A new global partnership

IUB collaborates with Russian universities on advanced language learning, global environmental issues

by Olena Chernishenko

Indiana University Bloomington has been awarded a three-year, $400,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education (administered through the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education) for a project in which faculty and students from three IU campuses will work with two Russian universities on language learning and the study of environmental science.

The IUB proposal “Global Environmental Issues — Advanced Language Learning” was ranked as the top of 24 proposals by the U.S. Department of Education and the Russian Ministry of Education and Science. The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, in partnership with the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, will collaborate with Tyumen State University and Tyumen State Agricultural Academy, Tyumen, Russia.

The IU-TSU-TSAA partnership will support both U.S. and Russian students in attaining higher levels of language ability. While introducing innovative practices in foreign language instruction, the program will foster collaboration on environmental research between IU, TSU, and TSAA faculty and students from the fields of environmental science, biology, geography, economics, and political science.

Olena Chernishenko (Slavic Languages and Literature) and Vicky Meretsky (SPEA) conceived the program. IU’s Maria Bucur-Deckard (History and REEI); Christopher Craft, Flynn Picardal, Joseph Shaw and Diane Henshel (SPEA); and Markus Dickinson (Linguistics) are also involved with the project.

On April 29, IU President Michael McRobbie and two Russian university presidents, Gennadiy Chebotarev, rector of TSU, and Nikolay Abramov, rector of TSAA, signed a six-year partnership agreement.

The major features of the grant include new courses using distance-education technology and a new six-week course, “Global Environmental Problems and Solutions,” which will be taught in collaboration with TSU and TSAA faculty.

IN ADDITION TO COURSES AND TEACHING, THE GRANT INCLUDES:

- Funded summer internships for IU students in the Tyumen region with Lukoil and British Petroleum
- Collaborative research between IU and Russian scientists and scholars
- Opportunities for IU environmental scientists to travel to western Siberia and initiate collaborations with TSU and TSAA faculty
- Creation of an online Russian-English dictionary for environmental-science terminology
- Development of “intelligent computer-assisted language learning” by an IU computational linguistics team, one of only two groups in the U.S. developing ICALL tools for the Russian language.

(continued on page 8)
From the department chair

Watershed moment for department

This is a watershed moment in the history of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. If the past few years have been hard times for the economy in general, and IU in particular, then this hardship is tenfold more distressing for boutique disciplines such as ours.

The cutbacks we have been experiencing have inspired all of us in the department to work harder to maintain the same level of activity. Also, in these changing times our historically diverse missions may require reconsideration. Currently, they encompass not only Russian, but also Ukrainian, Polish, Czech, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, and Romanian; they encompass high-quality undergraduate education in Slavic languages, literatures, and cultures; they encompass unique graduate programs in Slavic literatures and Slavic linguistics.

However, much has changed since the department was founded on the heels of World War II and rapidly grew, fueled by the Soviet threat of the Cold War. We now live in a world of new alliances and new borders, the political maps we once studied redrawn. And what has this meant for the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures?

A major impact has been that we have seen some of our programs decline with lack of enrollments and faculty retirements, to the point where much of what we have traditionally been doing has hung in the balance over the past year or two. We will surely jettison some traditional structures, strengthen others, and reconfigure the department to reflect more interdisciplinary research and teaching missions, but we will surely come out better and stronger in the end.

Last year in these pages I expressed optimism despite these threats, pointing to IU’s traditions and strengths in the Slavic discipline, as reflected in such IU mainstays as: SWSEEL, still young after 60 years and with an energetic new director; Slavica, the foremost Slavic academic publishing house in the nation; REEI, the premier Title VI center in Russian and East European studies; and an extremely active Polish Studies Center. And as with any institution, its heart is its people: we can boast of internationally recognized faculty, superior current students and, most important, numerous proud alumni.

Steadfast support
Reinvigorating our department will not be easy, but — with the very strong support of the College of Arts and Sciences and IU administration — I believe we have already turned the corner.

I want to recognize Interim Dean David Zaret for his sensitivity to our urgent need for reorganization and for authorizing the hiring of energetic and versatile new faculty. Along these lines we have already taken certain steps. Russian language teaching is our bread and butter. It is essential that we build enrollments in Russian and diversify the language program.

So I am delighted to announce that we have hired a new tenure-track faculty member to direct the Russian language program, starting in August. This is Maria Shadrakova, currently teaching at Penn and Bryn Mawr (see page 3). We have also added this year two continuing lecturers, our own Miriam Shrager, who has studied and taught with us for many years, and Ariann Stern-Gottschalk, who has replaced Jerzy Kolodziej as the new director of SWSEEL. We also have been authorized to convert Sara Stefani, our wonderful new visiting assistant professor of Russian literature, to a tenure-track line. Finally, we expect to be hiring a new open-rank faculty member in Russian literature next year, as well as a visitor for Czech.

Clearly, the balance is again tipping in our favor. The department of 2015 may not be the one you remember, but ... we can be sure we will change to meet the challenges of the times.

The department of 2015 may not be the one you remember, but ... we can be sure we will change to meet the challenges of the times.
SWSEEL turns 60 in 2010!

by Ariann Stern-Gottschalk, SWSEEL director

In preparation for this jubilee year, we’ve been building on the strong foundation Jerzy Kolodziej established in his 20 years as director of the Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL). Since last summer, veteran instructors and generous IU colleagues have helped to insure the integrity and high-quality instruction and programming in the workshop. Here are some SWSEEL highlights for 2010:

Critical Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship funding for both undergraduate and graduate students continues, mostly from the Russian and East European Institute and Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center. The staff at both centers work tirelessly to support SWSEEL students, instructors, and programming, and they deserve recognition and tremendous thanks.

This summer, the Reserve Officers Training Corps Strategic Languages and Cultures program carries on, thanks to continued funding from the Institute of International Education. About 20 cadets from ROTC cadres throughout the country will be fully funded to study Russian, Arabic, and some Central Asian languages in SWSEEL this summer. The ROTC program’s Seminar on Security, Languages, and Cultures in Eastern Europe and Eurasia is now open to all SWSEEL students as part of our regular cultural programming, which will also feature visits from the coordinator of NASA’s Russian language program, the CIA, and NSEP Boren, workshops in both archival research and folk dance, a Russian newspaper, daily language tables, and a concert or two.

The growth of the seminar is just one of the benefits of the new Title VIII funding Henry Cooper brought to SWSEEL last year. The majority of Title VIII funds are earmarked for fellowship support to graduate students and scholars studying most SWSEEL languages both in the workshop and overseas for a handful of students who require higher levels of language study. As of early May 2010, 72 students have received FLAS and Title VIII funding from REEI, IAUNRC, and SWSEEL for their summer language study.

Other Title VIII support comes from the American Council of Learned Societies for Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Czech, Macedonian, Polish, and Romanian. As ever, graduate students in these languages have full tuition waivers for SWSEEL.

Excitingly, this summer sees both Arabic and Tiddish offered as regular SWSEEL languages, thanks to cooperation from colleagues in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, the Department of Germanic Studies, and the Borns Jewish Studies Program. With full support from IU’s Center for the Languages of the Central Asian Region (CeLCAR), Dari instruction has also been added at three levels.

It’s incredible to realize how many people on campus regularly contribute to and care about SWSEEL, for which I am especially grateful in this first year of directing the workshop. Adam Julian most of all needs thanking. I look forward to reporting on how it went in 2010 and what else might be new in 2011!

Neatrou-Edgerton Award

In 2003, Charles Neatrou, EdD’68, made an extremely generous gift to the department. He wanted to create a scholarship for graduate students concentrating in Russian, in honor of his late wife Elizabeth (“Betty Joy”) Neatrou. This is the Neatrou-Edgerton Fellowship Endowment, which also honors our late colleague, teacher, and friend Bill Edgerton. In 2005, the department began making annual awards to its best graduate students, the recipients alternating specializations in literature and in linguistics. In 2010 the award was given to second-year literature graduate student Laurel Utterback, at right.

Welcome

New faculty member

Maria Shardakova, who received a PhD from Bryn Mawr College in 2005, joins the faculty in fall 2010 as director of Russian language instruction. Prior to this appointment, she coordinated the Russian Language Program at the University of Pennsylvania (2003–2010). She has taught a broad range of courses in Russian language, pedagogy, second-language acquisition, and Russian linguistics at the University of Pennsylvania, Bryn Mawr College, Middlebury Summer School, and the University of Maryland. Her research focuses on second-language acquisition, particularly interlanguage pragmatics. Shardakova’s publications include Interlanguage Pragmatics of the Apology: How Americans Acquire Sociolinguistic Competence in Russian. She is currently working on interlanguage humor.

New staff member

In July 2009 Adam Julian replaced Tricia Wall as the department’s student services/SWSEEL staff member. Julian came to Bloomington in 2002 as a student and worked for the Office of Admissions part time. In 2007 Julian accepted a full-time staff position with the Office of International Admissions and continued to work on his bachelor’s degree part time before receiving a BA in history in December 2008. During his undergraduate studies Julian took four semesters of Russian, participated in SWSEEL, and traveled to Russia. Julian is currently continuing to study Russian and working toward a master’s degree. He married Brandi Miller on Oct. 31, 2009, in Bloomington. Brandi is an assistant director of admissions at the Office of Admissions and works with high school students in Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. In his extremely limited free time Julian enjoys cycling, cooking, and thinking of ways to improve the department.
Faculty notes

Justyna Beinek spoke on Romantic albums and memory at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and at AASS in Boston. Her article “Making Literature in Albums: Strategies of Authorship in Pushkin’s Day” appeared in Toronto Slavic Quarterly.

Beinek received the Trustees Teaching Award in April 2010. She received an international conference grant from the Office of the Vice President for International Affairs to deliver a lecture on Polish film at the Warsaw East European conference in July.

Three new publications by Henry R. Cooper will appear in 2010. “The Bible in the Languages of the East: Slavonic,” is a chapter in The New Cambridge History of the Bible. Translations of plays by Marin Držić will be seen in the volume Most/The Bridge. Cooper was involved in two grants: one from the Institute of International Education for the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps’ Strategic Languages and Cultures Project; and a Title VIII grant for SWSEEL research and training on Eastern Europe and Eurasia.

Ronald F. Feldstein devised a new course focusing on the life and work of the Russian Scandinavianist and food historian William V. Pokhlebkin. He spent the fall on sabbatical in Moscow, where he collected materials on Pokhlebkin, including several rare items from the late author’s son. While in Russia, he presented at the Russian Academy of Sciences and a series of six lectures on Slavic linguistics at the Russian State University for the Humanities.

George H. Fowler presented “The Latinization of Russian Advertising, or the Exceptional Popularity of English” (translation of the original Russian title) with Liadmil Amiri at the Fourth International Congress of Russian Language Researchers in Moscow in March 2010. He continues to serve the department as director of Slavica Publishers and was director of undergraduate studies this past year.

Steven L. Franks gave a keynote talk, at a conference in Potsdam, Germany, in December 2009. He also presented at the 42nd Seminar on Macedonian Language, Literature, and Culture in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia, in August; at the Slavic Linguistics Society meeting in Zadar, Croatia, in September; and at the annual AATSEEL (continued on page 6)
Faculty retirements

Andrew Durkin

by Aaron Beaver, with Rosemarie Connolly and Steven Franks

In 1975 Andy Durkin took a position as visiting assistant professor at Indiana University’s Slavic Department. One year later, the department hired him as a tenure-track assistant professor, and 33 years later, the department, to its dismay, is bidding a fond retirement to a longstanding and much-valued colleague, friend, and mentor.

Born in Connecticut, Durkin earned his bachelor’s degree at Boston College, a master’s from Columbia University in 1970, followed by a PhD, with distinction, from Columbia in 1975. On his way to the PhD, he served as visiting assistant professor at Bucknell University in Pennsylvania in 1973–74. During the summer of 1975, Durkin served as visiting assistant professor at his alma mater before coming to IU.

At IU Durkin has played a central role in the Slavic department’s Russian literature program, and he is a significant figure in the study of 19th-century Russian realism. In 1983 Durkin published a landmark work on one of the earliest of Russia’s realist prose-writers, Sergei Aksakov. This book, Sergei Aksakov and Russian Pastoral, was not only the first monograph-length study of Aksakov in any Western language, but was also a work of first-rank critical insights. All the reviewers — major figures in the field in their own right — hailed Durkin’s attentiveness to detail, his penetrating acumen, and his ability to ferret meaning out of nuance.

Yet Durkin’s expertise quickly grew to include the whole of 19th-century realism. His articles range over the works and authors of this period, frequently with a comparatist bent: Laclos and Tolstoy, Henry James and Alexander Pushkin, Stephen Crane and Anton Chekhov. Especially Chekhov.

If, early in his career, Durkin could be called a major figure in the study of a relatively minor author (Aksakov), he soon established himself as a major figure in the study of a major author, publishing numerous articles on Chekhov’s prose and plays, giving talks at national and international conferences, serving repeatedly as manuscript referee and panel chairperson on Russia’s most famous doctor and writer.

Back at IU, Durkin’s courses on Chekhov, Russian drama, and Russian literature in a European context brought his proven skills of exegesis together with his instinct for clear presentation, and made these courses much sought after. Graduate students of Durkin’s have gone on to make their own mark in the field of Russian realist studies, with notable works on Dostoevsky, Chernyshevsky, and, of course, Chekhov.

As a colleague Durkin brought an unflagging geniality, and what Joseph Brodsky called “generosity of spirit,” to the fifth floor of Ballantine Hall. You could talk to Durkin about almost anything since he had a quiet way of seeming to know something about every topic imaginable. “I think,” he might remark, unassumingly, “that that metaphor of death as a thief comes from somewhere in the New Testament.” And sure enough, you find it there in Revelation and add a grateful footnote to your article. What kind of a bird is Pushkin talking about here, you wonder. It just so happens that Durkin is a lifelong bird-watcher. He didn’t wear all this knowledge on his sleeve, but it was there if you asked. Two of his longstanding interests, in Japanese language and culture, and in birds, Durkin even managed to combine with his professional work, publishing on Akira Kurosawa’s transposition of Dostoevsky’s novel The Idiot into film, and writing “a guide to the guides” on birds in 19th-century Russia.

No doubt Durkin will continue to pursue his many interests in retirement; his gain of free time is our loss. All of us in the Slavic department — faculty, staff, and students — will miss him terribly, and we wish him all the best.

Faculty notes

(continued from page 4)

meeting in Philadelphia.

Three of his papers appeared in 2009 as chapters in Slavische Sprachen: an International Handbook of their Structure, their History, and their Investigation, and an article appeared in The Sound Patterns of Syntax.

Franks continues as editor-in-chief of the Journal of Slavic Linguistics.

Jeffrey D. Holdeman gave a series of talks in four Russian Old Believer communities in the eastern United States.

At the AATSEEL National Convention in December, he presented and served as a panelist as well as organizing the annual meeting of Slavic language coordinators.

In March, he took a three-day outreach trip to high school Russian programs in northwestern Indiana and Chicago. This summer, he will be conducting Old Believer fieldwork in Poland, Lithuania, and Latvia.

Christina Illias was invited as a guest speaker to the University of Bucharest in Romania. During the June 2010 trip, she was interviewed about Mihai Eminescu — Romania’s national poet, on the 120th anniversary of his death — by Romanian National Radio and Romanian National Television.

Iliyas is writing a book about the reform leading to the modernization of the Romanian educational system at the beginning of the 20th century. She was also a member of the Fulbright National Screening Committee, evaluating and ranking applications for Eastern Europe.

Miriam Shrager gave a paper at AATSEEL based on her pilot study of the Susak dialect spoken in New Jersey.

In March she conducted more fieldwork with these speakers with the help of an REEI Mellon Research Grant. She plans to present her findings at the International Workshop on Balto-Slavic Accentology conference in Vilnius, Lithuania, in July.

Within the department, she and Sara Stefani organized a colloquium series for faculty and graduate students. They hope to continue the successful series next year.

This year, her students participated actively in our talent shows; she also introduced two new courses: “Russian for Heritage Speakers” and “Russian Folk Tales.”


She also gave two readings in the Czech Republic in June — one in the Czech PEN Club in Prague, where she was introduced by President Jiří Dédecký and U.S. cultural attaché David Gainer, and one at the Conference on the Integration and Testing of Foreigners in Foreign Language Learning Process in Poděbrady. She taught a new class on “Czech and Jewish Culture in Bohemia: Poetry, Novel, Thought, and Film” and organized a 20th anniversary celebration of the Velvet Revolution.
Student News

From the director of undergraduate studies

Program still growing

We are very proud to report that, as of spring 2010, we have 46 majors (among whom are 37 double majors, two triple majors, three double-degree students; 11 fall 2009 Dean’s List students; and eight Founders Scholars), as well as 22 minors.

In May 2010, we had 11 graduating majors (Erin Blystone, Rachel Factor, Alli Germain, Helen Long, Nicole Main, Anne Rathell, Karen Shull, Paul Slaughter, Kathleen Strunk, Elli Travis, and Elise Vodzak), and two more graduating in August (Alexandra Hall and James Kalwara).

Student achievements

Participation in study abroad continues to be extremely strong, with eight students studying in Petersburg and Prague this year. Two of these students will spend an entire academic year, with several more making plans to go next spring.

Incoming freshmen Caroline Martin and John Sims received the Armstrong Memorial Scholarship. Our first-ever Armstrong recipient, Rachel Factor, graduated this spring. This February, 31 of our students participated in the National Russian Essay Contest, five of whom were finalists (Becky Baumgartner, Ben Daulton, Kyle McKay, Ya Yang, Emily Young), with Becky Baumgartner garnering third place in the top level.

In April, we inducted 12 students into the Dobro Slovo National Slavic Honor Society (see photo at right), and this summer we have four undergraduate summer FLAS recipients.

Program activities

It is a pleasure to report that we increased the number of sections of first-year Russian from three to four, and as a result, 51 students completed the R101–102 sequence. We optimistically scheduled five sections in the fall, including a new one with the Hutton Honors College to be taught by incoming faculty member Maria Shardakova.

Since 13 of our majors graduated this spring and summer, it is from among this cohort that we will replenish our pool of Russian majors.

It’s not merely a matter of keeping our numbers up. All of us in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures believe that Russian is a wonderful and rewarding language to study, and we are delighted when we can turn more students on to the special delights of this language and culture.

We recently launched five new courses for the undergraduate program, most of which will be regularly taught:

- R200 Russian for Heritage Speakers
- R224 Contemporary Russian Culture
- R470 Political Russian
- S320 Polish-Jewish Culture
- R229 Russian Folk Tales

This year, students enjoyed the annual Slavic-language study-strategies workshop, two departmental language talent shows, and the annual Slavic and East European Career Night, as well as weekly conversation tables for all of our languages and several very successful film series.

Meeting Fridays at Bear’s Place, Russian Table continued to attract about 20 students and native Russians interested in food, drink, and conversation at all levels of proficiency each week. We hope next year to provide a Tuesday afternoon Russian Tea with a fresh injection of energy and ideas. — George Fowler, director of undergraduate studies, and Jeffrey Holdeman, academic advisor

2010 undergraduate program by the numbers:

- **46** total majors
- **37** double majors, two triple majors, three double-degree students
- **11** fall 2009 Dean’s List students and **8** Founders Scholars
- **22** minors
Welcoming new students and new structures

Degree programs overhauled
This year we completed revamped degree programs in both literature and linguistics. We hope that the changes will allow students increased flexibility in their courses of study and attract quality applicants to our graduate programs.

The literature program in particular is in flux. We were greatly saddened by the resignation of Aaron Beaver in December. Beaver was a pillar of our program, serving as director of graduate studies for several years, teaching most graduate seminars in Russian literature, and overseeing exams and dissertations. He will be missed by his students and colleagues as he left an indelible mark on those who had the pleasure of working with him in the last five and a half years. We wish Beaver all the best in his future pursuits.

The graduate program will greatly benefit, though, from the addition of Sara Stefani. Stefani will be teaching two new graduate seminars in 2010–11, one on Modernism and one on Post-Modernism. We are also excited about the prospect for hiring a new faculty member in Russian literature this coming year.

Our current students
In 2009–10 we had seven literature graduate students at varying stages of their careers: Stu McKenzie is close to the completion of his dissertation on Russian satire, while working at the Slavica publishing house. Lina Khawaldah has formulated her dissertation topic (the idea of pain and suffering in 20th-century Russian literature) and is about to start the home stretch of her studies: writing. Bethany Braley completed her three written qualifying exams and Magdalena Mullek has passed her PhD admission exam. Laurel Utterback is getting ready to take her PhD admission exam this coming spring. She gave her first talk on Russian literature at a Kentucky Foreign Languages in April and is traveling to Russia this summer on a Duke FLAS grant. She also received the Neatrour-Edgerton Award (see page 3). Two first-year master’s students, Natalie Misteravich (Polish studies) and Brian Oches (Russian literature), are in the midst of coursework. Khawaldah, Braley, and Mullek were teaching Russian this year, while Khawaldah, Braley, and McKenzie taught in SWSEEL in summer 2009. Three of graduate students in literature are traveling to Poland this summer and McKenzie taught in SWSEEL in summer 2009. Three of graduate students in literature are traveling to Poland this summer and one is taking a language study trip to Russia.

In the area of Slavic linguistics, Heather Rice completed her qualifying exams and is beginning work on her dissertation. Clint Casteel, Rosemarie Conolly, Brigid Henry, Veronika Trotter, Melissa Witcombe, and Ksenia Zanon are in various stages of the program. Several of these students presented at academic conferences, including Zanon and Witcombe at the annual AATSEEL conference in Philadelphia in December and Zanon at the Slavic Linguistics Society meeting in Zadar, Croatia, in September 2009. More recently, we had an excellent representation at the Midwest Slavic Conference, at Ohio State University, where Khawaldah, McKenzie, Braley, Rice, Conolly, Witcombe, and Zanon all spoke.

There are few occasions when one feels a sense of purpose and accomplishment as strongly as on the day of a successful dissertation defense.

In June 2009, Bora Chung defended her comparative dissertation on Russian and Polish literature, “Changing the Shape of Existence: Utopia in Andrei Platonov’s Cherevno” and Bruno Jasienski’s I Burn Paris.” Chung returned to her native Korea where she continues translating Russian and Polish prose works into Korean.

In March 2010 Bora Kim defended her dissertation on “Non-
Global partnership
(continued from page 1)

science terminology and language functionality in university departments, research institutions, and field stations.

These courses prepare IU students for a two-week field experience course in Tyumen region (western Siberia), to include visits to various nature sites, oil remediation fields, fisheries, and limnological research sites, as well as cultural sites.

The grant provides full support for 10 IU students each summer. Russian faculty and students will make a similar trip to Indiana, hosted by IU.

The grant also includes the following extensions: IU’s SPEA offered alternating student and faculty fellowships for five years for TSU and TSAA graduate students and faculty; inter-library agreements were made for library fund and literature exchanges between university publishing houses; and a dictionary of environmental science terminology will be developed into a bilingual selection of linguistically annotated texts of use to environmental scientists, policymakers, and linguists. In addition, collaborative environmental law degree is under discussion; a TSU professor is attending an international workshop on cybersecurity hosted by IU; collaboration in cybersecurity is under discussion; and an international conference in Tyumen on environment and natural resource management is planned for October 2010.

The signing of this partnership will facilitate collaborative work between IU, TSU, and TSAA for years to come.

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1960s
Carol Sachs Liss, BA’65, is a retired French and Spanish teacher. In addition to her undergraduate degree in Slavic Languages and Literature, she holds a master’s degree in Russian from Northwestern University. Liss lives in San Raphael, Calif.


Helena I. Goscio, MA’68, PhD’76, is the co-editor of Cinepaternity: Fathers and Sons in Soviet and Post-Soviet Film, published by Indiana University Press in March. The book investigates the father/son dynamic in post-Stalinist Soviet cinema and its Russian successor. Goscio is a professor and chairwoman of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at The Ohio State University in Columbus. Her areas of focus are contemporary Russian culture, Russian and Polish women’s literature, nineteenth-century narrative fiction, the nineteenth-century novel, and folklore.

1970s
Edward M. Berger, BA’70, has been at the Rutgers Institute of Jazz Studies for the past 30 years. He writes, “We get occasional visitors from Russia, who remind me just how little Russian I remember!” Berger recently donated all of his old Russian books to the department. He lives in Princeton, N.J.

Margaret Troy Gorenstein, BA’71, MA’94, writes that she has moved from Arlington, Va., to Kaneohe, Hawaii.

Nathan S. Schickel, BA’95, is a product manager working in the bicycle industry. His company, Zipp Speed Weaponry, makes high end racing components, and his work takes him all over the world working with outside vendors. Schickel writes, “Every few weeks I am oversees, taking in the sights, flavors, and sounds of different cultures. My linguistics background has proven a solid foundation that helps me communicate comfortably and effectively everywhere I go. My next challenge is to learn Mandarin.” Schickel and his wife, Leslie, JD’07, an attorney for the law firm Feiwel & Hannoy, live in Indianapolis.

1980s
Ronald J. Meyer, MA’78, PhD’86, is publications editor at the Harriman Institute at Columbia University, where he also directs the master’s Program in Russian translation. Meyer’s translation of The Gambler and Other Stories by Fyodor Dostoevsky will be published by Penguin Classics in July 2010. Meyer traveled to Naples for the International Dostoevsky Symposium in June, where he delivered a paper from his current book project on adaptations of Dostoevsky. Meyer lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

1990s
Heather Campbell Bunny, BA’94, is a certified medical assistant who works as a phlebotomist and lab assistant at Riverview Hospital in Noblesville, Ind. She writes, “Since no one wants to have their blood drawn, my knowledge of Russian has been a great ice breaker! I enjoy spending time with my husband of eight years and our five pets.” Bunny lives in Indianapolis.

Margaret E. Cloyd, MA’94, writes that she has moved from Arlington, Va., to Kaneohe, Hawaii.

2000s
Michael C. Smith, BA’06, is a senior fund accountant with Fidelity Investments in Westlake, Texas. He lives in Fort Worth, Texas.
SLAVIC DEPARTMENT ALUMNI: What’s new with you?

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