OSU to Host Midwest Slavic Conference, 26-28 February

The Midwest Slavic Association, the Ohio State University Center for Slavic and East European Studies, and the OSU Office of International Affairs proudly announce the 2004 Midwest Slavic Conference, to be held at the Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center from 26 to 28 February 2004 on the campus of Ohio State University.

The conference will open with a keynote address and reception on the evening of Thursday 26 February, followed by two days of academic and business-related panels. The keynote speakers will be Alexander N. Domrin, Head of International Programs at the Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law in Moscow, legislation-drafting division of the Russian federal government, and Georgi M. Derluguian, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Deputy Director of the Center for International and Comparative Studies (CICS) at Northwestern University (see article p.3).

Conference organizers are inviting proposals for panels or individual papers addressing topics within the field of Slavic studies. Please send a one-paragraph abstract, along with a brief c.v. to csees@osu.edu by 30 January 2004.

Persons proposing papers must be willing to be scheduled either Friday or Saturday. Graduate students are particularly encouraged to submit presentations. Limited funding will be available to subsidize graduate travel and hotel stays. For more information, contact the Slavic Center at 614-292-8770 csees@osu.edu

OSU Department of Theatre to Present David Edgar’s Pentecost

With the support of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies and the OSU Slavic Department, the OSU Department of Theatre under the direction of Jonathan Putnam will present David Edgar’s Pentecost, 25-28 February 2004, in the Thurber Theatre.

A vacant church is the backdrop for a fascinating look at art and politics in an anonymous East European setting. The country and church have suffered and prospered under multiple rulers and faiths. A local art curator invites a well-known British art historian to examine the church, believing she has located a painting by Giotto. Through the course of the play the church is slowly dismantled to reveal the painting, while concurrent efforts are made to determine the authenticity of the artwork. The play is highly complex, and the answers change as more and more pieces of the painting are revealed. Cultural clashes abound as others come to the church, including local priests, tourists, and an asylum-seeking, hostage-taking assortment of refugees.

David Edgar, one of Britain’s major political playwrights, is best known for his Tony Award-winning adaptation of Dicken’s Nicholas Nickelby. Showtimes are Feb. 25 at 7:30 pm, Feb. 26-28 at 8 pm, and Feb. 28 at 2 pm. Tickets are $14 for the general public, $12 for OSU staff and faculty, senior citizens, and alumni, and $8 for students. Please contact the Department of Theatre for more information.
Happy New Year!

CSEES has largely dedicated this quarter to the Midwest Slavic Conference which we will be hosting Feb. 24-26 at the Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center. This bi-annual conference should become a major event connecting the OSU faculty and graduate students with our colleagues from Ohio universities and colleges offer Russian and East European area studies. Since our state and the Midwest at large is blessed with a plethora of excellent schools serving as homes to a number of very active Slavic literature specialists, historians and social scientists, we hope to establish more of an intellectual community and find ways of sharing resources.

Our graduate students and faculty have been active in organizing conference sessions ranging from a panel of Russian club presidents from the near by colleges, to panels on literary translation, Chekhov drama, Polish films, Russian international relations, and many others. We are appealing to the OSU faculty and graduate students, especially those from history and social sciences, to invite their colleagues to panels which would show the spectrum of Slavic and East European research done in the Midwest. The deadline for the paper and panel proposals is Jan. 30.

In addition to organizing conference panels, we have invited two keynote speakers, Aleksandr Domrin, a lawyer from Moscow involved in the Russian legislature, who will speak about the upcoming Russian elections, and Georgi Derluguian, a sociologist from Northwestern, whose range of interests and a provocative perspective is bound to elicit great interest. Participants in the conference are also invited to view the play Pentecost, staged by the OSU Theatre Department, which addresses problems of Southeast Europe. The meeting will conclude with an opportunity to socialize with the Ohio colleagues at a party held in the home of the CSEES director.

Our next task for this quarter is the FLAS competition. Assuming that Office of International Studies will be able to arrange for the OSU tuition remission for the grantees, CSEES expects to award almost twenty yearly FLAS's and some twelve summer FLAS's. This year we have added Uzbek to the languages we support; we have began to teach it as a televised course with Indiana University. Indiana, in turn, began an attractive summer program in Samarkand where the students who completed the first year on campus can continue their Uzbek instruction.

You will notice that the film series for this quarter reflects the images of America as presented in Russian and Soviet film. We are showing these films in preparation for the symposium on Americanism and Anti-Americanism in the Russian and East European Cultures which to be held in May together with the Mershon Center. Also in May and also with the help of the funding granted by the Mershon Center and the OIA, Yana Hashamova with the assistance of CSEES will host an international conference on “Dark Side of Globalization: Trafficking in People from Eastern Europe.”

We would also like to welcome Kamoludin Abdullaev, who has returned to OSU to teach courses on Central Asia. This quarter he is teaching one course in International Studies Program and two courses in the Political Science Department. Dr. Abdullaev will also continue his teaching in the spring. For Spring we have also invited Tamas Reti, a Hungarian economist, who will be teaching in the International Studies Program and in the Economics Department. Dr. Reti’s courses will introduce students to the problems of transition economy and to the restructuring of economic systems in preparation for the entry of the select East European countries to the European Union.

This summer the undergraduates will have the opportunity to participate in a six-week Russian language program at the Tomsk University. In addition to the Siberian program focused on Natural Resources which already twice took OSU students to Tomsk, we have now added a language/culture program which also offers attractive home-stays for our second year Russian students.

Beyond the quarterly programming, CSEES is involved in the development of a strategic plan commissioned by Vice-Provost Jerry Ladman and the Office of International Affairs to be completed by the end of May. The short-, medium-, and long-term plans need to prioritize goals and objectives for the OSU Slavic and East European Studies for the next several years. Your input and suggestions, both for on-campus and outreach activities, are very much welcomed.

Halina Stephan
Director

An Invitation to Ohio-area Slavists...

In connection with the Midwest Slavic Conference, the OSU Slavic Center and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures would like to issue a special invitation to our Ohio-area colleagues involved in teaching and research in the field of Slavic studies. We would like to establish closer links with area faculty to enable us to exchange speakers, co-organize conferences, offer courses at our university taught by specialists from other schools, promote student participation in study-abroad programs, and to discuss issues relevant to the field. This year's Midwest Slavic Conference should provide a forum for getting acquainted and sharing ideas about our respective programs with the hope of closer cooperation.

While we invite your participation in the Midwest Slavic Conference, we are planning a special “town hall” meeting of the Ohio Slavic faculty at 4:00 Feb. 28 at the Blackwell Hotel, to be followed by a dinner reception at the house of Halina Stephan, Director of the OSU Slavic Center. If you are planning to attend, please contact the Center at (614) 292-8770, or by email csees@osu.edu for further details.
The Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) awards FLEP scholarships to graduate students at CIC universities to pursue foreign language study during the summer. This program is intended to help students take advantage of language offerings not available to them at their home university. FLEP scholarships in the amount of $2,000 are awarded to cover living expenses incurred while attending another CIC host institution. Twenty-five FLEP awards were granted to CIC graduate students to pursue language study at other institutions during the summer of 2003.

FLEP scholarships could be applied toward enrollment in any of the languages to be offered at Indiana University’s Summer Workshop 2004 (Russian, Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian, Czech, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian, Slovene, or languages of Central Asia and the Caucasus Azeri, Kazakh, Turkmen, Uzbek, Georgian, Pashto, Tajik and Uyghur). Go to the websites below for more information.

CIC/FLEP grant info http://www.cic.uiuc.edu/programs/flep/ The CIC/FLEP application deadline is FEBRUARY 6, 2004.

Midwest Slavic Conference to Feature Keynote Speakers Domrin, Derluguian

The Slavic Center is pleased to announce that the keynote speakers for this year’s Midwest Slavic Conference (Feb. 26-28) will be law scholar Alexander N. Domrin and sociologist Georgi M. Derluguian.

Dr. Domrin will present a lecture entitled “Russian Elections and Prospects for Russia’s Development” on Thursday, 26 February at 5:30pm in Tiered Meeting Room 202 of the Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center (2110 Tuttle Park Place, OSU Campus). Dr. Domrin’s lecture will be part of the Midwest Slavic Conference’s opening reception, and will be followed by the OSU Theatre Dept. production Pentecost, to be held at the Thurber Theatre later that evening (see p.1).

On Friday, 27 February at 12pm (also at the Blackwell, room TBD) Dr. Derluguian will present a lecture entitled “What Really Was Communism, and Did It Make Eastern Europe Special?” Dr. Derluguian’s talk will be a luncheon lecture. Space is limited, so please RSVP by calling 292-8770 or emailing the Center at csees@osu.edu

Alexander N. Domrin is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law (Moscow), a research and legislation-drafting division of the Russian federal government. A graduate of the Institute of International Relations under the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1985), in 1990 he joined the professional staff of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations, as its Senior and then Chief Specialist. In 1994-96, Prof. Domrin was the Moscow Coordinator of the U.S. Congressional Research Service–Russian Federal Assembly Parliamentary Development Program. In 1998-99, he was a Consultant of the Russian Foundation for Legal Reform coordinating the World Bank–funded Legal Education Development Program.

In addition, he is the author of over sixty publications (in Russia, Ukraine, Great Britain, and USA) and two major reports to the Council for Foreign and Defense Policy. He is a member of the Expert Council on Constitutional Legislation under the Chairman of the State Duma (lower chamber of the federal parliament), of the Editorial Board of Representative Power- 21st Century Legislation, Commentaries, Problems (a legal periodical of the Russian State Duma), of the Expert Council of the Institute of Law and Public Policy (Moscow) and of the Hauser Global Law School Faculty of the New York University Law School (New York).

Georgi M. Derluguian is deputy director of the Center for International and Comparative Studies (CICS) at Northwestern University, where he is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and International Studies Program. He received doctoral degrees from the State University of New York at Binghamton (Sociology) and the Institute of Universal History, Academy of Sciences in Moscow (Historical Sciences). Dr. Derluguian has conducted on-site research in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Karabagh, Adjaria, Abkhazia, Fergana Valley, and Chechnya.

Dr. Derluguian has held several academic positions at the US Institute of Peace, the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and the Peace Studies Center at Cornell University. Some of his recent publications include an NCEER report on ethnic mafias in the former USSR; an article in the New Left Review, “Che Guevaras in Turbans: Chechens versus Globalization;” and a lengthy theoretical essay on "Capitalism, Socialism, and the National State" in the Encyclopedia of Nationalism, edited by Alexander J. Motyl (Academic Press, 2000).
Yulia Artamonova, Russian musicologist, received a Fulbright grant to spend eight months in the Hilandar Research Library studying modal signatures in South Slavic manuscripts.

Bojan Belić (Ph.D. Candidate, DSEELL) participated in the Slavic Graduate Colloquium in Columbus, OH. He also presented a paper entitled "Minor Paucal in Serbian" at the 5th European Conference on Formal Description of Slavic Languages in Leipzig, Germany.

Angela Brintlinger (DSEELL) Angela Brintlinger spent a month this fall as a research fellow at the Francis Clark Wood Institute for the History of Medicine at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. She also gave an invited talk at the University of Pennsylvania entitled "The Mad and their Doctors: Russian Attitudes toward Psyche and Psychiatry" in November, and one in October at the UW-Madison entitled “Enter the Hero: on Heroes and the Heroic in the Proto-Socialist Realist Novel (Gorky and Furmanov).” Her article "The Persian Frontier: Griboedov as Orientalist and Literary Hero" was published in Canadian Slavonic Papers, Vol. XLV, Nos. 3-4 (September - December 2003).

Victoria Clement (Pd.D. Candidate, History) won the 2003 Alan Wildman Award to research the role of Turkmen tribes in the Great Game at the British Library and British National Archives, London. In November 2003, she presented a paper entitled “Türkmenistanivelopment: Milli Galkynys Hereketi”, at the School of Asian and Oriental Studies at the University of London and in October she presented a paper entitled “Media and Public Participation in Turkmenistan’s National Revival Movement, 1999-2003,” at the Nationalist Myths and Modern Media Conference, University of Sussex.

Charles Gribble (DSEELL) and Pedrag Matjeć (DSEELL) co-edited Monastic Traditions: Selected Proceedings of the Fourth International Hilandar Conference.

The Slavic Center would like to congratulate recent American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) book award winners Prof. Ted Hopf of the OSU Political Science Department and Prof. Jennifer Siegel of the OSU History Department, as well American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) book award winner Prof. Daniel E. Collins of the OSU Slavic Dept.

Prof. Collins received an award for the Best Book in Slavic linguistics from the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages for his work Reanimated Voices: Speech Reporting in a Historical-Pragmatic Perspective (John Benjamins Pub Co, 2001).

Prof. Hopf was awarded the 2003 Marshall Shulman Book Prize for an outstanding monograph on the international behavior of the countries of the former Communist bloc. Entitled Social Construction of International Politics: Identities & Foreign Policies, Moscow, 1955 & 1999 (Cornell University Press, 2002), Hopf’s book was praised by the award committee “a remarkable exploration of the sources of Soviet/Russian foreign policy behavior” and “a model for area studies scholars wanting to make a rigorous contribution to the theoretical development of a traditional academic discipline, or for discipline-based scholars wanting to enjoy the rich and nuanced rewards of careful area study.”

Prof. Siegel was awarded the the 2003 Barbara Jelavich Book Prize for an outstanding monograph on Southeast European or Habsburg studies since 1600 or 19th- and 20th-century Ottoman or Russian diplomatic history for her work Endgame: Britain, Russia and the Final Struggle for Central Asia (I.B. Taurus, 2002). The award committee described Siegel’s study of the dynamics of Anglo-Russian rivalry in Central Asia at the beginning of the twentieth century, as “possibly the most significant contribution to Russian diplomatic history in a decade.”

Profs. Hopf and Siegel received their awards during the AAASS 35th National Convention Awards Reception at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on November 22, 2003.
The Slavic Center would like to welcome two new students to its Russian and East European Studies MA Program. The first, Luke Wochensky, is a 2002 graduate of Union College in Schenectady, NY, where he majored in Political Science and Modern Languages. While at Union, Luke was an all-conference football player, president of the International Relations Club, and vice-president of the Russian and East European Club. In 2002, he completed a Senior Thesis entitled "Defining Organized Crime in Russia: A Probe into the Misconceptions of the 'Russia Mafia'" under the direction of Prof. Robert Hislope, who himself was a graduate of OSU. Luke currently is a FLAS recipient studying advanced Russian.

The second student is Bryan Herman, a 2003 graduate of SUNY-Potsdam, where he majored in Drama and History and minored in Anthropology and Literature. Among other things, Bryan earned departmental honors in both of his majors, was a SUNY-Potsdam Presidential Scholar, and was awarded the Briggs Prize for outstanding work in history. His primary interest is Byzantine cultural history, though he maintains a broader interest in Russian and East European affairs. Bryan is currently a 2003-04 recipient of a Graduate School University Fellowship.

Jennifer Siegel (History) gave a paper at AAASS Toronto entitled "Foreign Finance and Russian Policy--The Case of the 1905-06 Loans."

Kazimierz M. Slomczynski (Sociology) recently edited two sequel volumes of studies based on a national panel survey conducted under his direction in Poland in 1988, 1993, and 1998: (1) Social Patterns of Being Political (Warsaw: IFiS Publishers, 2000), and (2) Social Structure: Changes and Linkages (Warsaw: IFiS Publishers, 2002). In addition, Professor Slomczynski participated in two meetings of the Research Committee on Social Stratification, the International Sociological Association in Tokyo (March 2003) and in New York (August 2003).

Mark Allen Svede (History of Art) published the essay, "Writers' Bloc: Reading into Late Soviet Experience through Latvian Artists' Books," in Inferno: Journal of Art History (University of St. Andrews, Scotland) vol. 8 (Autumn 2003), 5-16.

Mike Peng (Business) received a National Science Foundation Faculty Career Grant, on "Strategic Choices during Institutional Transitions" ($422,889), 2003-08. This news was featured in Fisher College News Release (April 28, 2003), OSU Today (May 19, 2003), www.osu.edu (top story on the main website of the university on May 22, 2003), and On Campus bi-weekly faculty and staff newspaper (June 12, 2003, p. 6).

CSEES is currently seeking applications for fellowships for Summer Quarter 2004 and Academic Year 2004-05 under the US Department of Education’s Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship program.

These fellowships are available to all full-time graduate and professional students at all levels and in any department who are pursuing a course of study which requires advanced foreign language and area studies training. The fellowships are expected to carry a stipend of $14000 for three quarters of the academic year and $2400 for the Summer Quarter. These awards carry a Graduate School fee authorization for all OSU fees and tuition.

Academic-year award recipients must register for a minimum of 15 credit hours (which include language courses in addition to regular degree courses) during each quarter of the award period. Summer fellowships are awarded for intensive language study only. Intensive programs eligible for support must embrace the equivalent of a full year of language study with at least 140 contact/classroom hours of instruction. Individualized instruction does not qualify for support.

The availability of these fellowships is contingent upon receipt of funding from the US Department of Education. All applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents. Languages for which awards will be made through CSEES include:

- Czech
- Hungarian
- Romanian
- Serbo-Croatian
- Uzbek
- Modern Greek
- Polish
- Russian
- Turkish
- Yiddish

In awarding these fellowships, priority is given to students who combine language and area studies with professional training in agriculture, business, natural resources, education, and law. FLAS applications can be picked up in person at 303 Oxley Hall, or downloaded at: www.osu.edu/oia under “Grants for Faculty and Students.”

The application deadline is 6 February 2004

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN UZBEK OR TADJIK?

Free language instruction by a native Uzbek speaker is available on a regular basis for students and faculty throughout the Winter quarter.

For more information contact: csees@osu.edu

CSEES to Sponsor Lecture by Former Macedonian Ambassador Dimitar Mircev

On 25 February at 12pm in Room 120 of the OSU Mershon Center, Dr. Dimitar Mircev will present a lecture entitled “Macedonia Today: The Uneven Paths of Transition and Independence.”

Dr. Mircev is a Professor of Politics and Political Sociology at Sts. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Macedonia. He was formerly Vice-Rector of that University, as well as the Macedonian Ambassador to the Holy See and Slovenia. He is presently a Visiting Scholar at the University of Pittsburgh’s Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, as a fellow of the American Councils for International Education.

The lecture is free and open to the public.
IVC Looking for Home Hosts for Visiting Ukrainian Journalists, 22 Feb—10 March

International Visitors Council, Inc. is looking for home hosts for a group of Ukrainian journalists that will be visiting Central Ohio February 22- March 10.

Do you enjoy international food, meeting people and having new experiences? If so, you might enjoy being a home host for business entrepreneurs from around the world who come to Columbus to learn about democracy and business in a market economy. While here, they learn about American culture by staying with host families. As a home host you would provide a bedroom, breakfast and dinner most days, and assistance with transportation. This may mean dropping your visitor off somewhere, helping with a bus schedule, or arranging a car pool. Visitors like to experience everyday American life and join their host family in outings, sight-seeing, grocery shopping, etc. As a home host, you will make a new friend for life, learn about other cultures, exchange recipes, and become part of an esteemed group of volunteers that was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 2000. You’ll learn about the needs and concerns of citizens in other countries from a first-hand perspective, far superior to the nightly news.

Upcoming opportunities for 2004 include: February 22- March 10, Journalists from Ukraine; April 24- May 7 and/ or May 7-22, Entrepreneurs from Russia; and September 5-22, Small Business Leaders from Kazakhstan. If you want to hear more about becoming a home host for IVC, please call 225-9057 and ask for Leila Bradaschia.

OSU to Host Tajik Political Scientist, Hungarian Economist in 2004

CSEE's is pleased to announce that political scientist Kamoludin Abdullaev of Tajikistan and economist Tamas Reti of Hungary will be teaching courses here at OSU in 2004. Dr. Abdullaev, who previously taught at OSU in Winter 2003, will be teaching courses on Central Asia in the Undergraduate International Studies Program and the Department of Political Science during the Winter and Spring Quarters of 2004. Dr. Abdullaev has over twenty years experience in the teaching and study of modern Central Asia and since 1992 has been a policy analyst and independent consultant for international non-governmental research organizations involved in education and conflict resolution in Central Asia. In 2001, he co-edited Politics of Compromise: The Tajikistan Peace Process and in 2002 he co-authored the Historical Dictionary of Tajikistan.

Dr. Reti, who is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Economics in the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, will be teaching courses in the Undergraduate International Studies Program and the Economics Department in Spring 2004. Since 1989, Dr. Reti has been a Professor at the Budapest University of Economic Sciences and Public Administration and in 1998 taught economics at the UC-Berkeley Budapest Program. He has held visiting professorships and fellowships at the University of Bologna, the Woodrow Wilson Center, the Institute of Soviet and East European Studies at the University of Glasgow, the Institute of Economic Research/SEDEIS-REXECO/ Paris, and the Institute of Economics in Moscow. His field of interest includes macroeconomic policies in the transition countries, regional economic integration and CEFTA-trade, privatization policies, and foreign direct investment in the transition economies. Dr. Reti has published articles in East European Politics and Societies, Eastern European Economics, Russian and East European Finance and Trade, and in various other journals in Europe and the United States.

Those interested in donating to the Slavic Center are invited to make tax-deductible contributions to account #307923 at the Development Office of the OSU Foundation

Visit the Slavic Center website at: www.osu.edu/csees
CSEES Offers New Course
“Introduction to Slavic Studies”

For the first time this fall CSEES offered a course “Introduction to Slavic Studies” which was mandated a few years ago during the last CSEES program review. The course is now required for students seeking a master’s degree in the Center for Slavic and East European Studies. It is also recommended for students entering the field of Slavic and East European studies in other departments. The director of CSEES teaches the course and coordinates CSEES faculty guest lectures.

“Introduction to Slavic Studies” provides students with a broad overview of the current state of the field. CSEES faculty members offered presentations on the state of their respective disciplines in the post-1989 period and discussed recent changes, controversial issues, and current directions of research. This way CSEES was able to showcase the OSU faculty teaching in the area and make initial contacts for the incoming students. Here we would like to thank Predrag Matejic, Daniel Collins, Nicholas Breyfogle, Jennifer Siegel, Irene Masing-Delic, Myroslava Mudrak, Margarita Mazo, Tim Frye, Yuri Medvedkov, Kazimierz Ślomczynski and Father Miroljub Ruzic for their support of the course and their impressive presentation offered during the Fall quarter.

The eleven students enrolled in the course also read extensively and examined many of the critical issues under discussion in the field. In the past, the field of “Russian and East European Studies,” as it developed in American institutions after World War II, took for granted that state-socialism united the diverse countries of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union as a unit of intellectual study and political importance. For this course, the collapse of socialist states since 1989 provided a unifying framework. Indirectly and directly the course addressed issues such as: How did socialism collapse? What was socialism? Are the formerly socialist countries transitioning to capitalism and democracy? Who is making policy (political, economic, social, environmental, linguistic) in the new countries and what effect will those policies have? Is life getting better or worse (since 1989) for ordinary citizens? And can we still think of Russian and Eastern Europe as constituting a single “area” for multidisciplinary study? If yes, what unites it, and how do we study that unity? If not, what are the sub-areas, what unites them, and how do we study them?

The course will be offered every fall. We intend to maintain its multidisciplinary character and invite CSEES faculty to share with the students recent developments in their respective fields. For comments and contributions, please contact Halina Stephan at stephan.31@osu.edu.

NEW OSU STUDY-ABROAD PROGRAM IN

TOMSK, SIBERIA

Intensive Russian Language & Culture Program

Program: Study Russian Language; earn 15 hours of OSU credit
Dates: June 15 – August 2, 2004
Location: Tomsk State University, Tomsk, Russia
Cost: OSU tuition plus $1,750 (est.)

This OSU program in Tomsk, Siberia is a six-week intensive language and culture program offered at Tomsk State University. The program provides students with the opportunity to increase their Russian language ability and to experience contemporary Russian life by living with host families. In addition to classroom instruction by Tomsk State University instructors, students will also participate in various cultural and historical immersion activities during their stay. Each student will be paired with a mentor, a TSU student, who will help with his or her adjustment to a completely Russian language environment.

This program is open to undergraduate and graduate students of all majors who have completed Russian 103 and who are interested in participating in a cultural immersion experience. Students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7. The application deadline is 1 March 2004. For more information contact Jeff McKibben in The Office of International Education (614-292-6101, mckibben.1@osu.edu).
COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP, 2 Dec. 2003) -- Nikolai Zherdev arrived under the cover of darkness and skated right into the spotlight for the Columbus Blue Jackets. Zherdev, the fourth overall pick in this year's draft, made his NHL debut Tuesday night -- 40 seconds into the Blue Jackets' 2-1 victory over the Anaheim Mighty Ducks.

"I felt very, very welcome. I even saw some signs that said, 'Welcome Nikolai,'" he said through an interpreter.

Zherdev played 10:59 and drew wild applause every time he stepped on the ice. He had his first shot blocked, and his biggest moment came when he swooped in from the right wing on a two-on-one late in the game. He waited, waited, waited, but goaltender Martin Gerber stopped the shot.

"He had a couple of scoring chances and he played great," Columbus coach and general manager Doug MacLean said. "I know after the first shift I was pretty excited about what I saw out there. He's got tremendous potential to say the least."

The 19-year-old forward from Ukraine has been the focus of a brewing international incident. Zherdev arrived secretly in Columbus under the cover of darkness and skated right into the spotlight for local Russian and East European News.

The OSU Graduate School invites students and faculty to nominate outstanding Graduate Teaching Associates for the Graduate Associate Teaching Award (GATA). GATA is OSU’s highest recognition of the exceptional teaching provided by graduate students by private jet on Monday. At the same time, his former team in Russia alleged some old-fashioned Cold War scheming -- saying the star right wing was spirited out of his native land in defiance of army obligations. Moscow's CSKA professional team protested that Zherdev was not permitted to leave. The team along with Russia's hockey federation said he must fulfill military obligations and is not available to go to the NHL. Bill Daly, the NHL's chief legal officer, said Zherdev can play with the Blue Jackets until further notice.

"At this point we've not been provided with sufficient evidence to establish either A, that he has a compulsory military service obligation or B, that he's conscripted in the Russian military," he said.

Columbus officials said they have met every legal, political and financial condition to bring Zherdev to the United States.

"That includes paying the International Ice Hockey Federation and paying transfer fees," Blue Jackets spokesman Todd Sharrock said. "We've done everything we can to have him here and he wants to be here."

Zherdev was accompanied by his Ottawa-based agent, Alexander "Sasha" Tyjnych at Tuesday's morning skate. Tyjnych also is serving as interpreter for Zherdev, who will stay in a hotel until he gets acculturated to the area, Sharrock said. Anaheim forward Sergei Fedorov, who moved from Russia at a similar age, said there are many challenges ahead for Zherdev.

"It's pretty tough not being able to speak English," Fedorov said. "It's not going to be easy. Language is going to be an important part -- but hockey language is the most important part."

Negotiations have been ongoing with CSKA and Russian hockey officials since Zherdev was drafted. Several times over the past few months the team thought he was close to joining the Blue Jackets, but each time another impediment came up.

Zherdev signed a three-year contract with the Blue Jackets in August. Columbus also paid a $100,000 transfer fee to free him from his Russian contract, but he remained in limbo as his agent and Blue Jackets representatives spoke daily with officials in Russia to pry him loose.

He has been playing in the Russian Elite League and was recently named captain of the Russian team that will compete later this month in the World Junior Championships. Zherdev played his last game with CSKA on Nov. 24 and flew from Moscow to Toronto on Sunday. He then went with Don Boyd, the Blue Jackets' chief of amateur scouting, to Ottawa where Zherdev was interviewed by the U.S. Consulate there in the final step toward immigration.

CSKA coach, Viktor Tikhonov, told the Russian sports daily Sport-Express, "To begin with, he fled his team and, secondly, he fled from his army obligations."

"We will not let this case go away and we will seek sanctions," said Valeri Gushin, a CSKA vice president.
14 January  
Lecture: “Signs of love for the Turkmen Nation: Language and National Culture in Turkmenistan” by Victoria Clement, OSU Dept. of History (3:30 p.m., OSU Mershon Center room 120, 1501 Neil Avenue)

26 January  
Lecture: "The Innocence of Speech. On Confessions in Russian Culture" by Sylvia Sasse, lecturer at Zentrum fur Literaturforschung in Berlin (2:30pm, 122 Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Ave)

26 January  
Images of America in Russian and Soviet Film Series: The Extraordinary Adventures of Mr. West in the Land of the Bolsheviks, 1924 (7:30pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus)

2 February  
Images of America in Russian and Soviet Film Series: Circus, 1936 (7:30pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus)

9 February  
Images of America in Russian and Soviet Film Series: Taxi Blues, 1991 (7:30pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus)

12 February  
Lecture: "The Legend of Basil the Bulgar-Slayer" by Paul Stephenson, University of Wisconsin (7pm, Jennings Hall 100, 1735 Neil Avenue, OSU Campus)

15 February  
Melton Matinee: Divan (2003). Post-screening Q&A with the director Pearl Gluck. (2pm, Wexner Center Theater, 1871 N. High St.) Sponsored by the Melton Center for Jewish Studies. For more information, contact (614) 292-0967

16 February  
Images of America in Russian and Soviet Film Series: The Barber of Siberia, 1997 (7:30pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus)

23 February  
Images of America in Russian and Soviet Film Series: Brother II, 2000 (7:30pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus)

25 February  
Lecture: “Macedonia Today: The Uneven Paths of Transition and Independence” by Dimitar Mircev, former Macedonian Ambassador to Slovenia and the Holy See (12 pm, OSU Mershon Center, 1501 Neil Ave., Room 120)

26 February  
Opening Reception for the Midwest Slavic Conference, featuring keynote speaker Alexander N. Domrin—“Russian Elections and Prospects for Russia's Development” (5:30pm in Tiered Meeting Room 202, Blackwell Conference Center, 2110 Tuttle Park Place, OSU Campus)

26 February  
OSU Department of Theatre production of David Edgar’s Pentecost. (See page 1 for more details) (8pm, Thurber Theatre in Drake Union, 1849 Cannon Dr. OSU Campus).

27-28 February  
Midwest Slavic Conference (See page 1 & 2 for more details) (Blackwell Conference Center, 2110 Tuttle Park Place, OSU Campus)

27 February  
Luncheon Lecture at Midwest Slavic Conference featuring Georgi M. Derluguian, “What Really Was Communism, and Did It Make Eastern Europe Special?” (12pm, Blackwell Conference Center, OSU Campus. Room TBD. RSVP required at 292-8770 or csees@osu.edu)

8 March  
Images of America in Russian and Soviet Film Series: The Quickie, 2001 (7:30pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus)
Monday, 26 January
*The Extraordinary Adventures of Mr. West in the Land of the Bolsheviks*, 1924
A wonderfully baroque satire and a splendidly conceived Soviet response to the capitalist ideology enshrined in Hollywood genre films. Kuleshov’s hero, a naïve American captured by Russian criminals and fed a vision of Communism in accordance with Russian propaganda, parodies the Harold Lloyd persona which had enshrined the success ethic. Yet the pastiche is strikingly affectionate, proof of the heroic optimism which allowed propaganda to be infused through playfulness and alongside a frank admission of the continuing existence of dissident opinion with the USSR. *Subtitled in English*

Monday, 2 February
*Circus*, 1936
This is a saccharine romance in which an American actress, impregnated by a black man, escapes to Russia and starts a new life. She loves one man; the heavy, however, threatens that if she doesn’t marry him, he will reveal her secret. This continues for a long time until the end of the movie, when he does so; the indignant masses at the circus rise up and say that it doesn’t matter what color the baby is, this is tolerant Russia! *Subtitled in English*

Monday, 9 February
*Taxi Blues* (1991)
Shlikov, a Moscow cabby scours the city in search of a passenger who stiffed him. He finally locates Liosha -- an alcoholic playing a saxophone on the street. He confiscates the sax but upon discovering the price of the instrument he starts feeling guilty and goes looking for Liosha. An unlikely, stormy friendship develops when the antisemitic taxi driver, regarding the Jewish Jazz musician as genius, takes him in and tries to sober him up. *Subtitled in English*

Monday, 16 February
*The Barber of Siberia*, 1997
Richard Harris stars as a foreign entrepreneur who ventures to Russia in 1885 with dreams of selling a new, experimental steam-driven timber harvester in the wilds of Siberia. Julia Ormond portrays his assistant, who falls in love with a young Russian officer, played by Russian star Oleg Menshikov, and spends the next 10 years perfecting the harvester and pursuing her love, who has been exiled to Siberia. *In Russian only!!!*

Monday, 23 February
*Brother 2*, 2000
Danila Bagrov meets his army buddy Konstantin Gromov in Moscow, with whom he fought in Chechnya. The friend tells Danila about his twin brother Dmitry, who is a professional hockey player in America. However, the team owner in cahoots with his Russian partner have swindled the young star into an oppressive contract, allowing them to rob him blind. Several days after this conversation Danila finds Konstantin dead. In order to straighten things out and avenge his friend, Danila goes to Chicago… *In Russian only!!!*

Monday, 8 March
*The Quickie*, 2001
Directed and co-written by Sergei Bodrov (*Prisoner of the Mountains*), *The Quickie* is a thriller set in the world of the Russian Mafia in Los Angeles. Vladimir’s portrayal of Oleg Petrov, a charming and brutally successful Russian mafioso, won him the Best Actor award at the 2001 Moscow International Film Festival. *The Quickie* co-stars Jennifer Jason Leigh. *Subtitled in English*

**Films are shown at 7:30 pm**
**in 100 Mendenhall Lab,**
**125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus**
**and are free and open to the public**

*Images of America in Russian and Soviet Film*

*www.osu.edu/csees*
2003-04 Byzantino-Slavic Lecture Series

The Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, the Department of Greek and Latin, and the Center for Slavic and East European Studies present

"The Legend of Basil the Bulgar-Slayer"

by

Paul Stephenson
University of Wisconsin-Madison

12 February
7pm, Jennings Hall 100
1735 Neil Avenue, OSU Campus

Free and Open to the Public