. She then went on to teach at the University of Connecticut for 9 years, in a joint appointment as an assistant professor in the Human Rights Institute and the History Department. Professor Gilligan's first book, *Defending Human Rights in Russia: Sergei Kovalyov, Dissident and Human Rights Commissioner, 1969-2003*, was published in 2004. Her second book, *Terror in Chechnya: Russia and the Tragedy of Civilians in War*, was released in 2009. Professor Gilligan is currently working on two projects. First, a project "looking at the legal system in Chechnya, trying to understand the influence of the war on the shape of the current legal system" and secondly, "a longer, book-length project about anti-torture movements in the post-Soviet era."



JW: How did you become interested in human rights, especially human rights within Chechnya?

EG: I became interested in the Soviet dissidents. I read Andrei Sakharov's memoirs and I had started studying Russian because I was interested in the language. So it really started there, and I then went to live in Moscow. I wrote my first book there about what happened to these dissidents because I was interested to see after the collapse of the Soviet Union where they had gone and in what positions they had ended up. I also wanted to see where the different splinter groups within dissident movements ended up. From nationalists to conservatives to liberals, where did they find their niche in the post-Soviet space? How difficult was it to implement those ideals they had been fighting for on an everyday basis? I then began teaching more broad courses in the history of human rights as an idea, U.N. institutions, and human rights mechanisms. I think that the dissidents were so interesting. The generation of the sixties and seventies were really persuasive about connecting a notion of world peace and security to human rights. That's something that we really have lost. People don't seem to be persuaded by that argument anymore, which is a great shame. I think that they really promoted that lens and I think that the Russian dissidents played a mammoth role in the construction of the international human rights movement.

JW: The end of open hostilities in Chechnya and emergence of other humanitarian crises globally have led to significantly decreased international attention regarding human rights in Chechnya. What is the current status and what do you see as potential strategies moving forward?

EG: It's interesting because a draft of the Council of Europe's resolution for the North Caucasus was just released and a colleague was asked to comment on what we should propose in terms of improving the situation there. It's sad to say that on the most serious issues there hasn't been improvement. The first thing would be with regard to finding the disappeared and trying to physically exhume graves. Also, getting a forensic lab in Chechnya, because currently there isn't one there to test for DNA. Often the families of the disappeared just want to know what happened; often they are not as concerned about the criminal or legal process as they are about trying to find the truth. The second thing is women's rights, which have deteriorated. So there's been a reinvigoration of education campaigns around this very unique combination of Russian law and Sharia law. For example, elders coming to schools and educating boys about how they have to keep an eye on their sisters and how their sisters can't go out alone. Women's rights have become a real issue: the idea of women being covered; really having no political power or political voice; and just resuming this very antiquated patriarchal system that doesn't allow them to freely express who they are. That's a real step backward. The third thing I would say would be related to the families of those soldiers who the state thinks are still active. Fighters and their families' homes have been set on fire, or they've been incriminated in some other way. They (alleged fighters and their families) have absolutely no rights. The family will often suffer the consequences. Obviously, collective punishment against families is extremely problematic. So overall the situation is dire in so far as people are stripped of their independence. Lastly, there's a real climate of fear that makes it harder for me now to do

continued on page 9

Russian Studies Workshop conference considers “Repression & Resilience in Russia’s Public Sphere”

by Yael Ksander

“No one was talking about Russia before the election,” asserted Russian journalist Aleksandr Gorbachev, “Then, boom, it’s the only thing people talk about. And it’s getting blown out of proportion.”

Features editor at Meduza.io, a leading Russian independent digital news outlet, Gorbachev was among the journalists and scholars discussing “Repression & Resilience in Russia’s Public Sphere,” April 13 and 14 at the Indiana Memorial Union. The conference was the first convened by the Russian Studies Workshop, a program funded by a million dollar grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to reinvigorate contemporary Russian studies and train the next generation of Russia experts for careers in government, business, academia, and the non-profit sector. The RSW is based in the Russian and East European Institute at the IU School of Global and International Studies.



By way of antidote to what Gorbachev called the “oversimplified” portrait of contemporary Russian media that has circulated since the 2016 presidential election, the journalist and his fellow panelists provided balance, history, and nuance over the course of the conference’s five panel discussions. Along with Gorbachev, participants included three other independent Russian journalists, two US-based Russian media scholars, veteran reporters teaching at IU’s Media School, and scholars of political science, Russian studies, sociology, and other fields affiliated with the College of Arts and Sciences and SGIS.

“While many universities and centers in the US are holding conferences on the repressive aspects of Russian media,” said conference co-organizer Regina Smyth, Director of the Russian Studies Workshop, “our conversation looked beyond hacking and [Kremlin-funded news outlet, Russia Today] propaganda to shed light on journalists’ efforts to challenge state restrictions. Our discussion,” continued Smyth, associate professor of political science, “painted a fuller picture of how Russia’s media environment is shifting in response to state pressure.”

The subtlety required in describing the contemporary media landscape in Russia emerged over the course of discussions considering the Kremlin’s response to social media, the distinction between passive surveillance and active censorship, and the similarly tenuous state of American journalism, thrown into relief by the 2016 election. While independent Russian media outlets have been struggling in the wake of increasing governmental control, it bears acknowledging that American mainstream media is at the same time suffering “an existential crisis,” according to Sarah Oates, Professor and Senior Scholar at the Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland. A wholesale lack of trust among the public, a sense of mission drift within journalism pedagogy, and the reluctance among social media platforms to acknowledge their role as primary distributors of information were just some of the challenges confronting American media that Oates noted.

The Russian journalists spoke about their efforts to continue reporting and publishing in an increasingly impenetrable system. “I’m a political journalist by training,” explained Mikhail Fishman, Editor in Chief of *The Moscow Times*, an independent English-language weekly. “You have to rely on sources, and those sources are getting closer and closer to the Kremlin.” Fishman stressed the need for the independent media “to join together to form a parallel landscape...to put pressure on the government and all other sources of power.”

“Throughout the 2000s the Russian government took the largest-audience media under state control,” explained conference co-organizer Maria Lipman, Visiting Distinguished Professor at REEI, “but was generally tolerant toward niche, smaller-audience media outlets that pursued editorial independence. Vladimir Putin’s return to presidency in 2012 was marked by a crackdown on those remaining media whose editorial line was guided by professional standards,

continued on page 10

Litsevoi letopisnyi svod XVI veka by Wookjin Cheun

Though not unheard of or unprecedented, donation of books by foreign missions to libraries of their host countries may not exactly be a common thing to happen. Looking back just for the last ten years, I remember only two such cases: the first was in 2009 when the Indiana University Libraries (IUL) received over 200 Croatian literary works from the Croatian Embassy; and then in 2012 the Macedonian Embassy inquired with the IUL whether we would want to receive a complete set of “Macedonian literature in English” (for more information on this Macedonian national project, see the article published in *Balkan insights*: <http://www.balkaninsight.com/en/article/macedonia-s-literary-gems-get-lost-in-translation>) consisting of about 120 titles—of course we said we would. So this 34-volume set of Russian books that is brought to your attention now is going to be the third such case, this time from the Russian Embassy in Washington, DC.

These 34 volumes comprise the medieval Russian collection “Litsevoi letopisnyi svod XVI veka,” sometimes translated as “Illustrated Chronicles of Ivan the Terrible.” It is known that Ivan IV ordered the compilation of this history book—about 70% Russian history and the rest 30% world history—for education of his children and printed it just in one copy. And it took almost ten years to finish it. The ten volumes that comprised the 16th-century original set were somehow separated and preserved in several Russian libraries. It had been reprinted before and

is now even available online. What sets this new reprint apart from the previous one is, however, the presence in it of Russian translation of the Church Slavonic text. Containing more than 16,000 colorful illustrations and provided with authoritative translation (done by “The Society of Lovers of Ancient Literature”—Obshchestvo Liubitelei Drevnei Pismennosti), this new reprint should be a valuable acquisition for our Slavic and East European Studies collection.



One letter that accompanied this collection indicates that the Russian Embassy in DC donated it to IU President McRobbie's office in late 2015 or early 2016. Special thanks go to REEI Director Sarah Phillips for facilitating the library's acquisition of it by connecting me to the President's Office. One interesting thing to be noted about this collection is that Transneft', the government-owned gas and oil transport

company, is listed as its publisher. It is very unusual for librarians to encounter Transneft' as a publisher, but in this case it may not necessarily be completely out of the blue, to the extent that The Society of Lovers of Ancient Literature, which appears to have done all the scholarly work required for this particular reprint version, lists Transneft' as one of its “partners” on its website.

This collection will be available soon for borrowing. In the meantime, please contact the Slavic and East European Studies librarian (wcheun@indiana.edu, 812-855-9413) with any questions about this collection.

Faculty/Staff News

Andrew Asher (IU Libraries) has been granted tenure and promoted to the rank of Associate Librarian.

Michelle Facos (Art History) is editor of *A Companion to Nineteenth-Century Art: From Revolution to World War* (Boston, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016). With Thor J. Mednick, she has also co-edited and co-written the introduction to *Symbolist Roots of Modern Art* (London: Ashgate, 2015). The American Council of Learned Societies awarded Michelle Facos a 2017-18 fellowship to work on her project, *Reinventing Tradition: the Copenhagen Art Academy circa 1800*.

Bryan McCormick (School of Public Health) will assume the position of professor in the Department of Rehabilitations Sciences in Temple University's College of Public Health on July 1, 2017. He will continue his work there with adults with severe mental illness and their inclusion and participation in the community. McCormick also plans to continue his work in the Balkans and will be completing a research and teaching Fulbright Scholarship at the

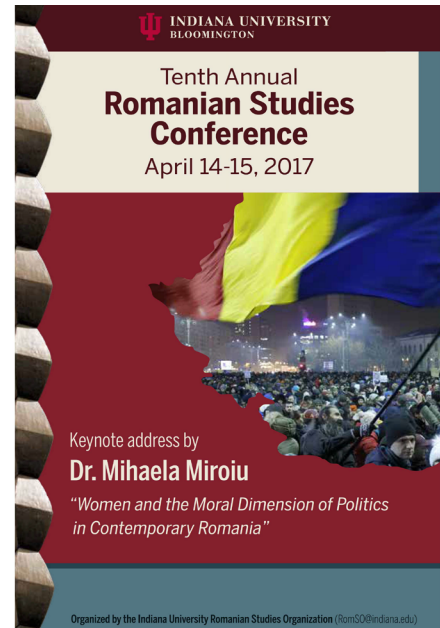
continued on page 5

Tenth Romanian Studies Conference by Szabolcs László

On April 14 and 15 the Romanian Studies Organization at Indiana University held its tenth annual Romanian Studies Conference at the Indiana Memorial Union. Being the only event of its kind in North America, the conference brought together presenters from around the globe and from a wide range of disciplines, including history, political science, anthropology, religious studies, gender studies, and journalism. The keynote address entitled “Women and the Moral Dimension of Politics in Contemporary Romania” was delivered by Romanian political theorist and feminist philosopher Dr. Mihaela Miroiu, who is Professor of Political Science at the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration in Bucharest. Her address was preceded by the screening of an ethnographic film made by Dr. Alin Rus (Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts Amherst), which is entitled “The Last Generation” (2009). The documentary explored the disappearing lifeworld of contemporary Romanian shepherds in Southern Transylvania. This traditional culture, which constituted a significant element of Romanian national identity for hundreds of years and was described in detail by Romanian ethnographers, will soon become just a memory. Alin Rus’s film offered an opportunity to reflect on the ways modernity affects traditions.

Conference panels were chaired by IU faculty members Maria Bucur-Deckard (History), Cristina Zarifopol-Illias (Slavic), Jeffrey Isaac (Political Science), and Aurelian Crăiutu (Political Science) as well as Mihaela Miroiu (NSPSPA, Bucharest). Participants gave presentations on the following diverse topics: Romanian medieval history, cultural and institutional history of communist Romania, religious pilgrimage and conversion, multiculturalism and minority rights, national heritage and Romanian folk traditions, documentary films, women’s political representation, and gender and modernization. Overall, the event attracted a considerable number of graduate students, professors, and scholars, and was a tremendous success, reaffirming IU’s role as a worldwide hub for Romanian Studies.

The conference was made possible by the generous support of the Indiana University Funding Board, the Department of Political Science, and the Department of Gender Studies. For more information about the Romanian Studies Organization at IU, visit <http://www.facebook.com/romanianstudies>.



Faculty/Staff News - Continued from page 4

University of Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina, during the Fall of 2017, with a return trip in June 2018 (Flex Award). REEI wishes Dr. McCormick all the best, and we will keep in touch!

Patrick Michelson (Religious Studies, History) has been promoted in rank to associate professor, effective 1 July 2017. His first monograph appears in print the same month. Its title is *Beyond the Monastery Walls: The Ascetic Revolution in Russian Orthodox Thought, 1814–1914* (University of Wisconsin Press).

Justin Otten (School of Public Health, REEI) contributed to the Global Encyclopaedia of Informality which is now available online. The EoI is a project of Alena Ledeneva’s at University College London, and his contribution was on informal ties known as ‘vrski’ in Macedonia. <http://in-formality.com/wiki/index.php?title=Vrski>

Alex Rabinowitch (History, Emeritus) presented papers at international 1917 centennial conferences at the Moscow Higher School of Social and Economic Sciences and the St. Petersburg Institute of History (RAN), held jointly with the State Museum of Political History during the first half of 2017. He gave a public lecture on his research at the Russian Historical Society and had a paper published by a Guggenheim Foundation internet project on the

continued on page 6

A Recap of “China, Russia, and the World: Focus on Central Asia” by Thomas Tyler

On Friday, April 7, 2017, an audience of students and faculty members spanning diverse disciplines and regions attended a roundtable where a group of interdisciplinary and interregional scholars met to discuss Chinese and Russian influence in Central Asia. Panelists in order of presentation were: Artemy Kalinovsky, Professor of Political Science at the University of Amsterdam; James Millward, Professor of Inter-societal History at the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University; and Mariya Omelicheva, Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Kansas. The panelists' remarks were followed by comments from two IU faculty member discussants: Dina Spechler, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, and Gardner Bovington, Associate Professor in the Department of International Studies and the Department of Central Eurasian Studies.



Professor Kalinovsky spoke about Russian soft power, particularly in Tajikistan. He noted that the post-Soviet Central Asian states have a sort of shared idiom with Russia that makes Central Asians receptive to Russian political points of view, which includes acts of solidarity such as wearing St. George's ribbons on Victory Day. Professor Millward focused on China's economic investments and new infrastructure projects in Central Asia. One of the major projects is China's One Belt, One Road initiative, meant to create a sort of neo-Silk Road that ushers in a new era of a "peaceful continent fueled by commerce." He exhibited visual material highlighting the symbolism of such a project, which draws on both the historical Silk Road and China's vision of the new project. Professor Omelicheva spoke about security relationships between Russia and Central Asian states and about Eurasian military cooperation, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. She noted that Central Asian states enjoy Russian security support because it allows them to entrench themselves and maintain stability within their respective countries. After the panelists concluded, Professor Dina Spechler discussed the motives shaping relations between the various regional actors and the historical background of the fall of the Soviet Union, and the difficulties the Russian government under Yeltsin faced when renegotiating ties with Central Asia. Professor Gardner Bovington questioned whether the interests of world powers in Central Asian states would actually lead to human or cultural modernization or any tangible improvement in living standards for them, or if they would continue as a form of neo-imperialism.

In conclusion from the panelists' and discussants' remarks, Russia's largest role in Central Asia is one of security provider. Russia's main interest in Central Asia is suppressing terrorism, stopping the flow of illegal drugs into Russia, and reducing ethnic conflict and radicalism by providing security cooperation and assistance to Central Asian states. While Russia focuses on security, China focuses on economic investment, largely due to China's hydrocarbon demands that can be met by Central Asian resources, as well as Central Asia's geographical location, which makes it a significant waypoint between major nations. Participants remarked that Central Asia in some ways plays the role of "depot of the world," because of its location as a cultural and economic crossroads. Unfortunately, this has historically made Central Asian states and peoples susceptible to imperial designs, and deprived them of agency.

The East Asian Studies Center, Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, Russian and East European Institute, and Russian Studies Workshop all acted as co-sponsors of the event.

Faculty/Staff News - Continued from page 5

1917 revolution by former fellows. He also discussed his work on the Russian revolution and civil war in interviews with the magazine *Istorik*, newspaper *Novaia gazeta*, and TV channel *Kultura*, all in Moscow, as well as the São Paulo newspaper *O Estado de S. Paulo* and Sean Guillory's *Russia Blog* (Pittsburgh).

Mark Roseman (History/Jewish Studies) has published "Das Udenkbare denken" (Thinking the unthinkable), in *Zeit Geschichte* (2017) (the history magazine of the German newspaper *Die Zeit*), issue 1, pp. 14-19.

continued on page 8

Outreach Notes - Continued from page 1

The Babushkas of Chernobyl (2016) provides a look into the lives of the few elderly women that remained within the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone. The last survivors of a small community who refused to evacuate their homes after the 1986 nuclear disaster, these women defiantly insist on living in the highly toxic environment. The documentary also shows the many ways that people temporarily enter the restricted territory, including government-sponsored tourist visits and “stalking,” the illegal trespassing frequently done by young people, who have a very different relationship to the disaster they did not experience firsthand. Medical examiners notice that the elderly who left the exclusion zone do not live as long as those who remain, a testament to the toll homesickness can take. By following this small group of persistent women, the film allows a hopeful, enlightening glimpse into a preserved world amidst the chaos of change and disaster.

Black Russians (2001) by Kara Lynch, through intimate interviews, explores the complexities of identity and experience for the individuals that comprise the small community of Afro-Russians in the former Soviet Union. For Russians, and arguably the rest of the world, this group is the last that would come to mind when one thinks of Russian people. By navigating the elements of Soviet ideology with the nuances of everyday life, this documentary portrays the diversity that abounds in every group. No two experiences are identical, although the most consistent theme is a varying degree of otherness felt by the interviewees amongst the Russian people. A collage that shifts quickly between voices, the film is a collective commentary on the individual experiences and challenges faced by this group of people.

While capturing the way people struggle with identity, the film also challenges what it means to be Russian. Most of those interviewed grew up in the Soviet Union, and while many have been told throughout their lives that they are different, they feel at home in their culture, exhibiting the same mannerisms and speaking the same language as their compatriots. For some of the interviewees, their parents came from the United States in an act of defiance against segregation policies and lack of civil rights, a theme that the Soviet Union readily exploited. Some came to Russia from African countries for academic pursuits, as the Soviet Union offered scholarships to study at the People's Friendship University of Russia with the objective of helping developing nations. Moscow promoted itself as a socialist utopia, where all were welcome, racism did not exist, and everyone deserved quality education and proper compensation for their work. However, party ideology did not directly translate into the behavior of Soviet citizens, and the interviewees express their personal encounters with stereotypes, racism, and disbelief, particularly when they identify themselves as Russians. As one interviewee reflected, Russian attitudes towards black people in general seem to have improved with increased exposure to the international community.

As a biracial (black and white) person who has spent significant time in Russia and studies the area, I found this documentary interesting and informative. I appreciated how Kara Lynch established the intricacies of the Russian language surrounding constructions of race, as certain terms are unpleasant to an English-speaker without proper explanation. The amount of interviews constructed a varied, vibrant patchwork of experience that emphasizes that a monolithic narrative does not exist while at the same time providing insight into socio-cultural phenomena, historical events, and identity—both self-identified and imposed by others—at continental crossroads.

These films, as well as many others, can be borrowed from the REEI Film Collection. For more information, go to <http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/resources/collections.shtml>.

Visiting Scholars

Dr. Alise Vitola, Research Fellow at the Institute for East European Studies at Freie Universität in Berlin, Germany, visited REEI for two weeks in April to work on her project “Institutions & Regional Development in the Baltic States.” In her research Dr. Vitola explores the long-term effects of the historical institutions on the contemporary economic development and societal values in the Baltics. During her stay she undertook a literature review and performed a quantitative analysis of the “Baltic German effect.” Research results were presented in her public talk “Baltic Germans and Comparative Development in the Baltics,” and she consulted with IU faculty specializing in Baltic history and culture. Dr. Vitola plans to keep in touch with colleagues at IU, exchanging research results and ideas for further cooperation. Her research visit was financed by the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies, Mudīte I. Zilīte Saltups Fellowship.



The Central European-International University: From Connecting Minds to Producing a Social Change

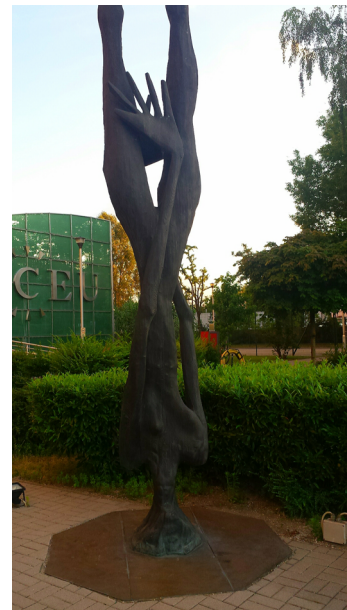
by Antonina Semivolos

In 2016 I landed in Budapest's *Ferenc Liszt International Airport* on a warm June day, just like two years before, in summer of 2014. A shuttle bus picked a few of us up, and we were on the way to the CEU student hostel, located on the outskirts of the city. The weather was warm and friendly. I kept thinking about how familiar the road looked even though these visits were my first encounters with Budapest. People, "social-realism-like" architecture of the student hostel building with a statue of a woman standing on her head by the entrance, even the sound of spoken Hungarian, made me think of my early childhood years in Ukraine's Kyiv.

My neighbor on the bus happened to be Julia, a young woman from Madrid who came to attend a philosophy course. We struck up a conversation which was a memorable preamble to what later turned out to be my twenty-something days with the CEU. It was my initiation into many rewarding, long-lasting connections with colleagues from Peru, Serbia, Brazil, and Indonesia, to name only a few countries. It was clear from our class discussions and our weekly visits to Budapest's historical landmarks, that we were all united in our quest to improve policies and the work of social institutions, and, more importantly, to gain a deeper understanding of democratic principles and how they operate in our respective countries. The talented teachers, representing the CEU, UP's Annenberg School of Communication, UCLA, and a few Russian Universities, stimulated our intellectual curiosity. The city's vibrant and unique baroque architecture and the cordiality of its character inspired us to continue our dialogue beyond the classroom and beyond those summers.

I was fortunate to attend the Summer Program at the CEU twice, first after completion of a dual degree at the REEI and the Maurer School of Law, for the "Advocacy, Activism, and the Internet: Communication Policy for Social Change" program. I decided to return in 2016 when I became intrigued by "In the Labyrinth of National Identity: Russia and Europe," a course exploring complexities of social landscape in what is still referred to as a post-Soviet space. Both visits expanded my understanding of the current social environments, whether those pertaining to the domain of the Internet lawmaking, or those dealing with the complexities of Russian and Central European politics, civil society, and the rule of law. How the discussions were led and how freely we could engage in comparisons, questioning, and mind-boggling digressions, was fundamental in our personal growth during those summers.

I want to use this opportunity to express my hope that the vibrant intellectual life of the CEU continues to prosper despite the recent legislative developments in Hungary. The university was founded in 1989 by a group of prominent members of the anti-totalitarian democratic opposition, among them George Soros. They envisioned their creation as an international university that would help facilitate the transition from dictatorship to democracy in Central and Eastern Europe. I feel privileged to have been a part of this process and the fortunate recipient of the REEI Mellon Endowment Grant that made my CEU experience a reality.



The statue by the CEU
Residence Center

Faculty/Staff News - Continued from page 6

On February 28, 2017, he gave the public lecture, "The Wannsee Conference and the Holocaust 75 Years On," at the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne.

John M. (Jack) Thompson (History), a distinguished diplomatic historian and a member of the history department from 1959 to 1976, died on March 6 at the age of 90. One of the founders of the Indiana University Russian and East European Institute, Jack was a wonderfully effective and popular teacher. At Indiana, he directed the dissertation research and writing of more than two dozen of our doctoral students in modern Russian history.

Faculty Profile: Emma Gilligan - Continued from page 2

my research. Any interviews or surveys have to be anonymous because people are worried about their future safety.

JW: How do you get around this climate of fear in regards to your research?

EG: A lot of these people are outside of Russia now so you can interview people in different parts of Europe. Even doing that, I think people are still not sure what can happen to them. Obviously they feel safer, but it's not like the Chechen government doesn't go outside its borders to find people. But that's one way, and I think that anonymous surveys as well as really just building trust over a long period of time play a part. Really, knowing that it's your first interview, it's probably going to be pretty basic until you build up a relationship. There are so many things to consider and it's really difficult to know where you're going to start to try to unpack it all. However, really my bigger question is about the relationship between the law and society during and after the Chechen Wars.

JW: What has been your experience at Indiana University and what do you hope to accomplish?

EG: The reason I moved to this university was because of the strength of the Russian program. Also the new SGIS (School of Global and International Studies) where I have the opportunity to teach both from the broader perspective of my interests—namely, human rights and human rights enforcement mechanisms—and then obviously also do my research in my field of Russia. So it's really been a perfect fit in that regard. Both from the perspective of teaching and research. I hope to continue writing things that may be of interest to people. Also, to continue trying to understand the different types of advocacy strategies that are used by Russian activists. I don't like to talk about success or failure with regard to human rights work, but I think it's very interesting to watch (human rights) groups form and how they respond to different political events.

Gifts in 2016

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Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship Fund: Lois E. Beekley, Brant and Amanda Beyer, Eric and Yulia Boyle, E.W. and Patricia Brooks, John and Kristine Bushnell, Eleanor J. Byrnes, Jim Byrnes, Shaun and Jill Byrnes, Charles and Kathleen Frazee, Amy and Richard Guffy, Roger and Sally Hamburg, Roger and Denise Kangas, David and Sharon Mason, Norma C. Noonan, Ed and Patricia O'Day, Carl and Colette Reddel, David J. Stira, Elizabeth A. Taylor, Paul H. Vivian and Vicky Bard Vivian

Frank McCloskey Fellowship Program Fund: Thomas and Jan Byars, Ed and Ann DeLaney, John R. Goss and Tonya Galbraith, Iris F. Kiesling, Bryan and Christy McCormick, Hon. Ellen K. Thomas

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not the Kremlin's interests."

At the conference, Fishman and his peers shared their resourceful survival strategies. When the government disconnected the independent television channel "TV Rain" in 2014—explained Fishman, a presenter for the channel—TV Rain resuscitated itself on the internet, relying on its readers for support by erecting a paywall. Gorbachev explained how Meduza.io eluded government control by moving its headquarters to Latvia. Journalist, publisher, and activist Sergey Parkhomenko [host of a popular political talk show on the radio station Echo of Moscow] introduced the term "ad-hoc journalism," suggesting that some of the best independent media alternatives in Russia today might include the websites of NGOs and other civic organizations.

"The focus on 'survival' raises a broader issue of the mission of journalism," Lipman commented, "and not just in Russia. The American scholars at the conference (some of whom had long-term and rich practical experience as journalists) also spoke about new challenges facing those journalists who adhere to the mission of a watchdog that holds the government to account on society's behalf."

As one discussion concluded, Lipman asked the journalists and media scholars to reprise their understanding of the role of journalism. Regardless of shifting tides in both countries, the responses from both Russian and American panelists harked back to traditional journalistic principles.

"To try to keep government secret services transparent," offered Russian investigative journalist Andrei Soldatov.

"To empower citizens with information," asserted Oates.

"To provide the link between cause and effect," suggested Diana Sokolova, PhD candidate at the Media School.

"To structure reality into a coherent narrative that makes sense of the world," proposed Gorbachev.

"Repression & Resilience in Russia's Public Sphere" was sponsored by the Russian Studies Workshop, with support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Co-sponsors included the Media School, the School of Global and International Studies, and the Russian and East European Institute. Support also came from the College Arts and Humanities Institute.

This is an abridged version of a press release originally published by the School of Global and International Studies (SGIS) on April 20, 2017. The original can be found here: <https://sgis.indiana.edu/news-events/sgis-news/2017/2017-04-20-RSW-seminar.html>.

Alumni News

Stephen Blackwell (PhD, Slavic, 1995) is co-editor of *Fine Lines: Vladimir Nabokov's Scientific Art* (Yale University Press, 2016), which was named one of the top 20 books of 2016 by the international science journal *Nature* and books and arts blog, "The View from the Bridge". The book, edited with Dr. Kurt Johnson, contains over 150 of Nabokov's drawings, with annotations and essays by more than ten scientists and Nabokov scholars.

Blake Reinhold (MA, REEI, 2012) is Instructor of History at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Thresholds into the Orthodox Commonwealth: Essays in honor of Theofanis G. Stavrou was published in 2017 in honor of distinguished IU alumnus **Theofanis G. Stavrou** (PhD, History, 1961; MA, History, 1957). This tribute honors his enthusiasm for collaborative scholarship and his wide-ranging expertise in Russian history and culture, Eastern Orthodox Church history, and Modern Greek literature. Forty-four senior scholars of Slavic, European, Mediterranean, and Eastern Orthodox studies contributed to the work, which was edited by Lucien J. Frary. This work is a testament to his generosity, breadth of knowledge, and commitment to training the next generation of scholars. More information about the book can be found here:

https://slavica.indiana.edu/bookListings/history/Thresholds_into_the_Orthodox_Commonwealth.

Student News

Alexandra Blaha (REEI) was awarded a Boren Fellowship to study Russian in Tbilisi, Georgia, during the 2017-18 academic year.

Tetiana Bulakh (Anthropology) has been awarded dissertation research grants from both the Wenner Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research and the National Science Foundation for her dissertation project, "Things That Matter: Humanitarian Aid and Consumer Citizenship Among Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ukraine." Tetiana has also joined the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) team as a volunteer.

Elena Doludenko (Slavic) received a NFMLTA/NCOLCTL (National Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations/National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) graduate student research award on April 22, 2017.

Michael Hancock-Parmer (History) has accepted an adjunct professor position at Virginia Tech University for next year. He has been teaching at Roanoke College this year. He will be a visiting professor at Nazarbayev University this summer in Kazakhstan, where he will teach their History of Kazakhstan courses in their summer program.

Szabolcs László (History) presented "Just Knock on the Right Doors: The Anatomy of a Populist Literary Project in Contemporary Hungary" at the 24th Annual Central Eurasian Studies Conference at IU on March 4, 2017.

Joanna Matuszak (Art History) defended her doctoral dissertation, *From Red Square to Pushkin Monument: Russian Performance Art in Public Spaces in the 1990s*, on April 7, 2017.

Magdalena Mullek (Slavic) edited and translated a book soon to be published by Slavica Publishers, along with her colleague Julia Sherwood. It is an anthology of Slovak literature entitled *Into the Spotlight: New Writing from Slovakia*. The book also has a UK edition, which is already out, published by Parthian.

Leone Musgrave (History) presented the paper "The Non-Human, the Anthropogenic, and the Autogenic in a Moment of Human Crisis: The North Caucasus Environment in Revolution and Civil War," at All Things Living and Not: An Interdisciplinary Conference on Non-Anthropocentric Perspectives in Slavic Studies held at Columbia University on February 23-25, 2017.

Thomas Tyler (REEI) was awarded a Fulbright ETA grant for the 2017-18 academic year. He will work at the Volga Region State Academy of Physical Culture, Sport and Tourism in Kazan.

REEIfication will be transitioning to an online-only publication in the next year. To continue receiving REEIfication, please send reei@indiana.edu your preferred email address, subject line "attn newsletter." If you would be interested in receiving a once yearly paper newsletter from REEI, please let us know.

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