

Celebration of Polish Highlander Culture

On Sunday, March 25, a large audience turned out to experience a bit of the Polish highlanders' culture right here in Bloomington. The Polish Cultural Association was proud to welcome members of the Polish Highlanders Alliance in America for their first-ever visit to IU's Bloomington campus. The Polish highlanders or *gorale*, inhabit the hills of southern Poland as well as the beautiful Tatra mountain range that sits atop the border between Poland and Slovakia. Through the centuries, they have developed a dialect, dress, and culture uniquely their own.

The "Celebration of *Gorale* Culture" featured live music performed by members of Chicago's highlander community who were attired in their traditional dress. We heard remarks by ethno-musicologist, Sachiko Okamoto, who completed her M.A. thesis on *gorale* music at IU and is an honorary member of the Highlanders Lodge in Chicago. Sachiko provided guests with an interesting background on the costumes, music of the *gorale*, and some of the traditions they share.

Following the concert, guests were treated to a feast of Polish cuisine generously donated by several Chicago area firms and individual sponsors. This free event provided students, faculty, and community members of all backgrounds a chance to experience the sights,

sounds, and tastes of the Polish highlands. We thank our guest musicians: Klimek Bachleda, Staszek Borowicz, Marcin Gasienica, Jan Lassak, Jozek Marusz, as well as guest dancers, Teresa Zwijacz and Viktor Walkosz.

This event was funded by the Indiana University Student Association and the generous donations of Kasia's Deli Inc., Chicago, and Stanley



Stawski Distributing Co. Inc., Chicago, additional support was provided by the Polish Studies Center. Special thanks to Bozena Shallcross for her guidance and support and Mark Betka for his dedicated work to make this event happen.

Director's Remarks

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Polish Studies Center. A quarter of a century ago, Professor Mary Ann Salt had a truly visionary idea of creating a new unit at IU, which would administer a scholarly exchange between Warsaw University and Indiana University. With the support of John W. Ryan, Dean of International Programs, the idea materialized and over two generations of scholars and graduate students from both the U.S. and Poland have benefited from the exchange.

However, the center has become much more than an office that administers exchange, for it has been transformed into a place that has its own cultural and scholarly agenda. Indeed, it would be difficult, if not impossible, a task, to enlist here the highlights of the center's activities. While the exchange remains an important element, the center continues to grow and develop in new directions. Only a small fraction of these projects is reported on the pages that follow.

It was a fruitful year for PSC and our "team": Heather, Mark, and yours truly. The year began with the conference "Polonophilia and Polonophobia of the Russians." Also, we organized the Wajda Film Festival and invited as guest speakers such celebrities as Louis Begley and Adam Zagajewski. Other as

pects of our activities—such as research—were not readily visible but nonetheless dynamic. During the fall semester, I edited a refereed volume of essays by leading Polish and American Polonists entitled *Framing the Polish Home*. The subsidy awarded by the American Council of Learned Societies allowed me to have the volume copy-edited and submitted to the press in a camera-ready form. This volume alone represents just a portion of the research supported by the center.

Currently, a volume of collected essays *Mickiewicz and His Times* is being prepared for publication by Prof. Theodosia Robertson and Mrs. Alicia Fizman who are completing the late Prof. Samuel Fizman's editorial project. Also, Prof. David Ransel and myself are working on the volume of proceedings from the conference "Polonophilia and Polonophobia of the Russians".

As the year draws to a close we reflect on the friends, achievements, and challenges of the past 25 years and look forward to new friends and new projects in the future. I would like to thank all of you for helping to make the Polish Studies Center so dynamic and wish you all a safe and relaxing summer.

-Bozena Shallcross

Profile of Professor Jack Bielasiak

Dr. Jack Bielasiak has seen a number of amazing transformations during his twenty-five years as a faculty member at IUB. His native Poland has gone from communist domination to being a free and democratic state; the IU-Warsaw University exchange program “weathered the storm” of martial law and will soon celebrate 25 years of existence; and the Polish Studies Center, which he once directed, continues to grow and promote Poland to IUB and the Bloomington community.

Born in Poland’s second largest city, Lodz, Dr. Bielasiak often travels to Poland to conduct research, and sometimes to teach. His current project concerns the development of electoral and party systems in the new democracy. In particular, he is interested in studying the “consolidation” of electoral rules, political parties, and voting behavior in Poland. In addition, he is conducting a broad comparative study of democratization around the globe. In it, he is looking at electoral and party development during the past decade in post-communist countries in comparison to the earlier experiences with building democracy in post-WWII Western Europe, Southern Europe in the 1970s, and Latin America in the 1980’s. Overall, he seeks to understand why some transitioning democracies are successful in making the leap from authoritarian to democratic rule and why others falter and fail.

Professor Bielasiak’s research strategy has always been to use Poland as a “pivot” for the understanding of larger political developments, whether during the communist period or in the more recent democratization phase. To that end, he often applies insights and theories about politics first to the Polish context, and then

expands his studies to the experiences of other nations. This is the approach he will follow this summer, doing research on the organization and membership of political parties in Poland, and then expanding to similar themes in other postcommunist countries. To carry out his project, he will travel to Warsaw in May as part of the Indiana-Warsaw University exchange.

Dr. Bielasiak has been closely involved in the IU-WU exchange program since its inception twenty-five years ago. At the time it was conceived, the program was considered a “bold experiment”, coming at a time of Cold War suspicions between the ideological blocs of West and East. The exchange is taken for granted today, but at that time it was not easy to facilitate academic interactions in an atmosphere of mutual distrust between governments. Fortunately, the program persevered and even continued to conduct exchanges through the period of martial law, keeping open a vital link to the West. In many respects, the exchange program served as a gateway for Polish academia to the larger intellectual community beyond Bloomington.

As Poland has changed, so too has the exchange between WU and IU, expanding to include a diversity of endeavors, from cultural and artistic programs to political analyses and technical supports.

Regarding Bloomington’s dynamic Polish community, Dr. Bielasiak believes that the unique combination of the Polish Studies Center, the exchange programs with Polish universities, and the presence of the Russian and East European Institute make for a very attractive environment

(continued on page 11)

“Polonophilia and Polonophobia of the Russians” International Conference at Indiana University

On September 16-17, 2000, IU hosted an international conference entitled “Polonophilia and Polonophobia of the Russians.” Sponsored jointly by the Polish Studies Center, Russian and East European Institute, and the Office of International Programs, the two-day conference brought together some of the most distinguished researchers in the fields of Polish and Russian studies.

The conference opened with welcoming remarks from its co-organizers David L. Ransel, Director of REEI, and Bozena Shallcross, Director of PSC. The first panel “Poland as a State of Mind” set the stage for the subsequent panel discussions, which incorporated this theme into the broader framework of Russian acceptance or negation of what can be qualified as Polish cultural expression. The panel was moderated by Jeffrey Veidlinger (IU) and featured papers by Megan Dixon (Principia College), Brian Horowitz (U of Nebraska), and Andrzej Walicki (Notre Dame U). The second panel, “Writing Poland,” was moderated by Vadim Liapunov (IU), and focused on the Russian writers who responded positively to Polish culture. Panelists included Jiyong Jeon (Chosun U, Korea), Irena Grudzinska Gross (Ford Foundation), Judith Kornblatt (U of



(continued on page 12)

Strategic Planning Program for Polish Universities Part II, June 19-20, 2000

Last June, The Polish Studies Center successfully completed the program dedicated to Strategic Planning for Polish Higher Education, which was funded by the U.S. Department of State. The initial stage of the program was held on the Bloomington campus, while the second stage was hosted by Warsaw University. The program, directed by Timothy Wiles, then the center’s special projects coordinator, consisted of a series of workshops on management and strategic planning conducted by several senior-level administrators from across IU and other mid-western universities. Among those presenting were Moya Andrews, IUB’s Dean of Faculties; Donald Warren, outgoing Dean at IU’s School of Education; Maynard Thompson, Vice Chancellor and Dean for Budgetary Administration and Planning at IUB; William Plater, Executive Vice Chancellor and Dean of Faculties at IUPUI; and John Parrish-Sprowl, Chair of the Department of Communications at IUPUI. Polish participants included Wojciech Maciejewski, Vice-President of Warsaw University and Wlodzimierz Siwinski, WU’s former president. Also, presidents of almost all of Poland’s universities were in attendance. Of enormous benefit for Polish universities, the conference offered an opportunity to discuss a number of issues; among them, the strategic planning as a long-range process, its financial and operational aspects, and various possibilities of involving faculty in such a process.

-Bozena Shallcross

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Changes at the Polish Studies Center:

This academic year, the Polish Studies Center bade farewell to Ms. Lois Plew, PSC's Administrative Assistant for the past eleven years. Lois will be fondly remembered for her dedication to the center's activities and welcoming smile that greeted each visitor. The Polish Studies Center wishes Lois all the best and a relaxing retirement!

However, we are also excited to welcome Mrs. Heather Kates who assumed the role of Administrative Secretary and is a welcome addition to our team. Those of you who have met Heather know, as we do, that she will continue the tradition of providing all of our guests with a warm reception. Welcome, Heather!

Finally, we would like to note some of the changes to the center itself. Inside the center, we have added a new workstation in the reception area. Upstairs, we have reorganized the office area and computer room for visiting students and faculty. The office now serves as workspace for the graduate assistant and houses our growing video collection.

Visit Our New Web Page:

www.indiana.edu/~polisht is the place for the most updated information on upcoming events and announcements from the Polish Studies Center. Our website has been completely redesigned and is updated frequently. We invite you to browse through the calendar for upcoming conferences, readings, and social events. The library page provides a listing of our book and video collection. We thank Michael Yadroff for redesigning the main page and helping the PSC website to be more useful to our friends and the Bloomington community. Well over 1000 visitors have visited us since our redesign was completed!

New Exchange Program: A new exchange/research opportunity for IU graduate students has been added this year through the Polish Studies Institute at Jagiellonian University. Details can be obtained by contacting Susan Carty at 855-7557 or scarty@indiana.edu.

Our Video Collection Grows: The video collection has grown in quantity and in quality. With over 40 new and classic releases recently purchased by the center, we are able to offer our visitors a wide selection of hard-to-find Polish films.

Large Donations of Books from:

Mrs. Alicia Fiszmann, Prof. David Mason, and the Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures.

Sculpture Donation from:

Prof. Bernard S. Morris.

Financial Donations:

E.K. Belfoure, Judith Blanchard, Ronnie D. Carter, Antoni and Barbara Czupryna, Harriet P. Irsay, Matthew L. Lillich, Janet Magnuson, Maria M. Michalczyk-Lillich, Helen D. Morrissey, Thomas Peters, John W. Ryan, Ph.D., Dave Shallcross, Eleanor Valentine-Jakubiak, and Arthur Wagner.

Clarification: Due to lack of space, the editors of the PSC Newsletter 2000 could not include the more specific information concerning the Wacław Lednicki Award given to Prof. Beth Holmgren (Univ. of North Carolina) by the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America in the year 1998. The award committee was chaired by the Prof. Gerlad Pirog (Rutgers U.) and consisted of Prof. Victor Erlich (Yale U.), Dr. Irena Grudzinska Gross (Ford Foundation) and Prof. Bożena Shallcross (Indiana U).

Faculty News

Steven Franks was awarded the Best Work of Scholarship in Slavic Linguistics from AATSEEL Publications Committee for his book co-authored with Tracy King, *A Handbook of Slavic Clitics*, (Oxford University Press, 2000). He co-edited with Tracy King and Michael Yadroff *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics: The Bloomington Meeting* (Michigan Slavic Materials, 2001). He was the invited speaker at Generative Linguistics in Warsaw, Poland December 2, 2000, and delivered a talk on "The Internal Structure of Slavic Noun Phrases, With Special Reference to Bulgarian."

Sue Grimmond initiated a scientific project in Lodz involving measurement of urban climate and air quality.

Teresa Kubiak performed in a gala concert at the opening of the inaugural "International Meeting on the Promotion of Local Music Heritage in the Age of Globalization," in Amman, Jordan and served as Chairman of the Jury for the Sembrich Voice Competition, a preparatory competition to the Stanislaw Moniuszko Vocal Competition in Warsaw.

Bozena Shallcross published "The Divining Moment: Adam Zagajewski's Aesthetics of Epiphany," (*Slavic and East European Journal*, 2000:44, pp. 234-252); "Zbigniew Herberta podroz do zachwytu," trans. Elzbieta Kislak, (*Teksty Drugie*, 2000:3, pp. 61-78); "The Barbarian's Garden: Zbigniew Herbert and the Folly of History," (*East European Politics and Societies*, 2000:1, pp. 47-63); "The Artistry of Oscar," *Gunter Grass i polski Pan Kichot*. Maria Janion, Ed. (Gdansk: Slowo-Obraz-Terytoria: 1999), pp. 145-151, 2nd edition). She presented two papers: "The Hallow Mirror: Strategies of Disappearance in Joseph Brodsky's Watermark," in Denver, AAASS annual convention, November 2000 and "Warsaw: The Open City," VI I CCEES World Congress, in Tampere, Finland, July 2000. She also participated in the workshop and roundtable discussion on the future of the humanities in the US organized by the American Council of Learned Societies, April 2001.

Elzbieta Szmyt gave a solo recital at the Chopin Recital of Music Palace in Warsaw, June 2000, and taught a master class for harp students

at the Elsner School of Music in Warsaw, December 2000. She also performed at the American Center for Polish Culture in Washington, DC.

Alumni News

Lynn Berry is the new editor for the Moscow Times. Ms. Berry participated in the IU-Warsaw University exchange in 1984-1986.

Timothy G. Borden (Ph.D. History, 1999) For his article, "The Salvation of the Poles: Working-class Ethnicity and Americanization Efforts during the Interwar Period in Toledo, Ohio" the Polish American Historical Association presented Timothy Borden the Joseph Swastek Award.

Jacek Dalecki became the Director of the Freshman Interest Groups program at IUB in Spring 2000. He also was nominated for the College of Arts and Sciences James Holland Award for Exceptional Teaching and Service to Students.

EXCHANGE NEWS

Aleksandra (Ola) Jarczewska-Romaniuk, is a doctoral student from the Institute of International Relations at Warsaw University. Ola researches the growing importance of transnational corporations on international economic relations from January to June 2001.

Robert Flaszak, is a doctoral student from the Department of Philosophy at Warsaw University. Robert researches the theory of consciousness in William James' philosophy from January to June 2001.

Prof. Slawomira Zeranska-Kominek from the Institute of Musicology at Warsaw University conducted research on the concept of a poet-musician in European and Central Asian legends.

SPECIAL VISITORS

Vice Rector Jan Madey from Warsaw University visited IU in February.

Jerzy Pieszczyrkow, Administrative Director of Warsaw University, visited IU as a part of President Myles Brand's administrative exchange project from September 4-8, 2000.

STUDENT NEWS

Anne Czupryna received the Individualized Major Program Final Project Award for her project "The Vanishing Polish Peasant Home", supervised by Bozena Shallcross.

Jesse Sanders defended and received an award for his masters thesis in economics "Lessons From Poland's Past- Communist Transition".

Zofia Walentynowicz is the recipient of an Air Force ROTC Scholarship for 2½ years.

Nathan Wood is the recipient of a Kosciuszko Foundation dissertation grant for 2000-2001.

Jennifer J. Day published an article "Modes of Falling in Tadeusz Różewicz's 'Spadanie'" (*The Polish Review*, 2000: 4, pp.401-16).

Kinga Skrętkowicz-Ferguson was awarded the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans. She is the first Indiana University student to receive this prize of two years of half tuition payments and up to \$20,000 in direct support.

Special Speaker

Louis Begley, the award winning American writer of Polish-Jewish origin visited in January. Here at IU, Mr. Begley gave a lecture entitled "The Bone and Rag Shop of the Heart" and offered a selected reading from his novel *Schmidt Delivered*.

Zagajewski, cont.

Collected, Wislawa Szymborska, *View with a Grain of Sand*, *Spoling the Cannibal Fun: Polish Poetry of the Last Two Decades of Communist Rule*, all with Stanislaw Baranczak; most recently she translated Adam Zagajewski's *Mysticism for Beginners* and *Another Beauty*.

Bielasiak, cont.

that brings to Indiana University many students and visiting scholars from both sides of the Atlantic. Together, they enrich our understanding of Poland's history and culture, as well as provide insights into Poland's democratic future.

Dr. Bielasiak is a Professor of Political Science; he received his Ph.D. in Government from Cornell University.

- Mark Betka

Conference, cont.

Wisconsin), and Nina Perlina (IU). The last panel discussion on Saturday, "Overlapping Terrains," was moderated by David L. Ransel. This panel provided a historical context for various occurrences of Polonophobia in Russia and comprised of the papers read by Leonid Gorizontov (Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow), Barbara Skinner (Georgetown U), and Matthew Pauly. "Cultural Reflections and Projections"—moderated by Jerzy Kolodziej—featured the last panel discussion on Sunday—and included as panelists Halina Goldberg (U of Alabama), David Goldfarb (Barnard College), and Robert Przygodzki (Northern Illinois U).

The conference concluded with a plenary session moderated by David Ransel and Bozena Shallcross, during which the participants discussed options for publication of the conference proceedings.

-Bozena Shallcross

The PSC Newsletter is a publication of news and events of the Polish Studies Center, Indiana University. It is edited by: Mark Betka, Heather Kates, and Bozena Shallcross.

The Polish Studies Center can be contacted by phone at (812)855-1507 or email at polish@indiana.edu. Our web page is located at <http://www.indiana.edu/~polishst>.

page 12