From the department chair

Reinvigorated, department sees much growth

During the past year the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures has continued to evolve to meet the challenges of the 21st century. The retirements of dear friends Henry Cooper and Ronald Feldstein (see page 5) will be somewhat mitigated in the fall by the arrivals of Jacob Emery, a versatile young literary scholar, and Craig Cravens, a leading figure in the teaching of Czech language and culture (see page 3). Emery’s tenure-track position is shared with the Department of Comparative Literature, a very welcome arrangement, while Cravens is hired as a visiting senior lecturer in the hope of eventual conversion, given our longstanding reputation in Czech. Moreover, two visiting lines, those of Lecturer Ariann Stern-Gottschalk and Assistant Professor Sara Stefani, have been converted to regular positions. We also welcome Chopin specialist and Jacobs School of Music Associate Professor Halina Goldberg as an adjunct in our department.

Nurturing strong connections with other units is extremely valuable, and can only help Slavic to prosper and flourish. It is my expectation that future joint hires may be the norm, rather than the exception. Previous to Emery’s, mine — with the Department of Linguistics — was the only such position (and I came to IU in 1987!). Our health, in my view, rests on our interdisciplinarity and versatility, and I can anticipate possible positions shared not just with the departments of Comparative Literature and Linguistics, but with departments such as Folklore, Anthropology, Religious Studies, and Communication and Culture, to name but a few. And while at the moment this issue of DOSLAL goes to press no hiring authorizations have been announced, over the next few years I expect a steady stream of new hires in Slavic, beginning in the fall with a much-needed search for a senior faculty member.

Both our undergraduate and graduate programs are experiencing growth not seen since the days of the Cold War. We have among others Jeff Holdeman and Justyna Beinek to thank for their leadership in these areas. You can read about our student achievements and activities in the relevant columns. I also want to congratulate Miriam Shrager on receiving the IU Trustees Teaching Award. This award, intended by the Board of Trustees to recognize extraordinary classroom teaching, is highly competitive for lecturers and clinical faculty, of which only five nominees are selected. Also noteworthy is the increased student interest in Polish and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian. For this we have especially to thank our dedicated (but visiting, alas) teachers, Iwona Dembowska-Wosik and Jagoda Malbaša, respectively. Indeed, although Jagoda is returning in the fall, we sadly bid Iwona farewell. She will be replaced by Barbara Morcinek (see page 3), from Uniwersytet Śląski in Katowice.

In these pages you will read of the many activities sponsored by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures over the past year. These include not only regular events such as language tables, talent shows, and the Spring Tea, but also various language film series, a spring Maslenitsa celebration, and a Ukrainian Easter egg (pysanky) workshop run by adjunct Monika Kindraka-Jensen (who teaches U223 Ukrainian Culture). This spring’s Slavic and East European Career Night featured IU alumnus Paul Richardson, publisher of Russian Life magazine. There were also numerous lectures by faculty and visitors, with titles as diverse as “Acquisition of Contrastive Focus in English and Russian” (Lydia Grebenyova, Baylor University); “Mapping the Polish Diaspora: Kultura and the Geography of Literary Life during the Cold War?” (Jessie Labov, Ohio State University); “A Holocaust Object and the Story of Its Production” (Bozena Shallcross, University of Chicago); and “Back in the USSR — the Story of Rock in Russia” (Artemii Troitskii, Russian rock critic), not to mention a host of job (and other) talks on various aspects of Russian literature. We also began a series of talks in Russian, by faculty, emeriti, and visitors. (To listen to a meeting with Troitskii held during his visit to campus and conducted entirely in Russian, visit www.iu.edu/~celtie/Lessons/Russian/troitskiy/troitskiy.html.)

Overall, the future is looking much more (continued on page 2)
Environmental field experience ... in Siberia

by Elizabeth Trammell & Olena Chernishenko

This past summer, a group of IUB students took six-week courses in Russian language and environmental science as preparation for their study-abroad trip to southwest Siberia. Two faculty members, Olena Chernishenko (Slavic) and Vicky Meretsky (SPEA), led the group of students on their trip to Russia for the first summer exchange of the U.S.–Russia Global Environmental Issues/Language Learning Course Study Program. This partnership between Indiana University and two universities in Tyumen’, Russia (Tyumen’ State Agricultural Academy and Tyumen’ State University).

On Aug. 3, we arrived in a smog-filled Moscow — a fitting backdrop to the beginning of our environmental journey. The thick cloud of smog in Domodedovo demonstrated the urgency of environmental threats in Russia. From the catastrophic oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico to Russia’s forest fires, summer 2010 has shown the necessity of collaboration between the United States and Russia to find solutions for our shared environmental problems. The goals and mission of our new partnership could not have been more fitting.

We left the Moscow smoke for Tyumen’, our home base for the next two weeks. Our hosts in Tyumen’ welcomed us into their university laboratories, sharing their research on diverse environmental issues — from monitoring oil spills with satellite imagery to conducting large-scale experiments on the growth of various food crops. We traveled near and far, from a limnological biostation on nearby Lake Kuchak to an oil- and gas-extraction site near Khanty-Mansiysk (an oil boom town over 400 miles to the north). Donning hunter-green rubber boots and encephalitis suits, we hiked through forests, floodplains, and bogs. Our guides, Russian professors in Tyumen’, tamed the Siberian wild by sharing their knowledge of the ecosystem, biodiversity, and local environmental challenges. We learned that Americans are not the only ones with up-to-date technological equipment, and we also discovered that, despite these technological advances, environmental problems persist.

In addition to learning about the environment, we were also exposed to Russian and indigenous cultures of southwestern Siberia. We visited an ethnographical museum to learn about the history of the Khanty and Mansi, the two main indigenous groups in ‘Tyumen’ Oblast. Along our northern route to Khanty-Mansiysk...

From the chair

(continued from page 1)

promising for the department today than it did one year ago. We have to thank for this reinvigoration the very strong support of the College of Arts and Sciences and university administration, and especially that of interim Dean David Zaret. The College recognizes and supports our need for reorganization, and I have every reason to believe this will continue under the new dean, Larry Singell, who assumes his duties on July 1, 2011.

In closing, however, I want to emphasize our continued need for funding. While we have been successful in obtaining grants — with notable successes by SWSEEL director Ariann Stern-Gottschalk in securing major funding from the Institute of International Education and from the U.S. Department of State’s Title VIII program and by REEI director Maria Bucur in being awarded record Title VI funding — now more than ever the department needs your help not only to implement new initiatives but also to carry out regular activities. (To mention just one small example, in the past layout for issues of DOSLAL, including this one, has been prepared by IU Alumni Association staff, but in the future this will need to be funded through alumni donations.) There are various funds to which you might direct your contributions. In addition to the Slavica Fund and the Neatour-Edgeton Fellowship, the department maintains a general Slavic Studies Fund and a Slavic Linguistics Enrichment Fund. We are also in the process of creating a SWSEEL fund, for all you SWSEEL alumni out there, as well as a SWSEEL alumni group, so if you want your donation to support SWSEEL please just let us know. All these funds are maintained by the IU Foundation and contributions are fully tax-deductible; for Indiana residents this amount can even be doubled on state returns. They are used for a wide variety of activities, such as supporting departmental social events, alumni events, student and faculty recruitment, and special research projects. If you would like to contribute to any of these funds, please contact Shelley Scott at the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Indiana University, Ballantine Hall 502, 1020 E. Kirkwood Ave., Bloomington, IN 47405-7103; phone (812) 855-9906; or e-mail ssscott@indiana.edu. Checks should be made payable to the Indiana University Foundation. If you would like information about how your contribution can be used to support specific ventures, please do not hesitate to e-mail me at franks@indiana.edu.

I hope that you — our valued alumni and students, donors, and friends — will stay in touch and let us know about whatever has been going on in your lives. I invite you to contact me with your news, be it personal or professional, as well as to visit the department whenever you happen to be in Bloomington. I wish you all the best.

— Steven Franks
‘Making War, Making Peace’

Online discussion group open to public this fall

During the fall 2011 semester, Sara Stefani will be conducting an online discussion group of Tolstoy’s great novel War and Peace. The discussion group is a co-curricular event that is part of IU’s Themester series. This fall’s Themester topic is “Making War, Making Peace” — made to order for Tolstoy’s book! The discussion group is co-sponsored by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and the REEI. It is open to alumni, members of the Bloomington community, and anyone interested in great literature. So, if you didn’t have a chance to read War and Peace while at IU, or if you haven’t read it in a while, or if you just feel like reading it again and discussing it with others, consider participating in the group. It is free and open to everyone. Discussions will start in September; more information will be posted throughout the summer at the group’s website: www.indiana.edu/~warpeace/.

Two receive Neatrour-Edgerton Award

The Neatrour-Edgerton Fellowship Endowment was established in 2003 thanks to the generosity of Charles Neatrour, EdD’68. His intent was to create a scholarship for graduate students concentrating in Russian, in honor both of his late wife Elizabeth (“Betty Joy”) Neatrour and our late colleague, teacher, and friend Bill Edgerton. These funds were enough, however, that in 2005 the department began making annual awards to our best graduate students. In 2011, due to Neatrour’s continued generosity, we were in the fortunate position of being able to make an award to excellent students in both literature and linguistics: Magdalena Mullek and Melissa Witcombe. Both entered our program in 2007. Mullek is concentrating in Slavic literatures and translation, while Witcombe is concentrating in Slavic linguistics and pursuing a joint degree with general linguistics. We congratulate them both and thank Neatrour for his support of Slavic scholarship.

Steven Franks, Magdalena Mullek, and Melissa Witcombe

IU to host FASL meeting in 2012

May 9–12, 2012, the department will be hosting the 21st annual meeting of Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics. FASL is the foremost annual meeting of Slavists and linguists working within formal models of language description and analysis, and this is the third time that FASL will meet in Indiana (the two previous IU-sponsored meetings were in 1996 and 2000). Steven Franks, who has been closely involved with FASL since its inception, will be organizing the 2012 meeting and can be contacted for specifics as they become available. In addition to invited lectures by Željko Bošković (University of Connecticut) and Tania Ionin (University of Illinois), this meeting will include special workshops on computational applications in Slavic linguistics.

Welcome

New faculty

Jacob Emery (PhD, Harvard University, 2006) was born in Moscow—the small town in northern Idaho, not the large city in Russia — and comes to Indiana by way of the University of Iowa and Harvard University, where he has lectured in the comparative literature department since receiving his PhD in Slavic. Emery’s dissertation, “Stock Exchanges: Heredity, Identity, and Metaphor in Modernist Slavic Literature,” treats the role of kinship metaphor in Russian and South Slavic fiction; he has published articles on topics ranging from the Scandinavian theme in Konstantin Batiushkov to the postmodern novels of Thomas Pynchon, from the language of exile in Nabokov and Ugresic to milk kinship in the Soviet 1920s. Emery is broadly interested in rhetoric and figure; science fiction and the fantastic; critical theory and materialist aesthetics; metafiction and questions of genre; and he is eager to discover new fields of inquiry at Indiana.

Craig Cravens (PhD, Princeton University, 1998) taught Czech language and culture at the University of Texas at Austin before coming to Indiana. His interests are the Czech literary and musical underground during Communism and Russian and Czech literary relations. In the fall, in addition to Czech language, Cravens will be teaching an introductory course on Czech culture, C223 Robots and Beer Pubs: Czech Culture from 863 to 1989.

Barbara Morcinek (PhD, University of Silesia, 2005) comes to us from the School of Polish Language and Culture in the University of Silesia, where she has been teaching since 2000. She also

(continued on page 8)
Faculty Notes


Olena Chernishenko designed and taught several new courses, including Ukrainian Through Russian, and two Russian language courses focused on environmental issues. She has also been working with Markus Dickinson (Department of Linguistics) in designing new online interactive language exercises to be integrated into language course curricula. She organized and led a new IU student summer study-abroad program in southwest Siberia, Russia, as part of her work on a three-year partnership grant with Tyumen’ State University and Tyumen’ State Agricultural Academy, funded by the U.S. Department of Education (see article, page 2).

Ronald Feldstein published “On Mobile Vowel Stress in Russian, as Influenced by Stem-final Consonants” in * Baltische und slavische Prosodie*; a review of Zhalyzjnak’s *Dvernerskie izbitiki in Acta Slavica Iaponica*; and “Nominal Prosodic Paradigms and Their Synchronic Reflexes in West Slavic” in *Studies in Slavic and General Linguistics*. In addition, Feldstein was named to the executive committee of the newly funded Language Resource Center at Duke.

George Fowler’s paper “Latinizacija rossijskoj reklamy, ili iskljuchitel’$naja popul’$arnost’ anglijskogo jazyka” [The Latinization of Russian Advertising, or the Exceptional Popularity of English], co-authored by Liudmila Amiti of Southern Federal University, Rostov-on-Don, will appear in *Proceedings of the Fourth International Congress of Russian Language Researchers*. Fowler has been supervising undergraduate student David Scofield, who received a $750 grant from the Hutton Honors College to conduct research into Russian advertising, and Scofield plans to continue the research while in St. Petersburg this fall. Finally, Fowler continues to direct Slavica Publishers.

Steven Franks presented: “Spell–Out as Interface Optimization” for the IU Linguistics Club in February; “Individuation, Orphans, and Case” at the 17th Balkan and South Slavic Linguistics, Literature, and Culture Conference in Columbus, Ohio, in April; “Against Copyes: An Autosegmental Call-by-Reference Syntax” (with linguistics graduate student Josh Herring) at the SyntaxFest Workshop in June; “Copy Puzzles: Clitics vs. Intermediate WH and Heads vs. Phrases” at the fifth meeting of the Slavic Linguistics Society in Chicago in October; and (also with Herring) “Against Copyes: A Computational Model of Chain Formation and Spell–Out” at the Linguistic Society of America in Pittsburgh. Franks edited the online journal *Glossos* 10 (summer 2010: “Contemporary Issues in Slavic Linguistics”). The issue includes his paper “Clitics in Slavic” (see www.seclrc.org/glossos/issues/10/); he also published a book review in *Slavic and East European Journal* 54.3. Franks organized SyntaxFest 2010 in June and continues to serve as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Slavic Linguistics*.

Jeff Holdeman spent two summer months conducting fieldwork on Russian Old Believers in Poland, Lithuania, and (for the first time) Latvia. While there, he gave a paper titled “Amerikanskie staroobrjadcheskie sviazi s Latvii” [American Old Believer Connections with Latvia] at a conference held in Daugavpils celebrating the 350th anniversary of the Old Belief in Latvia. Holdeman was the invited guest speaker at the 100th anniversary of the Russian Old Believer congregation in Marianna, Pa., and, in October, he read a joint paper on forging partnerships in college residential living–learning centers at the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International conference in Charlotte, N.C. In January 2011, Holdeman gave a paper titled “The Fate of a Unique Russian Dialect in Western Pennsylvania” at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting in Pittsburgh.

Christina Illias, along with co-authors Adam Sorkin and Liviu Bleoaca, published a translation of the poetry of Marta Petreu titled *The Book of Anger*. Another of her books, *Two Outstanding Romanian Educators in the First Half of the 20th Century: Neculai and Elisa Banca, a Case Study* (in Romanian), will also be published this year with Maria Banca–Bleoaia. Illias was guest speaker on the occasion of Mihai Eminescu’s 160th anniversary in Vienna, Austria. There she presented “The Man in the Letters,” a study of Eminescu’s previously unknown correspondence.

Maria Shardakova recently published “How to Be Funny in a Second Language: Pragmatics of L2 Humor” in *Studies on Language and Culture in the Russophone World: A Collection of Papers Presented to Dan E. Davidson by his Students and Colleagues*. Her paper “Cross-Cultural Analysis of the Use of Humor by Russian and American English Speakers” has been accepted for publication. Shardakova presented additional work on her research into L2 humor at the annual meeting of the American Association for Applied Linguistics in Atlanta and at the annual meeting of the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities in Honolulu.

Miriam Shragr developed two new courses: Russian Folk Tales and Russian for Heritage Speakers. Her paper “Accentuation of Masculine Monosyllabic Nouns of Susak Speakers in New Jersey” has been accepted for publication. She has also presented her work on the Susak speakers of New Jersey at meetings of the International Workshop on Balto-Slavic Accentology in Vilnius, Lithuania, and the Slavic Linguistics Society.

Sara Stefani’s article “The Unified State and the Unified Mind: Social and Moral Utopia in Zamiatin’s We and Plato’s Republic” will be forthcoming in a special issue of *Canadian–American Slavic Studies*. She presented “From the Other Shore: The English Theme and National and Historical Identity in War and Peace” at the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies annual convention this year. She also received the Graduate Student Mentor of the Year award for the 2009–10 academic year.

Ariann Stern-Gottschalk directed the 2010 Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEI). She also moderated the semi-annual Pedagogy Workshop for
Henry Cooper

by George Fowler

The nature of daily life in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures has been permanently altered by Henry Cooper’s retirement in September 2010. He has been one of the most prominent members of our family, both nationally and internationally, earning respect in academic and government circles alike. Henry Cooper is a man of many talents. Although at IU he is best known as a South Slavic specialist (covering Slovene, Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian language and culture, with an occasional foray into Bulgarian and Macedonian), in his first academic position at Northwestern University, he primarily taught Polish literature. Few of us can do serious research and teaching across such a broad spectrum.

After receiving his BA in Russian literature Summa cum laude at the City College of New York, Cooper went to Columbia University for an MA in Russian literature. Then he enlisted in the U.S. Army, whereupon the Army took note of the new recruit’s language abilities and assigned him to counterintelligence duties. After his service, he returned to Columbia, receiving his PhD in October 1974. First teaching at Northwestern University, he joined our department in 1981, was tenured in 1984, and received promotion to full professor in 1991.

Cooper has participated tirelessly in administrative work at IU. He directed the Summer Workshop in Slavic and East European Languages twice in the 1980s; served as director of the Russian and East European Institute from 1986 to 1991; and then served as acting dean of International Programs in 1991–92. He was chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures from 1991 to 2002. He guided us through a difficult readjustment in the immediate post-Soviet period, when the raison d’être for studying Slavic languages lost some of its Cold War strategic orientation. He was instrumental in engineering the unique acquisition of Slavica Publishers, originally a private corporation, in 1997. In recent years Cooper has headed the university’s Retiring Faculty Committee, from 2004 until his own retirement this past fall.

Even though Cooper’s list of publications would stretch halfway to Martinsville, he never skimmed on teaching. One alumna wrote: “In a quiet way, he offered unparalleled professional mentoring. In an era before graduate students regularly published research, he would point to places to publish a particularly good course paper as an article, or to place a translation.” Another noted: “He gave me excellent advice about job interviews, a professional CV, and taught me how to make a serious impression on new acquaintances in the field.” A third mentioned Cooper’s remarkable knack for speaking in complete, round, impeccably edited sentences.

Henry, all of your colleagues will miss you. As you travel about the world, do not forget about Bloomington, IU, and the Slavic Department. “Mnogie leta!”

Ronald Feldstein

by Steven Franks

Growing up in Newark, N.J., Ronald Feldstein was a linguistic prodigy. He started Rutgers University in 1964 but never received his BA, having been recruited to graduate school at Princeton University after two years in college. Feldstein completed his PhD in 1973, writing on The Prosodic System of Common Slavic. Since then he has published more than 50 works on several linguistic topics, in various journals and other outlets, in multiple languages (Russian, Polish, Romanian, and Slovak), and about diverse languages (including Bulgarian, Common Slavic, Old Church Slavonic, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovene, and Ukrainian). Feldstein’s unique intellectual gift lies in seeing patterns in the sound structures of words where others have just seen chaos. This ability, coupled with his love of learning languages and his knack for remembering everything about them, has made him into a stellar teacher and scholar.

After Princeton, Feldstein started his first tenure-track assistant professorship at SUNY–Binghamton in 1973. Since first joining the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at IU Bloomington in 1976 and being promoted to full professor in 1986, Feldstein has tutored generations of students in the subtleties of Slavic languages. He has taught everything from Russian Pol

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Feldstein has also been an exemplary departmental citizen — from directing the Summer Workshop in Slavic and East European languages during his first years at IU to spending days preparing treats from Russian and Polish cookbooks for the receptions he ran at his home when he was chair. Since 1983, Feldstein has served as chair or acting chair of the department for a total of 15 years. Time and again the department and the administration have turned to him to lead the department through periods of turmoil. His judicious hires, his creative solutions, his evenhanded temperament, and his talent for seeing everyone’s side brought many years of stability and harmony to the department.

Feldstein will be sorely missed on the fifth floor of Ballantine Hall. His energy, and the relentless enthusiasm with which he still approaches all that he does, have kept us buoyant for many years. We wish him a long, happy, and healthy retirement.
Student News

From the director of undergraduate studies

Opportunities abound

The 2010–11 academic year has been a banner year for the undergraduate program. As of this spring we have 40 majors and 23 minors. In the summer of 2010 three double majors graduated (Alexandra Hall, Michaelene Hanley, and Jim Kalwara); in the fall four more graduated (Jaclyn Brooks, Polina Kostylev, Rose Tryon, and Michael Watson); and this spring eight more finished their degrees (Nikita Allgire, Becky Baumgartner, Chris Cashel-Cordo, Fred Hendricks, Megan Kregel, Elizabeth Olson, Matthew Orr, and Ian Priser).

Participation in study abroad remains strong, with more than 90 percent of majors completing at least a semester of study abroad. In the summer of 2010, five students studied abroad — in four different cities! Four students spent fall 2010 in Petersburg and another four in spring 2011, while two students (Alexandra Clark and Chris Flynn) are completing academic years in Petersburg. Nine more students have been accepted for study programs in Russia and the Czech Republic for the fall of 2011. In February, we were honored to have the incoming president of the Council on International Educational Exchange, Jim Pellow, and CIEE’s Executive Vice President, Martin Hogan, attend our departmental study abroad information session.

Faculty notes (continued from page 4)

the Norwegian Teacher’s Association of North America and participated in several other conferences, including the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages and the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages. She also developed a new course on Jewish culture and history in Poland from the 12th to 21st centuries called Jewish Culture and History in Poland from the Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages.

Emeriti news

In October 2010, Andrew Durkin took part in the “Tolstoi: Alive in Seoul” conference sponsored by the Korean Association of Russists. He received an Overseas Conference Grant from the Office of the Vice President for International Affairs in order to present his work on “Allen the Year award for 2010–11.

Among our majors are two Phi Beta Kappans (Becky Baumgartner and Alexandra Clark), 14 Dean’s List students, and 14 Founders Scholars. In May 2011 four undergraduate students were inducted into the Dobro Slovo National Slavic Honor Society (Michael Gabe, Ingrid Nelson, Thomas Parmer, and Amanda Plavko). Incoming freshman Chelsea McShurley was awarded the Armstrong Scholarship, and graduating senior Becky Baumgartner is our first full four-year Armstrong recipient. We also had 17 students participate in the National Russian Post-Secondary Essay Contest.

The last decade has seen a great increase in learning opportunities for our students outside the classroom. One of these is the World Language Festival, which this year included six Slavic presentations. Another is IU’s Global Village Living–Learning Center, directed by yours truly and home to 170 students, about 20 of whom are studying Russian and other departmental languages.

Most active among them is the Russian Cluster — a group of 15 students studying Russian. They gather for Russian-themed events, such as a Russian language hike in the fall, Russian Criminal Tattoo Night, a traditional Russian breakfast as part of our “Breakfasts Around the World” series, French-Russian Cross-cultural Night, a Samovar-side Chat with Paul Richardson, and fieldtrips to Slavica Publishers and Bloomington’s Euro Deli.

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— Jeffrey Holdeman
Streamlined programs aid graduate student recruitment

This year we’ve had nine graduate students in the Slavic literatures program and seven in linguistics. Moreover, the revised and streamlined graduate programs introduced last year are making us even more competitive in recruiting exceptional students: in the fall we will be adding no fewer than seven new graduate students! This is a recent record. Newcomers in 2011–12 include: Kate Pickering and Stanley Migala, who will be studying Russian and Polish literatures, respectively, as well as Muamra Begović, Elena Doludenko, Coady Kleiner, Tyler Madsen, and Rose Prince, all in Slavic linguistics. This fall we are pairing each new student with a continuing student mentor to make their adjustments to graduate school and Bloomington easier. We are thrilled to welcome our new Russian literature specialist, Professor Jacob Emery, who in the fall will teach a graduate literature seminar, “Questioning Genre from Schlegel to Bakhtin.” Last fall we strengthened our bonds with the Department of Comparative Literature when for the first time our incoming students took Professor Eyal Peretz’s Proseminar together with new students in comparative literature.

The experiment was very successful and we expect that such pooling of resources will enrich both programs in the future.

Sara Stefani, who has been with us as a visiting assistant professor for the last two years, will start her tenure-track position and will be taking over as director of graduate studies for literature and area studies (tracks 1 and 3) in the fall. On the linguistics side (track 2), George Fowler is assuming that role in the fall.

Graduate students in literature have been making good progress toward their degrees: first- and second-year students have been busy with coursework and two of them — Natalie Misteravich and Alex Hunter — have also started teaching for the first time, with great success! In April, Misteravich also presented her first conference paper, at the Midwest Slavic Conference in Columbus. Brian Oches has taken his PhD admissions exam, and Magdalena Muliek is in the process of taking her qualifying exams and taught first-year Czech in 2010–11. Bethany Braley is finalizing her dissertation proposal and is planning to carry out dissertation research at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland, next year, having won a fellowship through the IU–JU graduate student exchange program. Summer plans for some include travel in Russia/Eastern Europe, while others will study or teach in SWSEEL.

Among linguistics students, Heather Rice is living in Chicago, dissertating and being otherwise “procreative,” while Brigid Henry and Melissa Witcombe prepare for qualifying exams and Veronika Trotter prepares for her PhD admission exam. Witcombe also spoke on “Slavic Loanword Adaptation of Front Round Vowels” at the Midwest Slavic Conference. Ksenia Zanon spent the spring semester in Zagreb and will study Macedonian this summer. Both Brigid and new graduate student Ala Simonczyk taught Russian for the first time in our program this past semester.

Finally, we have been working on revamping our graduate program tracks and requirements. For example, we completely rewrote track 3 (language and area studies) to our master’s programs in Russian literature and linguistics. This flexible, interdisciplinary track is designed to allow students to focus on Russian, Polish, Czech, South Slavic, or other Slavic languages and regions. And stay tuned, because more new tracks are in the works for next year. All in all, it’s been a busy and productive year. Our programs are growing, with new students and faculty joining us in the fall, new graduate courses offered, new interdepartmental connections forged, and new “user-friendly” changes to our degrees.

— Justyna Beinck (literature) and Steven Franks (linguistics)

Grad student news

Bethany Braley, a PhD student of Russian and Polish literature, taught two second-eight-week courses: Literature of Dissent, and Fools and Misfits in Russian Literature. These short courses introduce undergraduate students to the basics of literary genres in the Russian tradition. Braley recently submitted her dissertation proposal and plans to spend the coming academic year abroad in Poland and Russia for research purposes. She is also working on a translation project that will be included in a forthcoming collection of scholarly articles on holy foolishness in the Russian context.

Timothy “Clint” Casteel spent the spring semester studying in Zagreb, Croatia, and completed his MA degree in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian language and area studies.

Rosemarie Connolly presented a paper at the Midwest Slavic Conference at Ohio State University in April 2010. She was awarded a Title VIII Fellowship to study Macedonian in SWSEEL during the summer of 2010. She also continues in her position as managing editor of the Journal of Slavic Linguistics, as well as editing additional books for Slavica Publishers.

Congratulations to Christian Hilchey and Heather Rice, who gave birth to Nathan Michael Hilchey on May 7!

Natalie Misteravich just completed her MA (Polish language and area studies) and is preparing for her PhD admissions exams in the fall. This spring Misteravich presented a paper titled “From Hopelessness to Hope: Polish Cinema and Communist Reality” at the Midwest Slavic Conference at Ohio State University. In the summer she will travel throughout Poland and attend an intensive Polish language course at

New grad students

• Alexandra Hunter grew up in Iowa and received her BA at the University of Northern Iowa. She studies and is interested in both Polish and Russian literature, though she still has not decided what her specific concentration will be. Hunter enjoys being a part of IU’s Slavic department.

• Christopher Price was born in Portland, Ore., and from time to time was raised there. He has also lived in various places in Eastern Europe and the American South. He graduated in 2009 from Portland State University with a BA in Russian literature and language. Price is primarily interested in Russian literature, particularly of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

• Ala Simonczyk is a doctoral student in Slavic linguistics. She came to Indiana University after receiving her MA in 2010 from St. Cloud State University in Minnesota. There she wrote a thesis on the phonological analysis of Belarusian-accented English. Before moving to Bloomington, Simonczyk taught English for eight years; now she works as an associate instructor teaching Russian. Her research interests include interlingual phonology and accented speech.
Alumni Notebook

1960s

Brent M. Froberg, BA’64, MA’65, writes, “I have just completed my 10th year as a member of Baylor University’s Department of Classics where I have taught courses primarily in Greek and in classical mythology. Early in 2012, I shall celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of my induction into IU’s Theta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, the national honorary collegiate society for students of Latin and/or Greek. Gregory J. Nagy, BA’62, also an IU alumnus and then president of the Theta Chapter, inducted me along with other classmates. I serve Eta Sigma Phi as an honorary trustee and as manager of the Eta Sigma Phi Endowment Fund. I continue to take a keen interest in the Classical Studies program at IU. In 1941, my late mother, Ruth Lindner Froberg, BA’41, MA’65, took an A.B. degree in Latin, summa cum laude, at IU where she studied with Lillian Gay Berry, Verne Schuman, and Selaite Stout. She later completed an M.A. degree, and wrote, under the direction of James Halporn, a thesis on women’s roles in the plays of Plautus. Both my mother and I felt fortunate to have studied in a department with Norman T. Pratt as its chairman.” Froberg lives in Waco, Texas.

Maria Carlson, MA’74, PhD’82, was inducted in 2009 into the Women’s Hall of Fame at the University of Kansas, where she teaches in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. She was invited to IU in September for a reception in honor of emeriti faculty Andrew Durkin and Bronislava Volkova, and spoke on “The New Russian Paganism: Lessons from the Book of Veles.” Among other service activities, she currently serves as the executive committee chair and chair of the board of the National Council for East European and Eurasian Research. This year she received a Hall Humanities Center Fellowship (for spring 2012) to work on her study of East Slavic and Carpathian corporeal revenants (better known as “vampires”). Karl M. Petruso, MA’75, PhD’78, is professor of anthropology and dean of the Honors College at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he has taught since 1990. Since receiving his PhD in classical archaeology in 1978, he has excavated and done archaeological field research in Greece, Egypt, Portugal, Cyprus, and most recently, Albania. Petruso’s wife, Nancy (Sanneman), BA’72, MA’77, whom he met at IU, is associate vice chancellor at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. The couple lives in Arlington, and their two daughters, Stephanie and Alexis, live nearby. Barbara McGrath Hayes, BA’76, MSW’81, MS’01, is co-editor (with William Aspray) of two recent books published by the MIT Press. In Health Informatics: A Patient-Centered Approach to Diabetics, published in October 2010, experts in technology and medicine use diabetes to illustrate how the tools of information technology can improve patient care. Everyday Information: The Evolution of Information Seeking in America, published in February 2011, provides an intimate, everyday perspective on information-seeking behavior, reaching into the social context of American history and American homes. Hayes is associate dean for administration and planning at the IU School of Informatics at Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis. She lives in Zionsville, Ind.

Edna Andrews, MA’81, PhD’84, writes us from Duke University, where she is professor of linguistics and cultural anthropology and director of the Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies (CSEEES). In April a ceremony was held to award Andrews the Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Professorship (or chair) in Slavic and Eurasian Studies, effective Sept 1. Congratulations!

1970s

Alumni Notebook (continued on page 9)
Alumni notebook
(continued from page 8)

Slovenia, where he also runs the translation
company DEKS d.o.o. He published the
following papers: “Mycological Terminology
in Maks Pletersnik’s Slovenian-German
Dictionary”, “English, English, and
English English: Reflections on English
in Slovenian”, and “Carniola oživljena:
Changing Practice in Citing Slovenian
Regions in English Text.” Reindl made
presentations on “Slavic Postpositions:
Synchrony, Diachrony, and Language
Contact” and “Language Contact and
Slavic Languages,” both at the University
of Bern, Switzerland, in May, and “Bad
Caves and Good Mountains: The Typology
of Slovenian Toponyms” at a conference in
Regensburg, Germany, in October.

2000s
Sue Friedrich White, BA’02, JD’05, is a
self-employed attorney in Covington, Ind.,
and the program director of the Fountain
County (Ind.) Court Appointed Special
Advocate Program, an organization that
recruits, screens, and trains volunteer child
advocates to work in the court system in
collaboration with other key agencies,
community resources, and legal counsel
to represent the best interests of children
in juvenile court proceedings. In summer
2010, White attended a contemporary art
class in London hosted by Christie’s Au-
tion House. She lives in Covington.

Noah L. Gambill, BA’04, writes, “I
attended Hamline University School of Law
in St. Paul, Minn., and graduated in May
2008. My wife and I moved to my home-
town, Terre Haute, Ind., for the purpose of
practicing law. We have a 2-year-old daugh-
ter who keeps us busy. In May 2010, I was
sworn in as a licensed attorney in the state of
Indiana and in the U.S. Southern District of
Indiana.” Gambill is an associate with Wag-
ner Crawford & Gambill in Terre Haute.

Sarah Gilchrist, BA’04, is currently
pursuing a master of library science degree
from the IU School of Library and Infor-
mation Science in Indianapolis. She is a
graduate assistant for the library science
department, conducting research on digital
cataloging of educational resources and
on open-access repositories. This summer
she will be at IU East in Richmond, Ind.,
working as a library instruction intern.

Amy Zerebnick Lewis, BA’04, complet-
ed an MA in international development at
the University of Pittsburgh in 2008, then
worked at the World Bank in operational
policy and country services. Since July
2010, she has been working as a research
fellow at the Inter-American Development
Bank in Washington, D.C., where she lives
with her husband of two years, Dave Lewis.

Colin Nisbet, BA’04, graduated from
law school at Case Western Reserve Univer-
sity and completed six months of training.
At the end of 2010, he moved to Daegu,
South Korea, to start his career as an at-
torney in the U.S. Army as chief of client
services.

Sae-Ra Yoon, PhD’04, is an assistant
professor at the Ulsan National Insti-
tute of Science and Technology, Korea,
where she teaches literature. She was on
the “Tolstoi: Alive in Seoul” conference
committee and served as a discussant for a
panel on “Tolstoi and the Interpretation of
Interpretation.” This April Yoon traveled
to Novgorod, Russia, to conduct research
on a grant funded by Korea’s National Re-
search Foundation. Her Korean translation
of Anna Karenina is forthcoming.

Joey Baird, BA’05, completed an MBA
in marketing at IU in the spring of 2010.
He still lives in Bloomington with his wife
and four children. After graduating from
IU the second time, he started a company,
called Third Rail, building mobile applica-
tions that are primarily but not limited to
learning games for young children. Third
Rail’s first release is pushing 100,000
downloads on the App Store and has a few
more coming down the pipe.

Bo-Ra Chung, MA’05, PhD’09, is now
teaching at Yonsei and Chungbuk Universi-
ties in Korea. While she mostly teaches
Russian language at various levels, this se-
semester she is also teaching a literature class,
20th-century Russian prose, and is enjoying
it greatly. Last year, she gave a paper on
“Tolstoi and Modernity: The Question of
Existence” at the “Tolstoi: Alive in Seoul”
conference sponsored by the Korean Asso-
ciation of Russists.

John Alexander Ippoliti, BA’05, com-
pleted an MA in strategic intelligence from
the American Military University in May.

Tim Kenlan, BA’08, is completing a JD
at the University of Maine School of Law.
In 2010, Konstantin Tcherqueiko,
BA’08, completed a master’s degree in
regional studies at Columbia University,
focusing Russia and Eastern Europe. He
lives in New York City.

Jeff Truelock, BA’09, just completed
a master of arts in teaching (MAT) in
secondary mathematics education at Marian
University and has been teaching math at
Harshman Magnet Middle School in India-
napolis since August 2009.

Bo Ra Kim, PhD’10, is teaching Rus-
sian and Russian syntax at Yonsei and
Kyongsang Universities in Korea.

Anne Rathell, BA’10, is working as a
paralegal at the Public Company Accounting
Oversight Board in Washington, D.C.

Graduate student news
(continued from page 7)
the Jagiellonian University in Cracow.

In April 2010 Magdalena Mullek
participated in translation workshops, includ-
ing a workshop of her translation of Pavol
Rankov’s short story “What Could Dr.
Thompson Be Dreaming About?” at the
fourth Biannual Graduate Student Transla-
tion Conference in Ann Arbor, Mich. She
received REEI Mellon support both for this
trip and to attend the American Literary
Translators Association 2010 Conference in
Philadelphia, as well as a Title VIII Por-
table Fellowship in the summer of 2010
for advanced study of Polish at Jagiellonian
University in Cracow. At ALTA, Mullek
read an excerpt of her translation from Rankov’s
novel Stalo sa prvěho septembra (alebo
inokedy) and presented on a panel “Everyday
Worlds, Everyday Words: Translating the
Quotidien in 20th-Century Prose.” An ex-
ccerpt from her translation of Rankov’s novel
was published in The Dirty Goat 24.

Melissa Witcombe, a PhD student in
both the Slavic and Linguistics depart-
ments, presented papers at the Midwest
Slavic Conferences in both April 2010 and
April 2011. She received a FLAS Fellow-
ship to study Serbian for the 2010–11
academic year. She also received a Title
VIII Portable Fellowship to attend the
Summer School of Serbian Language in
Belgrade, Serbia, in June 2010 and the
Summer School of Serbian Language and
Culture in Valjevo, Serbia, in August. She
was awarded a Karl Ocepek Fellowship in
Slovenian Studies, which she used to attend
the Summer School of Slovene Language in
Ljubljana, Slovenia, in July 2010. Wit-
combe also received a fellowship through
the American Councils Title VIII Southeast
European Language Training Program for
the summer of 2011, which she will use to
study Serbian in Belgrade.

Ksenia Zanon presented a paper at the
Midwest Slavic Conference at Ohio State
University in April 2010. She also received a
Karl Ocepek Fellowship in Slovenian Stud-
ies, which she used to attend the Summer
School of Slovene Language in Ljubljana,
Slovenia, in July 2010. She spent the spring
semester conducting research in Zagreb,
Croatia, and plans to study Macedonian
in June and July at the 44th International
Seminar on Macedonian Language, Litera-
ture, and Culture in Ohrid, Macedonia.
This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures and the College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University.

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