

REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

Padraic Kenney, Director
Vol. 37 No. 2

Ilana Miller, Editor
Spring 2013

Outreach Notes

Record Turnout at Illinois-Indiana ACTR Olympiada 2013

by Antonina Semivolos and Mark Trotter

"Did you know that Shostakovich's Leningrad Symphony (Symphony No. 7 in C major) was performed in Leningrad during the siege in 1942 by the starving musicians and broadcast throughout the city and to the Germans who surrounded Leningrad? What about the enormous Tsar Cannon in the Kremlin beloved by Russian children that was never used in war and may have been fired only once? These are only some of the things discovered by my students as they prepared for the Illinois-Indiana ACTR Olympiada of Spoken Russian," commented Russian teacher Julia Denne as she reflected on the experience of her second Olympiada. More than doubling the previous record for participation, some 63 high school students of Russian gathered at the annual competition on April 20 in West Lafayette, IN. Graciously hosted by the Russian Program of Purdue University, the event also drew a record number of pre-college Russian language programs as teams from Pritzker College Prep (Chicago, IL), Noble Street College Prep (Chicago, IL), Charodei (Skokie, IL), By the Onion Sea (Arlington Heights, IL), Jefferson High School (Lafayette, IN), and the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and the Humanities (Muncie, IN) took part. Once again, the Russian and East European Institute served as principal organizer and sponsor of the contest, with the generous assistance of

the University of Chicago Center for East European and Russian Eurasian Studies; University of Illinois Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center; and the Russian Flagship Center of the University of Wisconsin.

One of approximately 15 regional pre-college Russian



Pritzker College Prep Olympiada gold medalists (left to right): Adrian Meza, Samuel Barrera, Hector Moreno, Alejandra Alejos, Juana Granados, Guadalupe Castro, and Adalys Crespo

language competitions that take place annually across the United States under the auspices of the American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR), the Illinois-Indiana Olympiada provides students with an opportunity to engage in conversations with native speakers of Russian, meet students and teachers of Russian from other institutions, and demonstrate their prowess and achievements in Russian language study by participating in a competition with three separate categories that focus on everyday conversation, poetry recitation, and Russian civilization.

Spring 2013

Features

Outreach Notes: Illinois-Indiana Olympiada	1
REEI Conferences	4
Faculty Profile: Sarah Phillips	6
Ambassador Jackovich delivers McCloskey Lecture	8
Interview with Ambassador Jackovich	9

News

Rebecca Mueller Chosen as Eighth McCloskey Fellow	10
In Memoriam: Charles Jelavich	11
Student News	13
Faculty/Staff News	14
Alumni News	15
Visiting Scholars	15

INSTITUTE STAFF

Padraic Kenney, Director
 Mark Trotter, Associate
 Director/Outreach Coordinator
 Emily Liverman, Advisor/ Assistant
 Director for Student Services
 Mary Belding, Administrative
 Secretary

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Ilana Miller, Newsletter Editor
 Leah Jakaitis, Webmaster
 Antonina Semivolos, Outreach
 Assistant
 Jennifer Strayer, Library Assistant
 Anna Arays, Research Assistant

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

IU Awards for REEI Alumni

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

Teachers Phil Stosberg and Sofi Fedushchenko of Pritzker College Prep headed the largest contingent with 30 students on hand. In a triumphant showing for their school, Alejandro Alejos, Samuel Barrera, Guadalupe Castro, Adalys Crespo, Juana Granados, Daniel Martinez, Hector Moreno, and Adrian Meza took gold medals, the first ever for Pritzker in three years of



Anastasia Loginova,
 Top-finalist
 Heritage Category

Olympiada competition. Their classmates Daisy Beltran, Martin Enciso, Amairini Galeana, Oswaldo Gallegos, Jesus Gonzales, Karina Huizar, Azariah Lopez, Erick Martinez, Joanaliz Perez, Osvaldo Romero, Erinn Salgado, Cristian Sanchez, Stephanie Sandoval, Joan Skipper, Kevin Tapia, Anaise Velazquez, and Veronica Zamorano turned in silver medal performances. Bronze medals went to Anna Castillo, Cinthya Pineda, Victor Ramirez, and Andres Sanchez, while David Velis received an honorable mention for Pritzker.

"The Olympiada was a great opportunity for my highest-achieving students to have a real challenge," commented Sofi Fedushchenko, who is completing her first year as a teacher of Russian at Pritzker. "It gave them something to work

hard for and look forward to. They were rewarded by an amazing experience and were able to prove to themselves just how much Russian they had learned.



Riley Price,
 Top-finalist
 Regular Category

It was also great for them to meet other Russian-speaking students (particularly the heritage speakers) with whom they were excited to trade Spanish for Russian words. Furthermore, they received validation from some-

one other than their teacher (they said the judges were very kind and encouraging), so they understood that they were truly learning and becoming communicative in Russian!

Participating in the Olympiada for the fourth consecutive year and under the guidance of teacher Josh Bloom (MA REEI, 2009), Noble Street College Prep boasted outstanding performances by Jennifer Damian (gold medalist), Christian Padilla (silver medalist), and Janet Esquivel (bronze medalist). Jefferson High School Students Tyler Halliwell and Sandy Ward received gold and bronze medals respectively to the delight of Todd Golding (MA Slavics, 1993 and MAT Slavics, 1996) who has taught Russian there since the 1990s.

In its first appearance at the

Below:

Judge Dilya McClaine listens intently as contestant recites a Russian poem from memory.



Olympiada since 2011, the Indiana Academy of Science, Mathematics, and the Humanities fielded a team of 18 that included 10 gold medalists: Christian Cope, Alexandra Davis, Melissa Hain, Bradi Heaberlin, Dylan Keiser, Evan Lasko, Christian Miller, Gavin Robley, Kalese Thomas, and Benji Turney. John Bignotti, Ben Klinker, Brandon Lavy, Megan Maynard, Laura Wessel, and Alex Witt took silver medals, while Robert Kendall and David Landrigan were awarded bronze medals for their performances. Commenting on the experience of her second Olympiada, Indiana Academy Russian teacher Heather Rogers cited the highly favorable response to the event on the part of her students. "It gave them an opportunity to have their Russian language skills evaluated by somebody other than their regular teacher, and it encouraged them to memorize Russian poetry, to read and understand texts different than what we read in the classroom, and most importantly, it gave them confidence in their ability to speak Russian," she remarked. "We all enjoyed the outstanding Russian musical program at the end of the Olympiada, and I think my students found it rewarding to be surrounded by others who share similar interests with respect to Russian language and culture."

By the Onion Sea, a pre-college Russian program for home-schooled and other non-traditional students run by teacher Julia Denne, turned in another superior performance at the Olympiada following its debut last year, as gold medals were awarded to all three of its contestants: Calvin Price, Nina Wilson, and Riley Price, who distinguished himself as the top-ranked finalist among students of Russian as a foreign language. "I really enjoyed participating in the Olympiada," he remarked. "It was a great opportunity to improve my skills in oral Russian, my background knowledge of Russian culture, and my vocabulary. This was the second year I had the opportunity to participate, and at both Olympiadas I was impressed by the hard work, helpfulness, and ability of the event organizers. It's a highly useful resource for Russian students and teachers in the area, and a productive way to build skills with spoken Russian." Denne also teaches in the Charodei community-based program where her students Alice Chudnovsky, Anastasia Loginova, Dmytro Roshchenko, and Yekaterina Teryokhina finished the competition with gold medals as did Mark Kudryavtsev and Jazzy Kerber, students of Charodei teacher Anna Karasik. Named the top-ranked finalist among students of Russian as a heritage language, Loginova was amazed to see such a large number of non-heritage American peers who are eager to learn Russian. The outstanding performances by Denne's students reflected arduous preparation for the competition. "Civilization top-

ics were the main focus for the heritage students, while the regular students worked hard on their comprehension and speaking skills," she remarked. "Our favorite part was the poetry recitation and analysis, which initially seemed easy, but demanded a lot of work on translation, Russian frames of reference, developing an understanding of symbolism, specific Russian imagery, and other literary devices, in addition to analytical and pronunciation skills."

The Olympiada concluded on a festive note with an exuberant rendition of Russian songs and dances by members of the Charodei theatrical ensemble, among them many Olympiada contestants. Singers and dancers included Alice Chudnovsky, Daria Chudnovsky, Alex Grinevich, Anastasia Loginova, Dmytro Roshchenko, Yekaterina Teryokhina, and Nina Wilson under the direction of Margarita Loginova and accompanied by Irina Alekseeva on the accordion. Students in the audience welcomed the opportunity to play Rus-

sian wooden spoons, sing the chorus to new songs, and expand their Russian vocabulary throughout the program.

The success of this year's Olympiada reflects in large measure the enormous contribution of the three judges, all native speakers of Russian and accomplished teachers of the language in American settings: Dilya McClaine (Montessori School of Greater Lafayette), Olga Lyanda-Keller (Purdue University), and, taking part as a judge in her third Olym-



Alex Grinevich (right) and Yekaterina Teryokhina (left) of Charodei in post-competition performance

piada, Veronika Trotter (Indiana University). McClaine, who also conducts a Saturday morning program for heritage Russian-speaking children, was highly impressed "by the knowledge of Russian language and literature at the different levels of all the participants. Children that I work with at my school are very young, but they learn Russian from me with great interest. I hope that one day some of them will be among the contestants at a future Olympiada!"

All participants in the Olympiada owe a special debt of gratitude to Robert Channon, Associate Professor of Russian and Linguistics at Purdue University, who secured and organized the classrooms at Purdue to ensure that the competition proceeded smoothly and with utmost comfort for all those involved.

To the students, teachers, judges, performers, and others who took part in this historic Olympiada: Поздравляем с удачей!

Antonina Semivolos is an MA/JD student at REEI.

Mark Trotter is the Associate Director and Outreach Coordinator at REEI.

REEI Spring Conferences and Events

Ready for Democracy?

Religion and Political Culture in the Orthodox and Muslim Worlds

Who decides which cultures are “Ready for Democracy”? Why are countries in the Orthodox and Islamic worlds often considered not ready? An REEI conference this Spring brought together distinguished guests from across the US, as well as from Russia, Romania, and Egypt, to explore these questions.

The conference, “Ready for Democracy? Religion and Political Culture in the Orthodox and Muslim Worlds,” was organized by the Russian and Eastern European Institute with substantial support from a host of sponsors at IU, including the College Arts and Humanities Institute, the Institute for Advanced Study, the Center for the Study of the Middle East, the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, the Islamic Studies Program, the Department of History, the Department of Political Science, the Department of Central Eurasian Studies, and the Department of Religious Studies.



History PhD students Katie Hiatt (middle) and Leone Musgrave (right) chat with IU Alum (MA History, 1957; PhD History, 1961) Professor Theofanis Stavrou (left) of University of Minnesota during a break in conference sessions, where both Stavrou and Musgrave presented papers.

REEI director Padraic Kenney conceived of the conference during the Arab Spring, when images of protesters praying in Tahir Square gave rise to widespread fears in the West that Mubarak’s authoritarian regime would give way to an Islamist state in Egypt. To Kenney, however, “it looked like the occupation of the Gdansk shipyard in August of 1980, when workers lined up for confession during a mass that was said for the strikers.” From this starting point, came the conference’s central question: why do assumptions that religions such as Islam, Orthodoxy, or Catholicism are inherently anti-democratic persist?

The event was organized to foster dialogue about the relationship between Islam, Orthodoxy, and democracy across a broad spectrum of issues. Over long hours of discussion, the conference made clear the immense complexity of church-

state relations in Muslim and Orthodox worlds.

The first panel, “State Churches and State Policies,” was chaired by Professor Feisal Istrabadi, a founding director of IU’s Center for the Study of the Middle East and a University Scholar of International Law and Diplomacy at IU’s Maurer School of Law. Participants included: Lena Salaymeh, a legal scholar from UC Berkeley; Saad Ibrahim of the Ibn Khaldun Center for Development Study in Egypt; and Ahmed Khanani, PhD student in IU’s Department of Political Science. IU’s Abdulkader Sinno, Associate Professor of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures and Political Science, commented on the panel. The panelists emphasized the complex relationship between Islam, democracy, and democratic institutions in Tunisia, Egypt, and Morocco. They rejected the need to choose between Islam or democracy, arguing that such a binary relationship is a gross oversimplification. Following the panel, conference participants met in the University Club for an opening reception.

On Friday, the conference moved from the Fine Arts building to the Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center’s Grand Hall. Several panels provoked comparison between Orthodox and Islamic traditions. One such panel, “Theology, Law, and Politics,” brought together two historians of Russian Orthodoxy, Mercer University’s Wallace Daniel and IU’s Patrick Michelson, a historian of the Medieval Islamic world, IU’s Kevin Jaques, and an economist from Duke, Timur Kuran, who studies how centuries old Islamic financial institutions—Waqfs—continue to impact democratic development in the Middle East.

Michelson, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, was particularly struck by how his panel bridged disciplinary lines. Referring to Jacques’ commentary on Kuran’s talk, he reflected: “having such a disciplinary conflict, for example, an economist’s reading of the Waqf versus a historian’s reading of the Waqf opened up, I thought, a lot of questions about Kuran’s paper that otherwise wouldn’t have been asked.”

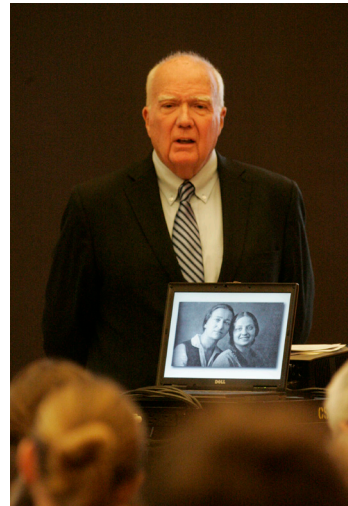
Saturday morning scholars from a diverse variety of specialties discussed Pussy Riot’s highly publicized “Punk Prayer” protest on a panel entitled “Religion and Blasphemy: A Social Movement in Russia Today.” Regina Smyth of IU’s Political Science Department examined Pussy Riot as a form of political protest; Kathryn Graber, a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in the Department of Central Eurasian Studies, placed Pussy Riot’s rebellion in the context of “Orthodox Language;” and Jessica Sanders, a doctoral candidate at the University of Southern California, juxtaposed Pussy Riot with the tradition of prophet as dissident in Russian history and culture. Sarah Phillips of IU’s Department of Anthropology provided insightful comments on the panel.

The conference ended Saturday afternoon with a round-table discussion, “Belief and Bureaucracy, Democracy and Devotion: What Have We Learned,” chaired by Padraic Kenney, Director of REEI. Noor Borbieva, an anthropologist at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne and an affiliate of REEI, reflected on the conference as a unique chance for conference participants, especially younger scholars, to put aside the need to compete with one another and to “answer the big questions ... in ways that we can only do together.”

Conor Cleary is an MA student in REEI.

For a complete schedule, please see:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/newsEvents/2013/Ready-ForDemocracy.shtml>



SWSEEL alum Wallace Daniel (Mercer University) gives a presentation on “Aleksander Men,’ the Russian Orthodox Church, and the Connection between Religion and Culture” to a rapt audience on the second day of the conference.

6th Annual Romanian Studies Organization Conference

On March 29-30, Indiana University’s Romanian Studies Organization hosted the 6th Annual Interdisciplinary Romanian Studies Conference, a venue for graduate students and recent PhDs to present their work. Keynote speaker Vladimir Tismăneanu—a distinguished political scientist, political analyst, and sociologist based at the University of Maryland, College Park—presented his latest book, *The Devil in History: Communism, Fascism, and Some Lessons of the Twentieth Century* (2012) to an enthusiastic group of 60 participants.

The conference featured three engaging panels composed of young scholars from the US and Europe. “Landscapes of Heritage in Romania” addressed architecture from 1453 to the present. Moldova in the context of migration, language, intergenerational tensions, and politics was featured in “Eclectic Entities and Dilemmas of Inclusion.” The third and final panel, “Politicizing Ethnicity: Individual and Collective Identities,” took up Jewish themes from literary, historical, and anthropological perspectives. Following each panel, the audience engaged in a lively discussion with the presenters during the Q&A session.

We thank the many dedicated faculty who offered their encouragement for the conference, Maria Bucur-Deckard, Christina Zarifopol-Iliaș, Aurelian Crăiuțu, Padraic Kenney, László Borhi, and the following students who organized this event: Cătălin Cristoloveanu, Jason Vincz, Roxana Cazan, and Elena Popa. The conference would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors: Indiana University Student Association, Horizons of Knowledge, Russian and East European Institute, Department of Political Science, Department of History, and the School of Global and International Studies.

The Romanian Studies Conference contributes to the dissemination and consolidation of Romanian Studies in the U.S. Given its continued success, we look forward to next year’s event and hope that IU will remain, as Professor Tismăneanu stated, a “magnet and a cradle” for students and scholars interested in pursuing research into Romania’s past and present.

Elena Popa is a PhD student in Anthropology.

32nd György Ránki Hungarian Chair Symposium

On March 23-24th, 2013, Hungarianists of various disciplines convened for the 32nd György Ránki Hungarian Chair Symposium. “Hungary on the Borderland of Two World Powers: The Habsburgs and the Ottomans” provided the theme for this year’s event, which brought together scholars from across the US as well as from Hungary with the generous sponsorship of the Indiana University György Ránki Chair in Hungarian Studies, Department of Central Eurasian Studies, Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, and Russian and East European Institute.

After welcoming addresses by Patrick O’Meara, Indiana University Vice President Emeritus and Professor of Political Science and Public and Environmental Affairs, and Anna Stumpf, Congressional Liaison and Political Attaché at the Hungarian Embassy, the first series of panels addressed Hungary as an entity poised between the warring Habsburg and Ottoman empires from historical, religious, and cultural perspectives. Later that afternoon, scholars Teréz Oborni and Ildikó Horn from Hungary’s Eötvös Loránd University examined this topic with respect to Transylvania.

Hungary’s relationship to Turkey in the post-Ottoman period was the focus for the final panel of the symposium, where Indiana University’s Lynn Hooker from Department of Central Eurasian Studies spoke on Turkish and Hungarian musical-traditions and their treatment as “peripheries” in the creation of a modern European metropole; György Ránki Hungarian

continued on page 7

Faculty Profile: Catching up with Sarah Phillips

by Rebecca Mueller

Bloomington has been home to Dr. Sarah D. Phillips, Professor of Anthropology and affiliate of the Russian and East European Institute, International Studies, Gender Studies, and the Human Biology program, for a decade. Phillips received her PhD in Anthropology from the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign in 2002 and started work at Indiana University in 2003. She was featured as a new faculty member in the April 2005 (vol. 29, no.2) edition of REEIfication.

Though her undergraduate studies focused on Russia and Russian language, Phillips spent the summer of 1995 studying Ukrainian in Kyiv and fell in love with the country. At that time she became fascinated with the continuing aftermath of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster. Subsequent fieldwork on post-Chernobyl social movements led Dr. Phillips to wonder why the Ukrainian realm of non-governmental organizations and mutual aid associations was so heavily dominated by women.

“With few alternative options for professional success in postsocialist neoliberal Ukraine,” Phillips remarks, “women have taken the place of the state as caregivers and service providers for the country’s most needy individuals. Unfortunately, the leadership roles these women hold within the NGO ‘niche’ for the most part have not strengthened their position in Ukrainian society, but instead have left them disconnected from both traditional hierarchies of power and widely-understood notions of feminist resistance and women’s advancement.” These women’s stories became the focus of Dr. Phillips’ dissertation, eventually published as *Women’s Social Activism in the New Ukraine: Development and the Politics of Differentiation* (Indiana University Press, 2008). Phillips’ work on disability, a more recent interest, emerged from her relationships with women activists, many of whom run disability rights organizations or advocate for family members with disabilities. It has resulted in her latest book, *Disability and Mobile Citizenship in Postsocialist Ukraine* (Indiana University Press, 2011), as well as a number of articles and book chapters on disability in Ukraine and the wider region.

In September 2012, Dr. Phillips shared her expertise as an invited participant at “Rethinking Disability in Central Asia,” an international symposium held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The symposium, which drew more than thirty participants from academia and the NGO sector in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Russia, Slovenia, and the United States, was the culmination of a year-long webinar on the topic conducted for a regional network of

students and activists by colleague Rahat Orozova, Center for Social Policy and Gender Studies in Moscow and Central Asia Research and Training Initiatives (CARTI) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Phillips and colleagues were introduced to participants’ projects on disability activism and awareness, while network members guided them through Bishkek’s fascinating “disability landscape”—including disability rights organizations.

In November 2012, Phillips’ long-time work on Chernobyl garnered her an invitation to another international symposium held in Tokyo and focusing on social work after disasters. Phillips shared lessons learned from Chernobyl’s aftermath and had the opportunity to visit sites affected by Japan’s recent triple disaster, the March 2011 earthquakes

and tsunami and the ensuing nuclear disaster at Fukushima. Reflecting on the impact of those catastrophes, Phillips notes that “people displaced by the Fukushima incident face great challenges that unfortunately closely mirror the situation of people in post-Chernobyl Ukraine.”

Governments of both the Soviet Union and Japan have been criticized for efforts to cover up the full extent of danger and devastation from their respective disasters, and for mishandling evacuation efforts. Mandatory evacuees in both countries have received temporary housing, medical care, and government pensions, but voluntary evacuees (who left homes located just outside of government-designated disaster areas) cannot qualify for government assistance. Those who have been displaced experience heavy emotional trauma, and Japan’s social workers and other service providers are struggling to meet both the basic, everyday needs and the more complex, long-term needs of this community. Phillips believes

that these human costs combined with the environmental devastation that accompanies nuclear disasters cast great doubt on the notion of “peaceful” nuclear energy.

Also in November, Phillips traveled with an interdisciplinary research team to Ukraine for the launch of a new,



Phillips (far right) with the Usuzawas, community activists in the city of Otsuchi, Japan. Like many in this town the couple lost their home in the March 11, 2011 tsunami. They still live in temporary housing along with thousands of their compatriots.

four-year collaborative project on HIV prevention among injecting drug users, who account for 36% of new HIV cases in the country. The project is funded by the U.S.-based National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and seeks to recognize and utilize local expertise in the design and implementation of HIV/AIDS prevention strategies. As a medical anthropologist and ethnographer, Phillips will conduct a series of interviews with Ukrainian nationals who work “on the ground” and are experts on the socio-cultural context of HIV/AIDS intervention programming, the local intravenous drug use (IDU) scene, and the unique features of the HIV epidemic in their communities. With a global team of researchers from IU, Johns Hopkins University, and Kharkiv’s Karazin National University, the project will both support local service providers in their efforts to develop HIV prevention interventions that reflect their specific organizational contexts and track the entire process ethnographically.

A prolific teacher whose courses range across the breadth of her research interests, Phillips has enthusiastically supervised numerous student projects, including honors theses, undergraduate research projects, Masters’ essays, and dissertations. With her assistance, students interested in health,

medicine, and social services regularly connect with local organizations like the Volunteers in Medicine clinic and the WIC program office. Phillips is currently supervising a collaborative student research project on the (mis)-use of prescription psychostimulants on the IU campus. (See the study website at whystimulants.com)

For the past 17 years, Dr. Phillips’ research in Ukraine has focused on social justice, gender, and health, three major and intersecting concerns in anthropology and across the social sciences. She has shifted anthropological perspectives of these issues in new directions and helped to establish anthropology as central to wider East European scholarship. At the same time, “responsible anthropology,” or careful consideration of the policy implications of research and the potential impact on cooperating individuals and communities, has remained a foremost concern for Phillips. She notes that, “Especially in postsocialist, postcolonial states such as Ukraine, an engaged and socially-relevant research program is needed for achieving the kinds of ‘ethnographic’ connections that transform academic understanding and further social justice.”

Rebecca Mueller is a REEI MA and MPH student.

REEI Conferences and Events

continued from page 5

Chair Iván Bertényi, Jr. explored the changing relations between the Turks and Hungarians themselves in the building of the modern Hungarian nation; and PhD student in Central Eurasian Studies Matthew Caples addressed “The Turanian Language Concept in Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century Hungary.”

In his closing remarks, Indiana University Fulbright Professor László Borhi emphasized the relevance of seemingly distant historical periods to the 20th century, pointing to recurrent themes of center and periphery in contemporary Hungarian discourse. “1989 and the self-liberation of the countries of Central Europe opened a new window of opportunity for the age-old quest to join the center,” he said, “and twenty years after the transition, unfortunately, this question, whether Hungary will be a member of the periphery or of the center, is still open.”

adapted from: <http://www.iub.edu/~reeiweb/newsEvents/2013/hungarian-symposium.pdf> and http://www.indiana.edu/~iaunrc/newsevents/past_events/hungary-border-land-two-world-powers-habsburgs-and-ottomans-aftermath-ottoman

REEI Hosts Thirteenth Annual Lessons of Post-Communism Roundtable

On April 5, IU faculty, students, and visiting scholars gathered to take part in REEI’s thirteenth annual Roundtable on Lessons of Post-Communism. This year’s theme was “Migration.” In the morning session, Indiana University Anthropology professor Sarah Friedman moderated the Research Roundtable. Panelists Malika Bahovadinova (PhD Anthropology), Cindy Fan (Geography and Asian American Studies, UCLA), and Frank Wolff (Research Fellow in History, Universität Osnabrück) responded to questions of migration regimes, the role of shifting borders, changing strategies of movement regulations, new social media, and more from the provocation written by Friedman and IU History and Jewish Studies professor Jeffrey Veidlinger. The far-reaching regional specializations of the panelists, which included Tajikistan, China, and Germany, fostered a lively discussion between themselves, the audience, and discussants Gardner Bovingdon (Central Eurasian Studies), Ethan Michaelson (Sociology and Law), and Annika Frieberg (History) on themes of institutional and non-institutional forms of migration control, types of migrations, and social stigma.

In the afternoon, a session on pedagogy featured panelists Jeffrey Holdeman (Slavic Languages and Literatures), Stepanka Korytova (International Studies), and Korytova’s students. Holdeman discussed his experience as a teacher of “Immigration and Ethnic Identity,” an undergraduate course offered in the Global Village Living Learning Center, where he also serves as director. Korytova spoke briefly about “Human Rights and Social Movements: International Perspectives,” a course that she taught in Spring Semester 2013 with a focus on human trafficking. Her students Jay Byer, Shareyna Chang, Elizabeth Colle, Dhay Daberko, Colte Davis, Kelly Dobkins, Ian Effron, Kelly Garland, Maximilian Gora, Robert Hult, Chad Kalisky, Charity Martin, Parth Patel, Natasha Stephens, Robert van Acker, and James Westhoff all contributed to the session with presentations of their research on forced migration in the form of human trafficking and sex slavery in Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, China, and Hong Kong.

Ambassador Victor Jackovich Delivers 3rd Annual McCloskey Lecture, Receives REEI Distinguished Alumni Award

by Rebecca Mueller and REEI Staff

On April 17, 2013 Victor Jackovich, an IU alumnus whose illustrious career in the US Foreign Service included appointment as the first US ambassador to Bosnia, delivered the annual McCloskey Lecture on the topic of “A Future for Eastern Europe and Southeastern Europe” in the President’s Room of the University Club at the Indiana Memorial Union. The McCloskey Lecture honors the memory of the late Frank McCloskey, who represented Indiana’s 8th District in Congress from 1983 to 1995. As congressman, McCloskey took a passionate interest in the tragic Balkan conflicts that erupted in the early 1990s, persistently advocating for US action to stop the genocide in former Yugoslavia. His efforts in large part spurred US involvement in the diplomatic process that eventually led to the signing of the Dayton Accords in 1995. After an unsuccessful re-election campaign in 1994, McCloskey devoted all of his energies to the cause of ending ethnic strife in the Balkans, making six trips to Bosnia and serving the National Democratic Institute as Kosovo Director. In addition to the McCloskey Lecture series, REEI also administers the McCloskey Fund which perpetuates the legacy of Frank McCloskey by means of the McCloskey Fellowship, an exchange program for IU students and young civic activists from the Balkans (see related story on p. 10).

Recalling his many encounters with Frank McCloskey, both in the Balkans and Washington, Jackovich praised the congressman’s deep and unflinching commitment to the promotion of peace and democracy among the peoples of the former Yugoslavia. The lecture then moved on to an assessment of what the US and the international community as a whole have learned from Bosnia and the Balkan wars. Jackovich pointed out that the practice of splitting a country along ethnic lines as in the case of Bosnia has become anathema to US foreign policy. The shortcomings of the ethnically-based Dayton Accords, he explained, have led the US to encourage development of multi-ethnic indigenous institutions of government and decision making in Afghanistan and elsewhere. Looking to the future, he shared his hope for improvements to conditions in Kosovo and expressed a conviction that as a practical people the Serbs will likely abandon its refusal to recognize Kosovo as an independent state. Following his talk, members of the audience had the chance to speak one on one with the former ambassador at a wine and cheese reception.

Following his graduation from IU in 1971 with BA/MA degrees in Slavic Languages and Literatures, Victor Jackovich embarked on a long and distinguished career in the US government. Throughout his government service, Jackovich has specialized in launching new operations and leading them through their formative years. He headed the first US representation to the independent state of Moldova (1992), directed the Department of State’s Task Force on the Balkan Crisis (1990–1991), and led US delegations to international conferences on the Balkans in Geneva and elsewhere (1992–1993). During the war in the Balkans, he opened the US embassy in Bosnia (1994) and spent the conflict years in Bosnia as its first US ambassador (1992–1995). He was US ambassador to Slovenia (1995–1998) and promoted that country’s early efforts to enter NATO and the European Union. From 1999 to 2002, he was associate director of the George Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Germany. During 2002 and 2003, Ambassador Jackovich was senior political adviser for US military operations in Afghanistan, in which capacity he provided policy guidance to US and coalition military, security, and



Ambassador Jackovich receiving the REEI Distinguished Alumni Award from Director Padraic Kenney at the Slavic Tea.

counterterrorism operations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Central Asia. Other key international assignments with the US government have included Moscow, Sofia, Kiev, Bucharest, and Nairobi. Among his many awards are the US government’s Distinguished Presidential Award for diplomatic service and the American Bar Association’s Max Kampelman Award. In addition, he holds the Golden Eagle Award, conferred by the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina; the Serb Civic Society Award; and the Distinguished Civilian Service Award, conferred by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Currently, Victor Jackovich serves as president of Jackovich International, a commercial and trading firm with offices in the United States (Washington, DC), Iraq (Erbil), Austria (Vienna), and Slovenia (Portoroz). He is also senior adviser for international affairs at General Dynamics and US representative on the EU Business Advisory Council (Brussels). He sits on the boards of the Central and East European University Network (Venice), the Center for European Perspective (Ljubljana), and numerous other associations.

On April 16, one day before the McCloskey Lecture, Ambassador Jackovich was presented with the REEI Distinguished Alumnus Award at the annual spring reception of

the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Past recipients of the award include Alexander Rabinowitch, Charles Gati, the late Gale Stokes, Helena Goscilo, Howard I. Aronson, William Hopkins, Donald Raleigh, and Stephen F. Cohen. In the following interview with **Rebecca Mueller** (MA/MPH), Ambassador Jackovich reflects on his studies at IU and the diplomatic career for which they prepared him.

Ambassador Jackovich, can you tell me a little about your upbringing and how you came to study at Indiana University?

I'm actually from Des Moines, Iowa. I always had an interest in the former Soviet Union and the Balkans because of my family background. My father was Yugoslav, and my mother Lithuanian from what was then the Soviet Union. So, I grew up with an interest in those parts of the world and with the languages, although my skills were very rudimentary. I spoke what I learned at home. Since that was not standard language or literary language, I then had to study the languages. I had to take that base and really learn the standard language if I was going to speak Serbo-Croatian or Russian. I always wanted to come to Indiana, because I heard of the magnificent institute here and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. There were all sorts of other things going on as well—music, law, medicine—whatever you wanted. It seemed like a hub of learning that I really wanted to take advantage of.

What do you remember about your time here at Indiana University?

I found it very tough, and I think that was because I was tough on myself. I wanted to avail myself of all the opportunities here. There were so many! We also had at that time—we're talking 40 years ago—a Russian community here, Russian professors who even at the undergraduate level spoke only Russian. Whether they were teaching language, literature, or something else, we students never heard them speak English. I was joking with somebody the other day that I think even if somebody broke their leg, everything would still be in Russian. Of course this was a great environment for learning a language. It was also very disciplined. As young students, we found these people to be taskmasters. It was sink or swim – you either got along with that sort of environment...or you sank. But most of us swam, and I thrived in it. When I emerged, I felt that I had a very solid background not only in technical matters like how to speak Russian and how to conjugate verbs correctly (which I still don't do), but how to organize your work, how to be systematic about what you do, how to analyze things very thoroughly and very deeply, how to ask the right questions in order to do that, and how to apply your book knowledge to the outside world. I have no doubt in my mind that my experience at Indiana was the cornerstone for my accomplishments in the diplomatic corps and in other phases of my life after that.

If I'm not mistaken, you also studied abroad during your time as an Indiana student?

Yes, I was here for only my freshman year and my senior year. I spent the two years in between at a university in Yugoslavia. That was one of the reasons I was able to get my Master's in a little over a year – I already had a strong

basis coming out of the Yugoslav experience. I worked quite intensively here at Indiana, too. So, in 1970 I received my Bachelor's degree and in 1971 a Master's degree. I then went into government service immediately in September of 1971.

As a young person from Des Moines, IA and Indiana University, what was it like to study in Yugoslavia?

I joined a university program in Zagreb that was pretty open to people of the diaspora—it was free of charge if you could demonstrate that you were such a person. That pleased my parents to no end, of course. I went over thinking that I spoke Serbo-Croatian, and of course I didn't. I spoke a dialect, and I had to learn everything differently. It was also sink or swim, because I was put into the university courses. At the beginning I couldn't understand what the professors were saying. I think they thought I was very stupid, and I said, "No, I'm not stupid, I'm an American!" Which was maybe more understandable, I don't know. But I worked very hard, and I got to the point where I could basically speak Serbo-Croatian with native fluency at the end of two years. But I'll tell you, one of the reasons I came back—and I'm glad I did—was because of the draft. The US military draft at that time provided people with a certain amount of time to get their Bachelor's degree, but no more. I had one year at Indiana and two years of things like Old Church Slavonic at this university in Zagreb, but I didn't have the core courses needed to graduate. So I came back after two years and studied very hard, taking numerous credits in order to graduate and graduated within the four years allotted by the Selective Service system at the time. Then I went into the Master's program. It was very difficult also. I made it difficult on myself, because I wanted to work hard. I wanted to have a basis for what I might do in the future.

Do you think that growing up in the late '60s with the Cold War and the Vietnam War going on had an impact on your decision to join the Foreign Service? Did you have a mission, or was it just a career opportunity? What ideas did you have about it when you joined?

Well I had an interest in international affairs, an interest that was highly stimulated by the experience here at Indiana University. Foreign Service seemed like a natural follow-up. On the other hand, because it is highly competitive, I did not necessarily count on getting in. It wasn't my mission to go into the Foreign Service, and I actually thought I would stay in academia, researching, teaching, and writing articles. But when I discovered that I'd been accepted into the Foreign Service, I said, "Well, this is an interesting opportunity, it's a challenge, it's something different— I think I'll try it!" I tried and stayed with it for some 33 or 34 years altogether before I retired in 2004.

Interview with Ambassador Jackovich
continued from page 9

Could you speak about the progression of your career from your first assignment to appointment as the first US Ambassador to Bosnia?

My first assignment was in Reykjavik, Iceland, where I stayed for three years. I'm not sure, but I think the posting in Iceland was part of the security vetting process. Even though my background was in Slavic languages I wasn't immediately sent into those areas. But, as fate would have it, one of the first things I found myself doing in 1972 involved an international chess match between Boris Spassky and Bobby Fischer. Of all of the places you would use your Russian! I was on call to be the informal interpreter for the American side—for Bobby Fischer and his people. Of course, the Russians were highly organized. They had government people there, and they had professional interpreters. They had you-name-it everything you can imagine. Bobby Fischer was just Bobby

Fischer, a private individual. But the American Embassy was able to tell him, "We have somebody who can help you with the Russians," someone who speaks the language and knows the culture, etc. So I worked with that in 1972. It wasn't anticipated. It was completely coincidental. That's the way real life happens. You work very hard on something at Indiana, and the next thing you know you're in an island state in the middle of the North Atlantic translating for the future World Champion of chess.

That's a great story. What happened after your assignment in Iceland?

After three years of "incubation" in Iceland or whatever it was, I was sent to Yugoslavia, and then to a series of East European assignments after that. I had one assignment in Africa that was out of area, but mainly it was assignments in Eastern Europe: the Soviet Union, Romania, places like that.

continued on page 12

Rebecca Mueller Chosen as Eighth McCloskey Fellow

The Russian and East European Institute has selected Rebecca Mueller as the eighth McCloskey Fellow. Rebecca is currently pursuing an MA in Russian and East European Studies as well as an MPH in Behavioral, Social, and Community Health at Indiana University-Bloomington. She majored in Anthropology at Smith College, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2008. In 2008-2009 she served as United States Peace Corps Community Health Educator in Divjakë, Albania. In this assignment, she collaborated with Albanian colleagues to develop and implement school and community-based health promotion projects that dealt with HIV/AIDS, chronic disease prevention, hygiene, healthy behaviors, and life skills. She also planned and directed youth camps and a bilingual professional training seminar. Upon her return to the United States in 2009, Rebecca took a position as Interim Executive Director of Urban Anthropology, Inc, a community-based cultural organization that serves low-income neighborhoods in Milwaukee, WI. There her experiences in working with Spanish-language communities and successful grant-writing led to hire as a full-time grant writer for La Asociación Nuestros Ahijados in Antigua, Guatemala, where her work focused on support of education, healthcare, poverty reduction, and women's empowerment in rural Guatemala.

While pursuing full-time graduate studies at IU, Rebecca interned at the Centerstone Research Institute, a nonprofit organization that works to improve the quality and effectiveness of care for individuals and families facing behavioral health disorders. She is also active as a member of the steering committee for IU's Many Faces of Human

Trafficking faculty-student study group. Rebecca is proficient in Albanian, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, and Spanish with a working knowledge of Russian and Turkish. Her academic career has featured numerous awards, including the prestigious Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship for study in the MA program of the Russian and East European Institute.



As McCloskey Fellow, Rebecca will return to Albania to examine the evolving complexities of community mental health in that country by conducting interviews with family caregivers – the most common source of support for Albanians living with mental illness and/or disability – and observing the work of organizations that operate within Albania's mental health sector. Rebecca has also received an American Councils Title VIII Combined Research and Language Training Award to pursue this project, which grows out of work that she undertook as part of a seminar with Bryan McCormick (Public Health), a faculty expert on community mental health in the former Yugoslavia. Rebecca's seminar paper explored the impact of Albania's authoritarian political system and Soviet-influenced biomedical theories on the development of mental health infrastructure during the communist period, and her engagement with these questions informed her decision to add the MPH to her degree plan. "I now consider health to be an ideal framework through which to view wider sociopolitical currents in the contemporary Balkans," Rebecca comments. In addition to her research in Albania, she also plans to visit Kosovo to deliver talks about mental health with the assistance of Shqipe Pantina, a McCloskey Fellow in residence at IU-Bloomington in 2012.

In Memoriam: Charles Jelavich

Charles Jelavich, age 90, passed away in Bloomington, IN in late April of this year. Born on November 15, 1922, in Mountain View, California, to Martin and Katrina Duganzich Jelavich. Charles graduated from Mountain View High School in 1940 and earned a BA in 1944 from the University of California at Berkeley, where he met Barbara Brightfield. Charles and Barbara wed in September 1944 and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary shortly before Barbara died in 1995. Charles served in the United States Army from 1944 to 1946 and was stationed in post-war Berlin during the final year of his enlistment. After his military service, Charles returned to the University of California at Berkeley, where in 1949 he completed his doctorate in History and joined the faculty. From 1961 to 1993, Charles and Barbara taught in the History Department at Indiana University.



His many books on the Balkans and related topics include *South Slav Nationalisms -- Textbooks and Yugoslav Union Before 1914* (Ohio State University Press, 1990) and *The Establishment of the Balkan National States, 1804-1920* (University of Washington Press, 1977), one of five that he and Barbara co-authored. Charles worked internationally and nationally to promote Slavic studies as a member of the U.S. Committee on International Exchange of Persons (1971-74) and the editorial board of both the American and East European editions of *Slavic Review*. He served as Vice President of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, an interdisciplinary association of 4,000 members, in 1986 and became President in 1987. Following Barbara's death, Charles established a book award in her name through the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies.

Upon learning of Charles' death, **Nick Novosel** (PhD History, 1986) contributed these reminiscences of his former mentor and teacher:

With the passing of Charles Jelavich, a titan of the profession has left us. Along with Barbara, Charles (aka Dr. J, Mr. J, C.J, Charlie) trained and mentored generations of Balkan, Habsburg, and diplomatic historians. Classes with Charles were always entertaining – often a whirlwind of the exploits of Serbs, Croats, Slovenes, and other East Europeans, punctuated eventually by a drawn out “Taaffe,” which allowed everyone to catch their breath. Exhorting students to complete their program of study was also a practiced skill for Charles. Who, among his students, has not had the call to his office in Ballantine Hall for that heart to heart discussion on getting down to business now, if you ever want to finish? Okay, maybe not everyone, but I had that talk, and it had the desired effect.

Above all, this mentoring was where Charles excelled. His characteristic integrity, consistency, and reliance on common sense were trademarks. From him, we learned who was “first rate” and who was “a real dog.” We also knew that the San Francisco Giants were the greatest team ever, except for IU basketball. Who else would carry a left-handed glove to Zagreb so one of his students (me) could play baseball there? Charles was simply down to earth, and this aspect of his character provided a solid foundation for his students who ended up in academia, government, or private business.

In 2011, I was visiting the U.S. Embassy in Sarajevo on a business trip. In the introductory meetings with the country team, I mentioned I had a doctorate in Balkan History from IU. Immediately, the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) asked, “You mean you studied under Charles and Barbara Jelavich?” My affirmative answer seemed to reassure the DCM, who waxed eloquently to the rest of the embassy staff about the importance of Charles and Barbara to Balkan scholarship. This unsolicited testimony is an indication of the tremendous impact that Charles had beyond the classroom.

We have lost a great teacher, colleague, mentor, and friend.

So raise a glass of your favorite rakija and toast the memory of Charles Jelavich.

Slava mu! Neka počiva u miru božjem!

*Nick Novosel
Ft. Bragg, NC*

Interview with Ambassador Jackovich
continued from page 10

Those assignments would have been in the late socialist period—were you a firsthand witness to the unraveling of the Soviet Union?

I like to think I was part of it, if I can say that. In 1980, there was a quick deterioration of bilateral relations as a result of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and I was expelled from the Soviet Union. We took many measures— withholding of grain exports, withholding the sale of high technology, delaying the ratification of the SALT II Treaty, and boycotting of the Moscow Olympics in 1980, among others. There was also the almost obligatory mutual expulsion of diplomats. It was nothing that I did personally, but I found myself on a list of six or seven people that were expelled, because we were also expelling six or seven Soviet diplomats from Washington. Eight years later I returned to a Soviet Union in the throes of *glasnost* and *perestroika* as the cultural attaché at the US Embassy for two years, 1988-1990. It was really the best possible time to be in the Soviet Union and in that job. There was no mention of the previous expulsion. It was completely forgotten with no repercussions.

And then after Moscow, you represented the US in newly independent Moldova and spent some time in Bulgaria?

Yes—the late 1980s and 1990s was a time of great turmoil and activity in Eastern Europe, and in our relations with Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union was falling apart, while Eastern Europe was reforming itself politically and economically in a series of movements that swept through the area. But Yugoslavia, unfortunately, was moving closer and closer to warfare and finally interwarfare. I was in the United States at the time, but I was brought back because of the turmoil. I was in charge of a task force for Yugoslavia in the State Department that basically gathered information from a variety of sources, culled it, and then edited it for the senior policy makers in the United States government. I was sent to Bulgaria in a diplomatic posting in Sofia where I was asked to go into Yugoslavia several times. Sofia is only about an hour's drive from the Yugoslav border. From there I reported on the early stages of the conflicts unfolding in Yugoslavia. I drove myself and reported out of four different Yugoslav Republics: Serbia, Macedonia, Bosnia, and Croatia. I was summoned back to the United States, and then I visited some European capitals— London, Geneva, Vienna— to talk about the crisis in Yugoslavia on behalf of the US government. Finally in late 1991-1992, I was appointed the first US ambassador to Bosnia-Herzegovina, a great honor. I think I was the youngest US ambassador at that time and probably one of the youngest ambassadors in the world, because I was in my 40s. It was a big assignment, one of the most sensitive diplomatic postings that we had at that time. The country was fighting for its survival—we didn't know if it would even be a country in the future. I opened an embassy to Bosnia in 1993 in Vienna, Austria, which is the first and only time in United States history that we have

opened an embassy to a country in the territory of a third country. The lawyers told me not to do it. "Well, is it legal?" I asked. "Will it be a real embassy, a real representation of the US?" They said, "Yes, but we would ask you not to do it for other reasons—it will be very confusing, there will be some problems and difficulties." But I went ahead and did it. Of course, it was the White House's decision to proceed with an embassy in Vienna. In 1994 the real embassy was opened in Sarajevo in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where of course it belonged and is today.

Can you talk about conditions in Sarajevo during the first years of the embassy's operations there?

Well it wasn't very safe and secure, if that's what you mean. I consider myself very fortunate to have survived. My appointment, which lasted till 1995, coincided with the heyday of the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Maybe as many as 250,000 people lost their lives, most of them civilians, most of them Muslims. It was the first time in my life, though unfortunately not the only time, that I saw people killed directly around me. And of course, that could have been me. Maybe it was supposed to be me and I was being aimed at, I don't know. It was a very dangerous time, but I think that all of us at the embassy—I had a small group of people, maybe ten or twelve Americans with me at the time— felt a sense of mission to make sure that the United States government and its people knew what was happening in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We also needed to guarantee that there was a symbol of America's support to the Bosnians—a visible symbol, not just rhetoric, not just some speech back in Washington where someone says, "We're with you," when no one is actually there. We wanted to say, "Look, we're with you," and really have people on the ground. And yes, it was not easy— indeed, it was rather difficult. We didn't have a lot of amenities. When people think of embassies they think of swimming pools and cocktail parties. Well we didn't have any of that. We didn't have running water much of the time, and we were often hiding in basements as the shelling took place. But we were extremely fortunate to make it through that period and to be able to keep reporting back. I like to think it set the scene for providing our policy makers with objective information—thorough detail and good analysis—and ultimately the type of information on which they based their eventual decision to intervene.

So your Ambassadorship in Bosnia ended in 1995 and then you moved to Slovenia.

I was in Slovenia as US Ambassador between 1995 and 1998. My job at that point was to liaise with a very new Slovenian government, to communicate with them, to enunciate our US policies towards them, and to get our feedback from them and communicate that back to Washington. I also assisted with their entry into NATO and eventually the European Union.

Can you tell us something about your final years in the State Department?

In my last assignment, I spent approximately 14 months in Afghanistan at the military base in Bagram, as a civilian working very closely with the military in the role of a senior political advisor to the US and coalition military operations headquartered there. That was at the beginning of our engagement, in 2002-2003, when we first went into Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. Our job was to fight the Taliban and Al Qaeda, to set up the first institutions of good governance in Afghanistan, and at the same time to find out what we could do for the entire region—Pakistan, Iran, the other countries around.

How has your view of the world been informed by your experiences as an official in the State Department who began his service in the 1970s with a focus more on East European affairs and then Southeastern Europe especially? Do you consider yourself a Balkan specialist?

I consider myself not a Balkan specialist, but someone who has specialized in the Balkans—and I'm not just being cute. I just think the moniker "specialist" is something that has to be conferred by other people, not by oneself. And my experiences in the Balkans and elsewhere in Eastern Europe,

particularly during the turmoil of the 1980s and 1990s, had a lot of applicability to other areas, Central Asia and Afghanistan in particular. Some part of the experiences that you pick up in one place are always going to be applicable someplace else. If I have to say I specialize in anything, it would be setting up US operations in places that did not have experience with that before, whether it was working with a team to open an embassy in Bosnia or Moldova, trying to set up a new diplomatic outpost in Kiev, which I did not succeed in because I was expelled, or the work I did upon my return to Moscow, where it wasn't so much a question of new institutions as taking advantage of the major changes ushered in by *glasnost* and *perestroika*. Travelling around the Soviet Union used to be, in the old days, very difficult, but during the second half of the 1980s it became far less so. I came into contact with Central Asian societies and organizations in far flung parts of the Soviet Union that we did not have contact with before, because we were not allowed to associate with them before. I found people turning to me and asking, "Can you do this? and Can you do that?" and of course you never want to say no. I think I was very unfortunate to be on hand in the Foreign Service and in Washington with the tools that I refined here at Indiana University.

Student News

Catalin Cristoloveanu (History) has been awarded a Mellon Innovating International Research, Teaching and Collaboration Graduate Dissertation Fellowship. He was also the recipient of a Fulbright IIE for research in Romania in 2013-2014.

Aimee Dobbs (History) presented a paper entitled "An Informal Education: *Ökinçi* as an Educational Medium and Advocate for Epistemic Change, 1875-1877" at the Association for Central Eurasian Students Conference in April at IU Bloomington.

Katie Hiatt (History) has been awarded a Fulbright IIE for study in Ukraine in 2013-2014.

Austin Kellogg (REEI) has accepted a Peace Corps Response short-term position as a Social Inclusion Specialist with the Ministry of Labor in Skopje, Macedonia.

Ilana Miller (History) presented the paper "Co-opting Tevye: *Fiddler on the Roof* productions in Communist Czechoslovakia, 1968-1970" at the Midwest Historians of East Central Europe Workshop in Chicago.

Chris Molnar (History) will begin a tenure-track appointment as Assistant Professor of German and French History in the history department at the University of Michigan-Flint in September.

Colleen Moore (History) has been awarded a College of Arts and Sciences travel grant. She presented the paper "'After the War, All the Land Will Be Ours': Russian Peasant Rumors During World War I" at the 51st Annual Southern Conference on Slavic Studies in March. **Martin Blackwell** (IU History PhD, 2005) served as the discussant for the panel.

Ben Stellwagen (History) delivered the paper "Lutheran by Faith, German by Association: Soviet Social Policy and German Lutheran Spirituality" at the International Conference on Religion and Spirituality in Society at Arizona State University in March. At the end of March, he presented the paper "Culture in Transit: Volga German Spirituality and Nationalism during the Soviet Wartime Deportations" at the University of Nottingham.

Faculty/Staff News

Maria Bucur (History) gave an invited talk entitled “Sacrifice, Heroism, and Grieving: Gendered Aspects of War Remembrance in Twentieth Century Romania,” at Ohio State University in March.

Craig Cravens (Slavics) has completed two translations from the Czech: the autobiography of dissident playwright Ivan Klíma, *My Crazy Century*, to be published in November, and *Aaron's Leap*, a novel by Magdalena Platzová, due out in February 2014. Both are available now for pre-order.

Lynn Hooker (Central Eurasian Studies) has been awarded a Mellon Innovating International Research and Teaching Innovative Workshops grant for her project “Building a ‘Virtual Roma Cultural House’: A Workshop of the Development of an Online Resource in Romani Studies.”

Owen V. Johnson (Journalism) presented a seminar, “Whom Do We Serve? A Comparative Historical Analysis of Journalistic Professionalism in Russia and East Central Europe,” at the Center for Baltic and East European Studies at Sodertorn University in Stockholm in April, when he was also a keynote speaker at the 6th International Conference on Media in Central and Eastern Europe at Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania.

Padraic Kenney (History) presented the keynote address, entitled “A Polish Cell, A Global Narrative: Rethinking Political Incarceration in the Twentieth Century,” at the Midwest Historians of East Central Europe Workshop in Chicago in April.

David Ransel (History) published “Interviewing Village Mothers—With Help from Friends” in *The Russian Experience: Americans Encountering the Enigma, 1917 to the Present* (edited by **Choi Chatterjee** (PhD History, 1995) and Beth Holmgren) and co-authored “Устные материалы в архивах: проблемы отбора, хранения и доступа” [Oral materials in the archives: problems of selection, preservation and access] with **Jeffrey Veidlinger** (History) in December.

Mark Roseman (History) published the book chapter “‘Wannsee’ als Herausforderung. Die Historiker und die Konferenz” (The challenge of “Wannsee”: Historians and the Conference) in Norbert Kampe und Peter Klein (eds.), *Die Wannsee-Konferenz am 20. Januar 1942, Dokumente, Forschungsstand, Kontroversen*. In April, he was awarded a College Arts & Humanities Institute Conference Grant to host the “Midwest Germany History Symposium.” He also published a Polish edition of his book on the Wannsee Conference: *Wannsee. Willa. Jezioro. Spotkanie*. (Warsaw: Wielka Litera, 2013)

Ron Sela (Central Eurasian Studies) delivered the Khan Bahadur Khuda Bakhsh Memorial Lecture at Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Library in Patna (India) in January. He expounded on the Library’s most prized possession, the Tarikh-e khandan-e timuriyah, a unique 16th-century Manuscript Treasure of India inscribed in UNESCO’s Memory of the World Register. An article on Sela’s lecture appeared in the Times of India the following day. Also in January, Sela gave an invited talk entitled “Central Asia’s ‘decline’: a reassessment” at Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies in Calcutta. In April, he gave an invited lecture entitled “The origin myths of the Turks and their Islamic reconfiguration” at the Centre for Research on Ancient Chinese History at Peking University in Beijing, China.

Maria Shardakova (Slavics) has been awarded a Mellon Innovating International Research and Teaching Innovative Workshops grant for her project “Business Communication Across the Atlantic.”

Jeffrey Veidlinger (History) will be publishing *In the Shadow of the Shtetl: Small Town Jewish Life in Soviet-Ukraine* in October of this year, in addition to co-authoring “Устные материалы в архивах: проблемы отбора, хранения и доступа” [Oral materials in the archives: problems of selection, preservation and access] with **David Ransel** (History).

Alumni News

Lauren Butt (MA REEI, 2010) was an invited speaker at a workshop on child protection training at the UN Logistics Base in Brindisi, Italy in March 2012. She spoke on the possible intersections of e-learning and child protection training for UN peacekeepers.

Kris Mitchell (MA REEI, 2012), a major in the US Army, is serving as Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation at the United States Embassy in Tirana, Albania.

Anna Muller (MA History, 2006; PhD History, 2010) has accepted the Frank and Mary Padzieski Endowed Chair in Polish Studies in the Department of History of the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Elli Travis (BA Slavics and Economics, Minors in CEUS and REEI, 2010) has accepted an offer to the Virginia Tech M.S. in Agricultural and Applied Economics program with a fully funded research assistantship.

Visiting Scholars



Xiangdong Li is a Professor of Russian at Beijing Foreign Studies University (Beijing, China), is scholar-in-residence at IU-Bloomington from February through June, 2013. She is investigating the university-level study of Russian language and literature in the United States.



Orsolya Mikola is a PhD student in Law at Pázmány Péter Catholic University (Budapest, Hungary), conducted research on transportation and paratransit from a legal and sociological perspective as a Rezler Scholar in residence at IU-Bloomington in Spring Semester, 2013.



Natalya Rubtsova is Vice-Dean of International Affairs in the Faculty of Biology at Zaporizhzhya National University (Zaporizhzhya, Ukraine), investigated career services and international education on the IU-Bloomington campus as fellow in the IREX University Administration Support Program from January through March, 2013.



Rustem Tsiunchuk is a Professor of History at the Institute of History of Kazan (Volga Region) Federal University (Kazan, Russia) visited IU-Bloomington in February and March in connection with the IU Volga-Kama Initiative. While on campus, Professor Tsiunchuk read a paper at the conference “Ready for Democracy? Religion and Political Culture in the Orthodox and Islamic Worlds” and delivered a talk in Russian on ethnic, confessional, and regional diversity in the Russian State Duma of 1906-1917.



Indiana University
Summer Language Workshop

June 3- July 26, 2013

www.indiana.edu/~swseel/
Priority Deadline: March 1, 2013

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

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