



The Collapse of the Berlin Wall

By Jordan Peters

To commemorate the collapse of the Berlin Wall twenty years ago, Slavic Center students and staff constructed their own replica of the Wall on November 9th. In order to recreate the sudden rise of the Wall in 1961, the enthusiastic team arrived at the Wexner Center Plaza shortly after dawn to surprise the student body with their present day wall. The goal was to demonstrate to OSU students the monumental impact that the overnight construction of the Berlin Wall had on the daily lives of Berliners during the Cold War era. For nearly forty years the Wall separated friends and family within the same city; children were forced to change schools and adults were required to change jobs. Understanding the true impact of the Wall is difficult because of the freedoms and privileges we are given in this country, yet it is important for OSU students to get a glimpse of this tragic historical event in order to avoid repeating similar mistakes in the future.



Replica of the Berlin Wall at OSU
November 9, 2009

For many, images of the Berlin Wall include graffiti and scenes of its destruction. Students walking past the replica wall were encouraged to decorate it with their own graffiti. By the end of the day, there were messages of peace and freedom in over twenty languages represented on the wall. Students, professors, and community members also honored significant events happening throughout the world in 1989. Phrases and symbols paid tribute to the democratic revolutions in the former Czechoslovakia and Poland and the failed democratic protests in Tiananmen Square. One student even posted photos of her family in Berlin and laid flowers at the foot of the wall. Of course no demonstration of the Berlin Wall would be complete without an opportunity to tear it down, as Berliners were able to do twenty years ago. Dr. Yana Hashamova eagerly took the first strike at the wall, followed by the group of students that had gathered to contribute.

The wall garnered significant media attention thanks to Maureen Miller with the Office of International Affairs. Throughout the day, local media representatives interviewed faculty, staff, and students. ABC News 6 arrived at 6:30 am and filmed the building of the wall; Channel 10 provided viewers of the noon news with a live feed from the site of the wall; OSU's student paper *The Lantern* published a photograph of the wall on its front page and posted a video on YouTube; and the *Columbus Dispatch* included a photograph and article on its website and in the daily paper. All the links to the media coverage can be found on the CSEES website at <http://slaviccenter.osu.edu/berlinwall2009.htm>.

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From the Director

On November 9, 2009, a team of dedicated CSEES students, inspired by Assistant Director Lance Erickson, built a replica of the Berlin Wall on the Wexner Center Plaza. The installation aimed to involve OSU students, some of them born after the Wall collapsed, and to awaken

their curiosity about significant international events that have changed the course of history. Our work enjoyed large student participation and received extensive media attention and coverage. It was, however, a learning experience for us too. Unsurprisingly, various national reports on the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall have been marked by national political agendas. Germans viewed the events as the triumph of Ostpolitik, Poles thanked Lech Walesa, Russians discussed the role of Mikhail Gorbachev, and Americans praised Ronald Reagan. Our personal exchange with students and community members around our Wall added to this variety of perspectives and individual points of view, which ranged from a student commemorating her East German father with flowers to questions about our plans "to show the Soviet story." What became clear to us from this experience is that 20 years after the collapse of the Berlin Wall, our programs and activities are needed more than ever.

The destruction of the Berlin Wall triggered a chain of events that have altered the divide between "us" and "them." The Soviet Union ceased to exist and countries that were part of the Warsaw Pact became members of NATO and the European Union. Since the early 1990s, however, the world has witnessed other ethnic and religious conflicts in former Yugoslavia, Southern Russia, Georgia, and Central Asia. And the list goes on. Although the bipolar system was destroyed, new world politics and the relationships between nations require a more consistent model for cooperation and security. In the creation of this new model, Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia continue to play an important role.

Relentlessly, CSEES has planned its programs and activities to address national and international needs, to advance knowledge about our regions and to improve the quality of training and learning. In addition, by effectively utilizing the OSU strategic goals, such as internationalization and support for five research themes of excellence (one of them "health and well-being"), CSEES plans to promote diverse points of view that considerably enhance research and teaching. Please check our upcoming CSEES Calendar of Events for winter and spring 2010! As always, your ideas and suggestions are welcome and appreciated!

Yana Hashamova, Director

CSEES Welcomes New Outreach Manager

The Slavic Center welcomes Sunnie Rucker-Chang back to OSU as the new Outreach Coordinator. Sunnie is a CSEES graduate and currently ABD with DSEELL. Sunnie brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position and outreach programs have already been positively affected by her presence.

Sunnie graduated from Wittenberg University with a degree in Russian Studies and a minor in East Asian Studies. She received her MA in Slavic Studies through CSEES and is currently completing her dissertation on "The Construct of Contemporary Serbian Identity." Sunnie has taught at OSU, the University of Akron, and Xavier University. She also worked at Wittenberg University as Coordinator of Multicultural Recruitment and Admissions Counselor.

With an extensive background in Slavic Studies, Sunnie brings vast first-hand knowledge of the region to this position. She has studied in Serbia on several occasions and speaks Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Russian and Mandarin Chinese.

Please join us in welcoming Sunnie to her new role and be sure to contact her with your outreach ideas and needs.

CSEES Director: Yana Hashamova
Assistant Director: Lance Erickson
Office Coordinator: Maryann Walther-Keisel
Outreach Coordinator: Sunnie Rucker-Chang
Office Assistant: Anastasia Akruzhnou
Office Assistant: Jordan Peters
Office Assistant: Katie Hall
Office Assistant: Kelly Sklavounos



The Roma in Central and Eastern Europe

Dr. Irina Tomescu-Dubrow (Polish Academy of Sciences) spoke at OSU on October 30th about “The Roma in Central and Eastern Europe: Social Inequality and Its Consequences.”

The presentation focused on the Roma minority’s experience with social and political inequality in Central and Eastern Europe, utilizing various data sources and firsthand interviews. Dr. Tomescu-Dubrow illustrated the location of the Roma in the social structure with regard to formal education, occupation and income, and political representation.

This event was supported with U.S. Department of Education Title VI funding and co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology at Ohio State.



Dr. Irina Tomescu-Dubrow (Polish Academy of Science) presenting on the Roma in Eastern Europe

Military Symposium: Russia and China

The Slavic Center initiated the first annual Global Military Issues Symposium on “Russia, China and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization” together with the East Asian Studies Center and the Mershon Center for International Security. Colonel Peter Mansoor (Raymond E. Mason Chair in Military History at OSU) led the discussion that included a thorough examination of the Russian partnership by Joseph Castleton (CSEES) and the Chinese involvement by Xiaoyu Pu (Political Science) and Jason Wu (Political Science). A robust discussion followed the three presentations.

The Global Military Issues Symposium is a new annual event that will be hosted each year by the Slavic Center and will include several area studies centers. The second Symposium will take place in 2010 and will focus on the 15th Anniversary of the Dayton Peace Accords.



Colonel Peter Mansoor (Mershon) and Joseph Castleton (CSEES) at the Military Symposium (Photo courtesy C. King)

Women and Islam in Central Asia

The Slavic Center welcomed Gulzar Muradova (Westfield State College) for a lecture on “Women and Islam in Central Asia” this December. Ms. Muradova, a native of Tajikistan, spoke on the status and condition of women in the mountainous societies of Central Asia. Women residing high in great mountain ranges like the Pamirs face many of the same problems other women face but also must deal with a wide array of unique complications produced by their environment and circumstances. Although scholarship has given some attention to the lives of women in more urbanized areas, it has failed to adequately explore and discuss the unique difficulties confronting rural women, particularly those living in hyper-isolated communities in the mountains.

This event was supported with U.S. Department of Education Title VI funding and was co-sponsored by the Office of International Affairs.



Faculty and Students Represent OSU at AAASS Conference

November 12-15, Boston, MA

Thursday, November 12

Panel: Water and the Fate of Eurasian History

Presenter: **Nicholas B. Breyfogle** (History)

“Sacred Waters: The Spiritual World of Lake Baikal”

Roundtable: Collective Analysis of Contemporary Poetry

Participant: **Sara Ceilidh Orr** (DSEELL)

Panel: Ukrainian Linguistics

Participant: **Yuliya Walsh** (DSEELL)

“Pronominal Address in Eighteenth-Century Ukrainian Private Letters”

Panel: Reading US: Literary Depictions of Russian Professors in North America

Presenter: **Inna Caron** (DSEELL)

“Serving Two Masters: Scholarship and Motherhood in Rachel Pastan’s ‘Lady of the Snakes’”

Presenter: **Irene Masing-Delic** (DSEELL)

“Vladimir Nabokov’s ‘Pnin’”

Friday, November 13

Panel: Soviet ‘Micro History’: The Letters of Olga Aleksandrovna Voeikova (1927–1936)

Chair: **Irene Masing-Delic** (DSEELL)

Roundtable: Categories and Individuals in Political Science - An Assessment

Participant: **Ted Hopf** (Political Science)

Panel: Mapping Identities in Post-Soviet Russia: Gender, Space and Borders

Presenter: **Jennifer A. Suchland** (DSEELL)

“Finding Eurasia in Transnational Feminist Studies”

Roundtable: New Research on Soviet Medicine and Public Health: Implications for our Understanding of Soviet History

Chair: **David L. Hoffmann** (History)

Panel: Performing and Watching Lives: The Contemporary Russian Stage

Discussant: **Maria Ignatieva** (Theatre)

Saturday, November 14

Panel: Music and Literature

Chair: **Alexander Burry** (DSEELL)

Panel: Religion and Property in Imperial Russia

Discussant: **Nicholas B. Breyfogle** (History)

Undergraduate Research Discussion with International Studies

The Slavic Center and Undergraduate International Studies Program joined forces to offer undergraduate students the opportunity to learn about graduate study and conducting research overseas. Quintin Beazer (Political Science) spoke to students about his pathway to graduate school, his research overseas, as well as some of the nuances of traveling and doing surveys and archival work in a foreign environment.

Quintin is a Ph.D. candidate with a focus on comparative political economies and a specialization in the politics of Russia and post-communist countries. He has a M.A. in Political Science and Economics from OSU and a B.A. from Utah State University. Quintin spent the summer conducting interviews and research in Moscow.

For more information on the Undergraduate International Studies Program, please visit <http://internationalstudies.osu.edu>.



Panel: Building Borderlands: The Institutionalization of Frontier Territories in Modern Southeast and Central Europe

Chair: **Theodora Dragostinova** (History)

Panel: Tolstoy's Thought and His Time

Participant: **James P. Scanlan** (Philosophy - Emeritus)

Panel: Assembling the Ballets Russes Mosaic Through Its Participants

Presenter: **Margarita Mazo** (Music)

"Stravinsky Performing the Self and the Transformations of *Les Noces*"

Panel: The 20 Years since 1989 in Eastern Europe: The Uses of Freedom

Presenter: **Jessie Labov** (DSEELL)

"What has not Changed in East European Film since 1989"

Panel: Faith and Doubt: Russian Literature and the State

Presenter: **Daria Safronova** (DSEELL)

"Hagiographies of Literary Holy Fools"

Panel: Russia Views the World, the World Views Russia

Presenter: **Jennifer Siegel** (History)

"The Price of Publicité: Late Imperial Russia and the Foreign Press"

Panel: Stalinist Politics – New Dimensions and Interpretations

Chair: **David L. Hoffmann** (History)

Panel: Revising and Reinterpreting Contemporary History in Slovenia, Serbia and Japan

Chair: **Carole Rogel** (English - Emeritus)

Sunday, November 15

Roundtable: Gender and Everyday Life in State Socialist Eastern Europe and Russia

Participant: Basia A. Nowak (History)

Panel: Emigration from Russia and its Cultural Baggage

Participant: **Maria Ignatieva** (Theatre)

Panel: "Enough for a Lifetime": Lives Lived on the Boundaries of Music and Literature

Discussant: **Alexander Burry** (DSEELL)

Roundtable: Integrating Russian History into Western and World Civilization Surveys

Participant: **Mary W. Cavender** (History)

CSEES Director **Yana Hashamova** was elected to the AAASS Board of Directors as Chair of the Council of Regional Affiliates (2011-12).

Graduate Colloquium on Slavic Linguistics

by Josh Pennington

On Saturday, October 17th, the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures hosted the 7th Annual Graduate Colloquium on Slavic Linguistics. The conference consisted of four panels on a wide range of topics, such as Morphological Processing, Semantics, Metaphoric Language and Language Acquisition, and Linguistic Communities. The following DSEELL students presented at the Colloquium: Jeff Parker, Lauren Ressue, Andy Kier, Anastasia Kostetskaya, Maggie Gruszczynska, and Yuliya Aloshecheva. In addition to presenting, a few students also gained experience chairing panels, including Maggie Gruszczynska, Lauren Ressue, Josh Pennington, and Anastasia Kostetskaya.

Dr. Andrea Sims, Assistant Professor in DSEELL and the founder of the colloquium, gave the opening and closing remarks to this year's round of papers.



Summer in Prishtina: Kosovo meets OSU and OSU meets Kosovo

by Dr. Brian Joseph

Bats in a hotel room, a swollen elbow, an eye infection ... not typical issues facing a group traveling abroad (one thinks instead of lost passports, too little money, etc.), but even so, ten OSU faculty, students, and graduates gathered this past August 16-28 in Prishtina, the capital of Europe's newest country, the Republic of Kosovo (in the southern part of former Yugoslavia), for two weeks at the University of Prishtina's Summer Seminar in the Albanian Language, Literature, and Culture.

Half of the group had attended the Albanian Mini-Institute I had organized, consisting of two compressed three-week courses: "Introduction to Albanian Linguistics", taught by me, and "Basic Conversational Albanian", taught by Matthew Curtis (Ph.D. candidate and GTA in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures and currently a Fulbright-Hays scholar doing dissertation research in Kosovo). Funding for the conversation class was provided by OSU's Center for Slavic and East European Studies.

Besides me, the OSU travelers and "seminaristë" were Dr. Christopher Brown (Modern Greek), Angelo Costanzo (Linguistics), Matthew Curtis, Barbara Curtis, Kevin Gabbard (Linguistics), Rachel Klippenstein (Linguistics), Natalie Mauser-Carter (B.A. Russian, Linguistics), James Joshua Pennington (DSEELL), Lily Zhang (B.A. Russian, Biology, International Studies).

The Albanian linguistics class gave students an overview of key issues in the history, structure, dialectology, and social setting of Albanian, while the conversation class, the first of its kind ever taught at Ohio State, covered basic sentence structures, greetings, and conversing about essentials of daily life. Two outside visitors enhanced the courses: Victor Friedman (University of Chicago), an authority on Balkan languages, spoke on how Albanian verbs indicate speakers' source of information, and then regaled us with stories about Kosovo and Albania at an "Albanian language table" at the Faculty Club; and Alice James, a children's author and activist for human rights in Kosovo, spoke on life and the political scene there.

For those who went on to Kosovo, the opportunity to use Albanian everyday in a fully Albanian-speaking environment, reinforced by the Seminar classwork and lectures at the University of Prishtina, was a unique experience. The Kosovo government supports the Seminar by providing lodging and meals for all visitors, and we were housed at the Grand Hotel, in the city center near the University. While it was there that one of us was paid a nighttime visit by a bat, in general the lodging was genial, and we all appreciated the wireless internet access in the marble-tiled lobby where we regularly gathered to chat, socialize, and trade stories about our days.

Outside of the time spent in classes and lectures, we were able to explore Prishtina, with its lively market area, its many cafes and shops selling byrek (Kosovo-style Balkan spinach, cheese, and meat pies), its mosques and museums, and its pedestrian malls.

There were many individual highlights, but one distinct group high was a meeting, along with 100 fellow Seminaristë, with Kosovo's President, Dr. Fatmir Sejdiu; the OSU group, as the largest contingent from one institution, was introduced to the President and I handed him, on behalf of all of us, an inscribed copy of the Spring CSEES Newsletter with its article on the Albanian Mini-Institute (see photo). The Seminar also organized one field trip to Kosovo's two other major cities (Prizren, with Turkish-era architecture and a medieval fort, and Pejë, with its nearby Rugova gorge), with a visit to the site of the birth of the Kosovo Liberation Army (a moving reminder of Kosovo's recent bloody history), and another to a nearby Classical- and Byzantine-era archaeological site. There were also two banquets, with Albanian music and dancing long into the night.

We all came away from our Kosovo experience with fine memories and we all made good friends; we owe special thanks to one such friend, Bardh Rugova, the Associate Director of the Seminar, for all that he did to make our stay so pleasant.

Dr. Brian Joseph is Distinguished Professor of Linguistics and the Kenneth E. Naylor Professor of South Slavic Linguistics at OSU.



Dr. Joseph meeting Kosovo's President Sejdiu
(Photo courtesy B. Joseph)



OSU Students Visit Tomsk and Moscow

by Ryan Walker and Susan Vdovichenko



OSU students sightseeing in Tomsk
(Photo courtesy R. Walker)



OSU students on Red Square

TOMSK: The Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures sent eighteen students to Tomsk, Siberia for seven weeks this summer for intensive Russian language study. The 2009 program at Tomsk State University ran from June 15 to August 3, enjoying its sixth year with its largest numbers to date. It was lead for the second consecutive year by Resident Director Ryan Walker (DSEELL).

This summer's students studied either second or third year Russian with teachers from Tomsk State University and had additional language practice by living with Russian families. In addition to six hours of formal lessons a day, the students also partook in local culture which included visits to the *banya*, discos, Russian Orthodox churches, local museums, a championship league soccer match, swimming in the Tom' River, and daily transit on city buses.

The program began and ended with short stints in Moscow as well as extended weekend trips to Novosibirsk and Krasnoyarsk that took the students farther into Siberia on the Trans-Siberian Railroad. Each student received fifteen Russian language credits for their participation in the program. RW

MOSCOW: This summer, ten Ohio State University undergraduate students traveled to Moscow as part of the Moscow Culture and Society program. To prepare for the program, the students were required to take Russian 235, a course on modern Russian culture. Once in Moscow, they spent 13 days soaking in as much Russian culture as possible, including trips to museums, theaters, monasteries, tourist spots, and U.S. embassy events. The students were not required to know Russian, although all of them were able to navigate the famous Moscow metro with ease by the end of the program, and most expressed a desire to return in the future.

Highlights of the program included ballets by the Bolshoi Theater and an avant-garde production of *Romeo and Juliet*, as well as an excursion through an old Cold War bunker that has been converted into a museum, visits to Red Square, and souvenir shopping for friends and family. The students were able to connect what they learned in the classroom with the lives and customs of citizens of Moscow, and, at the same time, imagine what their own lives might be like if they chose to pursue life in Russia. While many students in Columbus may consider the Kremlin a world away, after this summer's program, for these students, the rest of the world is now within reach. SV



Student News

Bob Calhoun (Art) passed his Ph.D. candidacy exams in the Department of History of Art. He will intern at the Alexander Archipenko Foundation in Bearsville, NY this year.

Inna Caron (DSEELL) won the Edward J. Ray Travel Award for presenting her paper "Serving Two Masters: Scholarship vs. Motherhood in Rachel Pastan's *Lady of the Snakes*" at the 2009 AAASS Convention. Also, excerpts from her translation of Lermontov's "The Masquerade" will be in the Translation Workshop at the 2009 AATSEEL Conference.

Scott Clayton (Law) interned this summer with the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest, Romania.

Timothy Dempsey (CSEES) spent the summer studying intensive Turkmen in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.

Ian Lanzillotti (History) received grants from the Department of History, OIA, and the Mershon Center to conduct pre-dissertation research in Russia. Over the summer, Ian spent six weeks studying the Kabardian language in the Kabardino-Balkar Republic, in Russia's North-Caucasus region.

Allison Potvin (DSEELL) was awarded an Arts and Humanities Post-Prospectus Fellowship for the autumn quarter. She is using the award to research and write her dissertation.

Mark Soderstrom (History) has been in Russia collecting archival material in St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kazan', Tobol'sk, and Irkutsk since January for his dissertation. This research was funded by a twelve-month Fulbright-Hays fellowship. In October, he was the main subject of a press conference organized by the Tobol'sk Mu-

seum of History and Architecture and the Tobol'sk House of Journalists, and he has given talks at the Mendeleev Pedagogical Academy and Tobol'sk Industrial Institute.

Justin Wilmes' (CSEES) short essay on the "Zagadochnaia Russkaia Dusha" has been accepted for publication. He is currently studying for the fall term at Saint Petersburg State University.

Faculty/Staff News

Nicholas Breyfogle (History) received a National Research Fellowship from the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research for 2009-11 as he continues work on his next book, "Baikal: The Great Lake and its People." His co-edited volume, *Peopling the Russian Periphery: Borderland Colonization in Eurasian History* appeared in paperback. He gave talks on Lake Baikal and the history of Siberia at conferences at Georgetown University, Michigan State University, and Lafayette College, among others.

Angela Brintlinger (DSEELL) taught a Russian-language version of a new graduate course, "Madness and Power in 19th and 20th Century Russia." She hopes to present an undergraduate, English-language version in future. Brintlinger is organizing the Chekhov Sesquicentennial Conference "Chekhov on Stage and Page," to take place in early December 2010. She is also participating in a series of workshops this year through the Committee for Instructional Cooperation.

Irene Masing-Delic (DSEELL) published a volume of her articles under the title *Exotic Moscow under Western Eyes* (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2009) and participated in two conferences during her leave in the autumn quarter.

Carole Fink (History) attended a conference by the German Studies Association on "Transatlantic Cultural Encounters in the Shows of War: Art, Music, and Film". Her paper, "Revisiting the Refugee Problem on the Eve of World War II" was sponsored by the Swiss-Israeli Philosophy Foundation. She also published "Two Pogroms: Lemberg (November 1918) and Pinsk (April 1919)," in *Varieties of Antisemitism: History, Ideology, Discourse*.

Helena Goscilo's (DSEELL) publications since joining OSU comprise the article "Luxuriating in Lack: Plenitude and Consuming Happiness in Soviet Paintings and Posters, 1930s-1953," *Petrified Utopia*, eds. Marina Balina & Evgeny Dobrenko (Anthem Press, 2009) and two projects on which she collaborated with Yana Hashamova (see below). With Vlad Strukov she is

The Center for Slavic and East European Studies is sad to announce the passing of Dr. Alex Stephan. Our deepest sympathies go out to former CSEES Director Halina Stephan and her family.



Film Additions to CSEES Library

English

Pandemic: Facing AIDS (2003)
 Everyday Life of Roma Children from Block 71 -
 Documentary (2006)
 The Singing Revolution - Documentary (2008)
 World History of Organized Crime (2001)

German

The Lives of Others - Drama (2007)

Hungarian

Heads or Tails? - Comedy (2005)
Na Vegre Itt a Nyar - Comedy (2002)
 Last Minute - Comedy (2006)
Arvacska - Drama (1976)
A Turne - Comedy (1993)
 The Real Santa - Comedy (2005)
 Taxidermia - Dark Comedy (2006)
Uvegtigris 2 - Comedy (2006)
Zimmer Feri - Comedy (1998)

Russian

Apostle - Drama (2007)
The Inhabited Island - Fantasy (2008)
Lubov-Markov 2 - Comedy (2008)
Morphine - Drama (2008)
Sniper - Action/Thriller (2007)
Strangers - Drama (2007)
The Way - Action/Thriller (2009)

Slovenian

Spare Parts - Drama (2005)

Ukrainian

Bogdan Zinovij Hmelnickij - Drama (2008)
Taras Bulba - Drama (2009)

Please Note: Titles in Italics do not contain English subtitles.

Students, faculty, and the general public are encouraged to borrow (free of charge) any of our 2,000+ film titles. A complete list of films is available on the CSEES website.

in the final stages of co-editing a collection of articles titled *The Culture of Celebrity and Glamour in Contemporary Russia: Shocking Chic* (Routledge, 2010), with her illustrations in the volume underwritten by a grant from OSU's College of Arts and Humanities. In September she gave a talk, "The Stalinka *Bildungsroman* and Relevant Issues," for the CEELBAS Workshop *Soviet Culture in Context: Strategies of Historical Interpretation* at the University of Sheffield. In November the University of New Mexico invited her to give a presentation at its ISI Lecture

Series Revolutions of 1989, at which she delivered the talk "Nouveau Bravado or Brave New World?: Russian Culture after 1989."

Yana Hashamova's (CSEES) co-edited (with Helena Goscilo) volume *Cinepaternternity: Fathers and Sons in Soviet and Post-Soviet Film* is coming out from Indiana University Press in March 2010. She has also co-edited (with Helena Goscilo) a special section "Women in War: Mobilization, Manipulation, and Marginalization on the Eastern Front," *ASPASIA: International Yearbook of*

Central, Eastern, and South Eastern European Gender and Women's History 4 (2010). Her recent IREX grant trip led to a collaborative research project on media violence with the Bulgarian Academy of Science. Hashamova, Rumi Bozhinova, and Ergyul Tair wrote a paper "Attitudes towards Trafficking and its Media Representations: Cross-Cultural Differences," presented at The 2009 South East European Regional Conference of Psychology, October 30th through November 1st, in Sofia, Bulgaria.

(Faculty/Staff News continued on p.13)



FLAS Recipients

Academic Year 2009-10

Andrea Atkins (CSEES) Advanced Russian
Joseph Castleton (CSEES) Beginning Uzbek
Scott Clayton (Law) Intermediate Romanian
Paul DeBell (Political Science) Advanced Russian
Timothy Dempsey (CSEES) Intermediate Uzbek
Emily Erken (Music) Advanced Russian
Eileen Kunkler (CSEES) Advanced Russian
Shannon McAfee (CSEES) Advanced Russian
Jason Morgan (Political Science) Beginning Polish
Shannon Potter (CSEES) Intermediate Czech
Emma Pratt (CSEES) Advanced Russian
Catherine Walworth (Art History) Intermediate Russian
Lauren Welker (CSEES) Advanced Romanian
Justin Wilmes (CSEES) Advanced Russian
Ann Wilson (CSEES) Beginning Uzbek

CSEES would like to thank the **Graduate School** at **OSU** and the **U.S. Department of Education** for their continued support of FLAS.

Thanks to their assistance, CSEES continues to offer one of the largest FLAS programs in the U.S.

Summer 2009

Andrea Atkins (CSEES) Advanced Russian
Tomsk, Russia
Joseph Castleton (CSEES) Advanced Russian
St. Petersburg, Russia
Emily Erken (Music) Advanced Russian
SWSEEL at Indiana University
Eileen Kunkler (CSEES) Advanced Russian
St. Petersburg, Russia
David McVey (DSEELL) Beginning Estonian
BALSSI at University of Wisconsin
Sara Celidh Orr (DSEELL) Advanced Russian
St. Petersburg, Russia
Lauren Welker (CSEES) Advanced Russian
SWSEEL at Indiana University
Zoran Panjak (DSEELL) Advanced Russian
St. Petersburg, Russia
Laurie Reitsema (Anthropology) Intermediate Polish
Krakow, Poland
Lauren Ressue (DSEELL) Advanced Russian
St. Petersburg, Russia

Midwest Slavic Conference

April 15-17, 2010

The Midwest Slavic Association and The Ohio State University's Center for Slavic and East European Studies (CSEES) are proud to announce The 2010 Midwest Slavic Conference, to be held at the Blackwell's Pfahl Hall on the OSU campus April 15-17, 2010.

Conference organizers invite proposals for panels or individual papers addressing all disciplines related to Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and the Caucasus. The conference will open with a keynote address and a reception on April 15, followed by two days of panels.

Please send a one-paragraph abstract and brief C.V. to csees@osu.edu by February 1, 2010. Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit presentations. Limited funding will be available to subsidize graduate hotel lodging. For more information, contact the Center for Slavic and East European Studies at (614) 292-8770 or csees@osu.edu.

CSEES would also like to announce the Midwest Slavic K-12 Teacher Workshop on Slavic topics of interest. This workshop will take place on Saturday, April 17th and is open to all current and pre-service K-12 teachers of all subjects and grade levels. The topic of the 2010 Workshop is "Twenty Years After the Berlin Wall" and will include panels of interest to language teachers as well as those from history, world literatures, political science, and general social studies.

This K-12 Workshop will be held in collaboration with other colleges and universities throughout Ohio. For more information, contact the CSEES Outreach Coordinator Sunnie Rucker-Chang at Sunnie.Rucker-Chang@oia.osu.edu.

DEADLINE: February 1, 2010



CSEES Welcomes New MA Students

Andrea Atkins is a graduate of the University of Georgia with a dual major in Philosophy and Political Science. In 2009 she studied Russian in Tomsk, Russia. Andrea is interested in a career in library science to promote access to information both in the U.S. and abroad.

Jennifer Cayias studied at the University of Utah and graduated with degrees in International Studies and Political Science. She has traveled extensively and spent time in Moscow, St. Petersburg and Novgorod. Jennifer is interested in political and ethnic geography and possibly working for the government following completion of her degree.

Sara Garrett graduated summa cum laude from Baylor University in 2009 with a B.A. in University Scholars. She studied Russian in Voronezh (2007) and Astrakhan (2008). She is interested in terrorism and security in the Balkans and North Caucasus, as well as Russian politics and economics.

Lisa Goddard attended Virginia Commonwealth University and completed a double major in International Studies and Psychology, as well as a concentration in Russian and East European Studies. During her junior and senior years she spent time abroad in St. Petersburg, Russia. Her main interests are language, Soviet culture and history.

Caitlyn Lemons returns to OSU having completed a B.A. degree in Russian and International Studies. She has studied in Russia, Bulgaria and Brazil during her time at OSU. Caitlyn is interested in intel work in the future.

Shannon McAfee graduated from Washington State University in 2009 with a degree in Political Science and minors in Russian Area Studies and Spanish. Upon graduation she was honored with the Political Science Department's Outstanding Senior award. In addition to her interest in Russia, she has also lived in the Far East and studied in Central America. Shannon is planning for a future career with the government.

Emma Pratt earned a B.A. in Political Science and Russian Area Studies from Wellesley College in 2009. She spent her junior year abroad at the London School of Economics and traveled to Moscow and Lake Baikal as an undergraduate. She is interested in the politics of Russia and Eastern Europe.

Allison Riggs has a degree in Russian Studies from Grand Valley State University. She traveled to Russia in 2007 visiting Moscow, St. Petersburg, Novgorod, and several other historic locations. Allison is interested in a career with the government or in the private sector.



From L to R: C. Lemons, S. McAfee, L. Goddard, A. Atkins, E. Pratt, S. Garrett, J. Cayias, A. Riggs
(Photo courtesy V. van Buchem)



Summer Internship at U.S. Embassy in Bratislava, Slovakia

by Shannon Potter

For ten weeks this summer I was a student intern with the US Department of State at the Embassy in Bratislava, Slovakia. As a master's student in Slavic and East European Studies, my focus is on human rights and minority issues in Central and Eastern Europe, particularly the Roma minority. I hoped that the internship would provide an insight to US foreign policy objectives in the region with regard to these issues, while also guaranteeing some in-country experience.

At the Embassy, I was assigned to the Political/Economic Section and was able to work directly under the officer who monitors human and civil rights. Some of the current human rights issues in Slovakia involve corruption in the government and judiciary, restrictions on media freedoms, and discrimination against and hostility toward the Roma.

I was given two major projects: researching and writing contributions for the annual State Dept Human Rights Report, and researching and writing a special report on the segregation of Romani children into "special schools,"



Shannon (fourth from R) at a Roma School in Slovakia
(Photo courtesy S. Potter)

OSC/CIA Diversity Conference

The Slavic Center participated in the Open Source Center's first Diversity Conference to explore ways of increasing nontraditional students' access to CIA internship and career opportunities. As the only Slavic Center in attendance, this conference provided an excellent opportunity to meet with OSC and CIA officials and learn more about day-to-day procedures within the Intel Community. This conference also offered the chance to network with representatives from numerous Historically Black Colleges and Universities from across the U.S. and discuss best practices and possible collaboration.

Nuclear Nonproliferation Careers

CSEES once again hosted recruiters from the U.S. Department of Energy's Nuclear Nonproliferation Graduate Program. This internship program for graduate students provides a year-long experience utilizing their Russian skills while gaining valuable work experience within the government.

State Department Careers

In its continuing pursuit of helping students locate and secure careers employing their advanced language skills, CSEES hosted a Foreign Service Careers Information Session for the second year in a row. Collaborating with the Arts and Sciences Career Services office, International Studies, and the four other area studies centers, CSEES students and staff spoke to attendees about interning at embassies worldwide as well as about Foreign Service careers. Current MA students Shannon Potter and Ann Wilson spoke of their experiences in Slovakia and Russia respectively. Diplomat in Residence Michael McClellan (Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan) spoke to students about his 20 year career with the Department of State. CSEES hopes to continue placing more students in internships at embassies and consulates in Russia, Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.



U.S. Embassy in Slovakia

annon Potter

elementary schools designed exclusively for children with mental disabilities. Nationwide, there is a disproportionate overrepresentation of Romani children in these schools, many of whom have been inappropriately placed there. The implications of this de facto ethnic segregation are troublesome, as the continued under-education of these children will only contribute to the chronic problems of unemployment and poverty that plague many in the Roma community.

In addition to working on my projects, I was able to go on a number of official trips around the country. I toured special schools in central Slovakia, volunteered at a summer camp for Romani girls, visited a Roma settlement in eastern Slovakia, and attended "Roma Superstar," a national singing competition for Romani youth. One of the best aspects of being at the Embassy was the almost unlimited access to people and information. I was able to easily request meetings and interviews with top Ministry officials and NGO representatives.

Not only was this an excellent opportunity for me to get a glimpse of the inner workings of the Foreign Service and similar US government careers, it offered the invaluable experience of working hands-on with issues and topics that I've spent the past few years studying, as

well as insight and material for my master's thesis which will address the Roma populations in this region. By far, the best part about my internship experience was that I was able to spend the summer getting to know the Slovak Roma as a group of people and not just as a marginalized minority.



Bratislava on the Danube River
(Photo courtesy S. Potter)

Career Outreach Services

CSEES continues to be one of the premier career service centers by visiting local colleges and universities to speak to students interested in international careers, especially those utilizing Russian and other less commonly taught languages (LCTLs). In November, Slavic Center representatives visited Wittenberg University and spoke with undergraduates currently studying Russian. Future trips to Xavier University and the University of Kentucky are scheduled for early 2010.

If other community colleges, colleges, and universities would like presentations for their students on international careers, please contact CSEES@osu.edu for more details. There is no charge for these services and presentations can be tailored to suit individual schools' needs.

Faculty/Staff News *(cont. from p.9)*

Ted Hopf (Political Science) was selected as a Soros Foundation, Open Society Institute, International Visiting Scholar at Smolny College, Department of International Relations and Human Rights, for the 2009-10 academic year.

Ludmila Isurin (DSEEL) co-authored and edited a book that was published this summer, *Multidisciplinary Approaches to Code Switching*. Dr. Isurin also attended a conference on the "Sense of belonging and perception of host culture in Russian immigrants" in the Netherlands and is taking on a new graduate course called "Language and Memory".

Sunnie Rucker-Chang (DSEEL/CSEES) is in contract with Routledge for the book *The Chinese of Post Communist Eurasia*, Felix Chang and Sunnie Rucker-Chang editors.



Outreach News and Updates

*CSEES is partnering with the Columbus International Program and Tuttle Shopping Mall for the first "International Holidays at Tuttle Mall" celebration. The Slavic Center and several student organizations will inform shoppers about winter holidays in Russia, Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Free holiday recipes from several countries were given out at the display table.

*Together with DSEELL and the Dean's Student Advisory Group, CSEES once again hosted the annual Slavic Halloween Night. Students were treated to snacks for a gripping lecture on Slavic vampires by Dr. Daniel Collins (DSEELL). Following the talk students joined the DSAG for its haunted ghost tour of the Oval. The evening came to an end with a showing of the scary Slavic film *Evenings on a Farm Near Dikanka*. Many thanks to all those who helped with the event!

*The Slovenian Buckeye Society has been very busy this quarter, with activities including a cooking demonstration, screening of the Slovenian film *The Rooster's Breakfast*, helping with the Slavic Center blood drive, and participating in the "Holidays at Tuttle Mall" program.

*CSEES Outreach Coordinator, Sunnie Rucker-Chang, together with MESC Outreach Coordinator Corey Driver, represented the area studies centers in the first annual World Fest at Franklin University.

*The Polish Club hosted a film and food night where they showed the Polish film *Wojna Polsko-Ruska*, and has

been collaborating on other events with the Polish American Club (PAC).

*CSEES and the Slavic Department hosted the second annual Slavic Blood Drive this October in Hagerty Hall. This year's event collected 39 usable units of blood for the Columbus Red Cross.

*The CSEES Outreach Team presented at several local schools this Autumn, including Diley Middle School in Pickerington, Maize Elementary School, Indian Springs Elementary School, Olentangy Meadows Elementary School, and Hudson Middle School in Hudson, OH.

*Once again CSEES and the Foreign Language Center have teamed up with the Columbus Blue Jackets to offer the Czech Mates. Czech students and aficionados are treated to free tickets to every home game courtesy of the three Czech CBJ Players Rostislav Klesla, Jakub Voracek, and Jan Hejda. Many thanks go out to the players for their generous donation and to the CBJ Community Relations staff for all their help and hard work!

*CSEES partnered with the four area studies centers, the Office of International Affairs, Kent State University and the Ohio Department of Education to offer the Global Institute this August. Over 100 K-12 teachers participated in this three-day workshop on internationalizing classrooms across Ohio.

Study Abroad Updates from DSEELL

New Department Chair Helena Gosciolo has worked with Maria Alley, OIA's Study Abroad, and CSEES to transfer the current summer programs in Tomsk (Russian) and Olomouc (Czech) to Moscow and Prague, respectively. By summer 2010 OSU will offer an eight-week language program at the Russian State University of the Humanities (RGGU) in Moscow and eight weeks of Czech in Prague through the Dartmore Institute. For more information, please visit <http://oia.osu.edu/study-abroad.html>.



Ohio Teachers at the 2009 Global Institute



ASEC Conference Held Again at OSU

by Sunnie Rucker-Chang

The 2009 biennial conference of the Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (ASEC) was again held on the campus of Ohio State for the third time. Boasting 27 presenters and discussants, the conference had attendees from as far away as the European countries of the Netherlands and the UK in addition to participants from the states of Maine, Mississippi, and Arizona.

Papers spanned topics directly focused on forms of Eastern Christianity as well as contemporary political and national identity issues in Russia, Ukraine, and Romania. In addition, other papers were related to Eastern Christianity in not only Russia, but also Ukraine, Greece, and the United States, from the 15th to the 20th centuries, and included discussions of repatriation of certain groups from the US back to Eastern Europe.

Conference presentations spawned great conversations on contemporary issues, including the resurgence of popular piety in Russia and Ukraine. Of the conference and papers, ASEC Vice President Jennifer Spock, of Eastern Kentucky University, stated that “all were of high quality, I’m happy to say, and the discussions for all panels were lively [and] informative..” She also went on to state that she “received very positive responses from attendees.”

The 2009 conference was co-sponsored and co-organized by the Center for Slavic and East European Studies at OSU utilizing U.S. Department of Education funding. Due to the great success of the event, the next conference will take place once again at Ohio State in October 2011. For more information, please contact Dr. Spock at jennifer.spock@eku.edu.

DSEELL GTAs Awarded \$10,000 UCAT Grant

by Thaddeus Fortney

Recently the University Center for the Advancement of Teaching awarded Dr. Irene Masing-Delic in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures a \$10,000 seed grant for program enhancement. Three of the department’s graduate teaching assistants, Susan Vdovichenko, S. Spencer Robinson and Thad Fortney, used the award to develop a program to better prepare teachers of culture and literature for future assignments in the department’s curriculum. Ultimately, this led to the creation of a website where future GTAs will be able to access and share teaching materials and to the introduction of a workshop to prepare the incoming class of graduate students teaching film, culture and literature.

The workshop took place on September 10-11. Each day provided the incoming class with brief lectures by some of the department’s exceptional GTAs. Topics included classroom management, developing materials and student assessment. “When I was first asked to teach a culture class, I had no idea how to go about teaching it. We planned this orientation to help new GTAs feel more comfortable and prepared as they go into the classroom” says Spencer Robinson.

Over the course of the Autumn quarter, the incoming GTAs will continue to meet with S. Spencer Robinson to discuss aspects of their own teaching. It is the hope of the grant’s writers that this will be the beginning of a new tool for preparing GTAs in their future pedagogical careers.



*We appreciate your sense of humor,
along with your generosity.

Call for Support

As the Slavic Center continues to expand programs and activities, we call for your support in several areas not covered by university or federal funding. We highly encourage students to participate in national conferences and internship opportunities, but in many cases the cost of travel is prohibitive and students cannot afford to take advantage of these valuable experiences. We hope to raise funds specifically to help students defray costs and open more doors of opportunity for them.

If you would like to help CSEES in raising \$4,000 for student travel support, please make checks out to "Friends of Slavic at OSU" and mail them to the address below. We will keep you informed of our progress. As always, thank you for your continued support!

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