



CSEES

The Center for Slavic and East European Studies

T · H · E
OHIO
STATE
UNIVERSITY

Volume 36 , Issue 2

Spring 2009

Albanian Summer Institute at OSU

By Thaddeus Fortney

As part of Ohio State’s commitment to less commonly taught languages, this summer will mark the first Albanian Summer Institute offered at the university. The trip will be headed by Professor Brian D. Joseph (Distinguished University Professor of Linguistics, Kenneth E. Naylor Professor of South Slavic Linguistics), a specialist in Balkan and Albanian historical linguistics, and Matthew Curtis, MA/ABD in Balkan Linguistics in DSEELL.



Turkish-Era Buildings in Kosovo
(photo courtesy B. Joseph)

Albanian is spoken largely in six countries in the eastern Mediterranean region (Albania, Greece, Italy, Kosovo, Macedonia, and Montenegro) and connected to a heritage and culture that is rich, though relatively unknown in the West. Participants will develop a solid foundation in Albanian that they can build on afterwards for research in a variety of fields and for service opportunities in the region.

Upon completing course work at OSU, students will have the opportunity to travel to the newly independent Republic of Kosovo and study at the University of Prishtina, where they will attend lectures on Albanian language, history and culture taught by faculty of the University. The Seminar will culminate with a conference highlighting student and faculty work on Albanian. Matthew Curtis said, “I look forward to working with the teachers and academics in Prishtina. I hope that the time studying with them will lead us to collaboration on many projects, both for me and the students. Exciting things are happening in Prishtina and it will be a great opportunity for all of us to experience it for ourselves.”

The two OSU classes will be “Introduction to Albanian Linguistics” taught by Dr. Joseph, and “Conversational Albanian” taught by Matthew Curtis, a graduate student who has done extensive research on Balkan languages and is past recipient of a summer FLAS award to study Albanian. The linguistics class will provide an overview of the history, structure, sociolinguistics, and dialectology of Albanian, while the conversation class will offer students the essentials of Albanian sentence structure and vocabulary, with ample opportunity to develop practical skills with the language. The conversation course will be supported by CSEES through U.S. Department of Education Title VI funds.

What’s Inside?

From the Director	2
Visiting Lecturers	3
Midwest Slavic	4
K-12 Outreach	6
Student News	8
Czech Art Exhibit	10
Slovene Consul General	14
Research News	15

For more on the Summer Institute, please visit the DSEELL website. For more on Matt, please see Research News on page 15.



From the Director

This academic year CSEES has managed long-standing programs, conducted numerous exciting projects, and explored new initiatives. I am pleased to announce that we again awarded 15 academic year and 10 summer FLAS fellowships, numbers that rank CSEES among the top National Resource Centers. Speaking of numbers, I should also mention that the Midwest Slavic Conference this year

enjoyed an unprecedented increase of participation. Together with the Association for Women in Slavic Studies biennial conference, the two events attracted close to 300 presenters, chairs, discussants, and attendees who took part in stimulating discussions and exchange of ideas. We are looking forward to organizing an even better conference next year! Gaining expertise in hosting and managing symposia and conferences, we have committed our resources to the International Chekhov Conference (December 2010) and the Central Eurasian Studies Society conference (September 2011), among various other smaller scale fori.

Alongside the expansion of our fellowships and signature conference, CSEES secured funds to offer new languages and higher levels of already taught ones. Next year, we will finance Albanian (summer 09), Advanced Hungarian, Intermediate Romanian, Intermediate Uzbek (with the cooperation of the Middle East Studies Center), and Fifth-Year Russian (Media and Public Health). All these new initiatives have not interfered with our traditional support for other Lesser Commonly Taught Languages, such as Czech, Georgian, Polish, and Serbo-Croatian. We also continue to invest in all our regions but pay special attention to Caucasus Studies (funding Intermediate Georgian and Slavic 245-Introduction to Georgian Culture) and Central Asian Studies (offering Elementary Uzbek and co-sponsoring [with the great support of International Studies] Dr. Abdullaev's courses on Chechnya and Afghanistan).

In our December 2008 Newsletter, I invited faculty and students to submit ideas for the next Title VI grant proposal. The invitation resulted in engaging suggestions for future initiatives. In consultation with our Advisory Council and the new Vice-Provost for Global Strategy and International Affairs, Dr. William Brustein, CSEES decided for the next cycle to introduce the theme of Public Health, a global issue with vital significance for our regions. I am happy to report that we have established an excellent cooperation with the Health Sciences Center for Global Health at OSU and plan to work together in the spheres of curriculum development, conference organization, and development of Public Health concentration for our MA students. In addition, we have received novel ideas for projects related to Public Health from 1) colleagues across campus (History, Social Science, Women's Studies, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, International Studies, and Film Studies); 2) other Ohio higher education institutions (Kent State University and Kenyon College); and 3) the Polish Academy of Science and the Bulgarian Academy of Science. We are also working to expand our cooperation with Russian universities. If you have any ideas for collaboration with us, please do not hesitate to communicate them to us.

I wish you a productive and enjoyable summer and look forward to another inspiring academic year!

Yana Hashamova, Director

CSEES Welcomes New Director

The Slavic Center officially welcomed new Center Director Yana Hashamova in January 2009 following an official search by the OSU Office of International Affairs. Hashamova had been Acting Director since December 2007 and has been integral in leading the Slavic Center through recent changes and upgrades.

Dr. Hashamova has been at OSU since 2001 and is Associate Professor in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, and an Associate Faculty member in the Departments of Comparative Studies, Women's Studies, the Interdisciplinary Program in Film Studies, and the Mershon Center for International Security.

"I am looking forward to helping position Ohio State as a leader in the production of interdisciplinary knowledge about Eastern Europe, Russia and Eurasia not only in the Midwest, but in our national economy of knowledge," Hashamova said.

As the Center prepares to write the next Title VI grant proposal for years 2010-14, Dr. Hashamova's extensive experience will provide invaluable insight and direction.



Dr. Hashamova with OSU President Gee
(photo courtesy V. van Buchem)



Homosexuality and Post-Soviet Identity

Dr. Brian Baer (Kent State University) spoke at OSU in February 2009 on his new book *Other Russias: Homosexuality and the Crisis of Post-Soviet Identity* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009).

Dr. Baer's discussion covered concepts of sexuality and gender within a variety of media types from the 1990s through the Putin era. Students from a mix of classes asked insightful questions on these issues that are at the forefront of Russian society today.

This event was supported with U.S. Department of Education Title VI funding and co-sponsored by the OSU Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures.

Chekhov and the Moscow Arts Theater

Dr. Maria Ignatieva (OSU - Lima) spoke at OSU in March 2009 on Anton Chekhov and the Moscow Art Theater, focusing on the years 1898-1904.

The audience gained fascinating knowledge about Chekhov and his impact on the Moscow Arts Theater at the turn of the Twentieth Century. Dr. Ignatieva's excellent presentation was only a glimpse of the material covered in her course on the same subject.

This event was funded with U.S. Department of Education Title VI monies and co-sponsored by the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures at Ohio State.



Dr. Brian Baer (Kent State University)



Chekhov lecture by Dr. Maria Ignatieva (OSU - Lima)

Clowning in Russia with Patch Adams

Dr. Cari Brackett (College of Pharmacy and Family Medicine) spoke to students in March about her personal experiences touring Russian hospitals and orphanages with Patch Adams' Gesundheit Global Outreach Program. Adams became famous with his "clowning for better health" program portrayed in the 1998 movie bearing his name. Patch and his cohort of clowns have been visiting sick children in Russia for over 25 years. Dr. Brackett discussed the usual hardships associated with this type of work, but also provided her perspective of the conditions she witnessed in Russian hospitals.

For more information on Patch Adams clowning opportunities in Russia and other locations, please visit www.patchadams.org.



Midwest Slavic and AWSS Conferences

April 16-18

The 2009 Midwest Slavic Conference was one of the largest and most event-filled in recent memory. Held simultaneously with the Association for Women in Slavic Studies Conference, both events experienced excellent turnouts and reviews.

The conference opened on April 16th with a keynote address by Dina Iordanova, Chair of Film Studies at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. Dr. Iordanova discussed *Cultural Historiography and Popular Culture in the 'New' Europe*. Following the keynote address, which took place at the Wexner Center for the Arts for the first time in conference history, attendees viewed a screening of the 2007 Andrzej Wajda film *Katyn*. This film, which was nominated for an Oscar in Best Foreign Film, portrays the murder of Polish officers at the hands of the Soviets and subsequent cover-up. Following the film, attendees were treated to an opening reception for the close to 300 attendees.

Day Two of the conference included presentations and panels on such topics as *Russian and Soviet Foreign Relations*, *Patterns of Identity in Near Eastern Europe*, and *Language Contact*. Friday also included the conference luncheon with a talk on *Modern Russian Feminism* by Beth Holmgren of Duke University.

Day Three of the conference continued with presentations on five panels running simultaneously. Panels

covered such topics as *Slavic Syntax*, *Art in Translation*, *Caucasian Conflicts Across Two Centuries*, and *Do-Support and Wh-Phrases*.

The Midwest Slavic Association held its annual meeting to discuss business and elect new members. Dr. Yana Hashamova (CSEES) was elected President of the Association, while Dr. Brian Baer (Kent State) was elected Vice President, and Lance Erickson (CSEES) was elected Secretary/Treasurer.



Yana Hashamova and keynote speaker
Dina Iordanova (University of St. Andrews)

OSU Slavic Department Welcomes Goscilo as New Chair

by Daniel Collins

Helena Goscilo (University of Pittsburgh) has accepted the position of Professor of Russian and Slavic Literature and Chair of the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures at The Ohio State University. Dr. Goscilo is one of the most gifted, active, and prolific scholars working today in nineteenth-, twentieth-, and twenty-first century Russian and Polish literature, folklore, cultural studies, and gender studies. She is the author of 18 books, including the three monographs *Lives in Transit: Recent Russian Women's Writing* (1995), *Dehexing Sex: Russian Womanhood during and after Glasnost* (1996), and *TNT: The Explosive World of Tat'iana Tolstaya's Fiction* (1996; published in Russian, 2000), and 15 scholarly translations and anthologies. She has been the editor or co-editor of five special issues of journals. Dr. Goscilo has received numerous awards and honors, including six IREX grants, a two-year National Council for Soviet and East European Research Fellowship, a two-year National Humanities Center Fellowship, and many others. In 1997, she received the Outstanding Achievement Award in Slavic Studies (Association of Women in Slavic Studies). In 1999, she was recognized as Distinguished Alumna of the Russian & East European Institute at Indiana University. In 2000, she was identified by University of Pittsburgh undergraduates as one of the professors to have significantly affected students' academic life.



The 2009 Association for Women in Slavic Studies Conference *Gender, Citizenship and Empire* was held simultaneously with Midwest Slavic at the Blackwell Inn and Conference Center. The AWSS event included panels on *Women and the Politics of Transition*, *Gender and State Regimes*, and *Conceptualizing Citizenship in the Context of Postsocialism*.

The AWSS keynote address on *Gender, Citizenship and Empire in Post-Soviet Literature* was given by Dr. Rosalind Marsh, Professor of Russian Studies at the University of Bath, United Kingdom.

The AWSS Conference concluded with a roundtable discussion led by current AWSS President Maria Bucur, Indiana University.

With close to 300 conference participants, including over 68 faculty and 87 graduate students, from 38 universities and four foreign countries, the 2009 Midwest Slavic and AWSS Conferences confirmed CSEES' presence on the national scene and set the stage for even grander plans for the next conference. The 2010 Midwest Slavic Conference is scheduled to be held April 15-17 at the Blackwell Inn on the OSU campus. The next AWSS Conference is scheduled for 2011 and is to be held at Indiana University.



Midwest Slavic Opening Reception at the Wexner Center for the Arts (photos courtesy E. Gottlieb)

The Slavic Center would like to thank the Midwest Slavic Association, the Association for Women in Slavic Studies, the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, Film Studies, the Office of International Affairs, the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, the Blackwell Inn, the Wexner Center for the Arts, Cameron Mitchell Catering, the Czech Center New York, Slavica Publishers, and all the students, faculty and staff who helped with and participated in the 2009 conferences.

Origins Online Magazine

Want to know more about the Georgian-Russian conflict? Trying to make sense of Kosovo's independence? Want the background on Russian politics or Central Asia's international relations? Come read *Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective*, an online magazine published by Ohio State's History Department, and supported by the Center for Slavic and East European Studies. *Origins* can be found at <http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/> [the podcast is found at <http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/podcasts.cfm>]. You can also follow *Origins* on Twitter: OriginsOSU.

Origins is a free, advertising-free, non-commercial monthly publication. In each issue, an academic expert analyzes a particular current issue - political, cultural, or social - in a larger, deeper historical context. In addition to the analysis provided in each month's feature, *Origins* also includes podcasts, images, maps, graphics, timelines, and other material to complement the article. Recent topics include Detroit and the fate of urban America, marriage debates, Kosovo, the Darfur conflict, coalition warfare, North Korean in the nuclear age, and the Georgian-Russian conflict.



CSEES Prepares Grandview High School for Russia Trip by Thaddeus Fortney

As part of its outreach initiative to provide local pre-collegiate schools with information on Russia, the Slavic Center provided a series of lectures for a group of Grandview Heights high school students who traveled to Russia in March of this year. Over several months prior to the trip, graduate students from Ohio State met with Joe Hecker, the teacher leading the trip, and his students for an opportunity to discuss Russia in a historical, political and cultural context. The lectures ranged from Russia's involvement in the Napoleonic wars to how to go souvenir shopping in Russia.

The group left for Moscow on March 23rd and they spent several days sightseeing in Moscow and the surrounding area. After taking in Red Square and the Kremlin (as well as a trip to Sergiev Posad), they headed north to St. Petersburg where they toured the Winter Palace and Peter and Paul fortress. Beyond the sightseeing, the students had an opportunity to meet with Russian high school students and discuss the nuances of student life in the US and in Russia.

When asked about why he was taking the students to Russia, Hecker commented, "It is difficult to argue

against the idea that the USSR has profoundly influenced not only U.S. policy and programs, but also U.S. citizens. For students born after the fall of the Soviet Union not to have the opportunity to comprehend this is a serious gap in their understanding of U.S. history and world history. This trip will give the students a rare opportunity to travel off the beaten path of more common overseas trips and provide them with a once in a lifetime experience."

As part of the trip, the group kept a blog to record their daily adventures. This allowed the students at Grandview and their parents to keep track of the developments of their friends as well as create a virtual diary of the trip. As Hecker states, "Group leaders are also acting as role models using global communication with our students and parents. Blogging will help to define our presence in the world."

Other Ohio schools considering similar trips are encouraged to contact the Slavic Center.



Grandview High School group on Red Square
(Photo courtesy D. Lutz)



Grandview High Schoolers visit St. Petersburg
(Photo courtesy D. Lutz)



Harambee Elementary Visits OSU by Thaddeus Fortney



Daria Safronova (DSEELL) and Thaddeus Fortney (DSEELL and CSEES) talk to students about Russian Culture



Students and educators from Harambee Elementary School enjoy *Cheburashka* cartoons

On Tuesday, February 10, 2009, fifteen fifth-grade students from Harambee Christian School visited the Ohio State campus for a day of activities and discussion about Russia. As part of Ohio State's P-12 program, the Slavic Center in conjunction with Kathleen Cameron provided a full day of dancing, language learning and discussion on modern Russia. Students began the day by coloring pictures of flags of the former Soviet republics and talking about how much has changed in a brief 20-year span.

The fifth-graders met with graduate students from the Slavic Center and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures for lessons on writing in Cyrillic, speaking Russian and dancing the *Kalinka*. One of the volunteers, Susan Vdovichenko (DSEELL), commented, "The Harambee visit was a great experience - the kids seemed to learn a lot, and the instructors were excited to talk to such enthusiastic youth. The instructors had a lot of fun and I hope we do this again next year."

Then the students took a tour of the campus and finished the afternoon with pizza and *Cheburashka* cartoons at Oxley Hall. Many students were excited by the opportunity to study all over the world and it led to a discussion with Daria Safronova and Laryssa Stepanova about the differences in education between the United States, Ukraine and Russia.

The OSU P-12 program provides local Columbus students with an opportunity to interact with college students and learn about Ohio State. The program is designed to get students interested and prepared for college and show them the opportunities that await them after high school.

New PowerPoint Presentations Available!

CSEES offers local P-12 educators access to presentations and lesson plans to assist in teaching about Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus. For a list of available presentations, please visit <http://slaviccenter.osu.edu>.



Student News

Andrea Atkins (CSEES) will spend the summer studying Advanced Russian in Tomsk, Russia.

Joseph Castleton (CSEES) will study Advanced Russian in St. Petersburg, Russia this summer.

Scott Clayton (LAW) will intern this summer with the U.S. Department of State at the embassy in Bucharest, Romania.

Timothy Dempsey (CSEES) will spend the summer studying Advanced Turkmen in Turkmenistan.

Emily Erken (Music) will study Advanced Russian at Indiana University's Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages.

Eileen Kunkler (CSEES) was voted CSEES Graduate Student Representative and will be advocate for the group in 2009-10. She will also spend this summer studying Advanced Russian in St. Petersburg.

David McVey (DSEELL, CSEES MA '06) will study Elementary Estonian this summer at the Baltic Summer Studies Institute at the University of Wisconsin.

Sara Orr (DSEELL) will study Advanced Russian in St. Petersburg, Russia this summer.

Lauren Ovchinnikov (CSEES) will study Advanced Russian this summer at Indiana University's SWSEEL.

Zoran Panjak (DSEELL) will spend the summer studying Advanced Russian in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Shannon Potter (CSEES) will intern this summer with the U.S. Department of State at the embassy in Bratislava, Slovakia.

Shelley Price (DSEELL) will study Advanced Russian this summer at Indiana University's SWSEEL.

Laurie Reitsema (Anthropology) will study Intermediate Polish this summer at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.

Lauren Ressue (DSEELL) will spend the summer studying Advanced Russian in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Susan Vdovichenko (DSEELL) won the prestigious Graduate Associate Teaching Award from the OSU Graduate School. This award is the university's highest recognition of the exceptional teaching provided by graduate students at Ohio State.

Ann Wilson (CSEES) will intern this summer with the U.S. Federal Government.

Outreach News

***The Rusian Club** helped host the annual Old New Year Celebration in January. With support from the Slavic Center and DSEELL, over 100 students, faculty and staff

attended the celebration in spite of a formidable snowstorm. Attendees were rewarded for their bravery with fresh blini, sprati, caviar, and scenes from *Irony of Fate* playing on the big screen.

***Agi Risko** (DSEELL) spoke to the Ohio National Guard to prepare Reservists for upcoming missions to Hungary and Eastern Europe.

*The Foreign Language Center and CSEES organized a Meet and Greet with the four Czech players from the Columbus Blue Jackets. Czech students and fans were able to meet the players who generously donated tickets to each CBJ

The Center for Slavic and East European Studies would like to congratulate the following students for completing their M.A. in Slavic and East European Studies:

Justin Cade
Molly Goodwin-Kucinsky
Matthew Lakes
Brian Martin
Nicholas Starvaggi

Congratulations!



Film Additions to CSEES Library

English

Illicit: The Dark Trade - National Geographic
*Secrets of the Dead: Amazon Warrior Women -
PBS (2004)

Kazakh

Nomad - Action/Drama (2007)

Macedonian

The Great Water - Drama (2007)
Mirage - Drama (2006)

Polish

Katyn - Drama (2007)
Krzyzacy - Drama (2007)

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

Romanian

The Death of Mr. Lazerescu - Drama (2005)
4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days - Drama (2007)
The Way I Spent the End of the World - Drama
(2006)

Russian

**Galina (8 episode series) - Drama (2008)*
The Recruiter - Action/Drama (2004)
1612 - Action (2007)

*The Center for Slavic and East European Studies would like to thank those who donated books and movies to the Center throughout the year, especially Dr. Rolf Barth, Dr. Irene Masing-Delic, Dr. Daniel Prior, Sunnie Rucker-Chang and Bill Milbaugh. We appreciate your support in helping us maintain our collection of materials.

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.

home game for the "Czech Mates" fan club and thank them in person. Players also signed autographs and took photos with the group. Thanks again to the Blue Jacket players and Community Relations team for their generosity this past season!

*CSEES staff and faculty spoke to groups at the Fisher College of Business to help promote a new short-term program abroad in Poland. Thanks to CIBER and the

FCOB for this excellent program and the chance to help promote it!

*CSEES staff spoke at Bowling Green State University's International Career Night. Over 50 BGSU students attended to learn more about government and international careers.

*CSEES staff will travel to Washington, DC this summer to meet with government officials to learn more

about placing students in government careers with a focus on Intel and Security.

*The CSEES Outreach Team presented at several local schools this spring, including Woodcrest Elementary School in Columbus and Centerville High School in Dayton.

*The Slavic Department hosted the annual Ohio Russian High School Olympiada with support from the Slavic Center. Over 15 students demonstrated their Russian skills at this year's competition.



The Health Sciences Center for Global Health Opens at OSU

by Pamela Potter

The Health Sciences Center for Global Health is now open and ready to serve the students and faculty of the medical center and beyond. Located on the first floor of the Prior Health Services Library, the center aims to inspire and equip students to pursue careers in global health. Center Director Daniel Sedmak, MD, and co-Director Mary Ellen Wewers, PhD, MPH, are also the investigators on the recently awarded framework grant from the Fogarty International Center of the National Institutes of Health. The framework grant, which targets developing countries, will allow the center to create even greater opportunities for OSU students in both research and education.

There are multiple approaches to limiting and ultimately solving the majority of global health concerns but none is more fundamental than increasing the number of individuals working in the various fields of global health such as teaching, prevention, clinical care and research.



While the Health Sciences Center for Global Health is in the early stages, the framework grant creates a significant opportunity to advance a mission that allows us to nurture and train the next generation of global health professionals for whom cross-discipline collaboration will be the norm.

Steven Gabbe (MD, CEO, OSU Medical Center) states “Global health is a dynamic and rapidly growing field of interest for students, not only at OSU but around the country. Most of our colleges support a variety of international activities, but the creation of the Health Sciences Center for Global Health provides the structure to harness our tremendous expertise and significantly leverage our unique strengths as a large diverse campus and comprehensive health science cluster to educate future global health educators, research scientists, administrators and clinicians.”

For more information, contact Pam Potter at Pamela.Potter@osumc.edu.

Jaroslav Malina: Paintings and Designs

Dr. Joseph Brandesky (Theater, OSU-Lima) has completed his latest project, an international exhibit on Czech artist Jaroslav Malina. This exhibit includes over 85 paintings, theater designs and posters, and will be on display at galleries in Texas, New York and Ohio. The project also includes a CD catalog, which was created with the assistance of U.S. Department of Education Title VI funds through the Slavic Center at OSU.

“Malina, who collaborated with playwright Vaclav Havel, helped lead a creative movement that made theater an expression of dissent behind the Iron Curtain during the communist era. Ranging from the Cold War to the fall of the Soviet Union, Malina’s 40-year career retrospective coincides with the 20th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution of 1989-90, when Havel was elected the first president of the Czech Republic.” (Dan R. Goddard, *San Antonio Express-News*)

According to Brandesky, “Taken altogether, the exhibit, catalog and CD represent the most comprehensive compilation of the work of Jaroslav Malina to be seen outside the Czech Republic.” The exhibit can be seen at the Stage II Gallery at OSU-Lima from September 20 through October 12, 2009, and at the Urban Arts Center in Columbus from November 17, 2009 through January 15, 2010.



Ohio Teachers Going Global: Internationalizing Across the Curriculum

by Esther Gottlieb

As part of its K-12 outreach mission, CSEES will participate in the 2009 Global Institute for Ohio teachers. Over 100 teachers (selected out of more than 230 applicants) from every corner of the state will learn how to internationalize their classrooms and provide Ohio students with more global awareness.

This three-day Global Institute for teachers in grades K-12 is a collaboration among the Ohio Department of Education, the Office of International Affairs and Area Studies Centers at The Ohio State University, the Gerald H. Read Center at Kent State University and the Ohio Geographic Alliance. The institute will take place on the campus of Kent State University.

Primarily funded by contributions from the partner organizations and a grant from the Longview Foundation, this event will train a cadre of teachers from content areas across the curriculum to:

- * Understand the importance of international education
- * Identify opportunities for integrating international context into teaching activities
- * Create models that can be shared with other teachers and
- * Use technology for making international connections.

The Global Institute will:

- * Enable teachers to add a more global perspective to lessons aligned with Ohio's Academic Content Standards
- * Supply teachers with materials and methods to share with colleagues in their buildings
- * Prepare teachers to incorporate new uses of technology in their classroom
- * Provide optional graduate credit (additional fee)

- * Provide follow-up support during the 2009-2010 school year to help teachers incorporate at least one strategy to internationalize curriculum

- * Allow teachers to stay in contact and support each other as they implement new ideas in their classrooms through an online collaborative site and phone or Web conferences.

Teachers from Ohio schools who teach English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts, world languages, career programs or technology in grades K-12 were eligible to apply. Registration was open to teachers from public and nonpublic schools including charter schools and career and technical programs.

Priority was given to interdisciplinary teams of teachers from one building. Additional teachers may have been admitted to balance representation from content areas. Selection was based on information included in the application. Lodging will be available for participants outside of the Kent State area.

For more information, please visit the Office of International Affairs' website at <http://oia.osu.edu/content/view/95/471/>. The 2010 Global Institute will be held in Columbus on the OSU campus.

This event is being supported by CSEES staff and U.S. Department of Education Title VI funds.





Student Organizations Represented

Four of the Slavic Center's student organizations (the Bulgarian Club, Georgian Club, Russian Club and Ukrainian Club) participated in the 2009 Taste of OSU. This event is one of the largest international activities on campus and regularly includes crowds of over 4,000.

The student organizations prepared food for attendees to sample as well as cultural display booths to provide information on their region.

Students from Bulgarska Roza, the Bulgarian Club at OSU, prepared a variety of dishes including *shopska* salad, *kavarma*, *kebabcheta* and apple *banitsa*. The Bulgarian community came out in full support and helped the Bulgarska Roza finish the night as one of the most popular booths.

The Georgian Club made their first appearance at the Taste in 2009 and represented the Caucasus proudly.



The Russian Club at Taste of OSU
(photo courtesy V. van Buchem)

Second Annual International Careers Week

The Slavic Center helped organize the Second Annual International Careers Week at OSU May 11-15 with cooperation from the four Area Studies Centers (African Studies, East Asian Studies, Latin American Studies, and Middle East Studies), the Foreign Language Center and Arts & Sciences Career Services.

International Careers Week is open to all students at OSU and provides a glimpse into the many different sectors of international employment. With over 150 students attending the four days of presentations, the event continues to be a success and will expand even further next year.

Day One was an Introduction to International Careers and Foreign Service jobs with the U.S. Department of State. Presentations from Amy Carey (East Asian Studies Center), Lance Erickson (CSEES), and Adrienne O'Neal (Diplomat in Residence at the University of Michigan) cov-

ered all aspects of working overseas, with a particular focus on State Department careers. Students were especially encouraged to consider internship opportunities at U.S. embassies worldwide. These internships can take place during the summer or academic year and provide students an excellent opportunity to gain valuable work experience while living in a foreign country.

Day Two focused on International Nonprofit Careers and how students can utilize their foreign language skills and study abroad experience to be successful working for international NGOs. Carol Robison (Center for Latin American Studies) moderated the discussion that included presentations by Randy Dineen (A&S Career Services), Laura Joseph (Center for African Studies) and Maria Bowman (Columbus Council on World Affairs).



Present Region at Taste of OSU

With assistance from the Office of International Students and Scholars, the Georgian Club prepared *lobio* soup and the ever-popular *khachapuri*.

The Russian Club received significant help from CSEES MA students in preparing and serving *olivier* salad, *shchi* soup and *pelmeni*. The Russian dishes proved to be very popular and fared well in the judging competition.

The Ukrainian Club had an excellent turn out as always and treated the attendees to a wide variety of Ukrainian dishes. From *borshch* and *vesnianyi* to *syryk* and *kutya*, the crowd was able to sample some of the best Ukrainian fare in all of Columbus.

We hope to see even more Clubs from our region participate next year, as the Polish Club and Slovenian Buckeye Society (SLOSU) look to show off their cooking skills in 2010.

For more information on the 2009 Taste of OSU, please visit <http://oia.osu.edu/content/view/695/429/> or contact the Office of International Affairs.



The Bulgarian Club at Taste of OSU
(photo courtesy V. van Buchem)

Day Three was International Business Careers and Internships and featured Scott Kuehn, Assistant Director of the Global Markets Division for the Ohio Department of Development. Presentations by Scott Kustis (A&S Career Services) and Janet Stucky Smith (East Asian Studies Center's Institute for Japanese Studies) provided additional information for students interested in the private sector.

The Foreign Language Center again hosted their annual Career Night with over 20 employer booths that provided students the opportunity to hand out resumes and meet with actual recruiters. Turnout for the event was outstanding.

The final day covered Careers in Academia and International Education. Dr. Febe Armanios (Middlebury College) spoke on academic careers in higher education with a focus on small, liberal arts colleges. Melinda Wightman (Middle East Studies Center) moderated the discussion that

included a presentation by Grace Johnson (OSU Study Abroad) and numerous questions from the audience.

Next year's event promises to cover new sectors of international employment such as healthcare and law. We hope that you will join us as we continue to place heavy emphasis on career placement for students at all levels.

We would like to thank all the students, faculty and staff who helped make this year's event such a great success: Arts and Sciences Careers Services, Center for African Studies, Center for Latin American Studies, Columbus Council on World Affairs, Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, East Asian Studies Center and the Institute for Japanese Studies, Foreign Language Center, Office of International Affairs and Study Abroad, Ohio Department of Development, and the Younkin Success Center.



Slovene Consul General Visits OSU

by Leah Wynalek and Maria Sedmak

The Slovenian Buckeye Society, or SLOSU, is a new student organization at Ohio State that invites students to learn more about Slovenian culture. “The Slovenian Buckeye Society promotes the culture of the small country of Slovenia through planned events and meetings,” SLOSU Secretary Maria Sedmak said.

The society recently invited the General Consul of Slovenia to Cleveland, Dr. Zvone Zigon, to speak and meet with students at a recent event. Sedmak remarked Zigon had shown much interest in the organization and accepted the invitation with enthusiasm.

At the meeting, Dr. Zigon gave a brief introduction about Slovenia to encourage non-Slovenian members of the organization. The small country is bordered by four countries which make it a gateway to various languages, foods, histories and architectural styles. Zigon said this adaptability of the country makes Slovenian missionaries particularly successful. There are about 100 Slovenian missionaries in the world at a time, about half of which are cleric missionaries. Dr. Zigon said the goal of missionaries is to learn about the country’s culture and its people and to send a tolerant religious message.

Dr. Zigon has visited missionaries in many countries, including Egypt, Chile, Venezuela, Brazil and Canada. At the SLOSU meeting he talked mainly of his visit to an Inuit village in northern Canada in April and March of 2004. The Inuit culture is drastically different from many other cultures because of its isolation and cold climate.

To give members of SLOSU a better understanding of Inuit society, Dr. Zigon shared video footage of his visit. He recorded everything from igloo building and bobsledding to the Easter Mass conducted in Inuktitut, the Inuit language.

Dr. Zigon has published his writing on the topic of Slovenian missionaries. In 2003 he published “The Challenges of Differences—Slovenians in Africa and the Arabian Peninsula.” In 2005 he wrote “People Open Hearts—Slovenian Missionaries About Themselves” which addresses the personal experiences of missionaries and the changes these experiences have on them.

“What is interesting to me is the missionaries’ loss of national identity,” Zigon said. “Because they adapt to other cultures they feel out of place back in Slovenia. They no longer care about things like afternoon tea and cookies. Once you go there it sucks you in—you feel like other problems in the world are not a big deal.”

The Slovenian Buckeye Society is organized by Rachael Gaser (President), Monika Percic (Vice President), Michael Kusold (Treasurer), Maria Sedmak (Secretary), and Dr. Carole Rogel (Faculty Advisor).

Help support our Student Organizations!

If you are interested in helping support the Slovenian Buckeye Society or other student organizations representing our region at OSU, please visit their homepages on Facebook or contact the Slavic Center for more information.



Slovene Consul General Dr. Zvone Zigon meets with the Slovenian Buckeye Association



War Legacy in Russian and Soviet Film

In May CSEES welcomed Dr. Tatiana Smorodinskaya (Middlebury College) to present on the legacy of World War II in Russian and Soviet Film. The discussion centered on the historic role of patriotic films about WWII and their growing popularity under Putin's leadership. Examples were given from such films as *Star* (Ivanov, 1949), *Come and See* (Klimov, 1985), *The Last Train* (German, 2003) and *Sabateour* (Malyukov, 2004).

Dr. Smorodinskaya is a graduate of the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures at The Ohio State University. During her visit she also spoke at a Graduate Professionalization Workshop for graduate students from DSEELL to discuss academic careers at small, liberal arts colleges such as Middlebury. Her presentation was titled "The Liberal Arts College: What Can You Do to Enhance Your Employability Profile" and was organized by Dr. Angela Brintlinger.

Dr. Smorodinskaya's visit was funded through U.S. Department of Education Title VI funds and was co-sponsored by the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures.

Sign up for one of CSEES' weekly mailing lists!

Monday Calendar of Events
or
Grad/Faculty CFPs & Grants
or
Jobs Postings

CSEES@osu.edu

Curtis Wins Fulbright-Hays



Matthew Curtis, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures was one of three doctoral candidates from OSU to be awarded a prestigious Fulbright-Hays grant by the U.S. Department of Education. The Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) grant provides research funding for 2009-10 and only approximately 130 DDRA awards are given annually nationwide.

Curtis will conduct research for his dissertation in Kosovo and Albania for 12 months examining the topic of Slavic-Albanian Language Contact, Convergence, and Coexistence. Curtis was inspired by an article by Robert Greenberg which proposed that a handful of overlooked linguistic similarities between the dialects of Western Macedonian and Southwestern Montenegrin were evidence of an older South Slavic dialect that crossed over to the current territory of Albania and Kosovo. He hopes his research uncovers the mystery of South Slavic dialectology and strengthens the understanding of the mutual cultural and linguistic influence that Slavic and Albanian languages had on one another.

The Office of International Affairs administers the Fulbright-Hays program for Ohio State. Grant competitions are held annually. Doctoral candidates interested in applying for the FY 2010 award should contact Joanna Kukielka-Blaser at kukielka-blaser.1@osu.edu.

Director

Yana Hashamova

Assistant Director

Lance Erickson

Office Coordinator

Maryann Walther-Keisel

Outreach Coordinator

Thaddeus Fortney

Office Assistants

Anastasia Akruzhnou

Jordan Peters

Calling All Alumni and Friends

As the Slavic Center begins preparations for the next Title VI application, we would like to hear from all our alumni and friends to find out where you are working, how you are using the languages and skills you learned during the program, and all the many accomplishments you have attained.

It is only through your support and continued accomplishments that the Slavic Center can continue to compete with the top programs nationally. Please contact us at CSEES@osu.edu to update your information on file and help us succeed once again in securing Department of Education funding. As always, thank you for your continued support!

Center for Slavic and East European Studies

303 Oxley Hall
1712 Neil Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210-1219

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Columbus, OH
Permit No. 711