It is a privilege to serve as REEI’s interim director this spring—I am enjoying an exhilarating tour through the vital ways that REEI contributes to the scholarly, pedagogical, and outreach missions of Indiana University. As one of just eleven U.S. Department of Education-funded Title VI National Resource/FLAS Centers for Russia and Eastern Europe in the country, REEI plays an essential role in advancing research, teaching, language instruction, and outreach related to Russia and East European area studies. Ongoing tumult in the region—armed conflict in Ukraine and strained relations with Russia; widespread economic crisis; the changing face of global energy sectors; and more—reinforce the importance of REEI’s mission to advance engaged scholarship, prepare the next generation of scholars and scholarly citizens, and foster meaningful, productive partnerships across national, disciplinary, and ideological boundaries.

One exciting initiative this spring that furthers each of these goals is the “US-Russia Journalism Teachers Exchange: Cross-Cultural Enhancements to Journalism Programs at Regional Institutions of Higher Education,” a program coordinated by REEI and funded by a US Department of State Peer-to-Peer grant. This program is especially timely in light of the recent challenges posed to media freedom in Russia, France, and elsewhere. From January to April, three instructors and two advanced students of journalism from Russian member institutions of the Association of Teachers of New Schools of Journalism will make individual two-week visits to IU to consult with colleagues in journalism and related disciplines, liaise with representatives of local media outlets (e.g. The Herald Times, WFIU, the Indiana Daily Student), and give presentations about their own research and journalistic practice. The exchange will culminate in a May 2015 conference in Saint Petersburg, which will bring together these Russian participants with five journalism instructors from the US, three of whom teach at minority-serving institutions in the US southeast, after the US delegation completes a two-week seminar in contemporary Russian society and journalism at IU-Bloomington and in Saint Petersburg with the Regional Press Institute. This is just one of the many creative ways that REEI seeks to advance scholarship on and in the region, foster cutting-edge expertise, and build bridges between scholars, professionals, and students.

And we have many more exciting developments on the horizon. A cohort of MA students is preparing for graduation this spring; these young professionals are excited about launching their careers and helping to advance research, business, civil society, and security in the region. We look forward to welcoming an equally motivated cohort of Masters students in the fall. This autumn REEI will join nearly 30 other departments and centers as part of IU’s new School for...
Former US Ambassador to Russia Visits IU

By Andrew Jacobs

The Honorable James F. Collins, an IU alumnus (MA, History, 1965; Honorary Doctorate of Laws, 1999) who served as US Ambassador to the Russian Federation from 1997 to 2001, returned to the IU-Bloomington campus for a three-day visit in early December that featured a well-attended lecture on the current state of US-Russia relations as well as a luncheon with REEI and REEI-affiliated graduate students and meetings with REEI faculty and a delegation of economics faculty from numerous Russian institutions of higher education.

Currently Senior Associate at the Russian and Eurasia Program and Diplomat in Residence at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Ambassador Collins delivered his lecture in the IMU Dogwood Room on the afternoon of Tuesday, December 2. Referring to the ongoing situation in Eastern Ukraine as a “tragedy” for both Ukraine and Russia, Ambassador Collins also characterized it as a major setback for those who have desired better East-West relations since the closing of the Cold War, one that has brought Russian-American relations to their lowest point in nearly 30 years. He discussed the Ukrainian crisis as a reflection of larger internal developments within Russia. Vladimir Putin’s response both to the mass protests precipitated by his imminent return to the Russian presidency in 2012 and to repeated challenges to Russian influence abroad (EU and NATO enlargement, the Arab Spring) has been a “default to tradition and the all too familiar in Russia”—an intensification of “discipline” at home and a more aggressive foreign policy. Rather than continue on the path of integration with the West, Putin’s Russia, in the view of Ambassador Collins, has turned “inward,” seeking to expand its influence in the near abroad (namely the Eurasian Economic Union), while curtailing American and European influence in Russia. In addition, Putin has sought to position Russia as the new global leader of nations favoring a multi-polar world order and opposed to America’s alleged “assault on traditional values.” “The creeping authoritarianism in Russia and the increasingly strident state propaganda” have “empowered the mediocre and least attractive in what now passes as official Russian intellectual leadership” and led to “the debasement of historical and cultural thinking that dominates public discourse in a way that is difficult to envision.” Such have been the domestic consequences for a country whose leader increasingly sees himself as an opponent of the West, according to Ambassador Collins. He suggested that a return to “traditional forms of diplomacy,” rather than sanctions, hold the most promise for a rapprochement between Russian and the US, whose shared interests, along with Russian’s integration into the global economy, can serve as future “building blocks” in efforts to restore more constructive relations between the two countries.

Among the many who attended Ambassador Collins’ lecture were members of a delegation of Russian economics instructors on campus for a two-week professional development program coordinated by the IU Department of Economics and REEI with funding support from the US-Russian Foundation, which Ambassador Collins serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees (see related story on page 3). Both Ambassador Collins and the Russian delegation were feted at a reception in their honor on Monday, December 1 at the IMU University Club. In addition to his talk on Russia-American relations, Ambassador Collins spoke at an informal luncheon for REEI and REEI-affiliated graduate students about his decades of service in the US State Department, offering valuable insights and engaging stories of his experiences for those interested in a career in public and civil service, as well as in the international sphere more generally.

Andrew Jacobs is a PhD student in History
“Pristine air and visually appealing natural surroundings” replete with “squirrels, rabbits, skunks, opossums, and even deer—an alternative world of serenity and carefreeness.” This is how Elena Bezglasnaia of Samara State Economics University described the Indiana University-Bloomington campus upon completion of the Improving Economics Instruction in Russian Universities Program in which she and ten other economics instructors from a broad array of Russian institutions of higher education participated during the first two weeks of December, 2014. Bezglasnaia voiced the sentiments of her fellow participants who extolled the quality of economics instruction and the cultural amenities of Bloomington with equal enthusiasm.

A joint project of the Yegor Gaidar Foundation and the US-Russian Foundation (USRF), the program was implemented by the IU Department of Economics and the Russian and East European Institute as recipients of a $75,000 grant from USRF. Apart from Bezglasnaia, the Russian instructors included Alla Bylinskaia (Lobachevsky State University of Nizhnii Novgorod), Oksana Evseeva (Saint Petersburg State Politechnic University), Anna Elkina (Volgograd State University), Elena Leont’eva (Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration), Viktor Malein (Stolypin Volga Region Institute of Administration), Mikhail Nazarov (Samara State Economics University), Dinara Peskova (Bashkir Academy of Public Administration and Management), Iuliia Varlamova (Kazan’ Federal University), Natal’ia Vorob’eva (Far Eastern Federal University), and Liudmila Simonova (Tiumen’ State University). The delegation was accompanied by Alfiya Mosalova, USRF Program Officer, who coordinated the visit on the Russian side, and Svetlana Merkushina, Senior Manager of Educational Programs at the Gaidar Foundation. Logistical arrangements for the two-week visit were coordinated by Mark Trotter, REEI Associate Director, with the enormously helpful assistance of Sofia Priazhkinina, a doctoral student in Economics who also hails from Russia.

The professional development segment of the program, drawn up and coordinated by Professor Michael Kaganovich, Chair of the Economics Department, consisted of seminars on economics instruction led by Kaganovich and colleagues Professor Michael Alexeev, Senior Lecturer Paul Graf, Professor Arlington Williams, and Professor James Walker, as well as visits to a diverse spectrum of economics classes. Complementing the intensive round of seminars and class visits, a copious schedule of cultural activities for the Russian instructors featured a performance of “The Nutcracker” by the IU Ballet Theater, a recital by violinist Joshua Bell and pianist Menachem Pressler, tours of the IU Lilly Library and the Monroe County Historical Center, pizza and drinks with the Russian Cultural Association, and a weekend in Chicago. REEI, the Economics Department, and the School of Global and International Studies welcomed the Russian delegation and the Honorable James Collins, former US Ambassador to the Russian Federation and USRF Chair of the Board of Trustees (see related story on page 2), at a reception in their honor held on December 1 at the IMU University Club. The Russian instructors returned to the IMU University Club on December 11 for a farewell banquet where they received certificates of achievement and enjoyed a festive and convivial dinner with Economics Department faculty.
One of REEI’s newest affiliate faculty members, Associate Professor Elizabeth Dunn joined the IU Department of Geography over the past summer following many years of service at the University of Colorado. Professor Dunn recently took time out of her busy schedule to answer questions about her background, current research, and perspectives on the South Caucasus.

Please tell us a little about your background and education.

I went to graduate school at Johns Hopkins University in anthropology, actually. In those years Johns Hopkins had a huge multi-disciplinary group of highly distinguished people who worked on world-systems theory: Sidney Mintz, a well-known anthropologist; David Harvey, the world’s most cited geographer; and Ashraf Ghani, who is now the president of Afghanistan. I turned my attention to Eastern Europe in the early 90s when the transition was just getting underway. Many of us were thinking about the transition, not just from communism to capitalism, whatever capitalism was going to mean there, but in terms of transformations within global capitalism itself from Fordism to post-Fordism. So I got interested in Eastern Europe because I wanted to see the intersection of those two transformations.

What does your current work entail?

I am finishing up a book on the aftermath of the 2008 war between Russia and Georgia. Between 2009 and 2012 I spent a total of 16 months in what was basically a refugee camp for displaced people outside of Gori, Georgia. I became interested not only in the ways that people survived as recipients of humanitarian aid but also in the ways they had to reconstitute themselves as social and political actors. Humanitarianism, while it did a lot to keep them physically alive, really made it harder to socially reintegrate, which was what the Georgian government wanted them to do precisely because they had a quarter of a million other refugees who had never reintegrated after the 1992-1993 war in Abkhazia. Although that was the goal of the Georgian government, almost everything that happened with the Georgian government and international donors made it impossible or at the least really difficult for people to socially reintegrate. So I’m writing a book about that—the existential dilemmas of life in the humanitarian condition.

What got you interested in Georgia originally?

It was total serendipity or an accident. I conducted my first fieldwork in an ex-communist factory in Poland, one of the first to be privatized after the fall of the Berlin Wall. It was a canning plant, and I actually knew a lot about canning because I had spent 18 months working in that factory. The son of Sidney Mintz, a great anthropologist of food, is Eric Mintz who ran the Center for Disease Control’s Foodborne and Diarrheal Diseases Branch. Eric called his dad and said that he had a project where he was sending a team to Georgia, the Republic of Georgia, which I had never heard of—like, never heard of ever—because they had the world’s highest rate of botulism. This was before the 2003 Rose Revolution, so, in fact, many people in Georgia were still living without power or heat, but they were really trying to replicate their Soviet way of life, which included these industrially canned foods. They were canning the foods themselves, but, of course, because you need a pressure cooker to bring the temperature in a jar of food above the boiling point to sterilize it, they were giving themselves whopping cases of botulism. I trooped out with a group of epidemiologists, and we started trying to figure out why some areas of Georgia were recording enormous rates of botulism whereas others, for example up by the Abkhaz border, in Zugdidi, had almost no botulism. They brought me into their project to understand people’s foodways and also to understand the relationship between this disease and the larger political landscape in Georgia. These factors were deeply related because as President Shevardnadze let the economy collapse, all the canning factories collapsed.
and people who were out of work couldn’t buy industrially canned food or couldn’t buy very much of it. I got to make three trips there where we just ran all over the country like crazy people. The interesting thing was that Georgia was horrible then. It was a failed state. It was like the Somalia of the former Soviet Union in a lot of ways, and yet I just fell in love with it. A friend of mine once called Georgia “a terrible and beloved country,” and that’s what it remains to me—both a terrible and beloved country. Certainly in terms of infrastructure and economics, Georgia has changed radically since the Rose Revolution, but it still remains highly subject to dramatic political shifts. Just in the years that I’ve been working there, which is now since 2002—so 13 years, there has been a revolution, an invasion, and the first democratic transition of power to a not-so-stable coalition government. It’s hard to be bored in Georgia.

The South Caucasus generally does not get much attention. Why do you think it is an important area for study?

A friend of mine once called the South Caucasus the “crumple zone of Eurasia.” You know how cars have a zone between the bumper and the frame of the car, which is designed to smash in case of an accident? The South Caucasus is in many ways the “crumple zone of empires.” Empires tend to expand outwards into the South Caucasus. The history of that entire region has been essentially shaped by expanding empires clashing on its terrain. It’s not just a crossroads but also a crumple zone. One of the things that makes it really interesting right now is that it is not just the empires that are geographically proximate to it like Russia, Turkey, or Iran, that are clashing. Now the United States and Western Europe, which have their own forms of imperialism and needs for strategic footholds in the region, have brought the South Caucasus into a global geopolitics. I think that the South Caucasus is not just interesting in and of itself, although it’s that too, but because it’s a place where global geopolitics is playing out. We’re seeing a resurgent Russia and a US, whose power in the region in many ways is waning. In many ways the South Caucasus is a place to see those big global geopolitical shifts.

What projects are on the horizon for you?

Professor Padraic Kenney (History) and I are considering a project about the CIA’s network of black sites in Poland and Romania. I’m interested in encampment and incarceration as political technologies, and this is one of the most profound examples of that. The black sites have been portrayed in many ways as locations that are outside of normal space. It’s a global gulag archipelago, but the sites themselves are not seen as really being in Poland or Afghanistan. I wonder how these sites are situated inside real terrains, and I’m interested in the reactions of the Polish population and the Polish government to the revelation of what has happened in these black sites. That may be a direction that I’m heading. I’m also considering a project on encampment and migration that examines Chechen migrants who tried to enter Germany and through the EU’s Dublin Process but have been booted back to their point of entry, which is Bialystok, Poland. The movements of the people of the north and south Caucasus around the region intrigues me because they are intersecting with these globalized regimes of governance and discipline. What I’m really interested in is not just Eastern Europe or the South Caucasus but the former Soviet bloc as it is related to the world. I think that studying these margins, places where different political and economic regimes interact and conflict is really my hallmark. I’m a person who’s interested in the fuzzy edges.

Elizabeth Tomlinson is an MA student in REEI
Faculty International Conference Travel Grants: Maria Bucur (History), Aurelian Craiutu (Political Science), Craig Cravens (Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures), Jacob Emery (Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures), Halina Goldberg (Music), Bryan McCormick (Public Health), Ron Sela (Central Eurasian Studies), Dmitry Shlapentokh (History, IU-South Bend), Timothy Waters (Law)

Faculty Grants-in-Aid of Research: Jacob Emery (Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures), Owen Johnson (Journalism), Ariann Stern-Gottschalk (Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures)

Faculty Summer Research Fellowship: Patrick Michelson (Religious Studies)

Student Conference Travel Grants: Martina Barnas (Education), Amanda Fisher (Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures), Brianna Lynn Greenwald (REEI), Brandon Joseph Miliate (Political Science), Rebecca Mueller (REEI/Public Health), Magdalena Mulle (Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures), Leona Musgrave (History), Elena Popa (Anthropology), Sebastian Schulman (History), Al Simonchyk (Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures), Katie Stewart (Political Science), Alex Tipei (History), Lisa Vest (Music), Mary Werden (History), Michael Young (Folklore and Ethnomusicology), Ksenia Zanon (Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures)

Student Grants-in-Aid of Research: Charles Bonds (History), Brianna Lynn Greenwald (REEI), Alexander Herbert (History), Hubert Izienicki (Sociology), Kyle Norweg (REEI), Anya Quiltsch (History), Damon Smith (REEI/SPEA), Virginia Wheaton (Music), Shaun Williams (Folklore and Ethnomusicology), Michael Young (Folklore and Ethnomusicology)

Summer Pre-Dissertation Travel Grants: Mark Moll (Central Eurasian Studies), Katie Stewart (Political Science)

Dissertation Write-up Fellowship: Ksenia Zanon (Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures)

Faculty/Staff News

Maria Bucur (History) organized and chaired the roundtable “Interpreting and Representing Women’s History to the Public” at the recent American Historical Association Convention in January. The roundtable featured presentations by Vicki Ruiz, the current President of the AHA, together with Luise Mirrer, CEO of the New York Historical Society, Karen Offen, independent scholar, and Joan Wages, CEO of the National Women’s History Museum followed by vigorous discussion with the audience. She was awarded a New Frontiers Arts and Humanities grant for the academic year 2015-16 for her book project The Century of Women.

Ben Eklof (History) gave an invited paper entitled “Дружба, семья, революция: Н.А. Чарушин (1851-1937) и поколение семидесятников в России [Friendship, Family and Revolution: N.A. Charushin (1851-1937) and the generation of the 1870s in Russia]” at the Deutsches Historisches Institut Moskau in January.

Ke-chin Hsia (History) presented “Total War and State-Society Relations: WWI Austria” at the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, in December, 2014. The talk was organized by the Institute’s Centers for World History and History of Health and Healing in collaboration with the Taiwan World History Group.

Padraic Kenney (History) presented a talk entitled “Stocznia, Tahrir, Majdan: Jak zagospodarować rewolucję, czyli przewodnik po sferze wolności [Shipyard, Tahrir, Maidan: Housekeeping a Revolution, or, a Tour Through the Liberated Zone]” to the Solidarity Working Group in Warsaw in November.

Sarah D. Phillips (Anthropology) is Interim Director of REEI this semester. She co-published several articles about HIV prevention in Ukraine with co-authors Jill Owczarzak, Mikhail Karelin, and Olga Filipppova, and published “The Women’s Squad in Ukraine’s protests: Feminism, nationalism, and militarism on the Maidan” in American Ethnologist in fall 2014.
Mark Roseman (History) gave a talk to the Zentrum Jüdische Studien, Berlin, on “Die Rettung der Geschichte und Die Rettung der Erinnerung. Rettungs- und Widerstandserfahrungen im Spiegel der Quellen [The rescue of history and the rescue of memory. The experience of rescue and resistance through the lens of sources]” in October. In the same month he also attended the Academic Advisory Council annual meeting at the House of the Wannsee Conference, Berlin and gave a talk at IU “Terezín: Myth, Memory and Music” for the symposium “Music of Terezín”. In early November he presented “Race and Nation in Nazi Germany” at the biennial Lessons and Legacies of the Holocaust Conference, held in Boca Raton, Florida. In January 2015, he gave a talk on “Holocaust rescue beyond altruism and hagiography” to the Jewish Studies Program at Vanderbilt University.

Mark Trotter (REEI) has been elected to the executive board of the Hungarian Studies Association for 2015-2017.

Bronislava Volková (Slavic, emerita) presented “Psychological, Cultural, Historical and Spiritual Aspects of Exile” in June, 2014 at the 2nd International Conference of The Comenius Academic Club at the Philosophical Faculty of University Pardubice on the topic of History of Czech Cultural and Intellectual Exile in North America. The paper appeared in the journal Comenius, Journal of Euro-American Civilization. She also lectured at the University of J. E. Purkyně, Ústí nad Labem in November on “Development of Semiotic Concepts and Prague School in the US.” She read her poetry at many different venues throughout Czech Republic and Ukraine. Her selected poems were published in Ukrainian in 2014 under the title Neprinaležnist’ (Nonconformity), for which she has received a grant from the Office of the Vice Provost for Research at IU. Her poetry and interviews have been broadcasted on Ukrainian and Czech radio and television. A number of extensive interviews with Volková, as well as original poetry and prose were published in different Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Romanian, Russian, Polish, Czech and Canadian journals. Reviews of her Bulgarian and Ukrainian books came out this year as well. In conjunction with her literary presentations, she held two large and one small exhibit of her artwork in Czech Republic (Prague, Pardubice and Děčín) in October, November and June. The Fine Arts Library at the IU Art Museum presented an exhibit of her collages, poetry books and posters in January and February that also featured a “Meet the Artist” talk and poetry reading on February 6.

Katie Hiatt (History) has had her review of the Soviet-era Police and Security Services Archive in Kyiv, Ukraine published by Dissertation Reviews in its “Fresh from the Archives” sub-section. The review details her experience as a researcher in the archives while residing in Ukraine on a Fulbright fellowship in 2013-14.

Leone Musgrave (History) presented “Islamic Institutions and Rhetoric in the Romanov-Bolshevik Transfer in Dagestan, 1903-1925” at the Mapping the Landscapes of Islamic Studies at IU Conference on November 1.

Sebastian Schulman (REEI, History) has been invited to participate in the Seventh Session of the International Forum of Young Scholars on East European Jewry in Boston by the Leonid Nevzlin Research Center for Russian and East European Jewry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Department of History and Elie Wiesel Center for Judaic Studies at Boston University and the Simon Dubnow Institute for Jewish History and Culture at Leipzig University. This session of the International Forum will be hosted by the Boston University from June 29 till July 2, 2015.

REEI MA Essays Defended in 2014

Anna Arays: “Revolution in Reverse: Early Printing and Manuscript Practices in Russia as ‘Agents of Change’,” June 2014/Chair: Ben Eklof; Committee: Ariann Stern-Gottschalk, Joel Silver (see related story below).

Crystal DeCell: “Heritage, Mining and Economic Development at Roşiă Montană,” April 2014/Chair: Anne Pyburn; Committee: Roman Zlotin, Alice Rebbin.


Peter Jensen: “Politicizing History, Defining the Nation: The Tendentious Historiography of the Tatars in Russian textbooks,” May 2014/Chair: Regina Smyth; Committee: Toivo Raun, Ben Eklof.

Leonard Leid: “‘Chestinunea Țărănească’: The Peasant Question in Romania’s Quest for Rural Development and Food Security,” May 2014/Chair: Hilary Kahn; Committee: Maria Bucur, Christina Illias.


Adam White: “Through the Eyes of History: Understanding Russian Policy Toward Islamic Populations,” May 2014/Chair: Dina Spechler; Committee: Martin Spechler, Kenney Padraic.

Ana Arays Wins Esther L. Kinsley Master’s Thesis Award

Ana Arays (REEI MA/MLS, 2014) has received the 2014 Esther L. Kinsley Master’s Thesis Award for her “Revolution in Reverse: Early Printing and Manuscript Practices in Russia as ‘Agents of Change’.” The Esther L. Kinsley Award was established through a bequest to the Indiana University Foundation by Esther L. Kinsley, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Indiana University. Kinsley taught civics, history, and economics at Shelbyville High School for 40 years. According to plans developed by faculty committees and approved by the Graduate Council, each degree granting program of The University Graduate School may nominate one “truly outstanding” Master’s thesis for consideration by the Awards and Financial Aid Committee of the Graduate Council. The committee considers such criteria as originality, documentation, significance, accuracy, organization, and style. An examination of Muscovite bookmaking from the time that printing arrived in Moscow (approx. 1554) through the late 17th century, Arays’ work addresses the extensive influence of manuscript book culture on the printing process and demonstrates how the imposition of print on traditional sacred texts provides evidence of social change that is relevant to the larger European narrative of the “printing revolution.” The award includes a stipend of $1,500. However, as stated in the notice of the award, “the stipend is less important than the recognition of the excellence of [her] achievement” by the University Graduate School and the members of her thesis committee, which included Ben Eklof (History) as chair along with Ariann Stern-Gottschalk (Slavic) and Joel Silver (Lilly Library).
Alumni News


Mark Betka (MA/MPA, 2003) is currently Division Chief, Bureau of International Information Programs, Platforms Group in the State Department.

Sibelan Forrester (MA, Slavic 1985; PhD, Slavic, 1990) was awarded the 2014 Book Prize for Best Scholarly Translation into English by the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages for her translation of Vladimir Yakovlevich Propp’s *The Russian Folktale* (Detroit, MI: Wayne State University Press, 2012).

Jerome (Jack) Israel (BA, Slavic Languages, 1978; REEI Certificate, 1978) has retired from 32 years of service in the US intelligence community. His career featured extensive use of Russian during the Cold War and included an MS in Strategic Intelligence, which he completed at the National Intelligence University in 1998. “How encouraging it was to read about the high school students studying Russian in Illinois and Indiana--our nation needs them!” he writes. His love for all-things-Russian began in St. Louis public schools in 3rd grade and culminated in a degree from IU which prepared him “very well” for his subsequent government service. “Now I’m retired and doing what I could never do during my career--communicating with Russians all over the world through social media and teaching scuba diving in Russian to Russians visiting South Florida.”

David J. Lawrence (BA, Slavic 2003; Minor in Russian and Southeast European Studies, 2003) is currently in his second year of a Master Program in Business Consulting at the University of Bucharest.

Jim Niessen (MA, History, 1979; PhD, History, 1989) has been selected to serve as President of the American Hungarian Educators Association for 2014-2016.

Dr. Norma Corigliano Noonan (MA, Government, 1962; REEI certificate, 1963; PhD., Government, 1965) has retired from her full-time work as professor and program director at Augsburg College. She continues to teach part-time in the MA in Leadership program. Her co-edited work, *Emerging Powers in Comparative Perspective*, was published by Bloomsbury Press in 2013.

Lee Roby (MA, Slavic, 1997) was selected by MAPRIAL (the International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature) to lead a delegation of eight US high-school students to the Second Worldwide Festival of the Russian Language which took place in Saint Petersburg, Russia in November, 2014. Hosted by MAPRIAL and funded by Russkij Mir, the festival brought together national finalists from contests conducted by MAPRIAL during their country tours from April 15 thru September 30, 2013, as well as on-line contests conducted through March 31, 2014.

In Memoriam

We are saddened to inform the REEI community about the deaths of two distinguished and beloved alumni.

Anna Cienciala (PhD, History, 1962) passed away in December, 2014. Professor Emerita of History and Russian and East European Studies at the University of Kansas, she was an outstanding scholar and distinguished specialist in East European diplomatic history of the twentieth century, which she explored in numerous publications, including *Poland and the Western Powers, 1938-1939: A Study in the Interdependence of Eastern and Western Europe* (London, Toronto: 1968) and *From Versailles to Locarno: Keys to Polish Foreign Policy, 1919-1925* with co-author Titus Komarnicki (Lawrence, KS: 1984).

Sarah Anne “Sally” Kent (MA, History, 1979; PhD, History, 1988) died in February, 2015. She taught for many years in the Department of History at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and published widely on the history of the Balkans. While residing in Sarajevo in 1997, she served as executive secretary to the Provisional Election Commission and assisted the mission of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the establishment of the first national elections in independent Bosnia and Herzegovina.
**Visiting Scholars**

**Ekaterina Lipnitskaia** is Associate Professor of Journalism at Northern Arctic Federal University in Arkangelsk, Russia with a background that includes practice as a television and print journalist in Soviet and post-Soviet Russia. The author of many scholarly publications including articles on journalistic ethics and the journalistic activity of Aleksandr Pushkin, she visited the IU-Bloomington campus in January, 2015 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. During her visit, Professor Lipnitskaia observed classes in journalism and sociology, consulted with a broad range of IU faculty, toured the facilities of WFIU and the Herald-Times, and engaged with the staff and faculty advisors of the Indiana Daily Student. She spoke with students in Journalism, Sociology, and Russian classes about her experiences as a journalist in Soviet and post-Soviet Russian and also delivered a presentation in Russian on contemporary print media in the Russian provinces.

**Roman Polikarpov** is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Intercultural Communication, Journalism, Language and Theory at Murmansk State Humanities University with research and teaching interests in the journalistic applications of new media technologies and the convergence of online media and traditional media. In February, he 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 IU-Bloomington campus, Mr. Polikarpov consulted with faculty in Journalism and visited their classes; toured the facilities of WFIU, the Bloomington Herald-Times, the IU Journalism Multimedia Lab; sat in on news meetings of the Indiana Daily Student; and attended the Indiana News Photographers Association’s annual meeting. He spoke with journalism classes on the media’s coverage of current events in Ukraine and delivered a public presentation on “The New Media in Russia.”

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**New Dual REEI and MS in Security Informatics**

REEI is delighted to announce a new partnership with the School of Informatics and Computing: a dual REEI MA and Master of Science in Security Informatics!

In response to the growing need for computer security personnel with domain knowledge in Russia and Eastern Europe, faculty and staff from REEI and Security Informatics worked to create a degree plan that effectively combines Russian and East European area specific knowledge with the competencies relevant to working with information security.

A single 3-year plan, with a required 54 credit hours, the dual degree (MA/MS) plan comprises two degrees that would take a student at least four years and 66 or more credit hours to complete separately. The Security Informatics portion of the degree totals 30 credit hours, and includes core courses, as well as courses in applied security, computer science networking, and the student’s security concentration. The REEI portion of the degree amounts to 24 credit hours, and includes REEI-R600 and REEI-R601, at least one course from each of the four distribution groups and courses in the student’s Russian and East European security concentration.

More information about the MS in Security Informatics can be found at: [http://www.soic.indiana.edu/graduate/degrees/informatics/security/index.html](http://www.soic.indiana.edu/graduate/degrees/informatics/security/index.html)

More information on the REEI MA and all REEI dual degree plans can be found at: [http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/graduate/degrees.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/graduate/degrees.shtml).
Gift Acknowledgements

The Russian and East European Institute gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the many individuals who provided gifts to REEI funds in 2014.

**Daniel Armstrong Memorial Research Paper Award Fund:** Thomas and Jan F. Armstrong


**Robert C. Tucker and Stephen F. Cohen Fellowship Fund:** Kristine L. and Timothy J. Costello, Barry M. Schutz, William C. and Jane A. Taubman


To make a gift to any of these funds and to learn more about the activities they support, go to: [http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/alumni/support.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/alumni/support.shtml)

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