



### Columbus Council on World Affairs Signature Luncheon: “Ukraine, Russia, and the West”

by Derek Peterson

On April 15th, members of the Ohio State community and general public gathered at the Center of Sciences and Industry (COSI) in downtown Columbus to attend a Columbus Council on World Affairs (CCWA) Signature Luncheon that focused on the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. The event featured two distinguished faculty members from The Ohio State University, Dr. Trevor Brown and Dr. Myroslava Mudrak. Dr. Brown is the director of the John Glenn School of Public Affairs at Ohio State and previously served as the U.S. project manager of the USAID Parliamentary Development Project (PDP), which provides assistance to the Ukrainian Parliament. He is currently serving as the PDP Associate Project Executive. Dr. Mudrak is professor emeritus of the Department of History of Art at Ohio State, and has conducted extensive research in Ukraine on the subjects of ideological discourse, socio-political influences, and artistic practice when examining national identity in Eastern Europe.



*Mark Hartman, Vice Chair of the Columbus Council on World Affairs, Dr. Myroslava Mudrak, and Dr. Trevor Brown  
(Photo courtesy of CCWA)*

The event, titled “Ukraine, Russia, and the West”, offered a summary of the events that have occurred in Ukraine since former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich refused to sign a trade agreement with the European Union in November 2013. The event was structured as a moderated discussion, during which Dr. Brown and Dr. Mudrak fielded questions from the audience as well as from a live stream of the event on the CCWA website. After sharing a bit about themselves, Dr. Brown and Dr. Mudrak outlined a variety of historical factors that have had an influence on the recent events in Ukraine, such as the resettling of Russians in the areas ravaged by the Stalinist famine in the 1930’s and problems of political corruption in Ukraine since its independence in 1991. Dr. Brown and Dr. Mudrak also addressed the diverse issues regarding the media coverage of the crisis in Ukraine, criticizing news outlets that did not have reporters on the ground or oversimplified the conflict as just a matter of “East versus West.” When asked how the situation might be moved towards a resolution, a very complicated question that many across the globe want answered, Dr. Brown and Dr. Mudrak suggested that in order to truly apply pressure to the Kremlin, the nations of Europe must align themselves with the United States in taking diplomatic and economic action against Russia, as well as continuing to support the Ukrainian government’s efforts to remain a sovereign state and avoid the federalization of the country.

The entirety of the discussion is available on the [CCWA's Vimeo website](#).

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## From the Director

Dear Colleagues, Students, Alumni, and Friends of Slavic,

When I was checking my notes from previous years in preparation for this issue, I saw that last spring I mentioned the world's increased interest in Russia and Chechnya because of the Boston Marathon bombings. Today, events in Ukraine and Crimea have yet again awakened curiosity about Russia but also a sad realization that the field of Russian studies in the US has experienced setbacks in the last two decades. All of us who work in this field have known all along that the triumphant sentiments that have prevailed in this country after the end of the Cold War were a bit premature. With renewed energy and belief in the relevance of our mission, we at CSEES have dedicated the last year to pursuing and further enhancing all of our programs, from supporting LCTLs and awarding FLAS fellowships, to admitting a strong cohort of MA students and organizing exciting events and conferences. You will read about all of them in the following pages.

You might already be familiar with our two relatively new programs, the Polish Studies Initiative (PSI) and the Slovene Research Initiative (SRI). Just a few weeks ago, we hosted a stimulating and productive workshop on Polish-Jewish studies. My deep gratitude goes to Dr. Jessie Labov, PSI faculty coordinator, for an excellent event! Our first Slovene colleague, Luka Vidmar, will be at OSU in May and therefore I urge anyone interested in things Slovenian to meet him and attend his lecture (May 6). Additionally, we are exploring opportunities for creating new dual MA degrees with international institutions such as Tomsk State and the Siberian Federal University in Russia. Stay tuned for more news on these.

Last but certainly not least, in June we will submit our next four-year Title VI grant proposal on which we have worked very hard for the last 9 months. Although the number of National Resource Centers nationwide will be reduced in this competition, we have put in place a variety of robust programs, which make our proposal highly competitive. Results will be announced in August.

With deep gratitude to our sponsors, I ask you to [give today](#) and support our students and programs!

Best wishes for an exciting summer!

Yana Hashamova

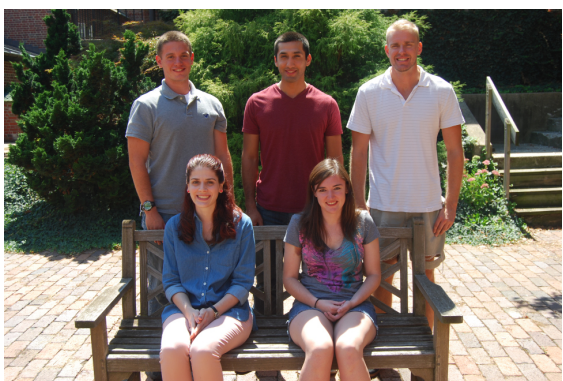
## Congratulations 2014 Graduates!

The Center for Slavic and East European Studies would like to congratulate all of our MA students graduating this semester. Thank you for all of your hard work and contributions to the Center and campus community. Best of luck as you move forward!

Anthony Adame  
Meagan Chandler  
Katie Johnson

CSEES also congratulates our graduating student workers:

Brooke Cornett  
Taylor Reynolds  
Andrew Zhang



**CSEES Director:** Yana Hashamova  
**Assistant Director:** Eileen Kunkler  
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## 2014 Midwest Slavic Conference

by Derek Peterson

Friday, March 28th through Sunday, March 30th, CSEES hosted the annual Midwest Slavic Conference for the 11th consecutive year. The Midwest Slavic Conference returned to the John Glenn School of Public Affairs in Page Hall on Friday for the keynote address and reception and held the Saturday and Sunday panels in Mendenhall Laboratory for the first time. In addition to the conference, the Slavic Center hosted the annual Midwest Slavic K-12 Teacher Workshop (see below).

Dr. Eric McGlinchey opened the conference on Friday night with his keynote address, "A Theft So Nice, They Did it Twice: Fleecing Local Populations and Foreign Investors in Central Asia." The opening reception was held in the Public Policy Forum at the Glenn School. On Saturday, Dr. Todd Armstrong gave a luncheon lecture entitled "Russian Mad Men: Valery Todorovsky's Teleserial *Ottepel'* as a Window on Russian Culture"

The 2014 conference welcomed over 170 attendees, including more than 100 presenters from 28 universities, 15 states, and 6 foreign countries. The Midwest Slavic Conference prides itself on the welcoming and inviting atmosphere for students from all disciplines and levels of education and fostering student research, illustrated by the 55 undergraduate students who presented at or attended the conference.

This year's Midwest Slavic Conference Committee consisted of Brian Baer (Kent State University), Helena Gosילו (DSEELC), George Hudson (Wittenberg University),

Marianna Klochko (OSU-Marion), Vladimir Marchenkov (Ohio University), Natalya Olshanskaya (Kenyon College), Andrea Sims (DSEELC), and Jennifer Suchland (DSEELC). The president of the Midwest Slavic Association is Brian Baer. The position of vice president is currently vacant. If you are interested in it, please email Brian Baer at [bbaer@kent.edu](mailto:bbaer@kent.edu).

The Slavic Center would like to thank the Midwest Slavic Association, the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures, the Office of International Affairs, the John Glenn School of Public Affairs, the Division of Arts and Humanities of the College of Arts and Sciences, Hilandar Research Library, the U.S. Department of Education Title VI funding, and Friends of Slavic, as well as all the students, faculty and staff who helped with and participated in the 2014 event.



## 2014 K-12 Midwest Slavic Teacher Workshop

Saturday, March 29th, the Slavic Center hosted the annual K-12 Midwest Slavic Teacher Workshop in conjunction with the Midwest Slavic Conference. The theme of the workshop this year was "Migrants, Minorities, and Human Rights." Presenters Ian Lanzillotti, Daniel Purdy, and Jennifer Suchland discussed these three issues in the context of Eastern Europe and Eurasia, highlighting Russian migration policies, the Sochi Olympics, and Russia's record on human rights. Presenters also discussed a brief history of these subjects in Russia and how they have evolved throughout history to what they mean today. In addition, a discussion was held on how to implement some of this information in the classroom. The subject of next year's workshop will be announced in the coming months.





### Faculty Updates

Angela Brintlinger published “Fiction as Mapmaking: Moscow as Ivan Bunin’s Memory Palace” in the Spring 2014 *Slavic Review*; presented “It’s About Genre” at The Ohio State University Inaugural lecture; and received a Faculty Workshop/Conference Grant from the Mershon Center for International Security Studies for her project “Winning and Losing the Great Game: Literature, Art, and Diplomacy between Russia and Iran.”

Alexander Burry published “A Stony Vengeance: Donjuanism and Retribution in Anna Karenina” in the Winter 2013 *Slavic and East European Journal* and gave a conference presentation titled “Feminine Seduction in Pushkin’s Stone Guest” at the American Associations of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) Conference in January 2014.

Helena Goscilo received a Residential Fellowship at Aleksanteri Institute in Helsinki, Finland; published “The Affluent Global Provincial: American Reception of Polish Cinema” in *Beyond the Border: Polish Cinema in a Transnational Context*; and gave an interview on masculinity in today’s Russia to Sara Møller, Danish journalist, in March 2014.

Charles E. Gribble published his second revised edition of *Reading Bulgarian Through Russian*.

George Hudson presented “Russian-American Relations: A New Cold War?” for a joint colloquium of Wittenberg’s Political Science Department and the Russian and Central Eurasian Studies Program in February 2014.

Jessie Labov has received a Senior Fellowship from Harvard’s Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies for 2014-2015. Her project, “Virtual Cold War Networks: Visualizing the Samizdat-Tamizdat System,” will be part of a larger, interdisciplinary fellows seminar on “Mapping Cultural Space: Sites, Systems and Practices Across Eurasia.” In fall 2014 she will primarily be working at the Davis Center and in the spring of 2015 she will be teaching courses in the Slavic Department at Harvard.

Stephen Petrill was appointed by Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to a four-year term on the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council of the National Institutes of Health.

Andrea Sims has been appointed to the Advisory Board of the journal *Word Structure*. *Word Structure* is an international peer-reviewed journal of linguistic morphology and all related disciplines.

Mazeika Sullivan was awarded a 2014 Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Tatiana Suspitsyna was awarded a 2014 Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Gleb Tspursky wrote the “Ask The Expert” column on class-sourcing for OSU *onCampus* in December 2013; reviewed Rachel S. Platonov’s book, *Singing the Self: Guitar Poetry, Community, and Identity in the Post-Stalin Period*; and gave a talk on class-sourcing assignments at the OSU University

## Alumni Spotlight: David Ratcliff

David Ratcliff graduated from OSU in 2007 with an MA from the Center for Slavic and East European Studies. His primary interest is popular culture in the former Yugoslavia. In February 2014, he published a translation of Ljiljana Maletin-Vojvodic’s first novel, *Islandski bedeker: Patuljci I Hiperborea (Icelandic Tourists’ Guide: Dwarves and Hyperborea)*. The book was published under the title *Dwarves and Hyperborea: A Fictional Iceland Baedeker Guide*. In addition to *Islandski bedeker*, he has translated another novel, *Zbogom kockanje (Goodbye Gambling)* by Dejan Stankovic. David also collaborated with two film festivals, *Uhvati sa mnom ovaj dan!* (Seize This Day with Me!, a festival dedicated to the achievements of people with disabilities) and the 2009 Palic International Film Festival. For the Palic International Film Festival, he translated the Dutch film *Escaping the Flood*. He lives in Columbus, Ohio.







## Student News

Center for the Advancement of Teaching in January.

### Student Updates

Nicole Freeman was selected to participate in the Auschwitz Jewish Center Fellows Program.

Emily Goodhart received a Graduate Enrichment Fellowship for her upcoming MA program in the Slavic Center.

Monica Hamblet was awarded the George and Emily Severinghaus Beck Memorial Fund for travel and study in Vilnius, Lithuania this summer through the Melton Center for Jewish Studies.

Marta Koczyńska and Joseph Merry presented “Changes in the preferred income inequality at the beginning of the post-communist transformation: The case of Poland 1988-2003” at the Polish Panel Survey POLPAN 1988-2013: A Cross-National Perspective in Warsaw, Poland.

Jeff Parker has been awarded an Alumni Grant for Graduate Research and Scholarship (AGGRS) from the Graduate School.

Justin Wilmes was awarded a Presidential Fellowship by the OSU Graduate School. He was also awarded an Arts & Humanities Small Research Grant, International Affairs Grant, and an Alumni Grant to help support his research trip to the VGIK film institute in Moscow this summer.

## CSEES Graduate Student Choice Speaker: Alexander Cooley

On Thursday, February 27th, the Center for Slavic and East European Studies invited Dr. Alexander Cooley to present at the Student Choice Speaker event. Dr. Cooley is a professor of political science at Barnard College and Columbia University. His research examines how external actors have influenced the development and sovereignty of the former Soviet states, with a focus on Central Asia and the Caucasus. Dr. Cooley presented “Central Asia’s Changing Regional Security Dynamics: 2014 and Beyond” at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. Over 40 students and faculty members attended the event. Prior to the event, Dr. Cooley spoke with the graduate students from the Center for Slavic and East European Studies in a private meet and greet. The Student Choice Speaker event is led and organized by the graduate students from CSEES.



## Outreach Events

The Slavic Center had another busy year of outreach activities in and outside of Ohio. The CSEES outreach coordinator, Derek Peterson, made multiple trips to K-12 schools in the greater Columbus area to give presentations on Eastern Europe and Eurasia, including an introduction to Russian language and culture to 3rd-5th graders at Emerson Magnet School and 2nd graders at Darbydale Elementary, as well as a discussion on Stalinism to high school students at Westerville Central High School.

During the past academic year, two members of the Ohio State community gave presentations at Lakeland Community College. In October 2013, Michael Furman (DSEELC) spoke on propaganda and drunkenness in the Soviet Union. In April 2014, Dr. Yana Hashamova gave a talk titled “Human Trafficking in Media.”

CSEES organized two video lectures in collaboration with Howard University this spring. Michael Furman and Robert Mulcahy (DSEELC) gave a presentation on the rise of Vladimir Putin and post-Soviet Russian politics and Ceilidh Orr (DSEELC) discussed Soviet women writers. CSEES was also able to welcome Howard University faculty and students to the 2014 Midwest Slavic Conference and looks forward to more opportunities to collaborate in the future.

Marina Pashkova (DSEELC) will be giving a presentation on Russian tea traditions at the Columbus Museum of Art’s [“Art in Bloom” exhibit](#).

## Polish-Jewish Studies Workshop

On March 24th, the Polish Studies Initiative (PSI) at The Ohio State University held a series of discussions and a public round table on the current state and future of the field of Polish-Jewish studies. Taking part in the discussions were faculty and staff members from 10 academic institutions from across the United States: Naomi Brenner (OSU), David Goldfarb (Polish Cultural Institute), Jessie Labov (OSU), Erica Lehrer (Concordia College), Sean Martin (Cleveland Jewish Archives and Western Reserve Historical Society), Małgorzata Mazurek (Columbia University), David Miller (OSU), Bozena Shallcross, (University of Chicago), Karolina Szymaniak (University of Warsaw & Jewish Historical Institute), Karen Underhill (University of Illinois at Chicago), and Geneviève Zubrzycki (University of Michigan).

This session began a conversation about a curricular model for Polish-Jewish studies that could be deployed in a number of ways as well as how to expand the field in an effort to reach a variety of audiences, including students, professors, heads of cultural organizations, archivists, émigré groups, and the larger public with an interest in Polish-Jewish relations.

This event is part of a larger initiative to advance the field of Polish-Jewish studies and to mark a path for scholars and activists who would like to see the study of Polish and Jewish culture more intentionally and productively intertwined. A second workshop will be held at Princeton University during the 2014-2015 academic year. Sessions will also be held at the annual Slavic conference, ASEES, and the annual Jewish studies conference, AJS. The International Polish Studies Conference will also be held at Ohio State in 2015. In these larger venues, PSI will be able to invite more of the Jewish studies community to take part and make contact with a larger representation of the field of Polish studies.

## PSI Grant & Scholarship Winners

The Polish Studies Initiative (PSI) held its second scholarship and research grant competition this spring. The PSI advisory committee wish to congratulate the following recipients of the 2014 PSI Scholarships:

Sarah Katz (Film Studies)  
Polina Zvavitch (Sociology)  
Michael Haupt (Biochemistry)  
Nicole Freeman (History)

This summer, these students will be travelling to Poland and other locations in Europe to study Polish language and Polish culture.

In addition to the scholarships, the Polish Studies Initiative awarded two research grants to the following recipients:

Peter Tunkis (Political Science)  
Izolda Wolski-Moskoff (DSEELC)

Peter, a PhD candidate, will be conducting research in Warsaw for three months this summer as he nears the completion of his dissertation. He will work in affiliation with the Polish Academy of Sciences' Institute for Philosophy and Sociology to interview previous and current members of the Polish parliament in order to determine why they switch parties and identify with certain groups of people.

Izolda will be collecting materials to enhance the current Polish language instruction materials used during the second year of instruction. Specifically, she will be collecting media clips that will be used to supplement the current textbooks used by Polish classes in the United States.

Both Peter and Izolda will be giving presentations about their research during the 2014-2015 academic year.

Congratulations to the recipients of both the Polish Studies Initiative Scholarships and Research Grants, we look forward to hearing about your experiences when you return!

For information on next year's scholarship and research grant competition, please visit the [PSI webpage](#) on the Slavic Center website.





## Ohio State Students and Faculty Continue Investigations of Prehistoric Farming Societies in Hungary

With funding from the National Science Foundation and the OSU Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Social and Behavioral Sciences, six Ohio State undergraduate students participated in the spring 2013 field season of the Körös Regional Archaeological Project in southeast Hungary. Patrick Druggan, Kyra Pazan, and Adam Kachur joined Jake London, Rachel Orsborn, Alexis Niekamp, and Dr. Richard Yerkes (Anthropology), and his project co-directors, William Parkinson (Field Museum, Chicago), and Attila Gyucha (Hungarian National Museum) in an ongoing international, multidisciplinary study of why Neolithic farmer-herders established large farming villages and tells on the Great Hungarian Plain 7,000-6,000 years ago.

These surveys revealed the stratigraphy of the tells and identified houses located around the tells (see a 3D render of a Neolithic village [here](#)). Excavations were conducted at several of these longhouses. One of the tells, Szeghalom-Kovácsshalom, is surrounded on the north, west, and south by large flat settlements with high surface artifact density where activities and habitation episodes were more intensive. To the east and southeast of the tell, isolated household clusters of two or three structures may have only been occupied during drier months. A more limited range of activities may have occurred in these isolated structures. Clusters with seven or eight structures in the Far West Field and South Field East may represent seasonally inhabited “farmsteads” set off from the larger flat sites.

The OSU undergraduates were important members of our team in 2013, and with funding from the National Science Foundation, the Field Museum, and The Ohio State University, other students will have the same opportunity to join us in Hungary this summer. Many former students that we trained have gone on to graduate school and several hold faculty or post-doctoral positions in anthropology and archaeology. We hope that our international collaborative research program will allow us to launch the careers of many more future international scientists.



*Photo courtesy of Richard Yerkes*

## Coverage of Ukraine at Ohio State



*Photo courtesy of Rudy Hightower*

Glenn School PhD student Rudy Hightower witnessed the protests in Ukraine last December. Hightower is involved in the region through work on a case study, “Declarations of Independence,” in the Black Sea area. His visit allowed him to witness the peaceful protests and Hightower says it was clear that the Ukrainian people were saying, “We want to move toward a better way of life.” Interestingly, a wall of wooden blocks was built, on which people wrote the name of their city on each block. Now, of course, there is a block with Columbus, Ohio stacked proudly on the wall.

The 2014 Midwest Slavic Conference hosted a roundtable moderated by Rudy Hightower and Dr. Marianna Klochko that focused on the events unfolding in Ukraine. The roundtable was attended by students and faculty from both Ohio State and other universities, as well as the general public.

Dr. Trevor Brown and Rudy Hightower hosted a talk at the John Glenn School of Public Affairs about Ukraine policy on March 27th.

Ohio State faculty and students have participated in a number of podcasts focused on the crisis in Ukraine and Crimea. All Sides with Ann Fisher had a radio broadcast titled, [“New Developments in the Russia-Ukraine Conflict”](#), that featured OSU Mershon Center affiliate Dr. George Hudson.

[“Ukraine: Headed for Revolution?”](#), a podcast that featured OSU PhD student Rudy Hightower, was also broadcast on WOSU.

*Origins* featured [two podcasts](#) on historical and contemporary events in Ukraine, which featured Dr. Nick Breyfogle, Dr. Trevor Brown, Rudy Hightower, Dr. Myroslava Mudrak, and Dr. Sergei Zhuk (Ball State University).

The Columbus Council on World Affairs Signature Luncheon “Ukraine, Russia, and the West” is on their [Vimeo webpage](#).



## Slovene Research Initiative

By: Brooke Cornett

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List of prohibited books from 1594

Dr. Luka Vidmar of the Research Center of the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts will present his lecture entitled “Forbidden Books in Inner Austria until the End of the 18th Century” on May 6th at 4pm in University Hall 143. Light refreshments will be served at the beginning of the lecture. To attend, please RSVP to [csees@osu.edu](mailto:csees@osu.edu) by May 5th. Through the

new Slovene Research Initiative, Dr. Vidmar will be a visiting scholar at Ohio State in May to conduct research on censorship in Catholic and Protestant lands during the 16th-18th centuries. He will use the University Libraries’ Rare Books and Manuscripts Library and Hilandar Research Library extensively. Dr. Vidmar’s background is in the history of literature and the cultural history of Slovenia, Austria, Italy, and Eastern Europe.

Dr. Vidmar completed his bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Ljubljana in 2002 and 2005. He completed his doctorate in literary studies from the University of Nova Gorica in 2009. His research focuses on general and comparative literature, literary criticism, and literary theory. Dr. Vidmar is currently the coordinator of the Historical Seminar at ZRC SAZU Research Centre, an associate editor of the *Slovenian Biographical Encyclopedia*, and a founding-member of the Slovenian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. He received the ZRC Silver Award in 2011 and the Zois scholarship from 1995 to 2001.

Dr. Yana Hashamova and Dr. Brian Joseph (Linguistics/DSEELC), will each be spending three weeks over the summer in Slovenia as part of the Slovene Research Initiative.

## Sawyer Seminar

By: Brooke Cornett

The Sawyer Seminar at Ohio State, “CrossRoads: Culture, Politics, and Belief in the Balkans and South Asia,” held multiple events during the spring semester. The lecturers for the events were composed of both OSU faculty and visiting professors. Chandra Mallampalli from Westmont University gave a talk on February 24th titled “Religion, Rebellion and the Politics of Conspiracy in Colonial South India, 1800-1840.” Dr. Mallampalli’s talk focused on the Wahabi conspiracy from the 1830’s that involved a plot to overthrow British Rule in India. Vangelis Calotychos from Columbia University gave a talk about the interaction that occurred between Greece and Europe with the Balkans in 1989. He also discussed how the Balkans were theorized at that time and how to think about the region today. The other Sawyer Seminar lectures from the spring can be found [here](#).



Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina

The OSU Sawyer Seminar will organize the conference “Imagining Alternative Modernities: Interventions from the Balkans and South Asia” at OSU on October 9th-11th, 2014. The OSU Sawyer Seminar and conference are supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation through the John E. Sawyer Seminars on the Comparative Study of Cultures grant program. The keynote speakers will be Tomislav Longinovic from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Kalyanakrishnan Sivaramakrishnan from Yale University. Dr. Longinovic’s talk will be titled “Words That Hide: Balkan Politics of Translation.” Papers from various disciplines within the humanities and social sciences that relate to the Balkans and South Asia will be presented.



## Conflict Resolution Education Conference

By: Derek Peterson

For the third consecutive year, CSEES is a participant in the Conflict Resolution Education (CRE) Conference. This year, the conference will be held at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA, from June 11th-16th. This year's conference will build on its predecessors held in Ohio from 2004-2013 and will focus on culturally inclusive CRE related policies and practices that are being applied at a local level, such as within individual schools, colleges, or universities, and at a more macro level, within countries. The conference focuses on work that takes into consideration the various important aspects of cultural identity specific to the communities in which these conflict resolution policies and practices are implemented. Some of these aspects of cultural identity may include, but are not limited to, race, religion, socio-economic status, ethnicity, age, ability, gender, and/or sexual orientation.

CSEES staff will be presenting "Building Global Awareness in the Classroom" at the conference on June 13th, which will highlight the differing methods of conflict resolution in Bulgarian and Estonian classrooms.

These two case studies will show how each nation faced different challenges (the question of headscarves in schools in Bulgaria and the place of the Russian language in schools in Estonia) and how they responded with varying degrees of success in terms of reaching a resolution that satisfied the various parties involved. After explaining these two case studies in greater detail, CSEES staff will then work with participants on how to implement examples like these case studies into curriculum across a number of disciplines.

This year, CSEES will fund five community college faculty members to attend the conference in order to integrate more conflict resolution and area studies subjects into their curriculum.

For more information on the conference, including registration instructions and information on each of the pre-conference trainings and workshops, please visit the [CRE conference website](#).

### Student Research Spotlight:

#### "Embodied Rape: Ethnicity and Gender in the Prosecution of Wartime Rape in the Former Yugoslavia"

By: Eddie Zitnik

In my work, I examine the use of rape as a war tool during the Yugoslav Wars in the 1990s in the former Yugoslavia. My research connects previously separate conversations about the origins of the war, ethnic and national politics, women's rights under the law and in their communities, and the implications of the conflict in reference to both the local and international dialogue about these issues. This thesis asks how gender and ethnicity form the discourse about criminalizing rape and the long-term implications of how women and the children born out of this conflict have struggled to be incorporated into their communities. This is a question of both women's rights and ethnic identity. Here, I investigate the gendered and ethnic politics of both prosecuting rape and its implications post-war. The question of how to prosecute wartime rape becomes complicated because the intention of the crimes is not always clear to outsiders. Unlike genocide in other conflicts, the motivation by Serbs in Bosnia and Herzegovina was not simply to eliminate an ethnic group; rather it was to create ethnically pure territories in former Yugoslavia. When these cases reached the courtroom, the international community's misunderstanding of the conflict revealed itself again as women as a female community failed to receive adequate justice. Two major shortcomings left most women underserved. First, the over-emphasis and misunderstanding of ethnicity de-emphasizes the role of gender, failing to challenge the long-standing patriarchal norms that serve as the backdrop of such rapes. Second, gender and ethnicity were understood as two mutually exclusive ideas which ultimately prohibited proper prosecution of the crimes. As the children of raped women are coming of age, this research restarts the conversation about the conflict at a critical and relevant time.

## **Faculty Spotlight: Joseph Brandesky, Associate Director of CSEES**

Dr. Joe Brandesky joined Ohio State's Theatre Department in 1988 and has taught courses at the Lima and Main Campuses. His work focuses on Czech and Russian theatre. Over the past 20+ years, Dr. Brandesky has produced, directed, or co-directed over 50 productions, including his adaptation of a Czech fairy tale, *Twelve Months*. He has also been active in curating theatre design exhibits and has published a book and numerous catalogs and articles on Czech and Russian theatre and design. His essay "Spectacular St. Petersburg: 100 Years of Russian Theatre Design" won the Herbert D. Greggs Outstanding Article by the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology. In 2008 he won the Outstanding Faculty Scholar Award for OSU-Lima and in 2012 was named the Martha W. Farmer Endowed Professor in Theatre. Working with the Columbus Museum of Art, Dr. Brandesky served as a guest curator for the *Strings Attached: Czech Puppets* exhibit in 2013. He is now working once again with the Columbus Museum of Art on a new exhibit focusing on Czech representations and productions of Shakespeare's plays that will open in 2017. Building on the exhibit, Dr. Brandesky will organize a series of symposiums in cooperation with the University of Hull (UK) on this same topic.

In the classroom, Dr. Brandesky has received awards for his outstanding commitment to teaching, including the OSU Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching. He has also organized numerous biannual study tours to the Czech Republic and will take students there again in 2015.



### **Undergraduate Olympiada of Spoken Russian**

**By Derek Peterson**

Bowling Green State University hosted the fourth annual Undergraduate Olympiada of Russian in February. Students from Kent State University, Bowling Green State University, and The Ohio State University gathered for the daylong event to compete in three rounds of competition to show off their Russian language skills. Each student gave an interview, recited a poem, and presented on a randomly selected topic during the competition. Thanks to the hard work of the Russian Club and the faculty at Bowling Green, between rounds of competition, students played Russian card games, scrabble, listened to Russian music and watched Russian cartoons. Students from first year through fourth year Russian competed in the event, which was organized by Tim Pogacar and Irina Stakhanova at Bowling Green. Congratulations to all students who participated!

*The Slavic Center wishes everyone luck with summer 2014!*