



# REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

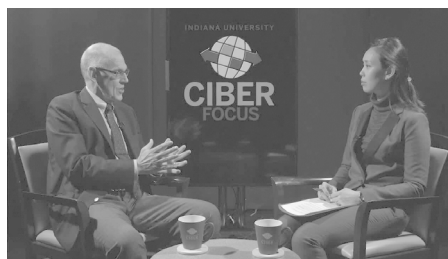
Sarah Phillips, Director  
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## Outreach Notes: REEI and CIBER Collaborate on Outreach to the Business Community

Habitual readers of the "Outreach Notes" are keenly aware of REEI's multi-faceted work with pre-college teachers of Russian and other subjects. However, REEI energetically pursues outreach to many other constituencies, including government officials, the media, and the business community, which has benefited from the fruitful collaboration of REEI and the IU Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) over the past year. Like REEI, CIBER serves as a national resource center with the support of a Title VI grant from the US Department of Education. It leverages the institutional strengths of Indiana University and the IU Kelley School of Business to help US businesses compete successfully in the global marketplace.

In April of 2016, CIBER and REEI co-sponsored and co-organized "Doing Business in and with Russian and Ukraine," a one-day conference that took place in Indianapolis on the IUPUI campus and brought together government officials, business leaders, civil society organizations, and academics to explore the economic outlooks of the two countries as well as their business and diplomatic relationships with the United States. The conference got under way with "Building an Innovative Russian Economy," a keynote address by Mark Pomar, President of the US-Russia



Mark Pomar (left) at CIBER

Foundation for Economic Development and the Rule of Law (USRF), an independent foundation that supports US-Russia

university partnerships, as well as educational and training programs in economics, entrepreneurship, and law. After discussing the role of higher education in promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in Russia, Pomar suggested that Russia's highly educated citizenry, tradition of excellence in science education, and widespread interest in emulating American models of entrepreneurial education holds great promise for the future of the Russian economy, despite the country's recent economic decline. Following the keynote, Danica R. Starks, who serves as Policy Team Director for the Office of Russia, Ukraine & Eurasia in the US Department of Commerce International Trade Administration, and Dusan Marinkovic, Senior International Trade Specialist for the US Commercial Service of the US Department of Commerce, spoke as panelists for "Federal and State Promotion of Trade with Russia and Ukraine," moderated by REEI faculty affiliate Robert S. Kravchuk, Professor of Public and Environmental Affairs. The second panel, "Hoosier Business Connection: Perspectives on Business with Russia and Ukraine," featured Oleg Gostomelsky, Vice President

### Winter 2017

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## Faculty Profile: Maria Lipman

by Sharon Miller

Maria Lipman, Distinguished Fellow of Russian Studies, is teaching a course entitled “Putin’s Russia.” She is a noted journalist who worked as a translator and researcher for the Moscow bureau of *The Washington Post* in the 1990s, wrote a monthly column for the *The Washington Post*’s op-ed section in the 2000s, and more recently has published blogs in *The New Yorker* online. The co-founder and deputy editor-in-chief of two Russian weekly news magazines, she has co-edited several books, and served as editor-in-chief for two journals, the Carnegie Moscow Center’s *Pro et Contra*, and *Counterpoint*, published by George Washington University. Her research addresses the relationships between state and society, with a focus on media and government. As a student in “Putin’s Russia” with a research interest in contemporary media culture in Russia, I was very excited to learn more about Professor Lipman’s work.

*SM: To start, can you tell me about your background and research interests, and what inspired you to become a journalist?*

*ML:* I was born and raised in the Soviet Union in a family that did not bring me up as a fan of the Soviet government or the Communist Party, and since the journalistic profession brought you very close to ideology, it was totally out of the question. But when the communist system began to collapse in the late 80s, when everything was in motion, and, in a most encouraging way for someone like myself, a Moscow liberal intellectual, I made friends with a few American reporters who worked in Moscow at the time. I had no idea this would become, in any way, a job. But then at the very end of 1990, I was invited to work at the Moscow bureau of *The Washington Post* as a translator and researcher. About one year later the *Washington Post* Moscow correspondents were covering the failed Communist coup that soon led to the collapse of the Soviet Union. That was when I wrote my very first story for *The Washington Post*. Then after a few years, as post-communist Russian media was evolving, I was invited by a friend of mine, a professional Russian journalist, to launch *Itogi*, the first-ever Russian weekly news magazine in the Russian language that had a cooperation agreement with *Newsweek*. We published from ’96 to 2001, and that was an amazing time. We were, in a sense, trailblazers, producing the first-ever publication in this format. Then, in 2001, we fell victim to the Kremlin takeover. We were not the primary target of the takeover, but rather, “collateral damage.” That was the end of our publication. In 2003 I was invited to come work for the Carnegie Moscow Center to edit their semi-academic journal, *Pro et*



Maria Lipman, 2017

*Contra*. I did that for 10 years.

*SM:* So, a bit of a different topic now. You said in class that American journalists today are writing about Russia, focused almost exclusively on the Kremlin’s malicious operations and Putin’s role in influencing the American election. You also said that you believe that relations between the US and Russia would improve if journalists took a more humanistic approach. Could you elaborate?

*ML:* I don’t think that journalists can change the relations between countries. A journalist’s mission is to cover events. However, looking at the American media scene today, as far as the coverage of Russia is concerned, I’m a bit disappointed. It is very rare these days to read about anything except the evil Kremlin. It seems that the coverage of Russia is almost totally confined to Russia’s evil plots against America, which to me looks eerily similar to the way America has been covered in Russia in recent years - as a source of evil, always seeking to do harm to Russia. Whereas, in fact, there is so much more about America that could be interesting to the Russian people. Likewise, there are so many things about Russia that could be of interest to the American public. But unfortunately, the coverage of Russia in the United States, and the coverage of the United States in Russia have been reduced to the same circumscribed and, not infrequently, biased approach.

*SM:* Speaking of US-Russian relations, you’re participating in a panel talking about the end of the ‘New Cold War’ (see page 15 for details) with the rise of Trump’s presidency. I am curious to hear what you think about the future of US-Russian relations.

*ML:* I’m not very hopeful. The American president is inexperienced and unpredictable, to say the least. I don’t think anybody at this point has a good idea of what his foreign policy is going to be like. One should not be deluded by the euphoria in Russia, in the state-controlled media and among the broad public over Trump’s election. I don’t think that President Putin felt euphoric after the

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## #Euromaidan at the Grunwald Gallery of Art by Joanna Matuszak

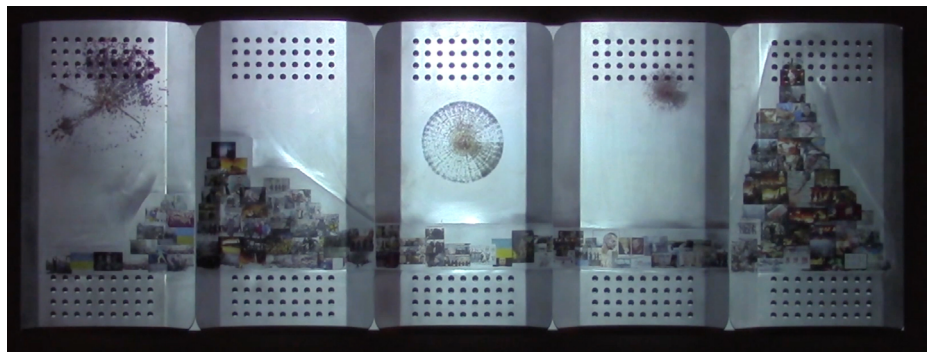
Five uniform riot shields formed a tight screen. They were covered with small images—just the size of an average cell phone screen. One had to get close to the shiny metal surfaces of the shields to decipher the images. They formed a horizontal line: from left to right the row of images grew into a huge mass that covered nearly half of the second shield then subsided into a more orderly row just to spike again into a towering mountain of images on the last shield. This visual narrative began with images of people protesting, waving the Ukrainian flag; then there were police cordons with riot shields—exactly the same as the ones on exhibit—a hand holding spent bullets, fire everywhere, wounded civilians, dead bodies, makeshift barricades, smoke, smiling faces of Putin and Yanukovych. At short intervals, circular projections of various sizes appeared on the sleek surfaces of the shields, growing from a small dot into a larger circle before vanishing within a couple of seconds. This visceral experience was created by Andrew Asher, Sofiya Asher, and Adam Reynolds in the installation entitled *#Euromaidan*, part of the *[Re] Imagining Science* exhibition at the Grunwald Gallery of Art at Indiana University Bloomington (October 14–November 16, 2016).

On November 21, 2013, Ukrainian citizens gathered on *Maidan Nezalezhnosti* (Independence Square) to protest against their government's suspension of negotiations to finalize the European Union–Ukraine Association Agreement. Protestors used the Twitter hashtag “Euromaidan” to disseminate information about the demonstrations, and Euromaidan soon became shorthand for a broader opposition movement against President Yanukovych and the corrupt government. When the courts issued a ban on demonstrations in Kyiv in 2014, confrontations between the police and protesters became more violent. These events and their instantaneous dissemination through Twitter images became the subject of Sofiya Asher and Andrew Asher's research project. Sofiya, a lecturer in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures at IU Bloomington, is Ukrainian by birth. Her knowledge of Ukraine became indispensable in reading, translating, and interpreting the Twitter comments. Andrew, who holds a doctorate in anthropology and is the assessment librarian at IU Bloomington, focuses his research on the ways people locate, use, and share information.

“We knew we wanted to work with image data,” Sofiya said, “because it is usually not analyzed from a social sciences perspective. It is difficult to machine process.” They chose to analyze tweets with images and a Euromaidan hashtag posted between January 16 and



All Photo credit: Adam Reynolds



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## Faculty Profile: Łukasz Sicinski

by Kayleigh Fischietto

*Welcome. Would you please say a few words about yourself and your academic journey?*

I'm a lecturer of Polish language and culture in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures. My academic background combines philosophy and literary studies. Born and raised in Poland, I first studied at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, from which I earned an MA in philosophy. After moving to Canada in 2006, I began graduate studies in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Toronto, where I studied Polish and Czech literature and taught Polish language, film, and culture. I have recently completed my PhD, and I am currently working on publishing my dissertation as a book.

*In the fall 2016 semester you taught *The Bold and the Restless: Polish Film from the 1950s to the Present*. Was it challenging to teach this course to a mixture of undergraduate and graduate students with varying levels of familiarity with Polish culture?*

Teaching a course to such a heterogeneous group of students can be challenging, but it can also be very rewarding. Perhaps the biggest challenge is that this type of course needs to be carefully planned so that all students have an opportunity to learn. This, I think, can be achieved by designing a course in a way that allows students to take advantage of the diversity of their academic backgrounds. It goes without saying that previous knowledge of a course topic may be useful in understanding and interpreting course materials; however, I believe that the perspective of students with no previous knowledge of the course topic can be equally insightful, and these students very often see things that a person familiar with the topic may not see. The film course I taught in the fall had an undergraduate, graduate, and honors section. To take advantage of students' various backgrounds, the course was designed to encourage students to examine course materials from their own perspectives and to learn from each other through collaborative and student-led projects. This resulted in a fruitful exchange of ideas and some very insightful research papers at the end of the semester. So, yes, teaching this course was challenging in a sense that it required very careful planning, but at the same time it was a wonderful experience.

*In addition to this thematic course, you teach two Polish language courses each semester. What are the key tenets of your approach to language learning?*

The main idea that guides my teaching is that language is, first and foremost, a means of communication. As a result, my Polish language classes are focused on getting students

to use the language, rather than merely knowing it. To make language study meaningful, I favor the use of authentic materials, and I emphasize the ability to use Polish in real communication. This, of course, doesn't mean that I don't teach grammar or that my students are only being taught how to use Polish



Łukasz Sicinski, new lecturer in the Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures Department

in everyday situations. I want my students to be able to order a meal at a restaurant, but also to write a persuasive text or a summary of a book. It is important that learning to communicate effectively involves not only learning to speak or write in a grammatically correct way, but also learning to do that in a way that is context-appropriate. In this sense, my approach stresses the importance of culture. The idea that language and culture are inseparable and therefore teaching culture should be a part of any language classroom has been widely accepted and is by no means controversial. What I find crucial is that cultural knowledge should be well incorporated into classroom instruction so that it is not a mere addition to language learning, but an integral part of it. Of course, all this doesn't mean that I don't modify my approach if I need to. Language students usually represent a variety of backgrounds, and I think that a language teacher should be flexible enough to adjust his or her methods to accommodate students' learning styles.

*What do you consider the strengths of the Polish language program at IU to be?*

It is a very active program. Our students have the opportunity to participate in a multitude of extracurricular activities, including events organized by the Polish Studies Center and the student-led Polish Cultural Association. These events range from guest lectures and meetings with acclaimed Polish artists to translation workshops, movie screenings, and themed Polish nights exploring popular Polish culture. What is important is that our extracurricular programming is designed to incorporate students' interests and complement what students learn

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## Alumni Profile: Jim Niessen

by Michelle Schulte

Dr. James P. Niessen graduated from Indiana University with a PhD in History (1989) and an REEI certification (1981), and completed his MLIS. at The University of Texas at Austin (1994). Currently, Dr. Niessen works as a scholar of Hungarian and Romanian history and as the World History Librarian at the Alexander Library at Rutgers University, where he has also served as the Director of the Institute for Hungarian Studies (2010-2011).

*MS: What first drew you to the REE area?*

JN: First of all, it was my ancestry: German (Rhineland) on my father's side and Lithuanian on my mother's side. Growing up on Long Island, I heard funny stories about the incompatibility of Germans and Lithuanians, although both my parents were born in Philadelphia. So when I went to Notre Dame for my undergraduate studies, I was determined to participate in its sophomore study abroad program in Innsbruck, Austria. Then I went to Vienna for a year after my graduation, auditing courses and travelling in Eastern Europe for the first time in 1975-76. It gradually dawned on me that the relations of Germans and Lithuanians, or Hungarians and Romanians, are part of a broader pattern that characterizes the region. While still in Vienna I decided to apply for grad school at IU because of its East European program and my familiarity with Indiana.

*MS: Would you say that your studies at IU impacted your research?*

JN: Absolutely! My dissertation was on religion and politics in Transylvania during the 1860s. I further developed aspects of that work in later articles on Hungarian and Romanian church history and nationalism. But as my employment shifted from history teaching to librarianship, I turned to aspects of libraries and archives in Eastern Europe, and most recently to Hungarian refugees after the 1956 Revolution. The common threads are Hungary, Romania, and the comparative perspective on the region that was at the core of East European studies at IU.

*MS: How did you decide to make the switch to librarianship? Has working in a library changed the way you see the research process?*

JN: My favorite grad student jobs at IU were ordering and searching for [former IU Slavic Bibliographer] Murlin Croucher in the Main Library and cataloging the French Revolution collection in the Lilly Library. I taught in history departments for three years after I graduated, but soon realized that I enjoyed research and writing more

than teaching. So I went to library school in 1992 and have worked in academic libraries since 1994.

I should add that my pro bono "career" in H-Net played a major role in the transition. I discovered this internet organization as I was finishing library school. It was a pioneer in the use of moderated email lists, gophers, and websites for scholarly

networking and book reviewing. I contacted the creator of the HABSBURG list, Charlie Ingrao at Purdue, about bringing it into H-Net and he agreed on the condition that I help in the work. For the ten years that we worked together, HABSBURG was a very important resource for East European historians. And as H-Net grew, I became active in the organization and occupied a leadership role for several years. IU's Professor Bob Byrnes helped turn me toward librarianship with his emphasis on 3x5 cards, but I confess I don't use them much anymore. I compile citations in bibliographic software and compose notes on paper and computer, scans, digital photos, and links; it is all more complicated. It is important for librarians to do their own research so that they can understand their constituents' reality. Online access is, of course, wonderful, and I profit from it also, but we are in a disorderly transition. We don't know where we're headed, but it's a safe bet that our resources will never be exclusively online.

*MS: What advice do you have for current or future students of the REE area? How do you see your fields developing?*

JN: I would recommend that students keep their career options broad. Be aware that the way you do research today is just a starting point, and it will likely change. I've observed the transformation of research access and technologies, from digitization to bibliographic databases, e-books and e-journals, and we can rest assured that change will continue. Your older colleagues may be working with methods learned in grad school that are no longer adequate. So plan to dialog with your librarian and archivist, especially in the early stages of a project. Take advantage of what is freely available online, and contribute to it by seeking to publish your own research in



Jim Niessen, IU alum and  
World History Librarian  
at Rutgers University

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## International Comparative Exchange: Services for Children with Disabilities

by Bryan P. McCormick

During the first summer session 2016 at IU, students from IU Bloomington and the University of Belgrade, Serbia, engaged in a new faculty-led exchange program. The result of collaboration between faculty in the School of Public Health at IU Bloomington and the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation at the University of Belgrade, the program aimed to expose students from the two universities to services for children with disabilities in both Serbia and the US, as well as provide an opportunity for cultural comparison. From May 8-26, six students and two faculty members from the recreational therapy program in the School of Public Health at IU Bloomington traveled to Serbia to observe and participate in programming for children and adolescents with disabilities. The IU group worked with and was hosted by the Milan Petrović School in Novi Sad, Serbia (<http://www.smp.edu.rs>).

The Milan Petrović School, in actuality more of a school system than a school, assists children, adolescents, and adults with disabilities from throughout the Vojvodina region of northern Serbia. The school has units serving those from pre-school to adult day programs and includes boarding, vocational, health, and workshop services. While in Novi Sad, the IU group was hosted at the school's Educational Camp in the village of Čenaj, and began each day working with young adults from the institution Veternik on gardening and farm-related projects. Some of these adults also would take fresh vegetables and fruit raised in Čenaj to sell in Novi Sad. In addition to visiting and working with children and adolescents in the Milan Petrović system, the IU students had opportunity to visit local monasteries and parks and experience the café culture of Novi Sad. They also benefited from presenting their professional field of recreational therapy to both the staff of School Milan Petrović and the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation at the University of Novi Sad.

Following almost three weeks in Serbia, the IU students returned to the US along with eight students from the University of Belgrade's Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation. In the following weeks, the students worked at IU's Bradford Woods therapeutic camping programs. There, the students assisted children and adolescents with intellectual and physical disabilities, as they climbed towers, swam, practiced archery, made arts and crafts, and went about their daily routines. Besides camp work, the students also went on excursions. They visited a drive-in movie, state parks, and attended a baseball game.

Overall the program was successful in exposing students to another culture, which in turn helped them to reflect on their own countries and cultures. In both the US and Serbian groups, this was the first international experience for most of the students. One of the IU students reflected, upon returning from Serbia, that "when I got home late that night I felt very weird and out of place, even at my own house. I was a new me, but back in the same old place. I think that you get so used to the unfamiliar and unknown, coming back to the usual & accustomed feels very strange." In having to explain why or how something was done a certain way, the students had to consider that "our" way of doing something was not necessarily better than "your" way of doing it, but instead reflected different social, economic, and political realities. In reviewing lessons learned on the IU students' last night in Serbia, one participant noted that "just because something is done differently than what you are used to, it doesn't mean that it is bad or wrong."

The program is scheduled to be repeated in the summer of 2017 with an expanded number of programs in Serbia with whom the IU students will work. In addition, interest both among IU students and University of Belgrade students indicates that numbers in both groups are likely to increase.



Serbian and IU group participants at the Sample Gates in Bloomington, IN



Group participants enjoy a beautiful field in Vojvodina, Serbia.

## 2016 International Social Science Summer School in Ukraine By Tetiana Bulakh

*“Why about the war? Because we are people of war, we have always been at war or been preparing for war. If one looks closely, we all think in terms of war. At home, on the street (...) Everything is wartime.”*  
Svetlana Alexievich, Nobel Lecture, 2015

“War and Violent Conflict in Socialist and Post-Socialist Societies” was a central theme for the eighth edition of the 2016 International Social Science Summer School in Ukraine. It was the second time I attended the school, with the funding support of an REEI Mellon grant, and I highly recommend it for everyone who is interested in the post-Soviet region and seeks productive and insightful discussions with colleagues. Launched in 2009 by a multidisciplinary team of scholars, this academic event promotes cooperation and networking for young researchers, who share interests in Soviet and post-Soviet studies. Every year the School takes place in a different Ukrainian city, carefully selected to shape the scholarly conversation. During the past summer it was hosted in Kharkiv, which is one of the largest cities in Eastern Ukraine, metaphorically coined by one of the participants as “the balcony of war.”

One of the big advantages of the school is the community that forms during its course. In 2016, the group of participants included graduate students, young researchers, and faculty advisors from over 30 universities around the world. The school has a unique format that stimulates collaboration. The school combines two parts: projects workshop and fieldwork. Guided by a team of international faculty with diverse expertise and background, the participants present their working projects and receive extensive feedback on them. The second part includes field trips, interviews with local experts, roundtable discussions, and guided thematic tours in the region. The fieldwork component is a signature feature of the school. It nicely complements academic debates and blurs the boundaries between academic and public fields. During the past summer, among the most insightful field visits were: a meeting with international journalists who report on the conflict in Ukraine, a visit to the local office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) that observes the conflict, and a trip to a volunteer center that emerged as a civil response to the conflict in Ukraine and supports displaced people. The week of meetings and presentations was intense and dynamic, but successfully bridged theorizations with empirical research experiences.

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## REEI at NACADA

In October 2016, Emily Liverman (Assistant Director, REEI) and Jamie Bue (CEUS/SPEA MA/MPA) gave a presentation at the national conference for NACADA, the Global Community for Academic Advising, in Atlanta, Georgia.

The presentation, “Models for Graduate Student Research and Professional Development,” was selected as one of only three sessions sponsored by the Advising Graduate and Professional Students Commission. Liverman and Bue explained and examined two models for research and professional development event series, geared towards graduate students in area studies. Liverman focused on REEI Networks!, an event series that began Fall 2013 and is designed to connect REEI-affiliated graduate student to each other and to academic and funding opportunities, as well as alumni. Bue focused on the Student Professionalization Series she started as president of the Association of Central Eurasian Students in Fall 2015, which focuses on collaboration between students and university resources and workshopping statements, professional documents, and many other items.

While in Atlanta, Liverman also visited the Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of North Georgia (UNG) to talk about IU’s Summer Language Workshop (SLW, formerly SWSEEL), and REEI’s resources for students and faculty, as well as degree plans. She also represented SLW to a cadre of ROTC cadets and midshipmen at UNG.

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*Alumni Profile - Continued from page 5*

open access journals and deposit it in an open access repository. I’ve developed a preference for publishing in European journals that do not require you to sign a copyright transfer agreement. Some East European countries are ahead of the US in their progress toward open access, and publishing in the journals of your research country will also provide valuable contacts there. Many of my publications, including my IU dissertation, are available at [http://soar.libraries.rutgers.edu/bib/James\\_P\\_Niessen/](http://soar.libraries.rutgers.edu/bib/James_P_Niessen/). You can invite the IU Libraries to place your dissertation online by completing the form at <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/theses>. Just ignore the fields for electronic submission.

## ASEEES and the Russian Studies Workshop by Alisha Kirchoff

On November 18, 2016, REEI hosted a reception at the annual convention for the Association for Slavic East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) in Washington, DC. While REEI holds an annual alumni reception at this convention, there were extra reasons to celebrate this year. At the festive event, the Russian Studies Workshop (RSW) was formally introduced and launched by faculty director, Professor Regina Smyth, and REEI Director, Professor Sarah Phillips. RSW is a new program funded by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to bolster Russian studies at IU. The grant will enable the Russian and East European Institute to expand its work as an incubator for collaborative research and as a training center on contemporary Russian politics and society.

The first cohort of RSW fellows received funding to participate in the 2016 ASEEES convention. As graduate students at various stages of research development with a focus on Russia, they represent several disciplines and include: Tetiana Bulakh, Anthropology; Alisha Kirchoff, Sociology; Dima Kortukov, Political Science; Tim Model, Political Science; Leone Musgrave, History; Diana Sokolova, Journalism; Katie Stewart, Political Science; and Tom Wonder, Political Science. At the convention, the RSW fellows presented their work, networked with senior scholars, and had the opportunity to meet with potential collaborators from RSW's partner institutions in Russia. While the REEI reception at ASEEES brought together a new group of scholars, it also celebrated the continued successes of REEI and the Summer Language Workshop (SLW). Mark Trotter, REEI Associate Director and SLW Interim Director, announced the abundant funding opportunities available as well as the expanded language offerings at SLW in summer 2017. The Russian Studies Workshop has provided a new avenue of funding for students who will begin a PhD program in 2017 and wish to enhance their Russian proficiency through study at SLW. Information on that opportunity is available here: <http://indiana.edu/~swseel/funding-costs/fellowships>.

The formal program concluded with a toast to honor the active alumni network of REEI and IU, celebrate continued programming success, and look forward to the new opportunities ahead for RSW, REEI, and SLW. The gathering of colleagues and friends, old and new, was a warm reminder of the vast network of scholars and affiliates that enriches the legacy of Russian and East European area studies at IU.

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## A Graduate Student's Experience at the ASEEES-MAG Conference in Lviv by Tetiana Bulakh

The 2016 ASEEES-MAG Summer Convention "Images of the Other" in Ukraine was the second edition of a joint summer conference, sponsored by ASEEES and its partner in the region, the International Association for the Humanities (MAG). A welcome advantage of a format like this is the opportunity to connect North American and European researchers with local academics and intellectuals who otherwise might not be able to collaborate. In this way, summer gatherings give a new spin to the traditionally collaborative environment of ASEEES meetings. IU was very well represented at this conference: ASEEES President Padraic Kenney (History, International Studies) delivered a keynote address, and faculty members Andrew Asher (Libraries), Sofiya Asher (Slavic), and Sarah Phillips (Anthropology, REEI) presented papers. PhD student Polina Vlasenko (Anthropology) also attended the conference.

The scale of the event exceeded my expectations. Over 500 scholars from 35 countries represented 19 areas of research. The diversity of topics and disciplines turned the three-day conference into an engrossing journey. Given the sheer number of sessions, it presented a challenge for participants who attempted to attend each one of interest to them (and to the credit of the organizers, there were plenty of sessions with intriguing themes and attractive topics). On the bright side, hopping from one session to another had its own advantages. For instance, I especially enjoyed the sessions that I initially had not planned to attend, ones that featured a presentation on the use of gender category in the discussion on othering and resistance, a panel on theological aspects of the Euromaidan protests, and vivid debates on the contemporary interpretations and reevaluations of Ukrainian history. Although larger academic events like the 2016 Summer Convention rarely lend themselves to in-depth productive debates, they provide a unique opportunity to grasp the state of the field, shake disciplinary boundaries, establish new professional relations, and reconnect with colleagues.



*#Euromaidan - Continued from page 3*

## IU Awards for REEI Alumni

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

## REEI Awards

### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

1988 Alexander Rabinowitch  
1988 Charles Gati  
1995 Gale Stokes  
1995 Helena Goscilo  
2002 Howard I. Aronson  
2002 William Hopkins  
2009 Donald Raleigh  
2011 Stephen F. Cohen  
2013 Victor Jackovich

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

1988 Theofanis Stavrou  
1988 Robert F. Byrnes  
1989 Karen Niggle  
1996 Robert W. Campbell  
1997 Charles Jelavich  
1997 Janet Rabinowitch  
2000 William B. Edgerton  
2007 Denise Gardiner  
2009 David L. Ransel  
2010 Jerzy Kolodziej  
2012 Henry Cooper  
2015 Anna Sharogradskaya

February 24, 2014—the time period that witnessed the most intense protests and violence between government forces and the Euromaidan movement. Sofiya and Andrew obtained the data set from Twitter in JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) format in fall 2014. It consisted of about 900,000 tweets posted by over 20,000 individuals. They began a process of converting this data into a format with which they could run statistical and data analyses. The final stage of image processing was the most experimental. “The very first analysis that we did,” said Andrew, “was to take a random sample of about 500 images and do a qualitative content analysis. We were going through them by hand, reading and coding them. We basically did open coding and organized the codes.”

When an opportunity to present their research project in an art exhibition came up, Sofiya and Andrew began collaborating with Adam Reynolds, who graduated with an MFA in Photography from the IU School of Fine Arts in 2015. His background in conflict zone photography made him an ideal partner for turning what began as a science research project into a research-based art project—a type of contemporary art form that has become more prevalent in recent years. The images placed on the shields were based on the content analysis that Sofiya and Andrew did. “The percentages of the image types that were printed on the shields were roughly the same as the topics that we identified in the content analysis,” said Andrew. In addition, the images were arranged to correspond with the volume of data posted over time, with the two spikes in images indicating violent clashes on January 19–23 and February 18, 2014, that resulted in 128 confirmed deaths. Another element—the circular polar projections—was created solely for the installation. These projections represented images that particular users posted on Twitter within the time period analyzed. The radius of the circular projections depended on the color and saturation of the images.

Standing in front of the tightly arranged shields and looking closely at small pictures of Euromaidan protesters’ courage, solidarity, and civil and political engagement, one could experience history in myriad individual, though anonymous, stories. On the surface, this artwork is about a specific historical event, but as the hashtagged title suggests, it addresses the broader question of how social media (in this case, Twitter) affect social interactions, reformulate anonymity, and influence and manipulate our knowledge of the world.

The author expresses gratitude to the creators of *#Euromaidan* for the information they shared with her about the project.



The creators, from left to right: Sofiya Asher, Adam Reynolds, and Andrew Asher

*Outreach Notes - Continued from page 1*

of Hoosier Gasket Corporation, Dennis Kelley, President of Pacific World Trade, Inc., and Pomar, with moderation by another REEI faculty affiliate, Alexander (Sasha) Fedorikhin, Associate Professor of Marketing at the Kelley School of Business, IUPUI. A video recording of the workshop is available at: <http://go.iu.edu/1twd>.

On the day before the workshop, Pomar spoke with graduate students over lunch on careers in the NGO sector, delivered a public lecture on “US-Russia Relations: NGOs and Foundations,” and sat for an interview on the challenges and opportunities of current US-Russia relations in the CIBER Focus series, available at <http://go.iu.edu/1ttN>. Over the past few months, CIBER and REEI have collaborated to produce a series of video lessons about Polish language and culture, written and presented by Łukasz Sicinski, (Lecturer in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures) and Natalie Misteravich-Carroll (PhD, Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures, 2016), Assistant to the Director of the Polish Studies Center. Once completed, the series will be featured on the CIBER website at <https://kelley.iu.edu/IIB/ProgramsandInitiatives/CIBER/Media/page51962.html>, where it will join a series on Hungary, the result of a collaboration between CIBER and the IU Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, written and presented by Valeria Varga, Lecturer in the Department of Central Eurasian Studies, and Péter Nemes, Lecturer in the Department of International Studies.

REEI welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with CIBER on these important forms of outreach to the business community and encourages businesspeople from any part of the country to contact us at [martrott@indiana.edu](mailto:martrott@indiana.edu) for assistance in forging connections with Russia and Eastern Europe.

## MA Essays defended in 2016

**Geoffrey Durham:** “The Ukrainian ‘i’ on Soviet Life: Dissident Autobiography after Stalin.” August 2016/Chair: Hiroaki Kuromiya; Committee: Padraic Kenney, Sarah Phillips

**Bryan Holyfield:** “A Cultural Uniform?: Secondary Education and School Culture in Late Imperial Russia.” May 2016/Chair: Ben Eklof; Committee: Padraic Kenney, Patrick Michelson, Tatiana Saburova

**Stephanie Morris:** “Bridging the Gap: Estonian Integration Policy and Information Space as Depicted in Estonian Russian-Language Online News Portals.” May 2016/Chair: Toivo Raun; Committee: Piibi-Kai Kivik, Svitlana Melnyk

**Rebecca Mueller:** “Mental Health Reform and Postsocialism in Albania.” December 2016/Chair: Bryan McCormick; Committee: Sarah Phillips, Frances Trix

**Kyle Norweg:** “Europe’s Environment: Nature’s Role in the Future Integration of the Western Balkans.” April 2016/Chair: Toivo Raun; Committee: Marina Antic, Timothy Hellwig

**Zackary Suhr:** “Between Europe and Holy Rus: The Russian Orthodox Church’s Framing of the Ukraine Crisis.” September 2016/Chair: Regina Smyth; Committee: Hiroaki Kuromiya, Patrick Michelson

**Elizabeth Tomlinson:** “Russian and Ukrainian Protests in Context: Participation and Politicized Internet Use.” April 2016/Chair: Regina Smyth; Committee: Kathryn Graber, Laura Meadows

## Student News

**Andrew Jacobs** (History) received an Advanced Research Fellowship from American Councils (Title VIII funding from the State Department) for his dissertation research in Moscow.

**Alisha Kirchoff** (Sociology) has been elected a Graduate Student Representative of the Association for Women in Slavic Studies.

**Leone Musgrave** (History) presented “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 that took place in February, 2017 at Columbia University.

## Faculty/Staff News

**László Borhi** (CEUS) was recently interviewed on the Hungarian events of 1956 by *Origo*, the Hungarian web-based newsmagazine (in Hungarian):

<http://www.origo.hu/tudomany/tortenelem/20161031-megdobbentek-langleyben-hogy-kitort-a-magyar-forradalom.html>.

**Maria Bucur** (History) is the recipient of a Department of History grant-in-aid, which will support a new digital platform to be developed in conjunction with her next book, "Century of Women." Additionally, she has published: "Intimate Politics under Communism in Romania," in Catherine Baker, ed., *Gender in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union*. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2017; "Women and State Socialism: Failed Promises and Radical Changes Revisited," Review Essay, *Nationalities Papers*, 44, no. 5 (September 2016): 847-55; "The Economics of Citizenship: Gender Regimes and Property Rights in Romania in the 20th Century," in Anne Epstein and Rachel Fuchs, eds., *Gender and Citizenship in Historical and Transnational Perspective*. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2016; "From Invisibility to Marginality: Women's History in Romania," *Women's History Review* (November 2016); and "Violent Crimes against Women Undiscussed," *Herald Times*, November 23, 2016. She also published "Romanian Literature: Fascism and Erotica," which appeared in the December 13, 2016, issue of the *Times Literary Supplement*.

**Aurelian Craiutu** (Political Science) has just published *Faces of Moderation: The Art of Balance in an Age of Extremes* with University of Pennsylvania Press. The book was featured extensively in "Moderate Is Not a Dirty Word," an op-ed piece by Peter Wehner that ran in the *New York Times* on December 18, 2016.

<http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/15561.html>

**Ke-Chin Hsia** (History) presented a talk on "Disability and 'Internal Colonization' in WWI Austria" at the Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota, as part of "State and Society in Late Imperial Austria: A Symposium in Honor of Gary Cohen" on September 29. The first part of that paper was also presented at the Österreichischer Zeitgeschichtetag (Austrian Contemporary History Conference) held at the University of Graz, Austria, on June 10, 2016.

**Padraic Kenney** (History, International Studies) is a finalist for the Kazimierz Moczarski Book Prize in Polish History for *Budowanie Polski Ludowej. Robotnicy a komuniści 1945-1950*, which is a translation of his *Rebuilding Poland: Workers and Communists, 1945-1950*. Additionally, he presented a paper entitled "'How to Free Your Prisoner': Techniques of International Advocacy from the ICPP to Amnesty International" at the American Historical Association in Denver. He also published an essay entitled "Po co historykom Polska" ("What use to historians is Poland?") in *Kultura Liberalna* 413 (49), December 2016. In addition, he delivered the Presidential Address at the 48th Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies held this past November in Washington, DC. Entitled "Area Studies and the 'False Song of Globalism,'" it was published in the January 2017 issue of *NewsNet* (<http://aseees.org/sites/default/files/downloads/january%202017%202.pdf>).

**Sarah Phillips** (Anthropology, REEI) been recognized with an Award for Outstanding Service by the Institute of International Education Scholar Rescue Fund.

**Alexander Rabinowitch** (History, emeritus) presented his "The Bolsheviks Survive: Government and Crises in Civil War Petrograd" in June at Russia's Epoch of War and Revolution, 1914-1921, an international conference co-sponsored by the European University in St. Petersburg and the St. Petersburg Institute of History, Russian Academy of Sciences. The first French edition of his *The Bolsheviks Come to Power* was published in Paris in September by La Fabrique Editions. New Italian- and English- language centennial editions of the book are currently being prepared for publication in 2017. Alex's remembrance of the leading Russian historian of the 1917 revolution, V. I. Startsev, was recently published in St. Petersburg. He is author of "The Petrograd Bolsheviks and the Birth of Soviet Russia: Centennial Reflections," a paper that served as the focus of an October 2016 seminar on socialism for interested faculty in the Pittsburgh area and was sponsored by the history department at Carnegie-Mellon University. In November 2016, Alex gave a New Directions Lecture on the same topic at the University of Illinois. This lecture was co-sponsored by the UIUC Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center and the UIUC Laboratory High School.



Faculty/Staff News - Continued from page 11

**Mark Roseman** (Jewish Studies/History) gave the paper “Jews on the defensive. Nazis in German Jewish accounts” at the conference *Wie bürgerlich war der Nationalsozialismus*, in Jena, Germany, October 20-22, 2016. He also published “‘No, Herr Führer!’ Jewish Revenge after the Holocaust: Between Fantasy and Reality” in Laura Jockusch, Andreas Kraft, and Kim Wünschmann (eds.), *Revenge, Retribution, Reconciliation: Justice and Emotions between Conflict and Mediation. A Cross-Disciplinary Anthology* (The Hebrew University Magnes Press, Jerusalem 2016), 69-90. He is also featured in an IU Newsroom Policy [Briefing](#) on his participation in Germany’s upcoming 75-year commemoration of the Wannsee Conference. Mark contributed a chapter to the German edition of *The Participants: The Men of the Wannsee Conference*. He also gave a talk, “The Rise of Fascism in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Europe and this Pre-Inaugural Moment: What are the Similarities? What the Differences?,” to Congregation Beth Shalom, Bloomington, on January 15.

**Tatiana Saburova** (History) presented “‘Two Generations’: Public, Private, and Images of Generations in the Soviet Photography” at *Photographing under Dictatorships of the Twentieth Century: Public Spheres and Photographic Practices*, a conference held at Humboldt University in Berlin on October 27, 2016. She spent October as a participating member of an ongoing collaborative research project of the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and the Higher School of Economics in Moscow (where she is affiliated) on the history of photography in Russia. While in Germany she also presented a paper entitled “Two Generations: The Public and Private Images of Generation in Soviet Photography” at a conference on *Photography under Dictatorships in the Twentieth Century*, at Humboldt University in Berlin (October 27-28). In Moscow on October 6 Saburova gave a presentation for the public affairs website [polit.ru](#) in Moscow on the book she and Ben Eklof (History) published in Russian last summer: *Nikolai Charushin and the Generation of Populists of the 1870s* (Moscow, 2016). Returning to the US, Saburova gave lectures on “Revolutionary Lives in Russia: the Populist Generation of the 1870s” at the Jordan Center of New York University on November 11 and at Princeton University on November 15, 2016.

**Maria Shardakova** (Slavic) has published “Playful Performances of Russianness and L2 Symbolic Competence” in *Pragmatics & Language Learning, Volume 14*.

**Mark Trotter** (REEL) presented “Promoting Critical Language Study at the K-12 Level: The Case of Russian” at the 2016 Area Studies & Outreach Conference: Best Practices in Internationalizing Classrooms and Communities in Washington, DC, on December 1, 2016. He has also been recognized with an Award for Outstanding Service by the Institute of International Education Scholar Rescue Fund.

**Russell Valentino** (Slavic) is the author of the translation from Serbo-Croatian of Miljenko Jergovic’s “The Siege Starts Without Warning,” an op-ed piece that appeared in the *New York Times* on October 21, 2016. Additionally, his essay, “An Accidental Pilgrimage,” was published in Brian Bouldrey’s anthology, *Inspired Journeys: Travel Writers in search of the Muse*, in 2016.

**Timothy Waters** (Law) published an op-ed piece in the *New York Times* on October 23, 2016, under the title “A Modest Proposal to End Death in the Mediterranean.”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/24/opinion/a-modest-proposal-to-end-death-in-the-mediterranean.html>

**Mirjam Zadoff** (History/Jewish Studies) gave the lecture “A Deal Made in Heaven: On the Economy of Romantic Love” at the University of Innsbruck in December. At the Berlin Conference “Contesting Jewish Loyalties: World War I and Beyond” she presented the paper, “‘Our Beloved Germany’: On the loyalty of the Revolutionary,” which was afterwards discussed in the Frankfurt *Allgemeine Zeitung*. In Augsburg she, with Noam Zadoff and Bettina Bannasch, held an intense seminar for 20 students, preparing a student exhibition on Paula Buber. She presented the first volumes “Chassidismus,” “Midrasch,” and “Qumran” at Bern University with Renee Bloch, Alfred Bodenheimer and Frederick Musall. Her article “Tales of a Disappointed Revolutionary” was just published in *Chidushim: Studies in the History of German and Central European Jewry. Special Issue: Jews and Revolutions*, ed. by Moshe Zuckerman and Rachel Freudenthal (Hebrew).

## Alumni News

**James Collins** (MA, History, 1965 and Honorary Doctor of Laws, 1999), a former US Ambassador to the Russian Federation, was honored with the Wilson Center Award for Public Service for his contribution to public service in the area of US-Russia relations. Upon accepting the award at a ceremony that took place in November, Ambassador Collins delivered a brief talk on “New Challenges in Euro-Atlantic Security” that can be found at:

<http://www.kennan-russiafile.org/2016/12/13/new-challenges-in-euro-atlantic-security/>. Earlier this fall, Amb. Collins and his wife, **Dr. Naomi Collins** (MA, History, 1963 and PhD, History, 1970), returned to the IU campus and spent some time speaking with REEI students about their time at IU and their careers in diplomacy and education.

**Jodi Griffith** (REEI MA/MLS, 2015) has started her new position as Serials Technician at the Library of Congress.

**Rich and Maren Payne-Holmes** (REEI MA/SPEA MPA, 2008 and REEI MA, 2008) will wrap up their foreign service tour in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, summer 2017 and head back to Washington, DC, for the year. After that, they will be stationed in Moscow, where Maren will be the Public Affairs Section’s grant officer and Rich will serve as the embassy’s public health officer.

**Brian Johnson** (BA, History/Political Science/Germanic Studies, 2004) has started a new position as Director for Central and Northern European Affairs on the US National Security Council.

**Kyle Norweg** (MA, REEI, 2016) has started a new position at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

## Visiting Scholars

**Maria Lipman** is a distinguished Russian journalist and expert on Russian media affairs. As Distinguished Fellow of Russian Studies at IU Bloomington in Spring 2017, she is teaching a course titled “Putin’s Russia” in the Russian and Eastern European Institute and is co-chair for the Russian Studies Workshop’s “Repression and Resilience in Russia’s Public Sphere,” a two-day event consisting of a workshop on April 13 and public panels on April 14. An interview with Ms. Lipman can be found on page 2 of this issue.



**Manana Mikaberidze** is Deputy Director at the National Science Foundation, which operates under the Ministry of Education and Science in Georgia. She visited IU Bloomington in February as an IREX University Administration Support Program (UASP) fellow.



**Oleksandra Tarkhanova** is a doctoral student in Sociology at Bielefeld University in Germany. While at IU, she will be working on gender issues in Ukraine, where she was born and raised. She presented at the Anthropology Graduate Student Association Symposium in February 2017.



*Faculty Profile (Lipman) - Continued from page 2*

results of the election were announced. I think he, as any serious politician, realizes that with a president such as Trump, American foreign policy will likely be fraught with all kinds of strange and perilous moves. There is every reason to anticipate dangerous developments, not a rapprochement. If we're able to avoid grave crises, we should consider ourselves lucky.

*SM: So, I'm going to move on to my last question, which is much lighter in comparison. What are your plans for this semester at IU?*

ML: Well to begin with, I would like to say that I'm infinitely grateful for the invitation to teach at IU this semester, and I value this opportunity very highly. I am not an academic, my background is not in teaching. Over the years I've given many lectures here and there, in Russia and the US, but I had never been a lecturer for a whole semester. This is a serious challenge, but also a fascinating and enjoyable experience. My course is entitled "Putin's Russia," but my goal is to show the students in my class the roots of today's Russia; we started with Brezhnev's rule, known as the period of stagnation.

I hope that during this semester I manage to convey to my students a sense of Russia as a complicated country, but also a very interesting one. I hope that these young people who attend my class will enjoy learning things about Russia that go beyond Putin, his government, or the Kremlin's evil plots. I try not to focus on politics and speak more about Russian society and culture. Russia is a large and diverse country; it is difficult to understand, but this is what should make it an exciting subject.



Maria Lipman participating as a panelist at the post-inauguration, US-Russia relations panel on February 13th, 2017.

*Faculty Profile (Sicinski) - Continued from page 4*

in the classroom, and in this way, it allows them to further develop their language skills and their knowledge of Polish culture in a comprehensive way. Because of the program's ties with the Polish Studies Center, the Polish Cultural Association, and the Russian and East European Institute, Polish language students have access to a variety of resources – both financial and scholarly – which provides strong support for students' academic progress and various student initiatives. In this sense, and I think this is the biggest strength of the Polish language program at IU, the program is entirely student-centered. Our students always receive personal attention; they are encouraged to take ownership of their own learning and to become co-creators of the social and academic life of the program.

*Do you have a message for students considering enrolling in a Polish language course?*

Give it a try, and you won't regret it!

*Moving beyond your experience teaching Polish language and culture at IU, what do your research interests entail?*

Broadly speaking, my current research revolves around the

issue of the relationship between human artistic practices and reality. My interests extend to the area of film and visual arts, but my research mainly lies at the intersection of literature and philosophy, with a special focus on the idea of literature as a means of understanding the world. One of the main categories on which I concentrate in this context is the category of rubbish. I'm interested in how this category is explored in postwar Polish literature, and what these literary explorations of rubbish can tell us about human sense-making activities and the mechanisms of human cognition. I'm not talking here, of course, about rubbish understood as a material object, but about rubbish understood as a cultural category – as something we reject because it doesn't fit into our preconceived notions of how the world should look like. I'm interested in an epistemological dimension of this category, but, of course, the mechanisms of designating something as rubbish are never "innocent" in the sense that they often involve moral judgments and are functions of a particular socio-historical context. It is a very fascinating topic that can be approached from many different theoretical and disciplinary perspectives.



## US-Russia Relations Panel

On February 13, 2017, Indiana University's School of Global and International Studies held a panel on US-Russia relations. The speakers spanned a variety of disciplines and included Distinguished Fellow of Russian Studies, Maria Lipman (interviewed on pg. 2 of this issue); Professor of International Studies Emma Gilligan; Professor of Political Science Regina Smyth; and Dean of SGIS, Ambassador Lee Feinstein. REEI Director Sarah Phillips moderated the session and posed questions to each contributor. The panelists contributed their unique expertise and perspectives, commenting on the factors that may affect US-Russian relations under the new American administration.

Ms. Lipman provided a Russian perspective on the new developments, contemplating the motives of the Russian leadership and how these may affect interactions with the new American administration.

Dr. Gilligan discussed the possibility for human rights in Russia to remain a flashpoint issue and the critical need for Russia's civil society to develop. Dr. Smyth focused on the upcoming Russian elections. Ambassador Lee Feinstein drew upon his perspective as a diplomat to discuss the importance of America's relationship with the European Union and NATO in the context of the US approach to its relationship with Russia. The panelists also spoke about the nature of past conflict between the two countries, noting that present tensions should not be considered a new Cold War because of the lack of a distinct ideological divide. However, they did remark upon the resurgence of nationalism in Europe and the United States and its role in shaping relations.

After the panelists concluded their remarks, the audience members asked astute questions, pondering the scope of both Russian foreign policy goals and the stances of the new American administration. IU faculty members provided valuable insight on factors and issues which will likely play critical roles in US-Russian relations in the upcoming years.

To watch the panel, see: [sgis.indiana.edu/inthenews/article\\_us-russia\\_panel.shtml](http://sgis.indiana.edu/inthenews/article_us-russia_panel.shtml).



From left to right: Panelists Emma Gilligan and Maria Lipman, and Moderator Sarah Phillips

REEIfication will be transitioning to an online-only publication in the next year. To continue receiving REEIification, please send Emily Liverman, [eliverma@indiana.edu](mailto:eliverma@indiana.edu), your preferred email address. If you would be interested in receiving a once yearly paper newsletter from REEI, please let us know.

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