

CREEES

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Chronicle

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Changes are afoot! This has been a time of transition at CREEES. After twelve years of service, Nancy Kollmann stepped down from the directorship in August and is enjoying a year of leave to work on her book on "Crime and Punishment in Early Modern Russia." I was honored to be asked to be the new CREEES director, but admitted that I was about to take a calendar-year leave myself in 2008. Fortunately, Hoover Institution senior fellow John Dunlop agreed to be the interim director during my leave. Nancy, John, and I have been working together to make this prolonged transition period as smooth as possible.

In another shift, Andrei Kunov left CREEES for other opportunities and in September we welcomed a new Associate Director, Robert Wessling. Rob's PhD is in Slavic Languages and Literatures from Berkeley; he specializes in late-nineteenth-century Russian literature, with interests in cultural studies in Russia and Eurasia. He taught as a postdoctoral fellow in Stanford's Introduction to the Humanities program and then worked as an undergraduate advisor. We are delighted to have Rob on board, drawing on his expertise to design new programs.

Our most startling transition has been in our physical location. After a decade of sharing building 40 on the Inner Quad with the Slavic Department, we learned in late May that due to the restructuring of several departments, we would have to move out – right after the June graduation! We've been relocated to the second floor of Encina West, where we share space with the central office of the Division of International, Comparative, and Area Studies (ICA), which brings together Stanford's 13 area studies centers, the undergraduate program in International Relations, and the MA program in International Policy Studies. Although we miss having the Slavic Department as our neighbors, we are strengthening our ties with the other ICA centers and other programs in Encina. Among our new neighbors are our old friends: the Center for Democracy, Development, and Rule of Law (CDDRL), the European Forum, and the Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE), all part of the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI).

John, Rob, and I are working to support our valiant staff as they deal with the details of physical reorganization and get the word out about where to find us. We are optimistic about the possibilities that our new location opens up to us, helping us address some of the questions that relate to Eastern Europe, Russia, and Eurasia today. During the Cold War, our part of the world was politically and culturally isolated; now, it plays a central role in global discussions of energy, arms export, international diplomacy, environmental challenges, new media, and high technology, with all its promises and dangers. Now that CREEES is physically co-located with ICA, we can discuss all these issues with the leaders of other area studies centers, and we are working together with them on new programming.

We are already benefiting from our new location. In December, the Center for Latin American Studies, the Center for African Studies, and the Center for South Asia joined us in sponsoring a talk by K. David Harrison from Swarthmore about global and local trends in language extinction. And through the other area studies centers, we are learning about things going on at Stanford that relate to our area. For example, the director of the Abbasi Center for Islamic Studies introduced us to Shahzad Bashir, a new faculty member in Religious Studies who works on medieval Islam in Central Asia – and we were delighted when Shahzad agreed to become our newest CREEES faculty affiliate. With Rob next door to the associate director of African Studies, we've learned about how that center reaches out to science faculty and to Stanford's professional schools, and we've become inspired to do the same, recruiting faculty from Environmental Sciences and the

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CREEES is designated a National Resource Center for the study of Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia by the U.S. Department of Education, and receives Title VI funds for educational and outreach activities. The center is a degree-granting program within the School of Humanities and Sciences at Stanford University.

Further information about CREEES at Stanford is available at <http://CREEES.stanford.edu>

Engineering School for our November roundtable on the legacy of Sputnik.

The watchword as we design CREEES programming for the next few years will be balance. Our new location and leadership give us the opportunity to reconsider our own priorities. As Russia grows more assertive, we must maintain our focus and expertise in that area. At the same time, we do not want to be "Russo-centric": we are committed to responding to student and faculty interest by expanding our programs and resources for the Balkans, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia. We will serve our faculty and graduate students, as we always have. At the same time, we have begun a series of undergraduate-focused programs, which we hope will draw students to study our part of the world and to utilize Stanford's overseas campus in Moscow.

Of course, we are not the only organization going through changes. The annual Berkeley-Stanford conference on Russian, East European, and Eurasian studies will be here this year, scheduled for a few days after the elections in Russia, and the topic will be – perhaps symbolically – political successions in Russia. As we go through a time of transition, Russia does as well. It should be interesting for all of us!

**CREEES Associate Director
 Robert Wessling**



Robert Wessling joined CREEES in September. He has expanded CREEES's partnerships on campus, developing events with the Freeman-Spogli Institute's Center for Democracy, Development and Rule of Law, and the Forum on Contemporary Europe. He also put together an interdisciplinary panel to discuss "The Sputnik Legacy" in November. This event featured Stanford President Emeritus Donald Kennedy, Professor J. David Powell from Aeronautics, Astronautics and Mechanical Engineering, and Pavel Podvig from CISAC. The event was moderated by Professor of History & Politics and

Senior FSI Fellow, David Hollway. (Please see page 3 for an article on this event.)

Rob earned his Ph.D. from the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of California, Berkeley, and held a postdoctoral fellowship in the Introduction to the Humanities program at Stanford, teaching in the Slavic Department's "Poetic Justice" course sequence as well as in other interdisciplinary humanities courses. He has also taught Polish language at Stanford and courses in Russian literature and culture at UCB and elsewhere in the Bay Area. A specialist in literature and medicine of late 19th-century Russia, Rob has published articles in the Moscow-based *Novoe literaturnoe obozrenie* (The New Literary Review) and in the anthology *Madness and the Mad in Russian Culture* (University of Toronto, 2006).

Most recently Rob served as an Academic Director in Undergraduate Advising and Research, taking responsibility for undergraduate advising in Stern Hall. He also serves as a Study Leader on expeditions sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History in New York. In this capacity, he gave lectures to museum travelers aboard the Trans-Siberian Railway (between Vladivostok and Moscow) and passengers aboard the Volga Dream on the waterways between Moscow and St. Petersburg. Rob brings an excellent combination of knowledge of Stanford and of Russian and East European Studies to CREEES.

**CREEES Interim Director
 John Dunlop**

John Dunlop, Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution and member of the CREEES Steering Committee, is currently working as the CREEES Interim Director while Gabriella Safran is on sabbatical for the 2008 calendar year. He is an expert on Russia's two wars in Chechnya, nationalism in the former Soviet Union, Russian cultural politics, and the politics of religion in Russia. His current research focuses on the conflict in Chechnya, Russian politics since 1985, Russia and the successor states of the former Soviet Union, Russian nationalism, and the politics of religion in Russia.



2007-08 ALEXANDER DALLIN LECTURE IN SOVIET AND POST-SOVIET AFFAIRS

RUSSIA BEFORE THE PARLIAMENTARY AND PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS: TOWARDS A NEW REGIME

Presented by Lev Gudkov

Director of the Levada Center for Social and Political Research, Moscow

The Annual Dallin Lecture honors Stanford Professor of History and Political Science Alexander Dallin, a founder of Russian and East European Studies not only at Stanford but also nationwide.



Lev Gudkov, 2007-08 Dallin Lecturer

In November, CREEES invited Lev Gudkov, researcher at the Levada Center, to present a report on the parliamentary elections in Russia. Gudkov gave his analysis of the public opinion poll data collected by the Levada Center from a sample of the voting-age population before the elections. Putin's image as a great stabilizer is upheld by a significant portion of the population, said Gudkov. This sentiment can be accounted for by a few factors. Firstly, the price of oil, which has recently broken the \$100 dollar-per-barrel mark, has promoted significant economic growth and secondly, growing censorship over the media has limited negative coverage of the administration. Though the rise in the living standard has had a demonstrable impact on only a

few, it cannot be denied that certain benefits have been felt by all. To assume that the population relates political and economic stability directly to potential economic growth however, would be somewhat inaccurate: the expressed desire for stability more significantly stems from anxiety over a return to a state of economic crisis, i.e., the 1990s.

The parliamentary elections took place at a period in time when there was an extremely low level of trust in politicians and political parties (indeed, the lowest level of trust among different institutions and social movements), a noticeable indifference to and lack of understanding of the parliamentary system, and a dearth of information on the political goals of individual politicians, Gudkov said. Only a small part of survey respondents (five percent of the people interviewed) answered that they were well-informed about the activities of parliamentary deputies. The other fifty percent reported that they had vague ideas about it and forty-five percent said they knew nothing about such activities. The parliamentary pre-election landscape was certainly not encouraging, added a Russian researcher. "The bulk of the population has no idea of what liberalism and democracy are, the scope of their ideas is very limited. That is why we cannot expect from them any motivation for civic consolidation or a democracy of participation or responsibility," Gudkov said.

Gudkov ended the discussion by reasserting the growing problem of corruption throughout governmental and non-governmental spheres. The fact that the people believe Putin will de facto appoint the next president gives them confidence that Putin's policies will continue to be implemented in a way that they hope will encourage economic and political stability.

By Florin Sperlea

The Launch of Sputnik: 50th Anniversary Panel Discussion

Anjali Vithayathil and Monique Smith

In an age where Google Earth and iPhones have become fixtures of modern society, it is hard to estimate the extent to which satellite technology has transformed the way we live. On the fiftieth anniversary of the launch of Sputnik, an interdisciplinary panel of experts presented reflections on the legacy of the first spacecraft to be put in orbit around the earth. On October 4, 1957, the Soviet Union launched Sputnik as a part of their program to develop Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs). Fifty years later, there are hundreds of satellites in orbit, many of which operate not only for military, but commercial purposes.

"No one really anticipated the widespread use by the public of satellite technology," said J. David Powell, Professor Emeritus, Aeronautics, Astronautics and Mechanical Engineering. In fact, the Soviet Union had no idea of the immediate and global implications of such an accomplishment. The day after the launch, the Communist Party newspaper Pravda devoted a simple small corner of their front page to Sputnik.

Professor David Holloway, Professor of History and Politics and Senior Fellow at FSI, began the discussion by describing the more overwhelming and unexpected impact the launching of Sputnik had on

the United States. Technological advancement had generally been considered an "American birthright" and such a rude awakening coupled with the failure of the Vanguard program to produce an artificial satellite, impelled the United States to emphasize science education and space exploration. From the creation of NASA to a kindergartener's bottle rocket, the United States government ensured that science was to receive a worthy budget. "The Sputnik legacy is greater in the United States than the Soviet Union," Professor Holloway stressed. The rapid focus on the space race drove the United States to create its own artificial satellite

in January of 1958 and subsequent expeditions to the moon.

The scientific and technological prowess demonstrated through the launch of Sputnik provided the U.S.S.R. with a powerful new political tool. Pavel Podvig, research associate at CISAC noted that the reaction from abroad affected the why and wherefore of Soviet and American space exploration programs. "The secrecy of the period plus the launch of sputnik led to U.S. anxiety about rapidly growing strategic capability of the Soviet Union," added Professor Holloway. No longer

writing off the Soviet Union as a country of peasants, the U.S. awakened to the notion that the enemy had advanced technological capabilities. The ability of the Soviet Union to view strategic American locations and vice-versa gave rise to legal questions of state sovereignty in light of the transparency of international air space. The development of satellites became politically motivated as the space race launched

the U.S. and Russia into a battle of technological might and resourcefulness.

As for some more concrete examples of Sputnik's legacy: NASA, the term "beatnik", and Google Earth are just three of many.



Pavel Podvig, Donald Kennedy, J. David Powell, David Holloway

CREEES 2007-08 CHOPIVSKY SCHOLAR - PAVLO KUTUYEV

The Program in Ukrainian Studies welcomes Pavlo for Spring 08 quarter. The Chopivsky Fellow is supported by a generous grant from the Chopivsky Family Foundation, and brings a scholar from the National University "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" to Stanford for one academic quarter for research.

Professor Kutuyev is a Professor of Sociology at the Mohyla. For research he has visited the U.S. frequently, holding a Fulbright grant at New York University (2002), an IREX (International Research and Exchanges Board) Visiting Scholar fellowship to UC Berkeley and NYU (1998), and a Visiting Scholar fellowship at the New School for Social Research in New York (1995-96). He has also been British Academy Visiting Fellow at the University of Birmingham in England (2000) and Visiting Fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna (1999). He is the author of four textbooks in the field of comparative sociology, and two scholarly monographs on political sociology. At Stanford, Professor Kutuyev will be working on a very interesting project in comparative history and sociology, entitled "Comparative-Historical Perspectives on Ukrainian State Building." He plans to study three moments of political crisis -- Weimar Germany 1932-33, Russia 1993 and Ukraine 2007 -- for implications for the design of parliamentary and other political institutions in the process of democratization.



VISITING CARNEGIE FELLOW SCHOLAR, FALL 2007 - VOLHA SHATALAVA



During her visit to Stanford, Volha Shatalava plans to further her research on "Belarusian and Ukrainian Post-Soviet Nations: Two Versions of Nation-Building." She is from Belarusian State University, History Faculty, and the Department of Ethnology and Art History. Her academic career includes being a historian, teacher of history and social and humanistic sciences researcher in Minsk, Belarus.

Since 2004 she has attended Graduate School for Social Research in the Institute of

Philosophy and Sociology, at the Polish Academy of Sciences. Her recent international projects include: "Realization of the project 'Transformation of National Identity of the Belarusians and the Ukrainians: 1991 -2004'" for Center for Advanced Studies and Education Belarus (May 2004 to March 2005).

Her fellowship in the US is sponsored by the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEEER).

VISITING ROMANIAN SCHOLAR 2007-08 -- FLORIN SPERLEA

Florin Sperlea is an historian from Romania. In the fall of 2006 he won a scholarship from the European Generation Foundation which is led by Emil Constantinescu, former president of Romania.

Florin made a critical analysis of the "Defense, Public Order and National Safety System" and on the "Foreign Politics and International Relations." He has a Ph.D. in Contemporary History and is interested in the study of Soviet relations with Eastern Europe under communism. His specialty is in the post-WWII construction of communist armies in Eastern Europe under the control of the Soviet Union. Florin was very actively involved in the organization of the "Geopolitics, Geo-Strategy, & National Security" roundtable. He has also prepared a research paper on "Frontier and Federation, between Success and Failure: USA vs. Russia Case."



SUMMER RESEARCH NOTES

Each year CREEES invites graduate students to apply for summer travel and research grants administered by the Center. Ten students received CREEES research/travel grants in 2007. Here, several of them offer reflections on their experiences abroad.

Pasternak and Rilke: Aerial Ways of Literature (Germany-Russia)

Ilja Gruen

Slavic Languages and Literatures



Russian-German literary relationships, always strong throughout the modern Russian history, have especially intensified at the turn of the 20th century. Major Russian writers and poets who considered German one of their primary foreign languages, traveled to Germany for studies of literature and philosophy, which significantly contributed to the symbolist movement. Examples of this strong connections span from Viacheslav Ivanov, the major theoretician and one of the leaders of "symbolist" movement in Russia, to Alexander Blok to the major poets of the younger generation such as Osip Mandelstam who studied in Heidelberg and Marina Tsvetaeva, who in her younger years not only spent every summer in Germany, but also claimed that "German is my native language more than Russian."

My dissertation is on Russian-German literary relationships on the example of Boris Pasternak and Rainer Maria Rilke. In Germany, I worked on publications and reviews of Rilke's works published in the German periodical press in the first quarter of the 20th century. The magazines and newspapers that I looked through are not available at the Stanford library or the necessary volumes are missing, and going through the actual issues helped me a lot in creating a solid understanding of cultural surroundings of Rilke's publications.

This approach is more fruitful than ordering specific articles via ILL, because it provides a direct access to the context of a publication in a journal, and allows to see some potentially illuminating connections.

Beside research on Rilke, I was able to look at articles by his friend and writer, who had such an overwhelming influence on him, that he even changed his handwriting and his name from Rene to Rainer on her advice: Lou Andreas-Salome. Their relationship is well-researched, as is Lou's biography and her contacts with great contemporaries -- Nietzsche and Freud. However, it is paradoxical that there are almost more biographies of her than publications of her actual works, which one has to search in the journals where they first appeared. For example, her article "Christus der Jude," which was the starting point of Rilke's acquaintance with Lou, but also, and more importantly, the articles on Russian art and literature she wrote during the time together with Rilke near Munich, which formed Rilke's first encounter with Russian culture, and which he translated into Russian, such as "Russische Dichtung und Kultur" and "Russische Philosophie und semitischer Geist." Again, access to these publications allowed me a direct glimpse into the context of the epoch and the background against which Rilke's works were viewed by his contemporaries.

In Moscow, I researched fonds of "Russian State Library," especially their dissertation and manuscript fonds. I found many interesting materials directly relating to my project, and these findings will be reflected in my dissertation. In Sankt-Petersburg, I was working in "Publicnaia Biblioteka," looking for documents on the reception of Rilke in Russia in the first half of the 20th century. Many thanks to CREEES and the Slavic Department for making this research trip possible!

Contemporary Formation of Psychological Assistance in Russia

Tomas Matza

Modern Thought and Literature

My trip to St. Petersburg last September/October proved to be totally essential to my disserta-



tion. There had been some holes in my research leading up to the trip, and I am glad to say that most of these have been filled.

One of the nagging troubles in my project, which studies the contemporary formation of psychological assistance in Russia, has been the lack of good late-Soviet histories on the topic. Thus, my ability to make sense of the current boom in self-help, psychotherapy and popular psychology has been hampered by the fact that I haven't had a good sense of "where it's all coming from." Was "therapy" absent in late-Soviet times? Were there practicing psychologists? Where were they? What did they do? And what were the political conditions that enabled the 1990s development of psychological guidance services in schools?

When I left the field in 2006 I had a list of people likely to help me answer these questions, but no remaining time to contact them. So the first thing I did in Petersburg last month was find them. In some cases it was an easy matter of making a phone call at the right time of day. In one case, it took the entire month, many phone calls, questions and internet searching, to reach the person. Of more than thirty meetings, I would have to highlight three that were especially useful:

My meeting at the Bekhterev Institute with B.D. Karvasarskii, former head psychotherapist of the Russian Federation, helped me to understand the complex processes by which clinical psychology and psychotherapy (in its Soviet form) began to move into the mental health fields after Stalin's death. The return of talk therapies into public institutions has been important for me to understand because it signals the first signs of the de-Stalinization and de-Pavlovianization not only of

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the field but also in attitudes about personhood. It also planted the seeds for the subsequent post-Soviet boom in practical psychology.

My field research in 2005-2006 was heavily focused on several municipal psycho-pedagogical medico-social (PPMS) centers that work closely with schools. Despite having done a lot of valuable participant-observation in these organizations, I was unable to learn enough about the politics enabling their development. My meeting at the Committee for Education with V.I. Pavlova, who had been instrumental in their formation in the 1990s, confirmed my suspicions that the formation of the centers was tied to a much broader reform in education driven by psychologists inside the Academy for Pedagogical Sciences during perestroika.

Finally, my meeting with E.I. Kazakova, a professor in the philological faculty of SPSU was simply ground-breaking. She answered all my questions about the formation of the PPMS Centers, and has so far also given me a great deal of literature on this subject. She will likely be a key future informant.

Much could also be said about the many observations I made in the course of follow-up meetings, but let me close by thanking CREEES for its continued support of my research. The difference the travel grant will have made for my project is significant, indeed.

The Soviet Legal System in the Post-Stalin Era

Dina Moyal

History Department



Thanks to this year's CREEES travel grant I was able to resume my field research in Moscow, Russia and collect valuable material for my dissertation on the Soviet Legal system in the times of Khrushchev and Brezhnev. After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, former Soviet archives started to grant access to collections that had been

closed for decades. However, those newly available documents have not yet been used for an extensive study of Soviet legal institutions after Stalin.

Over the summer quarter I continued my research work, that started in the spring, in three central archives in Moscow - the Central Archive of the Russian Federation (GARF), The Russian State Archive of Contemporary History (RGANI) and the Central Archive of Moscow City (TsAGM) - in order to gather documents on the functioning of Soviet courts, Soviet Ministry of Justice, the State Prosecution and the Bar Association.

In the Central Archive of the Russian Federation I studied the collections of the USSR and RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic] Ministries of Justice and Juridical Committees (functioned in place of the Ministry of Justice between 1956 and 1970) that hold core documents on legal and judicial policies of that period and offer very rich material on the way Soviet courts operated and the way the legal system was administered. Along with general correspondence, directives and statistics issued by the Ministry of Justice I found protocols of meetings of state officials and annual reports on the work of courts, law offices, law schools and other legal institutions. The USSR Supreme Court collection, also available in GARF, contains extremely interesting files of court cases that were brought before the Supreme Court and present Soviet jurisprudence in practice.

The Russian State Archive of Contemporary History, where most of the post 1953 Communist Party documents are located, was an excellent source of information on Communist Party course of action in the field of law and legal education. Materials from the Sector of High Education (subdivision of the Department of Education) and the Department of Agitation and Propaganda demonstrated important policy and personnel changes after Stalin's death, from legal theory, to the supervision over Law Schools and the writing and publishing of schoolbooks. A 1964 elaborate report on the role of law in building a Communist society and Party directions on that matter was only one of many instructive documents I found in the archive.

The Central Archive of Moscow City proved to be the best place to look at the operation of the Moscow College of Advocates and the Moscow State Attorney's office. The Moscow archive dossiers have stenographic reports and protocols of Moscow Bar Association meetings, exposing the reader to the day-to-day problems of jurists in the Soviet Union. The reports on the work of the Moscow Prosecution demonstrate the difficulties in managing the prosecuting machine.

Finally, as part of this summer's research trip I

began my work at the Russian National Library, where I looked through published materials related to the Soviet legal system, such as memoirs of former lawyers and judges and Law School books that were published there at the time.

In sum, my summer field research was invaluable for the progress of my dissertation and I am grateful to CREEES for its support. Thank you.

Albania and the Yugoslav Federation 1944-1948

Daniel Perez

History Department



The purpose of my summer travel was to conduct pre-dissertation archival research in the Archive of Serbia in Belgrade, Serbia. My dissertation analyzes Albania's program of asserting its independence in the face of the Yugoslav initiative to annex Albania and then make it part of the Yugoslav federation between 1944-1948. During summer research I wanted to find archival documents that would help me to determine Yugoslavia's policy toward Albania between the Second World War and the expulsion of the Yugoslav Communist Party from the Cominform in June of 1948, identify the Yugoslav officials who made this policy, and determine what Yugoslav activity in Albania helped trigger the Cominform split. I also wanted to use the libraries in Belgrade to find books and journal articles related to my dissertation topic.

At the Archive of Serbia, formerly the Archive of Yugoslavia, I found reports by Yugoslav representatives and Yugoslav military, political, and economic advisers based in Albania between 1944-1948. The Archive also contains correspondences between Yugoslav officials in Albania, the Yugoslav Central Committee and Foreign Ministry, and high-ranking Albanian officials. Last, I found Albanian newspaper articles and leaflets related to different aspects of Albania's postwar re-

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construction that Yugoslav advisors were involved in, such as Albanian economic planning, educational reforms, and military defense.

Most of these records are stored in the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee Fund, in the section, "International Relations and Contacts, Albania." (F507 CK SKJ; Komisija za Medunarodne Odnose i Veze; Albanija; IX-1) I also examined the funds of the Yugoslav Presidency (50), the Presidium of the National Assembly of Yugoslavia (15), the Federal Commission for Religious Questions (144), and Yugoslav Central Committee relations with Bulgaria (F507-IX-15) and the Greek Communist Party (F507-IX-33). Most documents I examined were in Serbo-Croatian, Albanian, or Russian.

Through summer research I learned that the Archive of Serbia has published nearly all of its records of Yugoslav Politburo and Central Committee discussions about postwar Albanian-Yugoslav relations. Though I found few unpublished records by high-ranking Yugoslav officials concerning Belgrade's policy toward Albania, the reports that I found are important sources for studying postwar Albanian history. They complement Albanian records which document the reactions of Albanian officials to emerging Soviet-Yugoslav tensions in the months preceding the Cominform split. Further, they shed light on the strength of anti-communist organizations in Albania after the Second World War, which Albanian sources tend to underplay. These reports are not available in the Albanian archives.

Working conditions were excellent. Documents that are ordered by 1 in the afternoon are available by 9 the next morning. The use of a digital camera is permitted. The archive's librarian helped me to track down journal articles related to my dissertation topic.

I spent three weeks working at the Archive of Serbia, and another week using the History Department library at the University of Belgrade. The History Department library ordinarily does not permit browsing and instead makes students search for materials in a card catalog. Fortunately, a librarian let me roam the library stacks and set up a table for me where I could take digital photos of journal articles and book chapters I found through searching the bookshelves. I also used my time in the city to make some helpful contacts at the University of Belgrade, such as Ljubodrag Dimic, the co-editor of two volumes of Yugoslav documents related to Albanian history between the two world wars. I would like to thank CREEES for making this research possible.

Anton Chekhov in Moscow

Tom Roberts

Slavic Languages and Literatures



This summer, thanks to the generous support of a CREEES Travel and Research Grant, I had the opportunity to conduct dissertation research on Anton Chekhov in Moscow libraries and archives. My dissertation project investigates the structure and reception of the "literary epiphany" in Russian prose fiction, from 1860 to 1930. Fundamental to much Russian prose, epiphany scenes denote the literary subject's revelatory experience of everyday reality, an experience at once transformative and mysterious. Meanwhile, the rendering of such scenes in language, via narrative, descriptive, and poetic techniques, fosters an analogous experience of heightened significance in the reader, who assumes an interpretive role analogous, in turn, to that of the epiphanic subject, endeavoring to assign meaning to the moment of epiphany. Beginning with epiphany scenes in Tolstoy, I attempt to establish a paradigm of the literary epiphany, specific to Russian prose, and pursue this model, in its evolving manifestations, through the work of later writers. In subsequent chapters, I analyze the primacy of perception and narrative digression in Chekhov's reworking of the Tolstoyan model; the development of an epiphanic poetics of memory in the exilic writings of Ivan Bunin and the Berlin-period fiction of Vladimir Nabokov; and the complex interplay between epiphany and a Marxist materialist dialectic in the fiction of the Soviet writer Andrei Platonov.

As a crucial dimension of the project is the reader's aesthetic experience of a conveyed epiphany, my research this summer sought to establish the original context of reception of Chekhov's 1888 novella *Step'* through the investigation of documents in the Rossiiskaia Natsional'naia Biblioteka and the Rossiiskii Gosudarstvennyi Arkhiv Literatury i Iskusstva, or RGALI. In order to better understand the context of the work's publication, which would have influenced both public expectation and reception, I investigated

the journal in which it appeared, *Severnyi vestnik*. An essentially liberal publication, closely aligned with the Russian populist movement, the journal regularly featured the fiction of the populist writers Gleb Uspensky and Vladimir Korolenko, as well as the civic poetry of the journal's fiction editor, A. N. Pleshcheev, and the writings of its editor of literary criticism, N. K. Mikhailovsky. Appropriately, the journal's nonfiction articles adhered to its populist agenda, addressing such issues as agricultural reform, worker's rights, and peasant welfare and healthcare.

The publication of *Step'* marked Chekhov's literary debut in the more widely-distributed "thick journals" of the late-nineteenth century; yet, the novella was in many ways at variance with the polemical nature of the contents and orientation of *Severnyi vestnik*. While the ethnographic dimension of the work, with its diverse array of characters, is undeniable, the narrative is primarily concerned with the individuated perception and personal development of the young protagonist, as well as the discrete lyrical digressions of the distinctive narrative voice. Moreover, the work marks an important stage in Chekhov's development of his trademark style of "objective narration," and refrains, as such, from passing overt judgment on the content of the protagonist's experience. In order to further grasp the reception of the unique, and potentially controversial work, among Chekhov's contemporaries, and especially those associated with the journal, I investigated personal letters to Chekhov concerning the novella. While some critics, such as Pleshcheev, responded favorably to the novella, others, such as P. N. Ostrovsky, decried deficiencies in the work's narrative structure. Among the most critical responses, however, was that of Mikhailovsky, who had protested the editorial decision to publish Chekhov's story from the beginning. In a letter to Chekhov dated February 15, 1888 (presently archived at RGALI), Mikhailovsky assumes a confrontational tone, likening Chekhov to a strong man, moving along the road without intent or purpose, noticing nothing, and ultimately encourages the writer to employ his art to "good" (i.e. progressive) ends. Of course, it is precisely Chekhov's attempt to represent, rather than critique, an existing reality, that places him in conflict with Mikhailovsky's populist agenda, precipitating a conflict with the Russian radical intelligentsia, which would continue throughout Chekhov's professional career.

As contemporary readers of Chekhov, in a different historical and cultural context, we lack the ideological frame of reference so integral to the story's original reception. Through access to these original journals and letters in Moscow, I was able to address an important dimension of the

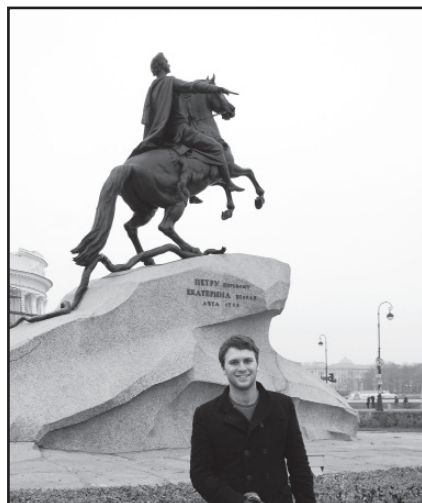
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chapter on Chekhov in my dissertation, pertaining to how publishing history and ideology impact the reception of epiphany scenes. Many thanks to CREEES and the Slavic Department for enabling my realization.

Middlebury Russian Language School

Andrew Roth

Slavic Languages and Literatures



This summer I studied at the Middlebury Russian Language School in preparation for a year abroad in Moscow and St. Petersburg. The program is designed as a 10-week summer camp, where a student throws away all connections to his English-language self, and devotes himself to studying Russian. This means cutting communication with the outside world, so English-language music, books and relatives are all left at home. These are replaced with Russian classes and clubs, which are designed to facilitate rapid language acquisition.

The first few weeks of the program were the most grueling and rewarding for me. Adapting to the environment was very difficult, particularly because it involves learning through repetitive conversations. These weeks were characterized by long discussions about the simplest topics; where are you going, what are you eating and so forth would turn into odysseys of explanation, marked by pauses and frantic gesturing. Everyone feels uncomfortable because they are striving to explain something that is so simple in their native tongue, but so trying in Russian. In my opinion, this is where Middlebury's main strength lies; it exploits the social desire of every participant to learn about his classmates, and channels that into learning the language. Classes on grammar and syntax, literature, politics and film were all well taught and genuinely helpful. Progress, which is meticulously noted via examinations, is evident after very little time at Middlebury. Participation in

theatre, choir, sports and other clubs were also an essential part of the program. I personally took part in the Cooking Club and the Volleyball Team, which scored a decisive upset over the Arabic School to clinch the Middlebury Championship. In all, the program was tailored well to keep the students sane while we studied intensively.

Falling into the community at Middlebury was itself a pleasant reward. It was great to meet 150 other students who were willing to put 9 weeks of their summer into studying Russian language. From native speakers studying in graduate courses, to first year students who took on a really enormous challenge, each student shared a truly intensive experience. The friends that I made this summer have remained connected despite the end of the program. This link to other students is a great way to learn about a new program that has opened, or about a Russian reggae band or film. I found a large community of students studying Russian in the U.S., and these connections helped maintain my desire to continue studying over those 9 weeks.

Here, thanks are due to CREEES for the scholarship, which enabled me to participate this summer at the Middlebury Russian Language School. The program has proved a great help to me during my time in Russia; it has helped me comfortably transition into living with a host family, meet Russian students at our academy and argue down exorbitant taxi fares. I spent a great summer in Vermont, and I feel well prepared for my coming semester at the Smolny institute in Petersburg.

"Civilizing" Policies of State and Non-state Educational Organizations in Poland 1918-1939

Kathryn Ward

History Department



With the financial support provided by a CREEES Travel and Research Grant, I was able to

spend several weeks carrying out pre-dissertation research in Warsaw. My proposed PhD dissertation, the major research for which will begin in Summer 2008, focuses on the "civilizing" policies of state and non-state educational organizations in Poland's ethnically-mixed eastern borderlands (kresy) between 1918 and 1939. I wish to consider how the eastern areas of Poland were configured in the collective national imagination during this period both as potentially unstable territories with large ethnically-diverse, poor, uneducated, and "backward" populations and as thoroughly "Polish" outposts along the state's eastern border. By studying educational institutions and organizations, including schools, scouting groups, youth clubs, summer camps, and teachers' unions (and the individuals who were involved in running them), I hope to explore the mindset of the Polish educational elite and the perceived links between education and national development. However, rather than focusing on these issues from a merely "top-down" perspective (as much of the historiography has done), I also aim to consider how elite ideas about educating "the nation" corresponded with the lived experiences of young people in the kresy. The project will therefore explore how children and adolescents who grew up in interwar Poland responded to the education they were offered, both inside and outside the classroom.

I split my time in Warsaw between the Archiwum Akt Nowych (New Documents Archive) and the Warsaw University Library with the aim of gaining a clearer understanding of the scope of available documents, particularly those related to central government and national non-state organizations. I intended this research to build on work I carried out in Summer 2006 during a CREEES-funded visit to the state archives in Lviv. In Warsaw the large collections of the Ministry of Education proved particularly useful for my purposes as they cover pedagogical training, textbooks, school planning, curriculum development, and teaching personnel. The Ministries of Internal and Foreign Affairs also yielded some relevant documents, including reports on inter-ethnic relations in the eastern provinces and Polish, Jewish, and Ukrainian educational/cultural associations. In addition to these government documents, I also found records of several non-state organizations, including private educational societies and teachers' unions. While time constraints limited the amount of in-depth research I could carry out, I now have a far clearer idea about how the available material will relate to my proposed dissertation.

At Warsaw University Library I made use of both the available collection of secondary literature on related topics and the vast selection of journals from the interwar years. The periodicals I read focused on Poland's ethnic minorities and/or the Ukrainian issue more generally; the educational, political, cultural, and economic development of the eastern bor-

derlands; the development of Polish youth organizations throughout the 1920s and 1930s; and the role of schoolteachers in their communities. While I did not have adequate time to read each issue in detail, I determined the scope of the library's collection, the years covered by each publication, and their overall style and purpose. I was also able to read the annual reports published by various schools, both private and state, which provide details of the day-to-day experiences of school life. As such reports suggest the high degree of interaction between school and extra-curricular activities in interwar Poland, I was encouraged to develop my project by defining "education" in its widest possible sense.

In addition to carrying out research in the archives and library, I had the chance to improve my Polish language skills, visit museums and cultural sites, and gain greater insights into current debates surrounding Polish history by following political developments and speaking to Poles. Even the elderly lady who lived in the apartment next door was keen to share her thoughts on interwar Polish-Ukrainian relations after only several minutes of conversation! Overall, my stay in Warsaw was both enjoyable and productive, allowing me to build a solid base for next year's dissertation research. I thank CREEES for their ongoing support of my project.

"Summer at Smolny"

Margo Watson

Slavic Languages and Literatures



It was only a year ago that I was considering ending my study of Russian. I was sure that I did not want to live in Russia, had only minimal interest in Russian literature, and did not see much sense in studying a language I was not planning on using in the future.

At first I decided I would spend this past summer studying Russian because I wanted to complete my study of the language. I had an idea that if I spent a summer intensively studying the language I would become fluent, and then could move on. I had not realized that the most exciting aspect of studying a language is that there is no end.

In the process of applying to summer programs during spring quarter, I began to remember why I fell in love with Russian language and culture in the first place. At the end of the school year, I had declared as a Slavic Studies Major, and had enrolled to spend the fall semester studying at Smolny College, the liberal arts college associated with Bard College and St. Petersburg State University. Thanks to the generous grant from CREEES, I was able to also spend the summer at Smolny as a participant in their Summer Language Intensive program.

Over the summer my knowledge of Russian language, culture and history improved dramatically. During the day I had Russian language instruction that focused on improving my skills in conversation, grammar, phonetics, idiomatic expressions, and Russian literature. The program also provided student helpers, who became great friends. The program also organized numerous cultural excursions directed in Russian, including a trip to Novgorod and Pskov. The program placed me with a host family, in the historic Petrogradskaya storona, just a quick walk away from the Peter and Paul Fortress. My evenings were spent talking with my babushka, learning about her experiences during World War II, her opinions on current politics, and telling her about my experiences growing up in America. When I was not home in the evenings, I was out enjoying the White Nights of St. Petersburg with my new Russian friends. Officially I spend 22 classroom hours learning Russian each week, but outside of the classroom my knowledge of the language and understanding of Russian culture continued to expand.

It is an amazing opportunity to be fully immersed in studying Russian. Because of my progress over the summer, I am able to take two of my academic classes this semester in Russian. This summer experience also increased my curiosity about Russia. I came to Russia this summer thinking that one final trip would allow me to move on from Russian studies, but instead it instilled in me a stronger desire to study Russian language and culture.

This experience has expanded my interest and curiosity in Slavic studies. I am grateful to the Center for Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies for supporting undergraduate academic exploration by providing the Slavic Summer Russian Language Study Grant.

Pleistocene Park

Adam Wolf

Carnegie Institution, Dept of Global Ecology



Anyone heading to the Kolyma will hear a joke from the classic Russian comedy *The Jewelled Arm*. This 1968 film features some small time crooks and the unsuspecting protagonist, a moral Soviet looking like a naive Frank Sinatra in leisurewear. The crooks make the acquaintance of a matron who insists "You must come visit us sometime . . . In the Kolyma!" They spit up their drinks.

In the Brezhnev years, the gulag could be passed off as a (dry) punchline, but in Soviet times, the Kolyma river basin was the destination of enemies of the state. Even today, the Kolyma Highway is called the "Road of Bones," because the life expectancy of a prisoner there was just one winter, and the bones of the fallen were buried in the road itself.

Oddly enough, the Kolyma is earning its place in the annals of world history for a mass killing that took place here some 20,000 years earlier. When the prisoners scraped away the moss to build the road, they scraped away the blanket insulating the ice and keeping it frozen. In the last decade the underlying ice has vanished, leaving canyons as deep as the trucks that used to pace these roads. And in the wall of these canyons, mixed with the ice and silt, is the bones of deer, of horses, of oxen, of bison, of rhinoceros, of cave lions, of mammoth, and mixed with the bones is hair, and dung, and skin. Hundreds of centuries since these animals were felled, the bugs have found their flesh, and they are going to work. It stinks.

This road, like all Kolyma roads, cuts through a larch forest, yellow conifers in fall colors above a thick carpet of moss and lichen and low bushes with berries. In the midst of this tranquil scene is a 20 year-old Toyota Landcruiser, four-wheel-drive, diesel, buried in the moguls of mud left behind by the thawed ice, wheels spinning backwards, car going nowhere. Sergei Zimov (his last name testifies to a man Of Winter) drove this car here from Vladivostok, some 2,000 roadless miles to

the south, in the dead of winter. And now, we are now walking away from this scene, leaving the windows open, and the keys in the ignition, perhaps the only man in the history of Russian civilization to do so. He is calling his son, Nikita, age 23, on the satellite phone, to bring the other truck and rescue us. Nikita is the heir to the empire Sergei has built with his wife Galina, whom he persuaded to settle here at the mouth of the Kolyma some 30 years ago.

Walking away, unhurried, Zimov is explaining the secret history of how Kolyma permafrost runs the world's climate. The bones lining the walls, the frozen roots of long-dead plants, the mammoths that used to eat these plants, the people who killed the mammoths, even the very puddles in the road we try to avoid, all of this he would have us believe is central to the changing climate of the last 40,000 years. And, Zimov believes, these same forces could catalyze unexpectedly extreme warming in the next century.

Having walked every mile of this isolated landscape bordering the Arctic Ocean, picking up bones, throwing rocks in lakes, putting together the pieces of how this complex mosaic works, Zimov has at last settled on a plan to save civilization: he is building Pleistocene Park, a menagerie devoted to the fauna predating civilization.

Before you think the idea is impossible you should first know: it is real and it has a fence around it. And it might just work.

GRADUATE STUDENT ESSAYS: MINI-ADVENTURES ABROAD

ON THE TOLGSKY

Martha Kelly

Slavic Languages and Literatures



When my summer plans to visit a friend in Paris on my way home from Russia fell through, I settled on the next-best option: visiting an historic Russian convent -- not just to see it, but to stay long enough to begin to get a sense of the life there. I also wanted to understand something more about the nature of the pilgrimage mentality. In part, my curiosity expressed itself as the urban dweller's desire to witness and find connection with an exotically preserved past. Yet my interest also stemmed from the significant re-emergence of the monastic and pilgrimage traditions in Russia over the last two decades, along with the variously expressed re-emergence of the Church in public life. Studying Orthodoxy in the context of Russian modernist literature has introduced me to a good deal of fascinating religious philosophy and theology; but Orthodoxy in contemporary Russia has remained largely opaque to me, apart

from somewhat sinister strains of chauvinism in the official church that emerge in public discourse and in the mass media.

Having consulted with a Russian-American journalist living in Moscow, I chose the Tolgsky Convent, just over the Volga near Yaroslavl. (The convent itself is named for a tributary which flows into the Volga on the site.) Tolgsky was established as a monastery in 1314, in the place where, according to tradition, an icon-not-made-by-hands was discovered. As the account goes, Bishop Rostovskii Trifon had a vision when traveling through his diocese. In this vision a shining bridge materialized over the river, leading him to a cedar grove, where he beheld a shining image of the Mother of God hanging in the air. Upon returning to the site the next day by boat, he and his companions discovered the miraculously-appeared icon, with his staff lying beside it. Trifon founded the monastery on that site. Closed in 1917, and later used as a juvenile prison, the convent was returned to the Orthodox church and re-established its orders in 1987. About 100 nuns live in the convent now, and since re-opening, Tolgsky has become one of the better-known and most frequently visited convents.

I think I understand why Tolgsky is such a popular place. It is pristine. Anyone who has visited Russia—let's say in particular its cities, and most places populated by humans—will appreciate that fact as setting a place apart. Indeed, staying at Tolgsky helped me understand a bit better both the Reformation (and not only) critique of monasticism, and also

the draw of monasticism and pilgrimage. One sensed in this place a world apart, sheltered, ordered and autonomous—as luminous and surreal as a Nesterov canvas. Dragging my pack into the vespers service in search of a certain Mother Pitirima, I experienced a conversion of Rus' all over again as the (professionally-trained) choir wooed even the stone arches into tremors. By the time two hours had passed, the conversion had worn off, and I was glad to be shown to the pilgrims' quarters by Pitirima—a sharp-eyed, circumspect nun who appeared to be in her late twenties, like many of the members there.

By far the most marked experience of my time at Tolgsky was what Pitirima termed my 'poslushanie'—my 'obedience.' In English, one might say 'really hard work.' As with many, but not all such communities, pilgrims who spend more than one night are asked to join in the daily work of the monastery. I saw one Russian family with four children (and another hastening on its way) hoeing and harvesting in the convent gardens over the course of several days. A young Russian woman from the Urals and I were given the task of cleaning the newly-laid polished granite floor of the central church which stonemasons and an iconographer were in the process of restoring. Of this I have two things to say. First, the nuns are going to need to learn how to take care of their new polished granite tile floors. Slopping a mop around actually makes those kinds of things look worse. Second, on a somewhat more irenic and descriptive note, cleaning the tiled expanse gave me the uncanny ex-

perience of dwelling in a fairy-tale—one in which the naïf must fulfill some kind of impossible feat. Keeping as much skin and hair covered as possible (this was an Orthodox church, after all, even despite the plastic drop-sheets), Irina and I wiped, scrubbed and coaxed plaster dust from the tiles for three full days, using rags torn from old sheets and pillowcases. Miraculously, the streaks kept appearing.

But this experience left a more enduring memento than sore back and ankles: cleaning the floor earned Irina and myself a ticket into perhaps the best and most exclusive exhibition in Yaroslavl. Here we found hours to trace the ongoing restoration of murals, painted on walls and pillars, depicting the convent's life through the centuries. The convent's main church, this space exists as an imaged chronicle; here, battles, illness, infertility and meanness seep away before the icon in the cedar grove, which appears again and again around the walls like the constant spot in a splayed film strip. As we helped prepare the church for the convent's August feast-day, I reflected more than once that, like Rahab in the Old Testament Jericho account, I had neatly snuck into someone else's history, to leave my mark—here, a streak, there a gleam.



RUSSIAN STATE ARCHIVES OF ANCIENT ACTS, MOSCOW

Chris Stroop

History Department

During September 2007, CREEES and the Academy of National Economy—Stanford's partner in international exchange in Moscow—provided with me the opportunity to visit a Russian archive for the first time. The goal was to plan my dissertation, so that I could apply for grants with confidence and go back roughly a year later to do the actual dissertation research. After three weeks and many hours spent in the reading room of RGADA, the Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts, I was fortunately able to come up with a coherent research plan that corresponded to my interest in seventeenth-century developments in Russian religion. I had also learned how to get things done at RGADA, which meant that when I returned, I would be able to hit the ground running.

Even though I was only reading unpublished document descriptions rather than primary sources themselves, my experience did contain worry, drama, and a "eureka!" moment in which my difficulties were resolved. In my first days in the archive I found more interesting materials than I had expected. I also learned of the existence certain types of documents I had not expected at all. As time went on, however, I found less and less of interest, and a number of collections I had

identified as potentially useful proved to contain few or no relevant documents. As the end of my brief trip neared, I became seriously worried. I only got more discouraged when I went to the State Lenin Library to see what it had, only to be told that its manuscript division had been closed for months already and was closed indefinitely. Towards the end of my trip, I wrote and submitted what I felt was an inadequate dissertation plan for participation in a workshop when I returned, and I began to seriously fret.

Things changed on my very last day in the archive, when I revisited the guide to Collection 1206, the records of the Ustiug Diocese. I had begun to go through this guide once before and had initially found it unpromising. Looking further into it, however, I saw that it contained much more of interest than my first impression had led me to believe. In fact, based on what I found there, I realized that, not only did I have a coherent dissertation plan, but also that the plan I would write up would be more interesting than the one I had originally envisioned. Instead of simply focusing on monasteries and their relationship to central ecclesiastical reform, I would focus on two dioceses, comparing them and taking into account the actions and recorded words of bishops, abbots, monks, lower clergy, and the laity. Thanks to that last, fateful day at RGADA, I returned to Stanford enthusiastic about pursuing my dissertation. The trip turned out to be of the utmost importance for my graduate career, and I am very grateful to CREEES for funding it.

ON CAMPUS LECTURES

CREEES students and visiting scholars have the opportunity to enrich their Stanford education by attending the many CREEES-sponsored lectures held throughout the year. For this edition of the newsletter, several students chose to submit their reflections on the speeches that they felt were particularly compelling.

SVETLANA BROZ SPEAKS ON WAR IN BOSNIA

Jelena Batinic

History Department

In October 2007, CREEES hosted a presentation by Dr. Svetlana Broz, granddaughter of former Yugoslavia's Marshal Tito. Dr. Broz, a cardiologist by training, is also a Sarajevo-based NGO activist, lecturer, and writer, who has been work-

ing on a number of peace and humanitarian projects in the western Balkans in the past decade. She is the author of *Good People in an Evil Time: Portraits of Complicity and Resistance in the Bosnian War* (2004), a book recording testimonials about wartime acts of human solidarity that crossed ethno-religious boundaries, and the editor of *Having What It Takes: Essays on Civil Courage* (2006).

Broz started her presentation by reminding her audience of the horrors of the wars of Yugoslav succession and dis-

cussing some of their consequences, such as ethnic divisiveness, brain drain, and pervasive corruption, all of which continue to plague the region. Reconciliation would only be possible if local peoples confronted their recent past, Broz insists. During the conflict, she says, many were faced with a choice on how to act – to actively participate, resist, or simply stand by. The war thus saw millions of bystanders who did nothing to prevent the atrocities. Today, they are most likely to deny that atrocities occurred, because in their case facing the past would mean fac-

ing their own complicity. What the region needs today, Broz contends, is “denazification of conscience.”



Svetlana Broz,
Courtesy of Svetlana Broz

Yet, there were also many in the Balkans who made the choice to oppose, disobey, and resist the dominant ethnonationalist demagoguery and “negative authorities” during the war. These brave men and women have been largely neglected in the media coverage and scholarship in the region and the West alike. Their deeds need to be uncovered and their stories publicized to serve as examples for the future, Broz argues. This is especially important since new generations in the region have little knowledge about civil agency and no such models to look up to. The Sarajevo branch of the NGO “Gardens of the Righteous Worldwide” (GARIWO), which she heads, has made it its mission to teach the locals, especially the youth, about “civil courage” and to promote interethnic tolerance and cooperation. Her edited volume about eight courageous people, *Having What it Takes*, is used as a major text in GARIWO’s educational program, which aims to reach young people of all ethnic and religious backgrounds, encouraging them to think critically, stand up to “negative authorities” and divisive ethno-nationalist ideologies, and engage in concrete civic actions. The club of those “who have what it takes” already has 5,000 members from various parts of the region. Broz’s talk was followed by a lively and, at times, passionate Q&A discussion.

THE HISTORY OF SOVIET STUDIES: A TALK BY GAIL LAPIDUS

Alison Glass

CREEES

On Friday, November 16, 2007, Professor Gail Lapidus, Senior Fellow Emerita at the Institute for International Studies at Stanford University, gave a talk on the history

of Soviet studies to a group of students in the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Master’s program at Stanford.

Professor Lapidus, a specialist on Soviet society, politics and foreign policy, has authored and edited a number of books on Soviet and post-Soviet affairs, including *The New Russia: Troubled Transformation* (Westview Press, 1995), *The Soviet System in Crisis* (Westview, 1992), and *Women in Soviet Society* (University of California Press, 1979). She is currently working on a book on the impact of the Soviet legacy on patterns of conflict in the post-Soviet states.

Professor Lapidus’s talk centered on factors that influenced Soviet studies, the difficulties involved in studying the area, and how study of the region has changed since the fall of communism. Following the end of the Cold War, controversy developed in the field of Soviet Studies as to whether Soviet studies failed to predict the fall of the Soviet Union and why. There were exaggerations and criticism on all sides; the field was not shaped by the misperceptions of scholars, however, but by the broader trends and nature of the system.

In retrospect, Lapidus said, the international environment has had a great influence on what people study. It affects the emphases of scholarship and funding, and has shaped the emergence of key institutions that helped to guide and develop the field. In addition, international currents and methodological trends within universities influenced studies. There were conflicts between individual disciplines, such as political science, and area studies programs, and as a result there were consequences as to the kind of research that was considered legitimate.

The nature of the Soviet system also greatly affected Soviet studies. Access to information on the Soviet Union was limited, and the information that was available was scarce, clothed in secrecy, and often inaccurate. Many areas were closed to inquiry. It was nearly impossible to study politics and economics; these fields were based on “scientific communism,” which was itself based on ideological principles rather than empirical research. These obstacles greatly influenced the kind of research that could be done. In order to study high politics, scholars had to use esoteric tools, such as determining the rank of Soviet elites by the order in which they appeared at public parades and who attended events like the ballet. There was even less information on economics; economic

research was often based on literature. The only way to go to the Soviet Union to obtain information was through IREX, which was an artificial mechanism created specifically for exchanges.

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the scene changed dramatically. The field was transformed; there was an end to all of the constraints and restrictions, and many possibilities opened up. The fields of sociology and anthropology blossomed, and language became increasingly important, because of the different languages now being spoken in the new states. New access to archives for research led to a new wave of historical scholarship, and Cold War history became a popular field of study. The end of the USSR also opened up opportunities for cooperation and collaboration between scholars in the former Soviet Union and the United States.

DAVID LANE ON POST-COMMUNISM AND THE CLASS SYSTEM

Olena Nikolayenko

CDDRL

The 2007-08 Lecture Series on Ukraine opened with a talk by David Lane, Senior Research Associate in the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences at Cambridge University, UK. Over the past several years, Prof. Lane has been working on the study of transformations in Russia and Ukraine. At Stanford, he presented some findings from his research on social identity and attitudes toward post-communist reforms.

A key question that Prof. Lane addressed was: “How does the class structure account for the formation of ideological orientations in post-communist societies?” Specifically, he analyzed the impact of occupational background on communist and nationalist orientations of citizens. The results indicate that peasants display the highest level of pro-communist orientation. Not surprisingly, less than five percent of students in each country subscribe to communist ideas. Furthermore, students turn out to be the biggest supporters of nationalist ideas. It is unclear, however, whether attitudes of current students will remain stable once they leave universities and enter the labor force.

While exploring subjective identification of citizens with a particular ideology, Prof. Lane discussed mass attitudes toward market economy and state ownership. The results show that women are more

opposed to market reforms than men. Furthermore, support for state ownership is higher in Russia than in Ukraine.

Among other things, Prof. Lane stressed the salience of regional differences in Ukraine. Respondents in the eastern part of the country are almost 20 percent more likely than those in the western part of the country to endorse communist ideas. This extensive research is based upon a combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods. 24 focus groups were held in Kharkiv, Kyiv, Lviv, and Moscow. A total of 1,600 Russians and 2,015 Ukrainians participated in a survey taken in 2005, months after the Orange Revolution.

WHAT IS PUTIN’S PLAN? ANDY KUCHINS SPEAKS ON RUSSIAN POLITICS

Alison Glass

CREEES

On November 8, 2007, Andy Kuchins gave a talk entitled “What is Putin’s Plan?” at a seminar sponsored by the Center for Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law (CDDRL) at Stanford University. Kuchins, a former senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, is now a senior fellow and director of the CSIS Russia and Eurasia Program. He has also taught at Stanford and Georgetown Universities, and is working on a book: *China and Russia: Strategic Partners, Allies, or Competitors*.

Putin’s Russia has become more prosperous than ever before, and the wealth in Russia is more concentrated than ever. According to Kuchins, Putin’s goal since taking office has been to build a strong state and gain strategic control in order to do this it has been necessary to control the wealth of the country and reform the tax system. As a result, Putin has tried to organize Russia as one would organize a corporation. He, as president, is the CEO of the organization; his friends in the Kremlin have served as the board of the corporation, while the country’s oligarchs have filled the role of managers of the corporation.

Since his accession to the presidency, Putin has had a plan for Russia. The components of this plan include restoring Russia as a great power, mainly through stabilization of the country’s political and economic systems; building a competitive economy, which he has attempted to achieve through innovation, venture capital, and nano-

technology; improving the quality of life in Russia by creating national projects on health, education, housing, and agriculture; establishing civil society (though some may argue that he has attempted to do just the opposite); and ensuring that there is one leader in a multipolar world, by serving as a bridge between East and West.

Now that Putin’s presidency is coming to an end, continuing to follow this plan is the key to maintaining consistency and stability in politics, and in Russia in general. Currently, it is necessary to find a successor to the presidency, to define what Putin’s role will be in Russia after he leaves his current position, and to make sure that there is stability in the transition from one government leader to another. Strengthening the role of “Putin’s party,” the Kremlin-sponsored political party United Russia, has been a key component in accomplishing these things.

Kuchins speculated that there are four main possibilities for what Putin will be doing following the March 2008 elections. First, he could choose what would in essence be a lame duck president as his successor, essentially maintaining presidential power from behind the scenes. Second, he could become Prime Minister, and maintain his power through strengthening the role of parliament and its leader. Third, he could ignore constitutional constraints and just remain president. Finally, he could walk away from politics, choosing to take on another powerful role in the country, such as the president of one of Russia’s large oil companies or the head of the Olympic Committee for the Sochi Olympics.

JOHN DUNLOP REFLECTS ON BESLAN HOSTAGE CRISIS

Susan Skoda

CREEES

On Friday, November 30, Dr. John Dunlop presented an update report on the investigations of the 2004 Beslan hostage crisis to CREEES faculty members and masters students. Three years have passed since the horror and terror claimed the lives of 317 hostages (186 of them children) from the siege on Beslan’s School Number 1. Nevertheless, the horror, mystery, and intrigue surrounding this incident have not diminished.

Dunlop, a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, focused his talk on the devel-

opments in the investigation since the 2005 publication of the Torshin Commission report, the official summation of the event. The Commission’s conclusions did not bring closure to the tragedy. Instead, the report ignited a storm of opposition, dissatisfaction, and finger-pointing. Politics certainly were at the heart of the disagreements.

Dunlop provided an in-depth discussion of the rise of two independent Beslan investigation commissions which strongly counter and contradict the Torshin Commission report. The commission headed by Stanislav Kesaev, the deputy speaker of the North Ossetian parliament, provided concrete evidence questioning the Torshin



John Dunlop, Senior Fellow,
Hoover Institution

Commission’s position on the number of hostages involved in the incident, the question of whether officials had prior intelligence of the impending siege, and the circumstances surrounding the fateful storming of the school. Independent investigation done by the organization, The Mothers of Beslan, has also uncovered information which further discredits the Torshin Commission’s conclusions. Dunlop noted that since the disagreement with the official report, Putin’s treatment of The Mothers of Beslan has become noticeably colder and more hostile. Discussion between the president and the organization has broken down.

Dunlop’s research and the conclusions of the independent investigations suggest that the truth behind the Beslan hostage tragedy yet remains cloaked in mystery, lies, and politics. With the danger facing investigative reporters in Russia, it is unclear how close to the truth we will arrive. However, for an in-depth review of the existing evidence, consultation of Dunlop’s *The 2002 Dubrovka and 2004 Beslan Hostage Crises: A Critique of Russian Counter-Terrorism* is a first good step.

2007-08 Stanford Lecture Series on Ukraine

"Galicia in the Age of Metternich and Fredro"

Friday, October 30, 2007
Larry Wolff, Professor, New York University

"Ukraine After the September 30 Elections"

Wednesday, November 14, 2007
Steven Pifer, Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine

"The Social Bases of Reform and Anti Reform: A Comparative Study of Ukraine and Russia"

Tuesday, December 4, 2007
David Lane, Senior Research Associate, Faculty of Social & Political Sciences, Cambridge University

"A National History for a New Ukraine"

Thursday, January 17, 2008
Serhy Yekelchuk, Professor, University of Victoria, Canada

"Globalization Challenges and New Religions Answer"

Thursday, February 14, 2008
Vyacheslav Ageyev, Fulbright Scholar at San Francisco State University

"Present State of Education in Ukraine"

Wednesday, February 14, 2007
Vyacheslav Brioukhovetsky, President of National University 'Kyiv-Mohyla Academy', Kyiv, Ukraine

"Contemporary Ukrainian Literature: Writing, Translating, Publishing"

Thursday, March 13, 2008
Roman Tashleetsky, Fulbright Scholar at San Francisco State University of Economics and West European Studies, Indiana University

"Two Nationalities, Three Cultures: Russians and Ukrainians in the (Russian) Empire"

Wednesday, April 23, 2008
Oleh S. Ilnytskyj, Professor, University of Alberta, Canada

"Self-Portraiture and Narrative in Taras Shevchenko"

Tuesday, May 13, 2008
Roman Koropeckyj, Professor, UCLA

Thanks to our CREEES Steering Committee

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Many thanks to the following donors for their recent contributions to CREEES and the Ukrainian Studies Fund

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Your financial support is always greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to Stanford University and send to: CREEES, STANFORD UNIVERSITY, ENCINA HALL WEST, 210 MC: 6045 STANFORD, CA 94305

ALMA KUNANBAEVA DECORATED BY THE RUSSIAN STATE ORDER OF "CATHERINE THE GREAT"



Erzhan S. Yusupov, Alma Kunanbaeva, and Izaly Zemtovsky

CREEES is delighted to announce that Professor Alma Kunanbaeva was honored this summer with a special award. It was presented to her by Erzhan S. Yusupov, philologist and historian, veteran of the Union of St.-Petersburg Officers, President of the Society named after Grand Duke Konstantin Romanov, the Elder of the Society for Kazakh Culture "Ata-Meken" ("Fatherland"), and one of the initiators of nominating her (along with Prof. Dr. Tursun I. Sultanov, chairman of the department for Central Asia and the Caucasus at St. Peterburg University).

With this order Russia decorates its outstanding women who make an important contribution to the state development and in this special case for the personal contribution into strengthening of friendship between Russia and Kazakhstan.

CREEES STAFF NEWS



CREEES welcome **Karen Haley** as our Publicity and Events Coordinator. Karen comes to Stanford with a wealth of professional and volunteer experience, including serving as a hands-on steering committee member of the community-building non-profit organization Project Cornerstone. She organizes the annual Asset Champions Breakfast, a fundraising event for more than 800 guests. As a Student Programs Coordinator and Instructional Art Associate at the Graystone Elementary School in San Jose, she oversaw the editing and implementation of the curriculum, taught art to fourth and fifth graders, and managed the annual Student Art show with more than 300 original works of art displayed. Karen also has management experience in the corporate world, serving in various sales and marketing positions at Intel Corporation. Please join us in welcoming Karen Haley to CREEES!

Congratulations to **Mary Dakin**, the Associate Director of CREEES from 1999 to 2006! She recently accepted the position of Associate Director of the Stanford Institute for Creativity and the Arts (SiCa). Mary brings her administrative expertise and deep knowledge of the Stanford community to the administrative arm of Stanford's arts initiative. She will be engaged in invigorating the creative and artistic life of the University through strategic planning, promoting events, and administering SiCa grant programs. Mary Dakin also joins the CREEES Steering committee beginning in 2007-08.



Congratulations to **Sue Purdy Pelosi**, the Publicity and Events Coordinator of CREEES from 2003 to 2007! Sue recently accepted a promotion to the position of Publicity and Events Coordinator of the Bill Lane Center for

the Study of the North American West. Sue will coordinate publicity and public outreach and plan the Lane Center's major events, including "Walking the Farm." She will also develop publications for the Lane Center's activities. CREEES sincerely thanks Sue for five years of service. She is truly a efficient, dedicated, and caring colleague who will be sorely missed by the CREEES community.

Happy Birthday, **Jack Kollmann**, the CREEES Academic Coordinator and Lecturer! Jack celebrated his 70th birthday with CREEES colleagues at the Stanford Faculty Club in February. In the photo, Jack is being regaled by CREEES Steering Committee member Norman Naimark with CREEES interim director John Dunlop and Finance Administrator Van-Anh Nguyen looking on. Thanks, Jack, for your 25 years of service to our Center, and we wish you many, many more happy birthday celebrations!



CENTER NEWS

2007

CREEES SPONSORED COURSES

The following courses were sponsored or co-sponsored by CREEES, in some cases using Title VI funds provided by U.S. Department of Education

PROFESSORS	COURSES
Katherine Jolluck - Senior Lecturer, History	"The Woman Question in Modern Russia" in the History Department this fall.
Jasmina Bojic - Lecturer, Slavic	"Camera as Witness: International Human Rights Documentaries" in the fall.
John Dunlop - Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution	"Russia and Islam" this winter in International Policy Studies
Norman Naimark - Professor, History	"The History of Genocide" in History this winter.
Gail Lapidus - Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Emerita	"State and Nation Building in Central Asia" this spring in Political Science.
Michael McFaul - CDDRL	"Political Economy of Post Communism" in the spring.
Izaly Zemtsovsky - Visiting Professor of Music	"Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky, Shostakovich & Beyond: A History of Russian Music" in winter quarter.

LIBRARY NEWS



Primary Sources for Historians: Russian-Ottoman Relations, 1600-1800

As part of its effort to provide primary sources for historians, the library has for some time been acquiring large microform sets of archival documents and old, rare publications. The Library News column will periodically highlight some of them.

Russian-Ottoman Relations: The Origins, 1600-1800 is a microfiche set of 193 rare print publications held by the National Library of Russia in St. Petersburg. By the 17th century, the Ottoman Turks had extended their power deep into the Balkans and north of the Black Sea. Russia clashed with them repeatedly during this period, becoming an increasingly important factor in European and Middle Eastern politics in the process. The publications in this collection include diplomatic reports, government documents, travel accounts, and political tracts and pamphlets. They are all in Western languages, meaning that they can be used by many undergraduates, as well as by graduate students. Sample titles:

An Authentic Narrative of the Russian Expedition Against the Turks by Sea and Land: Containing Every Material Circumstance of Their Proceedings from Their First Sailing from Petersburg to the Destruction of the Turkish Fleet, in the Archipelago, compiled from several authentic journals, by an officer on board the Russian fleet. London: S. Hooper; 1772.

Peyssonnel, M. de (Charles), 1727-1790. Observations sur le commerce de la Mer Noire, et des pays qui la bordent: aux quelles on a joint deux mémoires sur le commerce de Smyrne et de l'isle de Candie ... Amsterdam; Leide; Rotterdam; Utrecht: Chez les Libraires Associés, 1787.

Türkisches Manifest, wieder Sr. Czaarischen Majestät: wie solches von Wien ist überbriefet und in denen öffentlichen Zeitungen referiret worden: nebst einem kurzem Diario, was im Monath Novembr. und Decembr. des verwichenen 1710ten Jahres bey Deliberir- und Publicirung des Krieges zu Constantinopel merckwürdiges vorgefallen. [S.l.: s.n.], 1711.

2007 - 2008 CREEES Masters Students



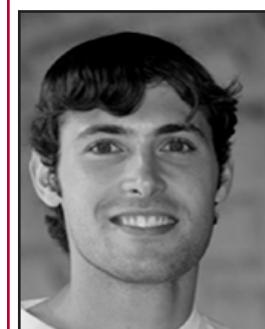
Alison Glass From Troy, New York, Alison graduated cum laude from the University of Notre Dame where she majored in Russian language and literature and peace studies. Alison began studying Russian in high school, and during her college years she spent a semester in St. Petersburg studying language and culture and volunteering at an NGO development center. After graduating from Notre Dame, Alison spent a year in Samara, Russia on a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship. In Samara

she not only taught but helped organize events for the American Club and Samara's first American film festival. She hopes to go into diplomacy or international NGO work.



Bridget Gongol From West Des Moines, Iowa, Bridget attended the University of Northern Iowa, where she majored in Spanish and history, with minors in Russian language, economics, and international affairs. She graduated in 2007 with honors. During her college years she studied the Holocaust for a summer in Krakow, Poland, and another summer studied Russian language in St. Petersburg, Russia. Bridget is planning to work for the government, perhaps

in the Foreign Service. She is also thinking eventually of pursuing a Ph.D. degree in one of her fields of international interest, leading to a career in teaching and research at the university level.



Ben Knelman Ben's hometown is Edina, Minnesota. He completed his AB degree at Stanford in 2006, with a major in economics and a minor in Russian language, culture, and history, and with interdisciplinary honors in environmental science, technology, and policy. Ben began our AM CREEES program last year, while serving as a graduate student teaching assistant in economics; he is continuing that dual path this academic year. Ben's involvement in Russian studies has included spending an academic quarter at Stanford's overseas program

in Moscow, working for two summers as an intern in Moscow for the World Bank, participating in Stanford's September 2004 overseas seminar in St. Petersburg, and studying Russian in Moscow the past two summers.



Susan Skoda Susie, from Hinsdale, Illinois, graduated from Harvard University magna cum laude in 2007 in Russian studies and earned membership in Phi Beta Kappa. Her senior honors thesis explored the high popularity of President Vladimir Putin among Russians. Susie has worked various summers as an intern at the US Embassy in Moscow, as a research intern at think tanks, and as an English teacher in Ecuador with WorldTeach. While at Harvard, she won the Detur Book Award,

the John Harvard Scholarship twice, and earned second place in the ACTR Russian National Essay Contest. Susie plans a career in either government or NGO work related to US-Russian affairs.



Monique Smith From Auburn, California, Monique attended Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service, and earned a BS cum laude in 2007, with honors in East European Regional Studies. While at Georgetown Monique studied in Alanya, Turkey for one semester, and in Moscow for a semester. In Moscow she also worked at The Moscow News. Beginning in high school, she has visited Romania some six times, studying Romanian language and culture and working with an NGO

caring for abandoned children. In the future, Monique plans on an international journalism career that will allow her to continue to use the Romanian, Turkish, and Russian languages.



Anne Vithayathil Anjali, from Bethany, Connecticut, majored in Russian language and literature at Dartmouth College, minored in political science, did an honors senior thesis on the government of Turkmenistan, and received her BA degree cum laude in 2006. During college Anjali studied Russian one summer in St. Petersburg, served as an assistant Russian teacher at Dartmouth, and worked one summer at the Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi, India, where she

pursued her interest in Central Asia. After graduation she worked as a legal assistant and Russian translator for a law firm in New Haven, Connecticut. Anjali hopes to pursue a career in journalism focusing on the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union.

2007 Wayne S. Vucinich Book Prize

for the most important contribution to Russian, Eurasian, and East European studies in any discipline of the humanities or social sciences was awarded to:

Alexei Yurchak, for *Everything Was Forever Until It Was No More: The Last Soviet Generation* published by Princeton University Press.

2007-2008 VISITING SCHOLARS, FELLOWS AND FACULTY

Vadja Gabor International Fellow, John S. Knight Fellow. A technology reporter from Budapest, Hungary, he is currently studying citizen participation, virtual universes and community sites—all emerging in the field of online journalism. Since 2004, he has been a reporter for the technology/science section for Index.hu, Hungary's largest daily news portal. In 2005, he received the "Journalist of the Year" award from Index.hu.

Jeff Hawthorne Fellowships Program Director at the Haas Center for Public Service, served two years in the Peace Corps teaching English and Geography in Bulgaria. In cooperation with the Peace Corps, the United States Embassy and the Bulgarian National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts (NATFA), Mr. Hawthorne designed and implemented the first annual student playwriting competition. The winning plays were produced and performed in Sofia, Bulgaria's capitol city. He currently works at the Haas Center helping to manage and develop the center's nearly 100 undergraduate fellowship programs.

Faith Hillis, a CREEES Visiting Scholar for 2007-08, is a doctoral candidate in history at Yale University. Specializing in Ukrainian history, specifically the urban history of Kiev, Hillis will be conducting archival research in the Hoover Institution while at Stanford and presenting the fruits of her research at a CREEES seminar in the Spring. We've already seen Hillis at the Ukrainian Studies Lecture Series where she introduced our guest speaker, Fulbright scholar Vyacheslav Ageyev, in February.

Nozima Kamalova Visiting Scholar from Uzbekistan at CDDRL is a human rights defender and lawyer, the director of the Public Defense Office of the Tashkent Board of Lawyers and the founding chair of the Legal Aid Society of Uzbekistan. Kamalova has been instrumental in the revision of several Uzbek laws related to torture and human rights, and her lobbying activities have influenced much policy and legislation adopted both internationally and in Uzbekistan. During her fellowship year, Kamalova plans to continue her research on how Western antiterrorism policies limit civil liberties and freedoms in less-developed, transitional countries. She will study the impact of the war against terrorism on authoritarian countries, with Uzbekistan as an example, and will develop recommendations for legislation and practice. She holds a diploma with highest honors in law from Tashkent State University.

Andrei Nikolaevich Krasulin Visiting Artist, DLCL. From Moscow, Russia. In 1953, he enrolled in the Stroganov Higher School of Art and Design, concentrating on monumental and decorative sculpture. Krasulin is, perhaps, the most learned and profound among Russian art-

ist today. While at Stanford, he plans to produce a series of pieces and exhibit them before returning to Moscow. He will give a lecture-presentation on his art and a lecture on the relationship between modern Russian poetry and modern Russian art, in part based on his recent work, a memorial for the great Russian poet, Osip Mandelstam.

Jan Maksymiuk Osher Fellow, Hoover Fall 2007, is a regional analyst with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague, Czech Republic. His area of expertise is in political and cultural journalism and analysis with a specific interest in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. He has written for "RFL/RL Newslite," the RFE/RL English language website and edited the electronic "RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova Report." In addition, he regularly contributes to the RFE/RL's Belarus and Ukrainian Services. He has also translated and published several works into both English and Belorussian.

Olena Nikolayenko Visiting Postdoctoral Scholar at CDDRL comes to Stanford from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. In her dissertation, she analyzed political support among adolescents in Russia and Ukraine. Her current research examines why some youth movements succeeded, while others failed to bring about political change in the post-communist region. Her research interests include comparative democratization, public opinion, political socialization, social movements, and youth.

Asaya Pereltsvaig Acting Assistant Professor in Linguistics. She completed her PhD dissertation at McGill University in 2002 on the topic of "Copular Sentences in Russian and Italian." Her forthcoming article, "Split Phrases in Colloquial Russian" is to appear in: *Studia Linguistica* 2008 special volume on spoken language. At Stanford she is teaching courses on linguistics, minimalist syntax and "Bilingualism, Language Attrition and Heritage Languages." Author of *Copular Sentences in Russian*. (Springer-Verlag, 2007.)

Robert Rakiplari Lyle and Corrine Nelson International Fellow, John S. Knight Fellow. From Tirana, Albania, Robert is at Stanford to research the sociopolitical trends in emerging Eastern European democracies and their relation to the European Union and international organizations. He began writing in 1996. In 2001 he was promoted to editor-in-chief of *Gazeta Shekulli*, making him the youngest editor-in-chief of any Albanian newspaper. In addition to his journalism, Rakiplari teaches two university courses: Investigative Journalism and Obtaining, Writing, and Reporting News, for the University of Tirana.

Klaus Segbers CREEES Visiting Scholar, is Professor of Political Science at the Freie Universität of Berlin. He also serves as Director of East

European Studies Online and International Relations Online. Professor Segbers conducts research on a range of topics involving contemporary Europe: Germany's foreign relations with Eastern European countries, EU enlargement, the impact of globalization on world cities, elections in Russia, comparative analysis of institutional changes in Russia and China, and an analysis of area studies as practiced in academic settings. While at CREEES as a visiting scholar, Professor Segbers will offer public lectures to the campus community and be available to consult with students interested in programs and internships available in Europe.

Anton Shynkaruk NCEEER Carnegie Fellow from Rivne Institute of Slavonic Studies, Kiev. In 2005, he received the International Visegrad Fund Fellowship for research on political modernization and transformation in Central European countries. He also worked on the program: "Social transformations in the Land Between (Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova)", funded by Carnegie Corporation, New York and ACTR/ACCELS, ACER (in cooperation with European Humanitarian University Vilnius, Lithuania). He has cooperated with Upsalla University and he is an editor of the Ukrainian science e-News letter on international relations and European studies. At Stanford he will research crisis communications in Ukraine's foreign policy.

Muhammad Tahir was an Osher Fellow at the Hoover Institution in Autumn 2007. Originally from Turkmenistan, Tahir now lives in Prague, where he is a broadcaster for the Turkmen Service of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. CREEES was pleased to sponsor the talk "Turkmenistan in Transition" which Tahir presented in October 2007 in Encina Hall.

Luidmila Ulitskaya DLCL's Writer-in-Residence. She is the author of fourteen fiction books, including *The Funeral Party*, *Medea* and her *Children*, *Sonechka*, *The Kukotsky Case*, and other works. She has also written three tales for children and six plays staged by a number of theaters in Russia and in Germany. Ulitskaya graduated from Moscow University with a Master's Degree in biology.

Monica White a post-doctoral Stanford Humanities Fellow in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. She holds a PhD from the University of Cambridge. Her research interests include the cultural, religious and military history of Kievan Rus and Byzantium; cults of saints and dragon-slaying miracles. She recently gave the talk "Succession in Kievan Rus: The Rules of the Game and Their Consequences" at the 32nd Annual Stanford/Berkeley Conference on Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies held at the Hoover Institution in early March.

Out and About

Tuesday Night at the Opera

Ben Knelman

On December 4th, the students of CREEES were able to attend the San Francisco Opera's dazzling new production of Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*. Tickets were generously subsidized by the Stanford Institute for Creativity and



Laura Aikin as Anne Trulove in Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* at the San Francisco Opera House

the Arts (SICA), the hub of the university's new Arts Initiative. The music of Stravinsky's *Rake* held an arresting freshness impervious to over half a century of time, combining that immediacy with undeniable attraction. That, in conjunction with tour-de-force performances of all the lead protagonists (and antagonists), the opera's fascinating libretto by poet W.H. Auden and Chester Kallman, and the new San Francisco produc-

tion's vivid and ingeniously executed re-setting of the opera's subject (in the 1950's American Southwest of Texas, Hollywood and Las Vegas) made the night at the opera truly one to remember!

Notes from the Underground

Monique Smith

In September, CREEES students had the pleasure of seeing a brilliant adaptation of Dostoevsky's *Notes from the Underground*. The performance, which was staged at the very intimate Phoenix Theatre in San Francisco, brought to life a story rich in psychological and existential content. *Notes from the Underground* is considered a major forerunner of existentialist thought and was acknowledged by Sartre and Nietzsche as a major influence on the modern philosophical movement. In the story, Dostoevsky satirizes 19th

century political and social views by means of the hero, who, in the attempt to be progressive, is ultimately paralyzed by his own psychological conflict. Oleg Liptsin adapted, directed and starred in the play. With the help of pre-recorded material, he interacted with a filmed version of himself and brought to life the frantic and peripatetic personalities inhabiting the mind of the Underground



Oleg Liptsin as the Hero in *A Propos of the Wet Snow*

Man. The performance was unique, memorable and flawlessly brought the 1800s into the present through film and multimedia.

Bing Overseas Seminar in Mongolia, September 2007



On November 5, Professor Mark Mancall (History) and undergraduates Badruun Gardi ('09), Saya Kitasei ('08), Bon Jun Koh ('10) and Berhane Agaze ('09) discussed their experiences on the 2007 Bing Overseas Seminar in Mongolia. The seminar gave fourteen Stanford students the opportunity to investigate Mongolian history and modern identity through a three week program in Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia's capitol. The students met with leading Mongolian figures in politics, business, the arts, the non-profit sector, and the Buddhist community. Professor Mancall will be leading a Stanford Alumni Suitcase Seminar in Mongolia during August 2008.

By Saya Kitasei

The Bing Overseas Study Program in Moscow, Autumn Quarter 2007

In autumn 2007, eight undergraduates joined Faculty-in-Residence David Holloway (professor of history and political science) for the Bing Overseas Study Program in Moscow. Erik Adams ('10), Daniel Babinski ('08), Jennifer Bullock ('09), Drusia Dickson ('10), Katherine Hoffmann ('09), Andrew Roth ('09), James Super ('09), and Masako Yoshioika ('10) posed in Moscow for this photo which was distributed as a postcard to every Stanford undergraduate. The postcard invites all Stanford undergraduates to attend an information session on the Stanford-in-Moscow program held on January 24. The session, called "Moscow... Europe's Most Dynamic Capital," featured speeches by the students, Professor Norman Naimark (Director of the Bing Overseas Study Program), Professor David Holloway, Professor Michael McFaul (political science), and Alexander Abashkin, program director of Stanford in Moscow. The evening ended with a seven-minute video prepared by Katherine Hoffmann.



CREEES UPCOMING DEADLINES

FLAS 2008 SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

DEADLINE: APRIL 28, 2008

The US Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships are for all levels of intensive language study in most languages of Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union. The fellowships provide summer tuition plus a \$2500 stipend.

CREEES SUMMER TRAVEL AND RESEARCH GRANTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

DEADLINE: MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2008

The Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies can offer modest support for research travel in Eastern Europe, or the Former Soviet Union.

SLAVIC SUMMER RUSSIAN LANGUAGE STUDY FOR UNDERGRADUATES

DEADLINE: MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2008

Modest grants are available for undergraduate summer study of Russian language.

For more information please refer to the CREEES website at: <http://creees.stanford.edu/grants/index.html>

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