On April 18 devotees of the Russian language gathered in Ballantine Hall to make history as participants in two prominent Russian language contests, hosted at Indiana University for the first time ever.

In the morning, 11 students from two pre-college Russian programs based in the state of Indiana competed in the Indiana ACTR Olympiada of Spoken Russian. One of approximately 15 regional pre-college Russian language competitions that take place annually across the United States under the auspices of the American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR), the Indiana Olympiada provides students with an opportunity to converse with native speakers of Russian, meet students and teachers of Russian from other institutions, and demonstrate their prowess and achievements in Russian language study by participating in a competition that focuses on everyday conversation, poetry recitation, and Russian civilization. Heretofore, Hoosiers enrolled in pre-college Russian programs competed in the Illinois-Indiana Olympiada, revived by REEI in 2009. That event, which alternated sites in the two states on a biannual basis, expanded to such an extent (from an initial cohort of less than 20 to more than 50 participants in 2013 and 2014) that separate competitions were introduced for Illinois and Indiana in 2015.

Co-sponsored by REEI and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures, the Indiana Olympiada was coordinated by Mark Trotter, REEI Associate Director/Outreach Coordinator, with the logistical assistance of Bryan Holyfield, an MA student at REEI and REEI Graduate Outreach Assistant in 2014-15. Doctoral students Elena Doludenko (Slavic), Ala Simonchyk (Slavic/Second Language Studies), and Veronika Trotter (Slavic), native speakers and highly accomplished instructors of Russian as a foreign language, comprised the judges’ panel. All involved with the event enjoyed a buffet lunch of Russian and Ukrainian fare provided by Bloomington’s Euro Deli. Following announcement of results, IU students Tim Gilmanov (Informatics), Arthur Masyuk (Music), and Shaun Williams (Folklore and Ethnomusicology) treated participants to continued on page 5
33rd György Ránki Hungarian Chair Conference Explores East Central Europe in Urban Context

By Jason Vincz

The 33rd György Ránki Hungarian Chair Conference, entitled “Transformations of Urban Social Fabric in East Central Europe, 1880 to Present,” took place in the Indiana Memorial Union over the weekend of March 28th. Organized by the current Ránki Chair, urban sociologist János Kocsis, and the staff of the Central Eurasian Studies Department, the conference welcomed a number of distinguished guests to Bloomington, including Hungary’s ambassador to the US, Réka Szemerkényi, and specialists in the area of urban planning, including Melinda Benkő of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Géza Salamin of the Central Bank of Hungary, and László Csák of Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj/Kolozsvár, Romania.

Popular topics across the day-and-a-half of panels included the demographic evolution of Eastern Europe, patterns of regional economic growth, and the paradoxes of modernity in cities like Budapest. Former Ránki Chair László Borhi, whose Dealing With Dictatorships: The US and Hungary from World War II to 1989 is forthcoming from Indiana University Press, prefaced the conference with a discussion of the effects that a century of invasions, coups, and counter-revolutions have had on Budapest and the Hungarian national psyche. Kocsis described the processes of urban decay, suburbanization, and gentrification in post-communist Budapest, while Csák discussed urbanization, re-ruralization, and the destruction of cultural heritage in Romania. Salamin offered a regional contextualization of Hungary’s potential for economic growth, focusing on the roles EU cohesion funds and Hungarian public-employment initiatives have played in Hungary’s post-crisis economic performance. Robert Nemes of Colgate University explained the impact of railroads and engineered waterways on the social development of 19th-century Satu Mare/Szatmárnémeti and Carei/Nagykároly, Romania.

Trends in construction were also an important component of the conference. Benkő discussed the prevalence and features of prefabricated housing projects in Budapest. Sociologist Virág Molnár of the New School for Social Research looked at gated communities and social fragmentation in post-socialist Berlin and Budapest. And University of Michigan professor Krisztina Fehérváry, whose Politics in Color and Concrete: Socialist Materialities and the Middle Class was recently published by Indiana University Press, presented a fascinating account of the relationships between organicist architecture, natural materials, and nationalist moral aesthetics.

Ethnic and religious identification were also frequent themes. Gergely Romsics, the current director of the Hungarian Cultural Center in New York, outlined völkisch intellectuals’ interwar approaches to the multiculturalism of “battleground” cities.

Participants in the 33rd György Ránki Hungarian Chair Conference
across the former Austria-Hungary; Erika Szívós of Eötvös Loránd University discussed Jewish identity, interethnic symbiosis, and the effects of the Holocaust on the Inner 7th District of Budapest; former Rezler Fellow Béla Janky catalogued the results of his survey of 119 Hungarian towns on the subjects of social cohesion and interethnic trust; and another former Ránki Chair, Pál Hatos, spoke about the role of religious heritage in the identity politics of the “Calvinist Romes,” Debrecen and Geneva.

Urban culture was another significant subject. Indiana University historian Toivo Raun discussed the socioeconomic and ethnic evolution of Riga and Tallinn in the period leading up to World War I. Ethnomusicologist Lynn Hooker analyzed radio broadcasts of Gypsy orchestras’ concerts in interwar Budapest cafés. And Fulbright Visiting Professor Bence Ságvári closed the conference with an account of the migration to Budapest of the American notion of “the creative city,” which produced some jovial exchanges typical of the informative and entertaining conversations that followed the panelists’ remarks all weekend. The conference was sponsored by the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center as well as the Russian and East European Institute.

Jason Vincz is a PhD student in CEUS

**REEI Networks!**

In Fall 2013, REEI Networks! debuted. REEI Networks! is an event series for REEI MA and REEI-affiliated graduate students, designed to highlight university resources, academic and funding opportunities, and to help with academic and career planning. REEI Networks! was launched by Emily Liverman, REEI Assistant Director for Student Services.

Usually centered around lunchtime, REEI Networks! provides time for students to gather before the presentation to share their interests and connect over lunch. The presentations and panels draw from university resources, including the Career Development Center, Counseling and Psychological Services, and the GradGrants Center; faculty; students; and alumni to discuss a range of topics.

Events have included: How I spent my summer, highlighting the research and language acquisition trips students took over the summer, as well as the application process for the activities and funding; a professional development workshop that outlined how to start one’s professional career and discussed resources such as professional organizations and conferences; resume and interview workshops that discussed, in practical terms, the how-tos of crafting resumes and completing successful interviews; and student research presentations, which offer REEI-R601 students a non-class venue for research presentation and allows others to learn what their colleagues are doing.

Also as a part of the REEI Networks! event series, REEI has welcomed alumni to speak with current students about their career arcs. A few of these alumni include the former Ambassador to Russia James Collins; Elizabeth Trammel Plantan, current PhD student at Cornell University and published author; Allen Graftman, who worked for the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council before pursuing work in the entertainment sector; IU’s Executive Associate Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer Eric Bruder; and Paul Hiemstra, former Director of the Office of Global Educational Programs in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the Department of State.

The informal and intimate nature of these events offers students a real chance to learn from and connect with the panelists and each other.

The event series is receiving positive feedback and is constantly evolving to address new concerns and bring in new information. REEI Networks! is working to create a graduate community and keep graduate students up to date on opportunities available to them.
Christine Von Der Haar’s engagement with Indiana University dates to the early 1970s when she stepped onto the Bloomington campus as an undergraduate. Over the years, she returned to IU several times both as a student and faculty member, completing graduate degrees in Sociology, Education, and Journalism and teaching at the Indianapolis and Bloomington campuses. As a SWSEEL alumna, Dr. Von Der Haar is currently Senior Lecturer in the IU Department of Sociology, teaching classes on media and society. With the support of REEI, she developed a course on sociology of the media that is currently cross-listed with REEI. Her publications include Social Psychology: A Sociological Perspective (Prentice Hall, 2005), Basic Business Statistics, and chapters on religion and women in journalism. Dr. Von Der Haar has also edited and contributed to textbooks for Pearson Education that include topics on Russian culture and socialization.

Dr. Von Der Haar’s interest in mass-media took root at CBS News, where she served as Manager of Surveys for the CBS/New York Times poll. In this position, she worked with reporters and producers covering political campaigns and elections. This experience allowed her to observe the daily operations of two major media organizations and provided insight into the media’s approach to coverage of elections and wars. Today, she shares her first-hand knowledge of US media with her students.

Olga Bueva (OB): When did you become interested in Russian language and culture?

Christine Von Der Haar (CVDH): When I was Manager of Surveys for the CBS/New York Times poll, a group of Soviet sociologists and one journalist approached us because they wanted to do a joint survey with the United States. This was the end of the Cold War but, at this point in history, there was not any idea the Soviet Union was coming to an end. It was a pleasure to meet them and we connected immediately because they were also sociologists. Unfortunately we ended up not doing the Russian project.

Shortly after that meeting I came back to the Midwest with the idea that I would do a couple of years of Russian and then pick up a Master’s degree in Journalism so that I could go back and work with a focus on media. I was teaching at IUPUI [Indiana University—Purdue University Indianapolis] when I met Scott Seregny, a professor of Russian history in the IUPUI History department. He knew about REEI and recommended that I talk to Owen Johnson, the REEI director at the time. I met Dr. Johnson and soon I was accepted into the summer workshop. This ended up being a wonderful experience. The instructors were outstanding. After that I took another year of Russian through the Slavic department during the academic year.

OB: It seems that your meeting with the Soviet sociologists might have prompted not just your interest in Russian, but also your return to IU.

CVDH: Working on surveys made me realize the importance of language. We had done surveys with Japan and Germany. The people in my new unit knew that language was a barrier, especially with Japan. For instance, in the United States people can go a full extreme in their answers to survey questions: all the way from “strongly agree” to “strongly disagree.” Japanese respondents will typically stay closer to the middle. One might analyze the results and think that this is a huge difference between Japan and the United States, while this is just a cultural difference that one needs to be aware of. The same goes for issues with literal translation. And when we were approached by Russian sociologists, I knew that I could not do these surveys if I did not know Russian. And I also knew that I could not learn Russian working full time in New York so I decided to go back to IU.

OB: Can you tell us a bit more about “Sociology of the Media,” your REEI-crosslisted class that includes Russian content? Do you follow Russian media for that class?

CVDH: I had to follow Russian media for this class, and to be honest, the timing was perfect because of the Sochi Olympics. I was really disappointed in the US networks’ coverage of the event – it was so negative. These Olympics were no different from any other Olympics: when you get down to crunch time and everyone is worried that they will not be ready, the Olympic committee steps in and pulls everything together. This is a huge undertaking. The Olympics are not about politics but they made them about
politics.

Also there were the events in Ukraine and Crimea – I was able to incorporate some great interviews with Stephen Cohen in the syllabus. I had all this relevant material that was easy for the students to read; they loved it!

We also had readings on Siberian punk rock. The students especially liked those: they want to learn more about people their age and Russia, they want to know what life is like over there and they want to know the truth. Rather, they want to be able to sort out the truth. We will see how successful the class was when I get back my evaluations but we have high enrollment for next semester so I think it went well.

It’s hard to do these sorts of classes because you do have to keep up with the media. It’s not like I can easily pick up and read Russian newspapers - I just don’t have that expertise. But at least we made an effort to get some glimpses of the Russian side of the story and see a different perspective. I think you have to have a critical eye when working with the media: the truth is not one version of it. You have to compare all these different sources to get closer to what the truth is. Basically, what I’m teaching in the class is to ask questions: do not accept what the media say and do not accept what I say. Open yourself up to all different points of view and learn how to be a critical thinker. Be the final judge on the information you absorb and be comfortable with your decision based on your own worldview.

OB: Do you think it’s important for sociologists to have some global expertise?

CVDH: Yes, absolutely! My expertise in sociology was survey research, which is very technical, but I had a personal interest in culture. When I started out, I thought that there are other sociologists who were doing cross-cultural research but I was shocked to find out that not very many were. But I am glad that now the Sociology Department and the new chair are very interested in cross-cultural research. As I mentioned before, Mark Trotter from the Russian and East European Institute approached me and asked me to be part of the program, so I designed my media class to incorporate 25% of Russian material, which my students loved! And the Sociology chair supports this and agrees that this relationship with REEI needs to continue.

OB: As an IU alumna and faculty, what would you tell students today? What would you have done differently knowing what you know now?

CVDH: I wish I’d had more time to do this program as an undergraduate! Let’s face it: what is society telling students today? To take sciences! But I tell my students, especially my business students: we live in a global world and, after you get your business degree, you will be traveling and doing business abroad so you need to take classes that are global in scope. You need classes that help you understand the importance of cultural values and how these values translate into different aspects of life abroad. Also – travel! Get a solid foundation from IU that will help you understand other cultures and travel. You won’t get a musical tour of the Slavic world with rousing performances of songs from Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, and Serbia.

Indiana Academy of Science, Mathematics, and the Humanities (Muncie) sent a team of eight students to the contest. Setting the pace for that cohort, Cilka Brisuda, Spenser Congram, and Tristan Schefke won gold medals, while their classmates Spencer Shephard, Abigail Sommers, Diana Ogrodowski, and Katherine Wettstein garnered silver medals and Elizabeth Crail a bronze medal.

“There are many aspects to the Russian Olympiada that make it such a valuable experience for our high-school students,” commented Heather Rogers, who teaches Russian at Indiana Academy and accompanied her students to the event. “First, it gives students the opportunity to be in an environment of like-minded students from other schools. Russian is considered to be
an ‘obscure’ or unusual language as compared to French, Spanish, German and Latin, and participating in the Olympiada shows students that there are others who share the same interest. Second, many of my students are competitive by nature and welcome the challenge of preparing the materials to go up in front of a native-speaker judge. They relish the chance to receive medals and certificates and feel a definite sense of accomplishment when they have done well. As a teacher, I like that the Olympiada is a spoken competition. Because we cover ten chapters of grammar, spoken Russian takes a backseat to learning to read and write properly. The Olympiada encourages students to go the extra mile and practice outside of the classroom. Finally, we all really enjoyed the musical performance and the East European food at this year’s Olympiada. Students were able to experience aspects of Russian culture that they’ve read about or seen on YouTube. Overall, I feel that those students who participate in the Olympiada become more motivated in their Russian studies.”

Taking part in its first Olympiada, the Russian School of Indiana sent three students. A community-based program that operates on Sundays at University High School in Carmel, the Russian School of Indiana offers classes in Russian as a heritage and foreign language, as well as a broad array of subjects taught in Russian (more information at http://www.indydeti.com/). Alex Gimeno and Anton Prostyakov took gold medals and Maria Gusev a silver medal.

“Not being a regular school, we were a bit intimidated as we travelled to the Olympiada,” reflected Natalia Rekhter, who teaches Russian theater at the Russian School of Indiana and also serves as its Director of Strategic Planning. “But as soon as the students and I arrived, the worries dissipated. The atmosphere was fun and friendly, everyone was happy to be there and to share his or her love of Russian. I truly enjoyed talking to students from the Indiana Academy and hearing their stories about why they learn Russian. What an amazing group of broad minded and curious individuals!” She added that for young heritage speakers, who often take Russian for granted or feel as if they are forced to study the “language of their parents’ past,” the “Olympiada helps them appreciate the unique skill they have, i.e. an ability to speak a foreign language almost like natives (something they often underestimate or even reject). Thank you, REEI for organizing this wonderful event. Next year we will have a much larger group of participants.”

As the Olympiada drew to a close another important Russian-language contest was about to get under way in Ballantine Hall—“Total Dictation 2015” (Тотальный диктант), an annual international educational event in which native and non-native speakers all over the world test their knowledge of Russian spelling and punctuation by using pen and paper to reproduce a text written by a leading Russian author and dictated by a native speaker of Russian. Designed to stimulate and foster interest in the use of proper Russian as exemplified in the works of Russia’s most illustrious authors, past and present, the first Total Dictation, held in 2004 in the Russian city of Novosibirsk, drew approximately 200 people. Over the next decade the event grew in popularity, attracting more and more participants in and outside of Russia. In 2015, the Total Dictation counted over 100,000 participants in 549 cities of 58 different countries. Bloomington, Indiana figured
The Romanian Studies Organization (RomSO) at Indiana University Bloomington hosted its 8th Annual Romanian Studies Conference on March 27-28, 2015. The event attracted a considerable number of graduate students, professors, and scholars from a variety of US and non-US universities.

The first day of the conference was dedicated to the compelling keynote address by Dr. Cristina Vatulescu, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, Russian and Slavic Studies at New York University. Entitled “Multimedia in the Secret Police Archives: A Film, 2 Photo Albums, and 27 Files,” her talk offered a first-hand insight into the interplay between narrative and media multimodality of Secret Police information as preserved in the Romanian state archives from the communist era.

On the second day of the event, presenters were given the opportunity to share their research and work in a series of stimulating panels. “Re-thinking Women’s Authority in Socialism and Post-Socialism,” brought together analyses structured around the role of women during Nicolae Ceausescu’s communist reign, their distinctive matters of affect and identity (re/de)construction, and their participation within the power play of magic and religion and the transcendence to political authority and discourse. The second panel, “Nationalism and Nation-Building in Romania: Religious Minorities and Illustrated Postcards,” delved into issues of visual representation of Romanian national identity through constructed images, and the role of orthodoxy with its centralizing practices that excluded the manifestation of alternative religious beliefs. Before breaking for lunch, the audience was introduced to a roundtable discussion centered on the theme “Against the Canon – New Approaches to Nineteenth-Century Romanian Historiography.” The participants dealt with aspects of Eastern European agency with respect to dethroning the canon. The first panel of the afternoon session initiated a discussion revolving around “Urban Development and Cultural Landscapes in Romania” so as to bring about awareness of geographic exposure to foreign influences and remnants of colonization, as well as a schemata of cultural representations through their depiction within constructed models of urban spaces. The final panel of the conference introduced “Patterns of Migration in the European Union: Citizenship, Multiculturalism, Media, and Politics,” which dealt extensively with multiculturalism and the integration of Romanian migrants in France and the United Kingdom.

The conference was made possible with the support of Indiana University Student Association, the Russian and East European Institute, and the Department of Slavic & East European Languages and Cultures. The RomSO is grateful to IU Professors Maria Bucur-Deckard and Jeffrey Isaac, as well as to Dr. Bogdan Popa (Oberlin College) and IU PhD candidate Catalin Cristoloveanu for chairing the panels of the conference. Lastly, the organization would like to extend its appreciation to a number of graduate students, including Elena Popa, president of the Romanian Studies Organization, Shaun Williams and Anca Pirnoiu, for putting together the event.

Anca Pirnoiu is a visiting Fulbright Researcher at IU
The annual McCloskey Lecture, which took place in Fine Arts 102 on Thursday, April 16, featured Francine Friedman, Professor of Political Science at Ball State University, where she teaches international relations and the politics of Russian and Eastern Europe. A specialist on the former Yugoslavia, Friedman is the author of *Bosnia and Herzegovina: A Polity on the Brink* (Routledge, 2004) and *The Bosnian Muslims: Denial of a Nation* (Westview Press), as well as numerous articles and book chapters. She edited *Bosnia and Herzegovina: Evolution of Its Political and Legal Institutions*, by Mustafa Imamovic (“Magistrat” Sarajevo, 2006), winner of the prize for best foreign language book at the Sarajevo Book Fair in 2006. Her current book project is entitled *Like Salt for Bread: The Jews of Bosnia and Herzegovina*.

To begin her lecture, “Inadvertent Heroes: The Bosnian Jewish Community During the Bosnian War,” Professor Friedman discussed how Jews came to inhabit Bosnian lands. In the late-15th century, Ottoman authorities invited Sephardic Jews following their expulsion from Spain in 1492. Though considered second-class citizens, Sephardic Jews were not marginalized and were well respected throughout the centuries. A second wave of more well-to-do Ashkenazi Jewish immigrants arrived after the Habsburg occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) in 1878. Friedman then illustrated the Bosnian Jewish experience during the Second World War (WWII). Croatia, under the guidance of the Nazi puppet Ustasha movement, devoured BiH, and severe repression of Jews began. A concentration camp in Jasenovac was established, and of the 19,000 Jews in BiH before WWII, only 1,500 survived and remained in BiH. After WWII and during the socialist Yugoslav years, life for the Bosnian Jews went well. However, as communism collapsed around Eastern Europe, a civil war broke out in BiH in April 1992.

Professor Friedman then went on to discuss the Bosnian Jewish community during the Bosnian War. Jews remained faithful to the Bosnian state, and community organizations – namely, La Benevolencija – were revived to assist those facing wartime hardships. Moreover, Friedman stated that Bosnian Jews could and did play an activist role in humanitarian relief, as Jews were not targets during the war (a rarity in modern history). Strikingly, Jews were considered friends to all sides, since they did not have any particular political or territorial ambitions. Therefore, the Bosnian Jews did not distribute aid based on ethnicity, and they assisted all of those who needed it. Firstly, Jews distributed 40% of pharmaceuticals in Sarajevo during the siege. Secondly, Jews stockpiled food supplies before the war, and they provided meals free of charge to anyone who could reach the Jewish quarter. Thirdly, Jews started their own religious schools, but quickly expanded them to incorporate Catholics (Croats), Orthodox (Serbs), and Muslims (Bosniaks). Lastly, Bosnian Jews were free to enter and leave Sarajevo. Of the 3000 escapees, only 1/3 were Jewish. Ultimately, Professor Friedman highlighted that Jews were the only people the other warring parties could trust.

After the war, the constitutional system established by the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, more commonly referred to as the Dayton Accords, excluded Jews and all other non-constituent (i.e., non-Serb, -Croat, and -Bosniak) ethnic groups from obtaining political appointments. Many Jews were born in mixed marriages, which means that denying one parent’s ancestry is necessary to participate in contemporary Bosnian political culture. Although the European Court of Human Rights ruled in favor of Jews and other minorities, little has been done to alleviate their situation. Given constitutional discrimination coupled with the lack of exclusively Jewish families in BiH today (only 5-6), Friedman argues that identity dilemmas persist amongst many Bosnian Jews.

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China, Russia, and the World: Focus on Africa
By Andrew Jacobs

REEI has joined forces with the IU East Asian Studies Center to launch an annual symposium entitled “China, Russia, and the World.” The successor to REEI’s annual Roundtable on Post-communism, the symposium will focus on the political, cultural, and economic engagement of Russia and China with a particular world region that will change from year to year. The inaugural symposium, “China, Russia, and the World: Focus on Africa,” took place on April 24 in the IMU Oak Room before a near capacity audience of students, faculty, and members of the Bloomington community. Featured panelists included Padraig Carmody, Lecturer in Geography at Trinity College (Dublin); Maxim Matusevich, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Russian and East European Studies Program at Seton Hall University; and Tang Xiaoyang, Resident Scholar at the Carnegie-Tsinghua Center for Global Policy and Assistant Professor of International Relations at Tsinghua University. IU’s Gardner Bovingdon, Associate Professor of Central Eurasian Studies, and Alex Lichtenstein, Associate Professor of History, served as discussants.

As Africa’s largest trading partner and one of the biggest investors on the continent, China naturally looms large over any discussion of foreign activities in Africa. Carmody, author of The Rise of the BRICs in Africa: The Geopolitics of South-South Relations (Zed Books, 2013) and The New Scramble for Africa (Polity Press, 2011), noted that while China’s increasing importance disrupts the traditional narrative of Western dominance, its goals are still the same as those of the West: market access, opportunities for its own corporations, and a desire for raw materials. While it does not offer an alternative path to development, China practices “flexible hegemony.” In contrast to the West, China refrains from imposing conditions on its investments and is willing to work with both democratically elected leaders and dictators on the continent. Xiaoyang, whose current research focuses on differences between China and countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development with respect to aid models and the dynamics of economic development in Africa, addressed the often difficult relationship between Chinese companies and local Africans. Although Chinese companies employ far more local workers than imported labor from China, he noted, the locals usually work labor-intensive jobs while the Chinese dominate in management and technological positions. Tensions over workplace conditions have also exploded, according to Xiaoyang. Matusevich, whose publications include Africa in Russia, Russia in Africa: Three Centuries of Encounters (Africa World Press, 2006) and No Easy Row for a Russian Hoe: Ideology and Pragmatism in Soviet-Nigerian Relations, 1960-1991 (Africa World Press, 2003), offered an overview of the Soviet Union’s engagement with Africa from the 1920s into the 1980s. What started as a “romance” between Africans and the Soviet Union, as Marxist-Leninism rejected imperialism and the USSR positioned itself as an opponent of racism worldwide, later developed into a more pragmatic relationship when the Soviet Union tried to influence the course of development in various African countries. Frustrating many Africans, the Soviet leaders often supported groups or individuals they believed would emerge victorious, such as Idi Amin in Uganda, rather than those with whom they putatively shared values. When the Soviet Union withdrew from the continent in 1985, according to Matusevich, many African elites were disappointed because their ability to use the Cold War superpower rivalry to gain leverage disappeared. (Carmody noted that China has filled this void.) In regards to future engagement, Matusevich was not optimistic. Russia, while still viewed as an alternative to the Washington Consensus, has little to offer Africa other than weapons and natural resources, the latter of which Africa has in abundance.

The presentations of featured panelists and remarks of discussants gave way to a lively and extended round of questions from the audience. Russia and China in their engagements with the European Union will serve as the focus of “China, Russia, and the World” in 2016.

Andrew Jacobs is a PhD student in History
Faculty/Staff News


**Owen V. Johnson (Journalism)** was a guest of the Faculty of Journalism at Moscow State University in March and April. During his visit, he conducted seminars on the history of Russian journalism and the history of US correspondents in Russia and also gave a number of informal talks. He delivered the principal address at a ceremony to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the death of World War II correspondent Ernie Pyle on April 18. The ceremony was held at the “Punchbowl” cemetery in Honolulu, where Pyle is buried.

**Padraic Kenney (History/International Studies)** presented papers drawn from his research on political prisoners at a conference at Harvard entitled “A History of Penal Regimes in Global Context,” and at Boğazici University in Istanbul. He delivered the annual Governor Roger D. Branigin Lecture in History at Franklin College. The talk was entitled: “The Road to Donetsk: Why Does Ukraine Matter?” He has been named Chair of the Department of International Studies and will take up that position in July.

**Emily Liverman (REEI)** presented “Examining REEI Networks!: Creating community for graduate students” at the NACADA Region 5 conference in Indianapolis, Indiana April 9-10, 2015.

**Alex Rabinowitch (History)** has been awarded a retired faculty grant-in-aid of research from the Office of the Vice Provost for Research.


**Steve Raymer (Journalism)** provided his photographs for a photographic and text exhibit, “In the Shadow of Cortes: From Veracruz to Mexico City,” prepared by Kathleen Myers (History), that opened at Michigan State University on March 26.

**Mark Roseman (History)** gave the paper “Victim Diaries and Holocaust Memory: Some Reflections” at the workshop “Reappraising the Anne Frank Diaries: Contexts and Receptions” organized by the Fritz Bauer Institut, Frankfurt, the Lichtenberg-Kolleg, Goettingen, and the Department of History and Civilization, European University Institute, Florence. He recently served as external evaluator for both the Institute for the Study of German Jews (Hamburg) and the History Faculty of Oxford University.

**Mark Trotter (REEI)** presented “The c-test in assessment of proficiency for less-commonly-taught-languages” at the Title VI Project Directors’ Meeting, held in Washington, DC in March. His “ACTR Olympiada of Spoken Russian: Still Thriving After All These Years” appeared in the Special 40th Anniversary Edition of *ACTR Letter: Newsletter of the American Council of Teachers of Russian*. 
It is with great sadness that REEI announces the death on May 18 of Robert Campbell, who served as director of the Russian and East European Institute in 1984-1986. The following obituary appears at http://www.indianagreenburials.com/robert-campbell22.html on the website of Indiana Green Burials, where condolences can be sent.

Robert Wellington Campbell, Distinguished Professor of Economics at Indiana University, died on May 18 at his home in Bloomington. He was 89.

He was an internationally distinguished expert on the economic systems of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and taught at Indiana for three decades, serving as chairman of the economics department and director of the Russian and East European Institute.

He was the husband of Laura Mason Campbell for 65 years, who was by his side for adventures of many kinds, including raising six children. He was a very special kind of father. Through example, he passed on to his children a love of learning and clear thinking. He took them all over the country and the world. He fostered in all of them a love of nature and adventure, and he passed on the values of family over money, and of satisfying work over status.

He began life poor, but a brilliant mind and an ability to do hard intellectual work took him far in life and in his field.

He was born in 1926 in Wichita KS, where his family had a truck farm and a greenhouse that kept them fed during the Great Depression, though he remembers shoes his father soled with tires and a house sided with slats from fruit crates. The experience of the Depression fueled his interest in economics. He might never have gone to college if the teachers at his high school had not suggested he take the exam for the Summerfield scholarship at the University of Kansas. He was awarded the scholarship, and earned a BA and MA there. His schooling was interrupted by a stint in the Army, which he spent learning Japanese in an intensive language program.

After meeting her in the student co-op housing at Kansas, and running after her barefoot in the snow to talk to her, he married Laura Mason of San Jose, California, in 1950.

He then went to Harvard, where he earned an MA from the Russian area studies program and a PhD in economics in 1956, and learned Russian. He began his teaching career at the University of Southern California, then moved in 1961 to Indiana University, where the Russian and East European Institute offered a perfect fit for his interests. At Indiana he taught general economics and courses on Soviet economy. He traveled to the Soviet Union during The Cold War and scoured scanty information to put together a picture of the Soviet economy. He traveled to the Soviet Union during The Cold War and scoured scanty information to put together a picture of the Soviet economy. He traveled to the Soviet Union during The Cold War and scoured scanty information to put together a picture of the Soviet economy. He traveled to the Soviet Union during The Cold War and scoured scanty information to put together a picture of the Soviet economy. He traveled to the Soviet Union during The Cold War and scoured scanty information to put together a picture of the Soviet economy.

He was expert on Soviet energy affairs and energy policy, the Soviet R&D establishment, telecommunications in the USSR, and Soviet military affairs. His book "Soviet Economic Power" went through four editions and served many non-economists in Soviet studies as their basic introduction to the economic element of their field. Another publication of which he was very proud was an article on the heretical discovery of modern economics by the Russians Novozhilov and Kantorovich that caused a furor in the USSR.

He was named a distinguished professor at IU in 1987, and received the Ryan award for contributions to international programs in 2005.

He spent many deeply happy times with his family on summer trips to a family cabin in California, on a plot of wooded land south of Bloomington, and on many trips abroad. Family came with him to semester-long stays in Glasgow, Tokyo and Bucharest. Laura accompanied him often as he traveled to national and international conferences.

When the Soviet Union collapsed in the early 1990s, he began a second career as a consultant and advisor to governments and institutions in the former Soviet countries, including Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. He also worked on improving economics education in new countries where economists who had been trained in a rigidly Marxist perspective had little inkling of modern economics or how a modern economy works. He spent several stints in Kiev, Ukraine, where he organized an MA program in economics.

Despite his professional activities, he was able to take off several months in the summer, spending them with his family. He and Laura drove from Indiana to California most summers for 50 years, taking every possible route from East to West. They loved the mountains and wild western expanses.

His family has wonderful memories of him: most happily in the mountains, with his feet in a stream surrounded by
wildflowers, or supervising a long line of children and grandchildren churning ice cream in an ancient ice cream freezer. Of him tying the luggage on the top of the station wagon, building a patio out of discarded limestone, sitting at the kitchen table picking black walnuts out of shells, spinning long stories about adventures in the jungle and shepherding six children through an airport. He was also a proud, loving, and very observant grandfather.

He is survived by his wife Laura, children Sarah of Bellingham, WA, Andrew (Belle Rehder), of Socorro NM, Polly (Neil Sharrow) of Cincinnati, Benjamin of Milwaukee and Emily Campbell (Tom Ford) and Alice Talcott (Malcolm) of Oakland, CA. Also by his brothers Gene and Charles Campbell of Wichita and sister Mary Brown of Salem, OR. And by his grandchildren Kevin Mitchell, Alison and Robert Campbell, Louise and Sally Sharrow, Alexi Campbell, and Rosie and Will Talcott.

Visiting Scholars

**Olga Ivanishcheva** is professor and chair of the Department of Intercultural Communication, Journalism, Language and Theory at Murmansk State Humanities University. Her many scholarly publications cover a broad range of questions in the fields of sociolinguistics, ethnolinguistics, intercultural communications, and journalism. In March, she visited the IU Bloomington campus as a participant in the “US-Russia Journalism Teachers Exchange: Cross-Cultural Enhancements to Journalism Programs at Regional Institutions of Higher Education,” a program coordinated by REEI in partnership with the Regional Press Institute (Saint Petersburg, Russia) and funded by a US Department of State Peer-to-Peer grant. While on the IUB campus, she delivered a public lecture in Russian entitled «Русские саами: прошлое и настоящее коренного малочисленного народа Кольского Севера» [The Russian Saami: Past and Present of an Indigenous Minority in the Kola Peninsula] and spoke to many classes in the Department of Journalism on issues pertaining to contemporary Russian media.

**Kristina Shabelnikova** is a senior undergraduate major in Journalism at Petrozavodsk State University. In April, she visited the IU Bloomington campus as a participant in the “US-Russia Journalism Teachers Exchange: Cross-Cultural Enhancements to Journalism Programs at Regional Institutions of Higher Education,” a program coordinated by REEI in partnership with the Regional Press Institute (Saint Petersburg, Russia) and funded by a US Department of State Peer-to-Peer grant. While on the IUB campus, she explored her special interest in journalistic photography.

**Ivan Vasilenko** is a senior undergraduate major in Journalism at Novgorod State University. In March and April, he visited the IU Bloomington campus as a participant in the “US-Russia Journalism Teachers Exchange: Cross-Cultural Enhancements to Journalisti Programs at Regional Institutions of Higher Education,” a program coordinated by REEI in partnership with the Regional Press Institute (Saint Petersburg, Russia) and funded by a US Department of State Peer-to-Peer grant. While on the IUB campus, he conducted research into media coverage of the 1980 Moscow Olympics and 2014 Sochi Olympics.

Alumni News

**Suzanne Ament** (PhD, History, 1996; REEI Certificate, 1997) announces with sadness that Nikita, her seeing eye dog, was laid to rest April 3, 2015. Many of you may remember Nikita, the yellow lab who loved everyone and frequently attended AAAASS/ASEEES and SCSS conferences. Nikita worked from 2003 until her retirement in August 2012. Suzanne now works with a black lab by the name of Ulla.

**Olga Bueva** (BA, International Studies, 2009; MA, REEI, 2011) has been serving as Assistant Director for the
Indiana University Summer Language Workshop since October, 2013.

**Jim Bukowski (PhD, History, 1972)** performs regularly in the comic operettas of Gilbert & Sullivan in Ventura County, California. His most recent shows include *Iolanthe* (2015), *The Mikado* (2014), *Pirates of Penzance* (2014) and *Ruddigore* (2013). He has also acted in other local shows including *1776*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *Scrooge, the Musical*, while continuing to work as the insurance risk manager for a construction management firm.

**Dan McGurrin (SWSEEL, 1995; MBA, 1996),** after completing his degree at IU, worked for USAID in Hungary for a couple of years, then began his career in Executive Education at Indiana University, Boston University, University of North Carolina, and now NC State University. In May 2015, he defended his PhD dissertation, “Investigating Shared Norms in Multicultural Teams: Exploring How Team Member Scripts and Cognitive Adjustment Strategies Impact the Norm Formation Process.” This qualitative case study of an interculturally sensitive multicultural student team explored the process by which project team members attempt to overcome their differences and leverage their past experiences in finding ways to work together. This study was the culmination of his PhD program at the NC State College of Education, Department of Workforce and Human Resource Development. In 2015 he also published a case study in the *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership* titled “Winning is Everything: The Intersection of Academics and Athletics at Prestige University.” He is currently the Director of Executive Education at NC State University’s Poole College of Management.

**Richard Miles (MA, Government and REEI Certificate, 1964),** having retired from service as an Ambassador, was recalled to active duty by the State Department and since February 2015, has been serving as Charge d’affaires of the American Embassy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

**Doyle Stevick (PhD, International and Comparative Education, 2006)** is currently an Associate Professor in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of South Carolina. In 2013-2014 he had a second Fulbright to Estonia and in April 2015 he published *As the Witnesses Fall Silent: 21st Century Holocaust Education in Curriculum, Policy and Practice*. Editors: Gross, Zehavit, Stevick, E. Doyle (Springer)


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**Student News**

**Knar Abrahamyan** (Music) has received a Fulbright US Student Award to conduct research in Moscow, Russia during the 2015-2016 academic year. She will focus on the history of Russian music theory and operas by Soviet composers, particularly Sergei Prokofiev and Dmitri Shostakovich.

**Charles Bonds** (History) has received a Fulbright US Student Grant for 2015-16 in Kyiv, Ukraine to study Yiddish writers in the wake of Stalinism and the Second World War.

**Alexandra Cotofana** (Anthropology) organized and chaired the panel “Religion and Magic in Socialist and post-Socialist Contexts” at the 2014 ASEEES Convention, where she also presented a paper on “Wandering and Magic at the border of Romania and Ukraine.” In March she was the Director of the In Light Human Rights Documentary Film Festival at IU Cinema. She served as Organizing Assistant for the 2015 American Ethnologist Society (AES) Spring Conference (San Diego, CA), where she chaired the panel “Computers, Sexuality and Identity: Mediated Sex in the 21st Century” and presented a paper called “Want to move to Bucharest? Videochat Economics and Perceptions on Sex Work.” At the AES, she also organized a workshop with Professor Robert Lemelson (Foundation for Psychocultural Research) on Visual Anthropology.

**Michael Hancock-Parmer** (History/CEUS) presented a chapter of his dissertation at the 2015 Midwest Russian History Workshop (March 27-28) at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan. The working title of that chapter was “Historiography of the Bare-Footed Flight of the Kazakhs.”

**Katie Hiatt Mattila** (History) has accepted a College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship for next year. She also presented “Politics, Priests, and Paranoia: A Comparative Perspective on the Religious Repression of the
Ukrainian Orthodox Churches, 1922-1938” at the Midwest Russian Historians Workshop at Michigan State University on March 28, for which she received an REEI Mellon Conference Travel Grant. She also presented a paper on Ukrainian Orthodoxy under Stalin at the Association for the Study of Nationalities Conference at the Harriman Institute at Columbia University on April 24.

Alyssa Meyer (CEUS/SPEA) has been named a 2015-2016 Boren Fellow and will return to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan to continue advanced level language study and conduct research on energy access for her MA thesis. She is also the recipient of a US Department of State Critical Languages Scholarship, which will enable her to study Azerbaijani this summer in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Elena Popa (Anthropology) was awarded a Mellon Innovating International Research, Teaching, and Collaboration Graduate Dissertation Fellowship by the IU Office of the Vice Provost for Research to conduct her dissertation research in France during academic year 2015-2016 on “Politics of Belonging in the European Union: The Case of Romanian Migrants in France.” In February, Elena presented “‘Je suis roumain (aussi)’: Citizenship and Belonging among Romanian Migrants in France” at the annual IU “Symposium of Anthropology Graduate Student Association.” In March, she presented “Ideologies of (non)-return: An Examination of Transnationalism among Romanian Migrant Women in France” at the “Biennial Association for Women in Slavic Studies Conference: Women, Gender, and Transnationalism-Theory and Practice” in Lexington, Kentucky, and “Exclusionary Inclusion: Incomplete Citizenship among Romanian Migrants in France after 1989” at the IU “Annual International Romanian Studies Conference,” which she co-organized. Also in March, her review of Ruben Andersson’s “Illegality, Inc.: Clandestine Migration and the Business of Bordering Europe” (University of California Press) was published in CritCom: A Forum for Research & Commentary on Europe, by the Council for European Studies, New York.

Katie Stewart (Political Science) has received a Fulbright US Student Award and Mellon Innovating International Research, Teaching and Collaboration Graduate Dissertation Fellowship to conduct research in Russia for her dissertation on the dynamics of nation-building in a multi-ethnic federal state. She will be based in Petrozavodsk but anticipates trips to Kazan and Ulan-Ude in order to identify and compare Russian nation-building strategies in three ethnic republics: Karelia, Tatarstan, and Buryatia. She will also examine variation in mass responses among both the ethnic Russian and titular populations of each republic to determine the effects of different types of nation-building strategies.

Alex Tipei (History) is the recipient of the Department of History’s Susan B. O’Kell Award for Outstanding Performance as an Associate Instructor.

Veronika Trotter (Slavic) is the recipient of the Jerzy Kolodziej Excellence in Teaching Award. Established in 2013 to recognize exceptional teaching, the award is named in honor of Dr. Jerzy Kolodziej (Slavic, BA ’62; Slavic, PhD ’84, Slavic professor emeritus), who spent over thirty years working with Russian and Polish languages at Indiana University, including more than twenty years as director of the Summer Workshop in Slavic and Eastern European Languages (SWSEEL). It is awarded annually to one graduate student associate instructor in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures.

Benjamin Turney (Slavic major) has been named ACTR Post-Secondary Russian Scholar Laureate Award for Indiana University in 2015.

Virginia Whealton (Music) is a recipient of a 2015-16 Mellon Award for her graduate dissertation “Ideology and the Geographical Imagination: Parisian Musical Travelogues, 1830-70.”

Indiana University students figured prominently in the 16th Annual ACTR National Post-Secondary Russian Essay Contest. This year’s contest featured 1087 essays, all written on the topic “A very interesting day in my life /Очень интересный день в моей жизни” and submitted by students at 68 universities, colleges, and other institutions across the United States. Each essay was read and independently ranked by three judges. Stephanie Morris (REEI) won a gold medal and Zackary Suhr (REEI) a silver medal, while Blake Patterson (Slavic major) and Juan del Valle Coello (Slavic and International Studies major) took bronze medals in the contest. REEI offers enthusiastic congratulations to these students on their outstanding achievements!
Everyday Life in Russia Past and Present
By Andrew Jacobs

The Russian and East European Institute is delighted to announce the publication by Indiana University Press of *Everyday Life in Russia Past and Present*. Co-edited by Choi Chatterjee (History, PhD, 1995), David Ransel (Emeritus Byrnes Professor of History and former director of REEI), Mary Cavender, and Karen Petrone, the collection of essays is the fruit of an interdisciplinary workshop on “Everyday Life in Russia and the USSR” that took place in May 2010. Co-organized by David Ransel and Sarah Phillips, Professor of Anthropology and Interim Director of REEI, the three-day workshop was coordinated by REEI with the financial support of various IU offices, including New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities, the College of Arts and Humanities Institute, the Office of the Vice President for International Affairs, and the Multidisciplinary Ventures and Seminars Fund.

The 17 essays in the book examine various aspects of daily life in Russia across the Imperial, Soviet, and Postsocialist periods. Featuring the work of scholars in the fields of history, anthropology, literature, film studies, and sociology, the work displays an engaging variety of methodological and disciplinary perspectives on such topics as Soviet mass housing, the post-Soviet *kommunalka*, the theme of motherhood in Brezhnev-era literature (in a contribution by Elizabeth Skomp/BA Slavic and Comp Lit, REEI certificate, 1998), the loss of previously public recreational spaces to private developers, the reintegration of veterans from the Afghan war into society, and the experiences of American visitors to the Soviet Union. For more information, please consult the webpage for the book at: http://www.iupress.indiana.edu/product_info.php?cPath=1037_1183&products_id=807173.

Andrew Jacobs is a PhD student in History

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**McCloskey Lecture**

*continued from page 8*

The annual McCloskey Lecture honors the memory of the late Frank McCloskey, who represented Indiana’s 8th District in Congress from 1983 to 1995. As a congressman, McCloskey took a passionate interest in the tragic conflicts of the former Yugoslavia. Withstanding the resistance of his party and the White House, McCloskey persistently advocated for US action to stop the genocide in former Yugoslavia. His efforts in large part spurred US involvement in the diplomatic process that eventually led to the signing of the Dayton Accords in 1995. After an unsuccessful re-election campaign in 1994, McCloskey devoted all of his energies to the cause of ending ethnic strife in the Balkans, making six trips to Bosnia and serving the National Democratic Institute as Kosovo Director. In addition to the McCloskey Lecture series, REEI also administers the McCloskey Fund which perpetuates the legacy of Frank McCloskey by means of the McCloskey Fellowship, an exchange program for IU students and young civic activists from the Balkans.

Kyle Norweg is an MA student in REEI

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REEI’s A/V library is going on sabbatical

As REEI prepares to move into the new Global and International Studies Building (GISB), we will be boxing up our offices. The A/V library, including DVDs and VHS tapes, will be going on sabbatical as we prepare for the move.

*If you need to rent an REEI DVD or VHS for Summer 2015 or Fall 2015, please submit the request to us at reei@indiana.edu by JULY 1, 2015:*

**ATTN: DVD/VHS request**

The move means that we will be unable to fill requests from July until we are settled in the new building. Please continue to check the REEI website for updates on the lending library and REEI’s move.
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