Welcome to a new semester. I want to begin by thanking Professor Maria Bucur of the Department of History for doing a wonderful job as acting director of the institute last year. She is now on a well-deserved sabbatical leave and working to complete a book.

Our long-serving assistant director and outreach coordinator, Denise Gardiner, moved to an important new job at the end of June. Luckily, Denise will continue to be involved with the institute in her position as Area Studies Fiscal Officer/Title VI Coordinator in the College of Arts and Sciences. The Russian and East European Institute is one of a large number of College centers that Denise is now responsible for monitoring and assisting. In her years at REEI Denise, more than any other single individual, contributed to our success in obtaining external funding, above all, the Title VI grant that supports nearly all aspects of our work. Denise likewise made an important contribution to the proposal that won funding from the European Commission for the establishment at IU of a European Union Center of Excellence. Equally important has been Denise’s skillful day-to-day management of our office and outreach activities. Although we shall miss her talent, dedication, and steady hand at the helm, it is a relief to know that she will be nearby and available to advise and assist us in the future.

Replacing Denise is Mark Trotter. Mark is no stranger to IU. He has been teaching for the past 10 years in the Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL). Mark did his graduate work in Russian language and language pedagogy at the University of Michigan and then taught at Grinnell College for six years. He next moved to Hungary, where he taught English for many years while becoming an expert in Hungarian language and culture. Since 2004 Mark has been directing a US-government funded program in St. Petersburg, Russia, designed to train Americans in Russian language at the most advanced levels. Because of his teaching duties in SWSEEL, Mark was able to begin his position at the REEI only a week before classes started. It is a huge job that will take time to learn, but Mark is making rapid strides. We are happy to have him on board and will benefit from his administrative experience and knowledge of the languages and cultures of the region we study.

We are delighted to welcome three new members to the ranks of the REEI affiliated faculty. Nina Rathbun, a PhD in political science from the University of California, Berkeley, joins us as a lecturer. She is teaching our introductory master’s degree seminar, an interdisciplinary course covering our entire region of study and featuring extensive reading in established texts and recent publications on history, politics, economics, religion, ethnography, culture, and geography. Padraic Kenney, a specialist on modern Poland and East Central Europe more broadly, has taken a position as professor of history at IU and REEI affiliated faculty member. Kenney taught for many years at the University of Colorado. He is perhaps best known for his book A Carnival of Revolution: Central Europe 1989 (Princeton University Press, 2002). He is continued on following page
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currently at work on a comparative study of political prisoners in Poland, Ireland, and South Africa.

Finally, we are fortunate to have, at last, an affiliated faculty member in the IU Bloomington School of Law. Timothy Waters, a specialist on international law, has a strong background in East European affairs, a virtually native command of Hungarian, plus knowledge of other area languages. He earned a J.D. degree cum laude at Harvard Law School and a master’s degree in international affairs from Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs. Waters has also studied in Sweden and Turkey. His writings include studies of minority issues in the former Yugoslavia, and he will be teaching courses on legal issues arising from the recent Balkan conflicts.

We are off to a strong start with a large new class of master’s degree students, 14 in all. Forty-three students are busy at all stages of the master’s program. Four members of last year’s graduating class are already assigned to positions in the U. S. Foreign Service. Five more are at jobs at other government agencies, three are at NGOs, including two working in the field with the American Council of Teachers of Russian.

Among the instructive events that started the semester was the visit to campus of Stephen F. Cohen (New York University) and Katrina vanden Heuvel (The Nation magazine) to discuss “Russia Today” in a colloquium that included IU experts Regina Smyth (Political Science) and Nicholas Cullather (History). Alexander Rabinowitch, emeritus professor of history and former REEI director and dean for international programs, moderated. We are looking forward in November to a workshop on “Generational Memories of World War II: An International Perspective,” which will include our collaborators in oral history from European University in St. Petersburg and from Karanzin National University in Kharkiv, Ukraine (plus specialists from other world regions).

Last but not least, I am delighted to report that a team led by Olena Chernishenko (lecturer in advanced Russian and Ukrainian) and Denise Gardiner won a major grant for the U.S. Department of Education United States-Russia Program. The grant, which provides IU with roughly $400,000 over two years in student scholarships and the development of foreign language and multi-disciplinary curricula focusing on public health, will be carried out in collaboration with the Southern Federal University in Rostov-on-Don (see page 9 for more information). Congratulations!

In Memoriam: Ambassador Robert H. Frowick

Ambassador Robert H. Frowick (MA Government 1957) died this past winter at his home from Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Frowick worked as a Foreign Service Officer from 1961 until his retirement in 1989 serving in Washington, Montreal, Paris, Prague, Rome, Brussels, Vienna, and Bucharest. In 1992 he was asked by acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger to come out of retirement to head the mission for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Spillover Monitor Mission, the goal of which was to prevent Macedonia from joining the post-communist Yugoslavian conflict. After the Dayton Peace Accords President Clinton sent Frowick to oversee the first post-war elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina as the head of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe where he insisted that Radovan Karadzic step aside from politics. In 1999 he was sent to Albania as charge d’affaires to work with Albanian leaders dealing with the million refugees which had flooded the country.
State Internship in Sarajevo
by Elizabeth Raible

In Sarajevo, they say that anyone who drinks water from the old fountain in Sebilj Square will return. I knew immediately upon arriving for the first time a few years ago that I wanted to come back, and this past summer I received an exciting opportunity: to intern in the political section of the US Embassy to Bosnia and Herzegovina. As a student of Bosnian history and politics, this mission was particularly welcome because of the international community’s close involvement with the Bosnian government, especially on constitutional and judicial reforms.

I was able to step right into the work of the office. My first project was to develop a website devoted to biographies of Bosnian politicians on the US government intranet. Besides getting a true crash course in all the major (and minor) players of Bosnian politics, I was able to create something useful for the embassy staff and the entire US intelligence community. Over the summer my projects, including research and writing, covered a wide range of issues, from judicial sector reforms to the current state of refugee return.

One of my most interesting projects was to contribute to a report on the June meeting of the Peace Implementation Council, the international council that oversees the realization of the Dayton Peace Agreement. Attending the meeting offered a unique insight not only into the complexities and challenges of helping Bosnia through its post-war transition (even twelve years later), but also into the interpersonal relationships of the players as I watched the personalities that I had recently written about come to life.

Working at the embassy was a valuable addition to my education at REEI. The experience put my studies into a wider perspective and helped me consider that important step after REEI—the job. I had never worked for a similar agency before, and the environment and the work were new. I returned from Bosnia with new knowledge, skills, and experiences that I can apply to my academic work here as well as to a future professional position. Of course, I drank from Sebilj fountain again, so hopefully I will be back soon.

Elizabeth Raible is a graduate student in the REEI and SPEA MA programs.

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Student’s New Outlook from USAID
by Brant Beyer

This summer I interned for the US Agency for International Development (USAID) in Washington, DC, where I worked in the Europe and Eurasia Bureau’s Office of Economic Growth. Working in the Market Transition Division, I focused on the macroeconomic situation in specific countries, and how to improve the business climate and competitiveness, especially in small and medium enterprise (SME) sector. The internship was very research oriented, and I spent much of my time analyzing data and then writing short briefs on the analysis.

For instance, the director of my office was a member of a delegation to Turkmenistan, and I prepared a briefing book which detailed the economic situation in that country and the many hurdles that SMEs and agricultural producers face. Besides collecting information, I wrote short background memos on the major themes that the book contained. Another team from my department visited Georgia to examine ways to improve USAID’s economic growth programs in the region. The other intern and I collected information on Georgia’s SME sector and examined the ways the Georgian Government had done a good job of making it easier for foreign businesses to do business in Georgia, yet Georgian firms themselves were not very innovative. We then discussed how USAID could help promote competitiveness in the region that would spur innovation and economic growth.

Since the internship was very hands on, it was a great opportunity to learn about international economic development. I saw how USAID functioned, and I was able to meet many of the contractors that implement USAID’s projects. I also learned a lot about the domestic side of America’s foreign policy, which was very useful, since I saw a different perspective a year earlier as an intern in the embassy in Budapest. Because I was able to attend meetings that designed and approved projects, I saw how government agencies in Washington support missions and program development.

REEI provided me with a strong background on the region and post-communist economic issues for this internship. In fact, I had already written a paper about SMEs in Romania for an economics class at IU. This internship gave me a new perspective on my future and has helped me focus my REEI studies, I have already planned several paper topics relating to my work over the summer. Because of my experience at USAID I am now better prepared to work in international development.

Brant Beyer is a graduate student in the REEI and SPEA MA programs.
Summer at SWSEEL
by Nicole McGrath

This year I spent my third summer in a row in Bloomington, and I don’t regret it one bit. This summer marked my SWSEEL hat trick. I studied Ukrainian at the Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages under Svitlana Melnyk, who will be returning to Bloomington in January 2008 to teach Ukrainian for three semesters. If eight weeks of intensive language study doesn’t sound like a great way to spend a summer vacation, you shouldn’t be a graduate student. We did not need visas or passports. We did not take any field trips. We encountered no exotic peoples, smells or cuisine (unless you count the food at the Read food court, of which our class was very fond), but we did learn Ukrainian.

Our class met everyday for eight weeks from 8:30 to noon. Most days we did not exactly finish class at noon, but continued as we walked together over to Read food court together to eat, among other things, lots of cookies and vanilla soft-serve. More importantly, though, we spoke Ukrainian. I was fortunate enough to study with two fellow graduate students who had a good command of Russian. Ukrainian and Russian are not identical. Do not let certain similarities fool you, but an individual with command of one Slavic language and an eye for detail can make a lot of progress in only eight weeks. By the end of the summer session, my two classmates and I conversed easily in Ukrainian.

The pain of being awake and sitting upright at 8:30 every morning was mitigated by amusing renditions of what we had done the day before, stories we had meant to tell one another, and jokes, both those we had heard and the inside jokes we developed together. (Ukrainians, or at least Svitlana, seem to have an affinity for “rosy pigs.”)

After a week or two of mumbling through basic introductions and apologizing for regular reversion to Russian or Polish, we found ourselves capable of much more than the unsophisticated prattle of beginners. We discussed politics, literature, history, and, of course, the Klitschko brothers. We also covered our entire textbook and learned an impressive repertoire of Ukrainian poetry and folk songs. Bloomington, though perhaps slightly less exotic than Eastern Europe, has turned out to be a great place to spend the summer.

Nicole McGrath is a PhD candidate in the History Program

Russian Study in Russia
by Ian Lanzilotti

As one of the few graduate students in Russian area studies who is not interested in a career with an NGO or the State Department, I found it challenging to locate a well-funded summer program that is compatible with my interests. Duke University’s “Summer in Russia” program in St. Petersburg is one program that satisfies this challenge. It provides graduate students who are interested in pursuing an academic career the opportunity to spend time in-country developing their language skills on an advanced level. Additionally, students in this program have many opportunities to explore potential areas for future research and to connect with Russian culture.

While attending courses at the historic Smolny institute, I found myself in classes with other graduate students from a variety of disciplines including Slavic literature, Soviet history and Russian linguistics. This diversity of academic disciplines created an interesting class dynamic. Some of the students, especially those working on doctoral degrees in Russian linguistics, had a better knowledge of Russian than I and studying with them provided me the impetus to work harder and catch up with them. Furthermore, by conversing with students from other disciplines, I was able to gain a better idea of what academic avenues I would like to explore in the future.

Unlike other language programs in Russia, the Duke program’s courses were more than just a side note to the experience of being in Russia. I spent several hours a day working on homework; however, this was for my own benefit. As graduate students, we were assigned some rather advanced readings. The highlight of the coursework was reading the bestselling Russian novel Year of Deceit (God Obmana), by Andrei Gerasimov. To my surprise, all of the courses taught in the program markedly helped to improve my Russian skills. Edna Andrews, professor of Russian at Duke University and the coordinator of the program, should be given credit for this, as she has spent years assembling a cadre of effective Russian language instructors who have been working for many years with American students, both in Russia, as well as in the United States.

The “Summer in Russia” program also provides its participants with a wealth of cultural excursions. Some of these cultural highlights include theater performances,
REEI Welcomes New Faculty for 2007-2008

Timothy Waters has just joined the IU School of Law faculty as an associate professor. Waters received a JD from Harvard and has studied internationally at Lund University in Sweden and Bogazici University in Istanbul. Waters’ work focuses on regulation of ethnic conflict and minority-majority relationships, especially the processes and justifications for forming new states. He is also interested in transitional justice issues, including international criminal law. Waters has lived in Hungary as a Peace Corps volunteer and as a consultant to the Open Society Institute. He also lived in Bosnia after the war while working for the Organization for Security and Co-operation Europe and spent two years in The Hague working on the Milosevic trial. This semester Waters is teaching courses on Islamic law and the legal profession. In the spring he will be teaching a course on international criminal law and tribunals, which will focus heavily on jurisprudence and the institutions that arose out of the Yugoslav wars. His most recent article was “Remembering Sudetenland: On the Legal Construction of Ethnic Cleansing,” published in the Virginia Journal of International Law; four additional articles and chapters will be published in the next few months.

Padraic Kenney, professor of history, has just joined us from University of Colorado-Boulder. For more information on Professor Kenney please see the Faculty Profile on page 6.

Nina Rathbun is a new lecturer and research associate in Political Science. Rathbun received her MA and PhD from the University of California, Berkeley focusing on independent media in Central and Southeastern Europe. She teaches courses on international relations, international law and organizations, and comparative politics. Between her graduation and appointment at IU Rathbun was a Foreign Affairs Officer and served on numerous US delegations to key capitals around the world to strengthen nonproliferation agreements. She has also lectured at The Ohio University, the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, the University of California, Berkeley, and researched for the Congressional Research Service.

Duke Program continued from previous page

a weekend in Estonia, a day-trip to the ancient city of Novgorod, and a trip to Moscow. Moreover, for those students who have already spent time in Russia and have seen all of the staple tourist attractions, the “Summer in Russia” program provides them with the freedom to independently explore St. Petersburg and even travel to other cities within Russia. While in St. Petersburg, I was able to get together and reminisce with my old host-family from a previous experience in St. Petersburg. I also spent many evenings going to concerts and parties with my Russian friends from years past. The highlight of my experience in Russia was a week-long trip to Maikop, the capital of the Republic of Adygeia, in the North Caucasus. Since I have voraciously studied the North Caucasus and Adygeia in particular for several years, the experience of actually being there and interacting with the native Circassian population was a dream a come true for me. I left Adygeia convinced that I had made some lasting relationships and that I would return to the region to conduct research in the near future.

I highly recommend the Duke University’s “Summer in Russia” program to any graduate students who are seeking to improve their Russian language skills, connect (or reconnect) with Russian culture, and explore possible research avenues. I also want to emphasize that the Duke program in Russia is especially useful for students who are pursuing an academic career and are looking for a way to further their in-country experience. This program allowed me to return to Russia for a third time and accomplish several important academic and personal goals.

Ian Lanzilotti is a graduate student in the REEI MA program
Faculty Profile: Padraic Kenney
interview by Erin Biebuyck

A native of Weymouth, Massachusetts Padraic Kenney is a professor of history. He received his PhD from the University of Michigan and has written several award-winning books and articles. He is currently teaching a class on the History of Poland and Comparative Communism. In the following interview Kenney discusses his approach to writing history and some of his experiences in Poland during the late 80s, including becoming a short-term, front-page reporter for the Boston Globe.

What first attracted you to the study of history?

As an undergraduate I studied Slavic Languages and Literature, with a Russian Studies focus. When I went to Moscow in 1984, I went with an interest in Kremlinology—who was standing next to whom on Lenin’s tomb at parades etc. While I was there, I quickly realized that the Russians I was meeting and befriending didn’t care about any of those things. What they did care about was the Russian Revolution, what had happened, what would have happened if Lenin had lived etc. So I began to think, “History is really the way I need to approach this place.” I devoted the rest of my time as an undergraduate and as an MA student to studying the meaning of the Russian Revolution.

Your earlier work was on the Russian Revolution and the Civil War. What prompted you to focus on Poland for your PhD?

The Russian Revolution was fascinating to me, revolutions generally are, because they are moments that reveal people acting on or articulating desires or fantasies that they would never articulate otherwise. After I spent a bit of time with the Russian Revolution, I guess I got restless. I began to think, “Ok, so how did it look elsewhere? What happened in other communist revolutions or other communist takeovers?” I began to look at Eastern Europe, where some cases were relatively straightforward, and while those are very interesting and need to be explored, they contrast with the Polish case. If you look at the Polish case, no one was saying there was a communist revolution in any sense, and, out of a contrary nature, I became very curious. I wanted to find out what happened to the Poles, because the Poles have this great reputation for resisting authority, for resisting the Nazis during WWII. So the idea that after that war they would just be steamrolled by the Soviets made me question what else was going on.

*Degrees: AB, Harvard College, MA, University of Toronto, PhD, University of Michigan
*Honors: Fulbright-Hays, International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), and American Council of Learned Societies research fellowships, Poland and Ireland, 2005-2006
Fulbright Lectureship, Instytut Politologii, University of Wrocław, Poland 2002-2003
August Zaleski Lecturer, Department of History, Harvard University, March 2001
German Marshall Fund research fellowship, 1999-2000
Barbara Heldt Prize of the Association of Women in Slavic Studies, for best article in Slavic women’s studies, “The Gender of Resistance in Communist Poland,” 1999
*Past Positions: Associate Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder Director, Certificate Program in Central and East European Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder, Professor, University of Colorado, Boulder
*Current status: Professor of History, President, Polish Studies Association
*Research Interests: Social and Political Change, Relationships Between Individuals and Authoritarian Regimes, Modern Eastern European History, Communism, Political and Social History

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Profile

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You were doing research for your dissertation in the late 1980s, what was it like to be in Poland then?

I look back now and think, “If I had only realized then what an amazing time that was, maybe my life would have turned out differently.” On the other hand, I don’t regret my choices. I was there for most of the time between the fall of 1986 and the summer of 1990. I knew that things were going on because many of my friends were involved, but I didn’t really want to know too much. I guess it’s good that I’m a historian, because I’m kind of a coward. I knew plenty of friends were organizing this, that, or the other thing, and I didn’t say “Hey can I come along? What can I do?” I did take part in a couple of demonstrations, but usually on the sidelines, kind of checking it out, and there’s a logic to that. I’m an American, not a Pole. I did know Americans who acquired an identity through being intensely involved, or at least saying that they were intensely involved, but to me that just seemed dishonest. While I was researching my dissertation in 1989, I thought to myself, “You’re wasting your time here in the archive. You need to go experience what’s happening,” and on my lunch breaks or on Sundays I did. So, on the one hand, there are these real regrets because that would have been very exciting, but on the other hand, that would have had a short shelf life. In the end I had to come back and think about 1989, as a historian.

What was the most interesting thing that happened to you while you were in Poland?

When 1989 came along, I had been in Poland during the strikes of August 1988. At the time, my father was a journalist for the Boston Globe. As the strikes began, the mayor of Boston, Raymond Flynn, suddenly arrived in Poland to present an award to Lech Walesa. My father called me and said, “You need to rent a car, get to Krakow, find the mayor, and file stories everyday.” All of the sudden, I was on the front page of the Boston Globe with stories about what was going on in Poland and what the Mayor was doing. That thrust me into things, and I was able to meet a lot of people and make some very interesting contacts.

How did that experience affect you as a scholar? Did it influence your interests as a historian?

Yes, absolutely. My dissertation was on the 1940s and the experience of revolution at the beginning of communism. But here was a great revolutionary moment that I witnessed, at least partially, that I had to, wanted to, think about. It would not have been an appropriate topic for a historical dissertation at the time, but I had to come back to it as a historian, which meant finding sources and talking about it with a serious historical argument. That was my goal in Carnival of Revolution, which originally was only going to be about Poland, which would have been relatively easy for me, but I realized that if I really wanted to say anything interesting about 1989, it had to be about the entire region. I would have to try to write seriously, not anecdotally or based on secondary sources, about what happened in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and so on, which meant reinventing myself to broaden my work beyond Poland. On the other hand, Poland is the hero of the story because there is no question in my mind that the events in Poland, from Solidarity onward are responsible for the events that took place elsewhere in the region. I discovered that in every country I went to, there were people who knew Polish because they had learned it so that they could follow what was going on in Poland creating an undocumented network that spread over the entire region. The story was much deeper that I had ever imagined.

What is the most interesting thing to you in writing about history?

For me history is about creating narratives. Before I was a historian, before I was even a graduate student, my passion was writing plays. In the end that didn’t go very far. I wrote a few plays, some of them were produced, some I never quite finished. I look back now and I see that I’m still doing the same thing. To me Carnival of Revolution is a play in prose; I sort of set it up thinking about its dramatic structure. This is also true of my lectures, which are narratives, and anything that one writes is a narrative, or can be a narrative in some way. That experience as a historian and as a professor allows me to continually create narratives. When I go into a class to give a lecture, I am creating a narrative, and that is a very invigorating experience.

What topics and themes do you focus on as a historian?

I am interested in social and political change, what leads to that change, and the relationship between individuals who choose to stand up to authoritarian regimes and those regimes themselves. Overarching all of this is the sense of needing to move beyond Eastern Europe. My first interest in social and political change has been leading me towards the project that I am working on now. It focuses on democratic change around the world in and around 1989, which is a short, text-book like project called “The World in 1989.” So that is a continuing interest of mine, both to understand that kind of social and political change and also to put it into as large a context as possible.
Student News

New MA students

Amy Bedford is originally from Chicago. She studied Religion and Russian at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. After graduating in 2006, she embarked on a whirlwind tour of the planet, and is now enjoying her first year of graduate courses at IU, and remains interested in everything.

Erin Biebuyck graduated from Michigan State University in 2007 with a dual major in History and Social Relations and Policy. She is interested in modern Romanian history and the history of gender, sexuality, and collective memory in a comparative context. After completing her MA, Erin plans to pursue a PhD in History at Indiana University.

Justin Blair is originally from Milton, Kentucky and graduated, Cum Laude, from the University of Florida in 2003 with a BA in History. He worked on an archaeological dig in Satu Mare, Romania in 2003 and returned to Transylvania twice in 2005 and 2006 to collect folklore stories for the documentary, “Across the Forest.” Justin is interested in studying crime in Romania during the communist period, folklore of Transylvania, and archaeology.

Sal Capizzi graduated from Union College in 2007 with a degree in Russian and East European Studies and a minor in History. He is originally from New York and is interested in Soviet history and relations between Russia and the United States. After completion of his MA he plans to pursue a PhD and teach at a university level.

Andrew Hall is originally from Long Valley, New Jersey, and graduated from Drew University in 2004 with a degree in History. After graduation he worked, learned Russian at Rutgers University, and took part in several volunteer projects, including two trips to New Orleans to help with hurricane relief. At IU, he is in the dual MA/MPA program with REEI and SPEA, where he wants to concentrate on policy analysis. Andrew is interested in Russia and the Former Republics of Yugoslavia, democratization of the former USSR, political philosophy, and East European history.

Brett Homkes is originally from Michigan and graduated from Grand Valley State University with a BA in History and Russian Studies. He was a member of the Russian Honors Society and Phi Alpha Theta Historical Honors Society while at GVSU. Brett is interested in early Soviet history and is considering continuing on to a PhD program following completion of his MA degree.

Michelle Lawrence grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana and graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 2007, having studied Comparative Literature and Russian. She wishes to pursue her interests in Ukrainian studies at IU. She hopes to spend some time in Ukraine in the near future, either working or studying. Michelle plans on working as a Foreign Service Officer after graduation.

Kristen McIntyre is from Cleveland, Ohio and graduated from Kent State University in 2007 with a degree in International Relations and a minor in Russian Language. She is interested in post-communist politics and foreign policy in Russia. Upon graduation she would like to enter the Foreign Service.

Yuriy Napelenok was born in Gomel, Belarus, and grew up in Pullman, Washington. He graduated from Washington State University with a degree in History. He studied in St. Petersburg, Russia in the fall of 2005. He is interested in political development, civil society, and democratization in Eastern Europe.

Mark Pupillo is originally from California and graduated with a BA in Global Studies from California State University at Monterey Bay. He has spent time living in Moscow and teaching English at the Integrated Training Center. Mark is interested in a career in policy analysis with the government or possibly in the private sector.

New Students Erin Biebuyck, Sam Watson and Justin Blair at the 2007 Fall REEI Reception

New MA students continued on page 13
Faculty News and Publications

Aaron Beaver (Slavic) published an article over the summer, entitled “Derzhavin’s Metaphysics of Morality,” in *Slavic Review* 66: 189-210. He will be presenting a related paper on “Aesthetic and Moral Judgment in Derzhavin’s ‘Vodopad’” at the upcoming AAASS annual conference in November.

Justyna Beinek (Slavic) received an NEH Collaborative Research Fellowship to work on a guidebook to the Polish writer, Witold Gombrowicz. This past July she traveled to Krakow, Poland, to participate in a Short Term Faculty Exchange program between IU and the Jagiellonian University. Thanks to a CAHI Travel Fellowship she was awarded, Beinek is also planning a short trip to Moscow to finalize her Romanticism book research.

Olena Chernishenko (Slavic), Markus Dickinson (Computational Linguistics), Ronald Feldstein (Slavic), Steven Franks (Slavic), Denise Gardiner (Title VI Grant Coordinator), and Natalia Rekhter (Public & Environmental Affairs IUPUI) have just received a grant under the United States-Russia Program: Improving Research and Educational Activities in Higher Education. This grant will provide ample funding for Russian language training at IUB and IUPUI, scholarships for students to study global public health issues in Rostov-on-Don, Russia, and the development of foreign language and multi-disciplinary curricula, including innovative language-learning technologies. The program targets students interested in public health issues and includes a four week course of basic Russian and a four week course of technical Russian related to the program. The program is partnering with Southern Federal University in Rostov-on-Don, which received a similar grant and will create a similar program.

Steven Franks (Slavic/Linguistic) was awarded the Slavic Department’s annual Teaching Award in May.


Christina Zarifopol-Illias (Slavic/Classics) gave a talk entitled “A Romanian Cultural Embassy in the United States of America: The Romanian Studies Program at Indiana University” at the invitation of the Romanian Cultural Institute, Bucharest, Romania, on June 5. On this occasion, she gave two one-hour interviews to Romanian national and international TV about the IU Romanian Studies Program. The interviews were broadcast, nationally and internationally, on July 17 and August 6. She also published an interview in *The Weapons of Seduction*, (Cluj-Napoca, 2007) a volume of collected interviews with various Romanian cultural personalities edited by Dora Pavel.

Owen Johnson (Journalism) has contributed a chapter “Begetting & Remembering: Creating a Slovak Collective Memory in the Post-Communist World,” which is scheduled for publication this fall in Michal Kopeaek, ed., *Past in the Making: Recent History Revisions & Historical Revisionism in Central Europe After 1989* (2007). Johnson also traveled to L’viv, Ukraine in July to serve as an external evaluator for an Open Society Institute program devoted to the improvement of media literacy in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. In addition, Johnson served as an on-camera expert during a segment of the PBS program, “History Detectives,” broadcast nationally in July. As an occasional host for the WFIU program “Profiles,” Johnson recently interviewed Janusz Reiter, Polish Ambassador to the United States, Katrina vanden Heuvel, editor of *The Nation*, and Strobe Talbott, former Time magazine correspondent in Moscow and member of the Clinton administration.


Edward J. Lazzerini (CEUS/History) was recently elected to serve a three-year term as President of the Central Eurasian Studies Society. With approximately 800 members around the world, CESS is an international organization that sponsors an annual conference (the eighth will be held in Seattle at the University of Washington from October 18-21, 2007), produces a peer-reviewed journal (*Central Asian Survey*), and a newsletter (*Central Eurasian Studies Review*) to keep members informed about current research projects.

Faculty News continued on page 15
Alumni News

Joshua Abrams (MA REEI/MPA SPEA 2001) is the Chief of Party, Russian Civil Society Support Program of IREX in Moscow, Russia.

David Abramson (PhD Anthropology 1998), a Foreign Affairs Analyst for the US Department of State, has just published “Sacred Sites, Profane Ideologies: Religious Pilgrimage and the Uzbek State” with Elyor Karimov in Everyday Life in Central Asia Past and Present, eds. Jeff Sahadeo and Russell Zanca. Abramson received the Superior Honor Award (from the Bureau of Intelligence and Research) for Outreach to Academic Communities.


Major Matthew Atkins (MA REEI 2004) is the Deputy Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation in the US Embassy in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Meagan Call (MA REEI/MPA SPEA 2007) has received her first assignment in the US Department of State Foreign Service. She will be posted in Kingston, Jamaica.

Robert Citino (PhD History 1984), Professor of History at Eastern Michigan University, has just published his eighth book The Death of the Wehrmacht: The German Campaigns of 1942 (University Press of Kansas). Like his most recent book, The German Way of War: From the Thirty Years’ War to the Third Reich (2005), it will be featured by both the Military Book Club and the History Book Club. His article “Military Histories Old and New: a Reintroduction” will appear in the American Historical Review this fall.

John K. Cox (PhD History 1995), Professor and Chair of the Department of History at North Dakota State University, will be publishing Understanding Ismail Kadare (University of South Carolina Press). Cox is also translating a famous Slovene novel for the Central European Classics series of the CEU Press.

Sibelan Forrester (PhD Slavic 1990) won the 2006 Heldt Prize for Best Translation in Slavic/East European/Eurasian Studies from the Association for Women in Slavic Studies, which recognized her 2005 translation from Croatian of Dubravka Oraic Tolic’s long poems in American Scream: Alindrome Apocalypse (Ooligan Press). Forrester has been promoted to full Professor at Swarthmore College.

Neil Gipson (MA REEI/MPA SPEA 2006) is working for the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs in Washington, DC.

Phil Hart (MA REEI 2005) has accepted a position as Editor-in-Chief for Real Health & Image, a monthly health and wellness newsletter distributed throughout the Tampa Bay area. Hart reports that his boss and closest coworker are Russian and he will have plenty of opportunities for language practice.

Roger Kodat (MBA Business/MA Political Science 1982) is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the US Department of the Treasury.

David Marks (MA Slavic/REEI Certificate 1981) is the Press Attache at the US Embassy in Tokyo, Japan.

Chris Meyer (MA REEI 1992) is a Senior Consultant at Allianz Group Change Consulting (a German financial services company with operations in 70 countries including Russia and CEE) in Munich.

Jean Morrison (BA Slavic/BA Economics/REEI Minor 2006) will begin a PhD program in economics at Michigan State University to specialize in the area of development economics with a focus on Russia and former Soviet states.

Jim Niessen (PhD History/REEI certificate 1989) was granted tenure at Rutgers University in April 2007 and his article “The Persistence and Decline of German Scholarship in Hungarian Library Collections and Culture in the Twentieth Century” is forthcoming in Slavic & East European Information Resources, 8:4.

Alumni News continued on page 13
**Student News**

**Returning students**

**Brant Beyer** worked in Washington, DC this summer for USAID. He worked on economic growth and small and medium enterprise development issues in the Europe and Eurasia Bureau, as well as helped prepare a US Government delegation’s visit to Turkmenistan.

**Dan Tam Do** interned this past summer at the Library of Congress where she drafted an annotated bibliography of the Czech and Slovak magazine holdings and prepared a number of older Russian-language books for future cataloging. She then returned to Bloomington to study Russian at SWSEEL. She put her Russian skills to use by serving as an official for the Canadian team during the 2007 World Orienteering Championships which were held in and around Kyiv, Ukraine.

**Jennifer Evans** interned at the US Consulate in St. Petersburg, Russia in the Public Affairs section. She was responsible for designing a student envoy program that is being implemented this fall and assisting in planning events commemorating the 200th anniversary of US-Russia relations, the annual Independence Day reception and a reception for Dennis Hopper. She also co-wrote an article that will appear in the Russian magazine *Elite*.

**Barbara Junisbai**, a graduate student in Political Science, has received an IREX grant to fund research in Kyrgyzstan and Belarus during the fall 2007 semester.

**Amy Luck** spent the summer in Stockholm, Sweden, completing an independent readings course on mentoring and non-governmental organizations. She also conducted research in Targu-Mures, Romania, interviewing a former Romanian Minister of Education and the staff and participants of a mentoring program run by Livada Orphan Care. Amy plans to use her course readings and personal research to write her MA essay on the success of mentoring programs for Romanian adolescent orphans.


**Richard Payne-Holmes** participated in the EU Center for Excellence Graduate Seminar “The EU in the 21st Century,” which allowed him to travel to Belgium, France, Germany and Poland. Upon conclusion of the seminar Richard worked as an intern at the US Embassy in Kyiv, Ukraine.

**Ben Vranian** took a course in May on Health Care in Russia, provided by the IUPUI School of Public and Environmental Affairs, which included a two week survey of Russian health care facilities in Ivanovo, Russia. For the rest of the summer, he participated in SWSEEL studying Georgian.

**James Young** worked this summer directly with executive officers of Blackwater USA, headquartered in North Carolina. He worked on various projects concerning the defense and national security of the United States and other countries, and spent some free time trying out various Russian military small arms.

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**AAASS Reception reminder:**

REEI will host its annual alumni and friends reception at the 39th AAASS Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Please join us Friday, November 16th, from 9-11pm in Le Galerie 6 at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel.
Student News

Student Awards

Daniel Armstrong Memorial Awards
The 2006-2007 Daniel Armstrong Memorial Essay Awards were presented at the Russian and East European Institute’s annual Fall Reception, held on September 7. Director David Ransel recognized the recipients for their thorough, well-written work concerning Russian and East European topics during the previous school year. This year’s graduate division winner is Colleen Moore. Colleen wrote “The Popular Response to War and Mobilization in Russia in 1914” for the course HIST-H 740 Seminar in Russian History taught by Hiroaki Kuromiya. The Master’s Thesis division winner, Andrew Ringlee, wrote “The Military Gymnazia in Reform Era Russia, 1863-1882” for the course REEI-R 601 Interdisciplinary Colloquium in REEI, taught by Owen Johnson. Ben Eklof headed Ringlee’s advisory committee. The undergraduate essay award went to Kathleen Minahan, who wrote “Political Perestroika’ Interrupted: Education in the Soviet Zone of Occupation, 1945-1949” for the course HIST-T 495 Life After Death: Rebuilding Germany After World War II, taught by Mark Roseman.

Sam Burgess Undergraduate Library Research Award
Emily Bloom-Carlin, majoring in history, received the Sam Burgess Undergraduate Library Research Award for a paper titled, “Cultural Production and the Conductor: An Examination of Ceausescu’s Neo-Romanticism” written for Maria Bucur-Deckard’s History D300 class Eastern Europe under Communism. The certificate and $500 award were presented at the IUB Libraries Retirement and Recognition Reception on April 19, 2007.

Robert F. Byrnes Fellowship
Also recognized at the reception was this year’s Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship Fund recipient, David Stira (more about David can be found in the New MA Students section on page 13). This fellowship preserves the memory of the first director of REEI by supporting an outstanding student with a stipend and fee remission during the first and second years of study and is then renewable in the second year. REEI would like to thank all those who have contributed to the 2007 Fund and especially recognize Eleanor Byrnes and her children, the principal contributors to the fellowship endowment.

Romanian Studies Graduate Student Fellowship
REEI is proud to announce that Erin Biebuyck (more about Erin can be found on page 8) is our first recipient of the Romanian Studies Graduate Student Fellowship, funded jointly by IU and the Romanian government. This two-year fellowship includes a tuition and fee waiver and a stipend. The fellowship promotes study of Romania and Romanian language.

George and Monique Stolnitz Yiddish Prize
The Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Jewish Studies Program at Indiana University has awarded Ryan Kilgore the 2007 George and Monique Stolnitz Yiddish Prize in Jewish Studies. The prize is awarded each spring to the student who shows the greatest promise in the study of Yiddish language or literature, and/or the history in which Yiddish culture took root and flourished.
Student News

Student Graduations: BA Minors/
MA Degrees/PhD Defenses

The following students graduated with REEI BA minors during the 2006-2007 school year:

Aaron Ferris, Nicholas Hartmann, Mike Kos, Kelly Lostroscio, Kyle Marynowski, Ryan McMeen, Kathleen Minahan, Ashley Pafford, Melanie Robbins, Pejman Saadatzadeh, Thomas Schafbuch, Charles Szrom, Leah Tannen, Ari Tashman, Carla Tumbas, Joseph Vlajeic, and Christopher Wagner.

The following students graduated with REEI MA degrees during the 2006-2007 school year. Their names are followed by the titles of their master’s thesis and the names of the chairs of their advisory committees:

Jennifer Hylton – “Perverse Incentives of Good Parenting: The Role of the International Monetary Fund and the European Union in Romania”; Aurelian Craiutu chaired her committee.


The following student successfully defended her dissertation to complete a PhD with an REEI minor during the 2006-2007 school year:


New MA Students

continued from page 8

David J. Stira graduated from The George Washington University in May 2007 with a dual BA in International Affairs and History. His interests include the military of the former USSR/Russian Federation and the geography/demography of Siberia. After graduating David plans on working in intelligence or as a civilian employee of the military.

Allison Ann M. Trapani is originally from Pennsylvania and received her double BA in History and International Studies from The University of Scranton and St. Petersburg State Politechnical University, St. Petersburg. Each summer Allison leads groups of high school and university students on an education program in St. Petersburg, Russia through SPBGPU. She enjoys the finer points of traveling and spends as much time as possible in Russia. She studies Russian language, culture, history, art, and politics.

Ryan Weeks grew up in Des Moines, Iowa and Rexburg, Idaho. He served as a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Yekaterinburg, Russia from 2001-2003. He received his BS in Accounting from Brigham Young University - Idaho in 2007. Ryan is interested in national security issues between Russia and the United States.

Alumni News

continued from page 10


Melinda Richards (MPA SPEA 2006) is the Program Director at Firefly Children’s Network in Washington, DC.

Bradley Schaffner (MA History/MLS SLIS 1989) is head of the Slavic Division of Widener Library at Harvard College Library and recently co-edited “Books, Bibliographies and Pugs: A Festschrift to Honor Murlin Croucher” with Greg Ference (Slavica).

John Sislin (PhD Political Science/REEI minor 1993) is a Program Officer at The National Academies.

Nate Turner (BA English/REEI minor 2001) is a Field Coordinator for Estonia at the United Pentecostal Church International.
IU Participants in the AAASS Convention

The 39th National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, November 15-18, 2007.

Faculty Papers
Aaron Bradley Beaver (Slavic): “Aesthetic and Moral Judgment in Derzhavin’s ‘Vodopad’”
Justyna Anna Beinek (Slavic): “Inscription—Erasure: Symbolic Im/Permanence in Romantic Albums”
Wook-Jin Cheun (SLIS): “The CIC Slavic Collections through the Eyes of OCLC Collection Analysis”
Ben Eklof (History): “A Distinctive Russian Culture of Schooling? Language, Power and Practice in the Pre-Revolutionary School”
Berndt J. Fischer (History-Fort Wayne): “Political Parties, Corruption, and the Legacy of the Past in Post-Communist Albania”
Owen V. Johnson (Journalism/History): “Czeching Up: Journalism Training and Journalism Change in Eastern Europe”
Janet Elspeth Kennedy (Art/History): “Between East and West: The Dual Identity of Mir iskusstva”
K. Andrea Rusnock (Art-South Bend): “The Art of Soviet International Politics: Vera Mukhina’s Worker and Collective Farm Woman in the 1937 Internationale Exposition”

Student Papers/Participants
Janis Chakars (Journalism): “The Press in the Memory of Participants in Latvia’s Drive for Independence”
Ramajana Hiic-Demirovic (History): “The Jasenovac Death Camp”
Monica F. Kindraka-Jensen (REEI-IU/U of Alberta): “Ukrainian-Canadian Funeral Rituals: Flatware and China Patterns for Elena’s Soul”
Nicole McGrath (History): “The Polish-Soviet War: A Reevaluation”
Colleen M. Moore (History): “The Popular Response to the Declaration of War and to the Mobilization of Soldiers in Russia in 1914”
Jude Christopher Richter (History): “To Form Honest, Knowledgeable, and Industrious Tradesmen: Rehabilitating Juvenile Criminals in Postemancipation Russia”
Michael Benjamin Thorne (History): “Romanians, Roma and Romanipe: Identity and Deportation in Antonescu’s Romania”
Susan Marie Williams (History): “Glasul Romilor: The Construction of Romani Identity within Romania Mare”
Deanna Gayle Wooley (History) & Melissa Andrea Chakars (History): “Glasnost in Buriatia: The Media, the State and the Nationalists”

Panel Chairs
Padraic Jeremiah Kenney (History): Sex, Smoke and All That Jazz: Luxury and Excess in Postwar Eastern Europe.
David L. Ransel (REEI/History): Regional Politics under Khrushchev and Brezhnev

Panel Discussants
Andrew R. Durkin (Slavic): Re-reading Turgenev
Ben Eklof (History): Teachers and the State, 1890-1957
K. Andrea Rusnock (Art-South Bend): The Socialist City Transformed?
Jeffrey Veidlinger (History): Jewish Culture and Politics in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe

Roundtable Participants
Jack Bielasiak (Political Science): Polish Constitution on Its Tenth Anniversary: Success or Failure?
Maria Bucur (REEI/History): New Digital Projects for East European History
Berndt J. Fischer (History-Fort Wayne): The 2007 Albanian Elections: An Analysis
Alexander Rabinowitch (Emeritus, History): Does Lenin in 1902 explain Bolshevism in 1918 (And Thus the Rest of Soviet History)? and Archives of the Russian Revolution: Theory and Practice
Barbara J. Skinner (REEI-Indiana State University): Academic Job Searches: Tales from the Trenches
Jeffrey Veidlinger (History): East European Jewish Historiography
Faculty News
continued from page 9

Nina Perlina (Slavic) attended the 13th Symposium of the International Dostoevsky Society in Budapest, Hungary (July 2-8, 2007) and gave a talk discussing various poetic functions of ekphrasis in the thematic composition of Dostoevsky’s novel *The Idiot*. Perlina also served as a discussant on two panels of the conference.

William Alex Pridemore (Criminal Justice) presented “The Role of Alcohol in Deaths of Unidentified People in Russia: An emerging health threat to a vulnerable population” in Budapest this summer at the Kettil Bruun Society alcohol epidemiology meetings.

David Ransel (History/REEI) has had his book manuscript *A Russian Merchant’s Tale: The Life and Adventures of Ivan Alekseevich Tolchënov Based on His Diary* accepted for publication by Indiana University Press. It will appear simultaneously in hard cover and paperback editions. Ransel gave talks in Russian and in English on this project at the University of Helsinki in May. He also has an essay titled “Reflections on Transnational and World History in the USA and Its Applications” forthcoming in the Swedish National History journal, *Historisk Tidskrift*.

Beate Sissenich (Political Science) recently published “Justification and Identity in European Integration: Comments on Morgan and Ferrara” in *Constellations* (September 2007). Her article “Cross-National Policy Networks and the State: EU Social Policy Transfer to Poland and Hungary,” will soon be published in *European International Relations Journal*. Sissenich will be on leave during this academic year as a visiting scholar at the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy at Columbia University in New York.

Martin Spechler (Economics IUPUI) presented a paper, “Human Rights in Eurasia,” at the Warsaw East European Conference, Warsaw, Poland, on July 17.

Frank W. Thackeray (History IU Southeast) has recently published *Events That Changed Russia Since 1855*, by Greenwood Press. The book, which was edited by Thackeray, features short introductory pieces followed by lengthy interpretive essays, including several by recent REEI graduates: David C. Fisher (The Rise of the Radical Intelligentsia), Randi B. Cox (Industrialization), Dana M. Ohren (World War I), Barbara C. Allen (The Russian Revolution and Civil War), and Martin J. Blackwell (World War II).

Frances Trix (Linguistics/Anthropology) spent May and June in Kosova working on the UN protectorate period, “Kosova since 1999: Coping with Indeterminacy,” on a College of Arts & Humanities Institute Research and Travel grant. Trix will present a paper, “Losing the Battle of Fighting Violence: Competing narratives of Kosovo/Kosova in the 1990s,” at the American Anthropological Association in Washington DC on December 1, 2007. Trix received a Fulbright Research Fellowship in Turkey for academic year 2007-2008 for the project, “Muslim Refugees from the Balkans and their Assimilation in Turkey,” with an appointment as a Visiting Researcher at Sabanci University, near Istanbul. On September 15, 2007, she presented a paper on spiritual migrations of Muslim clerics from the Balkans at an international conference on migration studies at Isik University, Sile, Turkey.

Bronislava Volkova (Slavic) was profiled in the June 2007 edition of *Ceske listy*, a publication of the ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. The article highlighted her essay “Exile: Inside and Out” and The Slightest Reminder of Your Being… (Three Decades of Exile: 1974-2004), a CD production of her poetry in Czech and English, both of which focused on the thirty year anniversary of her exile from Czechoslovakia, as well as her work with the IU Czech Program.

Roman Zlotin (Geography) initiated and translated Alexey Retejum’s “Mongolia in Transition: Social, Economic and Environmental Issues,” which has been published in *Papers on Inner Asia*, No. 39, 2007 by the Indiana Research Institute for Inner Asian Studies at Indiana University.
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