Letter from the Director

We look forward to another exciting year at CReES. A number of distinguished visitors will again enrich our Center. John Dunlop, Elemen Hankiss, Tony Judt, Wayne S. Vucinich and Victor Zaslavsky will teach in the Russian and East European Studies program. Among the many visiting lecturers will be Ronald G. Suny, who will deliver the Kendall Soviet Studies lectures in February, and Piotr Wandycz, who has agreed to give the inaugural lecture in the newly established East European series. We are pleased to welcome Viacheslav Vsevolodovich Ivanov, the distinguished Moscow linguist and cultural activist, to the faculty of the Slavic Department and to CReES. We also welcome a large number of visiting Polish scholars.

Our community will also grow substantially with the addition of graduate students from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe: two Soviet students have entered the graduate program in the Slavic Department, and, primarily under the auspices of the Hoover Institution, eight Polish and four Hungarian young diplomats will be taking a series of specially designed courses in international business and diplomacy.

Last spring, we signed exchange agreements with three Soviet academic institutions: the Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences; the Historical-Archives Institute in Moscow; and the Herzen Pedagogical Institute in Leningrad. The first exchangee from Moscow, Tamara Kabochkina, an archives specialist from Moscow, will spend three months with us this Fall. Graduate students Kristin Edwards and Sue Rupp, and History Professor Nancy Kollmann will be our first exchangees in the Soviet Union. We gratefully acknowledge the support of Donald M. Kendall for helping to fund these important undertakings.

Jack Kollmann resigned as Assistant Director of CReES, but has agreed to stay on as Coordinator of our Masters program. The new Assistant Director is Irina Barnes, who comes to us with a wealth of experience in museum administration and cultural organizations. Charlotte Sullivan has been hired as our office assistant. We also welcome a new Steering Committee of Terry Emmons, Lazar Fleishman and John Litwack.

The academic year will be marked by a number of interesting conferences supported by CReES. Lazar Fleishman has organized an impressive array of international scholars for an important Pasternak meeting to be held October 16 through 20 in Hartley Conference Center Auditorium. On November 16, there will be a day-long symposium on the unification of Germany in the Waddis Room of the Graduate School of Business. CReES has also helped arrange a conference commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union, to be held at the

Continued on pg.2
Letter from the Director continued...

Rockefeller Bellagio Center in June.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have supported CREE5 activities over the past year—volunteers, staff and donors; faculty, students and alumni. Your participation makes the sometimes hectic work of the Center office meaningful and worthwhile.

I close on a sad note: we lost one of the pillars of our community when Sally Vucinich died on September 13. (The obituary from the Times Tribune is reprinted in the newsletter.) Sally was a dedicated supporter of Slavic Studies at Stanford. We will always remember her graciousness, generosity, hospitality and love. We will miss her dearly.

Norman Naimark

Obituary

In 1946, her husband, Wayne S. Vucinich, accepted a teaching appointment at Stanford University. From 1960 until 1970, she was closely affiliated with Stanford’s overseas program. From 1972 until 1989, she was involved with the Stanford Alumni’s travel study program, participating in 35 different “colleges.”

Mrs. Vucinich is survived by her husband of 48 years, Wayne S. Vucinich of Los Altos Hills; her mother, Antonina Stys of Los Altos Hills; two daughters, Constance Furlong of Seattle and Annette Davis of Palo Alto; a sister, Helen S. Johnson of Los Altos Hills; a brother, Raymond Stys of Hawaii; and three grandchildren.

The family prefers that memorials be donations to the Konstanty and Antonina Stys Fund for the study of Polish language and literature at Stanford University.

News from SPICE

Continuing upheavals in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe have taken a heavy toll on American teachers, whose classroom materials are now conspicuously deficient. Symptomatic of the Cold War now apparently over, the views presented in many textbooks, videos, and other classroom resources are not only out of date, but also misleading.

In 1989, the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe Project of the Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE) was created to fill, at least partially, the need for accurate teaching materials. Overseen by Norman Naimark (Director, CREE5) and coordinated by Adrian Chan, the project’s materials currently in progress include two middle school units, The Geography of the Soviet Union and The Cultural Diversity of the Soviet Union, and two secondary high units, Berlin and the Wall and Post-War Eastern European Literature. Each of these uses interactive teaching strategies in the form of small group work, role plays, simulations, and visual and performance arts activities to communicate the lessons contained in literature, historical documents, maps, political cartoons, news articles, statistics, and other resources.

An outreach project of Stanford’s Institute for International Studies, SPICE works closely with the Bay Area Global Education Program (BAGEP) and the World Affairs Council to provide teachers with workshops and curriculum materials. To this end, the project is also constructing an annotated bibliography of classroom materials (grades 7-12) to be distributed to teachers.

Other SPICE projects are the Japan, China, Africa, Latin America, and Western Europe projects. Teachers interested in this or other SPICE projects should contact Adrian Chan at (415) 725-1480.
News from the Slavic Department

The Slavic Department is finally starting to feel at home in its new quarters deep in the recesses of the Wilbur parking lot. From our new “temporary” home, we welcome six new graduate students (the largest number in recorded history), including two from the Soviet Union: Andrei Ustinov from Leningrad and Alexei Parchchikov from Moscow. In addition, the Department is now able officially to announce the appointment of world-renowned linguist, semiotician and cultural critic Vyacheslav Vsevolodovich Ivanov to a five year appointment as Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Professor Ivanov has spent part of the last two years at Stanford, so he is already known to many students and colleagues. Those who have not yet made his acquaintance (as well as those who have) are encouraged to take the course he is offering in the Fall quarter—“Literature, Folklore and Mythology.”

In addition, the Department is pleased to announce that Dr. Waldemar Martyniuk of Krakow will be teaching Polish for us in the Fall and Winter quarters. Dr. Martyniuk is a specialist in teaching Polish as a foreign language, and we hope that all those Stanford community members thinking of traveling, studying, researching or buying Poland will try out their phonetic abilities in Dr. Martyniuk’s classes.

The Department is sponsoring a major international conference from October 16-20 in honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Pasternak. Besides a stunning array of papers on Pasternak’s poetry and prose, the conference will feature a performance of Pasternak’s early musical compositions, an exhibition of Pasternakabilia in Green Library and a session devoted to memories of Pasternak by those who knew him well, including the poet’s son Evgeny.


American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies

The AAASS national office is pleased to welcome Paqui Nelson to its staff. She will take over as Publications Coordinator from Andreas Argyres. Paqui has taught Russian at George Washington University and the University of California, Berkeley and Santa Cruz. She is a graduate of UC Berkeley and a past exchange-fellow at the University of Leningrad. Andreas will be leaving for Romania at the end of October to do post doctoral research in the Banat region.

Jack F. Matlock, US Ambassador to the Soviet Union, is the scheduled speaker at the banquet on Saturday evening October 20, at the 22nd National Convention. The annual Vucinich Prize (funded by CREES) and Shulman Prize (funded by the Harriman Institute) will be presented at the general membership meeting late Friday afternoon, along with the Distinguished Contributor Award and recently-established Student Award.

The Department is pleased to be sponsoring three lectures in the Fall quarter. On September 27, Lev Shilov, Senior Scholar at the State Literary Museum in Moscow will give a talk in Russian entitled “Russian Literature in Authorial Performance.” He will play recordings of Russian writers including Tolstoy, Mayakovsky, Mandishon and Pasternak, and will show short documentary films devoted to Pasternak and Anna Akhmatova. The lecture will be in the Slavic Department Seminar Room, Wilbur Module B-2 at 5:00 p.m. It is co-sponsored by CREES.

Slavic Department
Fall Programs

On October 23rd at 5:30 p.m., Professor Brian Boyd, author of the forthcoming Vladimir Nabokov: The Russian Years, will present a lecture entitled “Nabokov’s Onegin: Indispensable or Unreadable?” The lecture will take place in the Humanities Center Annex. Look for an announcement in the second week of October! This talk will be co-sponsored by CREES and the Department of Comparative Literature.

Finally, a time and date to be announced in November, Mikhail Kolesnikov of the Bakhushin Theater Museum in Moscow will give an illustrated talk on Alexandra Exter’s costume and set designs for the theater of Alexander Tairov. Kolesnikov is one of the leading specialists on Russian avant-garde art and theatrical design. The lecture will be co-sponsored by the Department of Drama and CREES.
Calendar of Events

October 23
Tuesday
Noon
Calin Anastasiu, Political Sociologist,
Institute for Sociology, Romania.
“Romania: Ten Months After”
200 Encina Hall.

October 23
Tuesday
5:30 pm
Brian Boyd, Professor of Russian Literature,
University of Auckland, New Zealand.
“Nabokov’s ONEGIN: Indispensable or Unreadable?”
Humanities Center Annex.
Co-sponsored with the Slavic Department.

October 30
Tuesday
4:15 pm
Nina Ulff-Moller, Historian of the East Orthodox Church and Music.
“Nature and Structure of the Russian Chant: Tradition
and Change in 1,000 Years”
History Corner, Room 205.

November 1
Thursday
4:00 pm
Ballabas, Professor of English and American Literature,
Founding Member and Foreign Affairs Spokesperson for the
Hungarian Democratic Forum, President, Hungarian Feminists.
“Feminism and Democracy in Hungary”
History Corner, Room 2.

November 8
Thursday
Noon
Natalia Ivanova, author, critic, journalist, member of the Union
of Writers of the USSR.
“Nationalism in Literature and Politics”
200 Encina Hall.

November 9
Friday
Noon
Stephan Stoïnov, Chair of the Democratic Party,
Member of the Bulgarian Parliament, Professor of Mathematics.
Subject to be announced. 200 Encina Hall.

November 15
(tentative)
Michael Kolesnikov
Exter’s Costume and Set Designs for the Theatre.
Co-sponsored with the Slavic Department.

November 16
Friday
9:00-4:30
Symposium of German Unification
“The New Germany and the New Europe”
Wattis Trustee Room, Graduate School of Business.

November 27
Tuesday
4:15 pm
Segis Romaniuk, Member, Moscow City Council on
Preservation, Consultant to State Museums and Member, USSR
Union of Journalists.
“The Preservation of Historical Monuments in Moscow”
Slide lecture. History Corner.

November 29
Thursday
Noon
Nicolae Gheorghe, Representative of the Union of Gypsies,
Center of Sociology, Bucharest.
“Gypsy Identity: Traditional and Contemporary”
200 Encina Hall. Red Room.
Translating for a VIP

Without a doubt, the hardest part of interpreting for Mikhail Gorbachev during his visit to Stanford was getting close enough to him to hear what he was saying. Between the Soviet and American Secret Service agents, the elbows and microphones of the media representatives and the screaming mobs of happy Stanford students, the interpreters had their work cut out for them. Still, getting to spend an hour or so strolling around with the Soviet President did provide a unique perspective on the man. Perhaps the most striking thing from an interpreter’s perspective was the extent to which Gorbachev takes the presence of an interpreter’s mouth right behind his ear for granted. He does not look around or worry about who is turning everything into Russian, but simply assumes that, like an umbrella on a rainy day, an interpreter will somehow be provided. As far as character analysis goes, I think that everyone who was up close on June 4th was impressed with how relaxed Gorbachev seemed, particularly considering the situation to which he had to return that very evening. Also, unlike some other world leaders who seem unable to make decisions without consulting their entourage, Gorbachev seemed quite happy to make his own choices. When told that the businessmen would be fidgeting back in San Francisco if he did not cut his Stanford stay short, his response was: “they’ll wait,” which, indeed, they did.

But best of all, of course, was to be able to convince family and friends that your choice of a career in Slavic Languages and Literatures was not entirely insane. Even though interpreting for world leaders is not part of the job description, every person whom I ever knew is now well aware that in addition to writing books on Tolstoy, academics sometimes get a chance to participate in some “real-world” action.

Andrew Wachtel, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

CREES Welcomes the M.A. Program Students

Mei Fen Chen comes to Stanford from Taiwan, where she just completed her B.A. degree in Russian language and literature at the National Chengchi University in Taipei. Heidi Hillis is working on a co-terminal B.A. degree in English and in Russian language and literature. Heidi is the recipient this year of a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) award from the federal government. In her spare time, if any, Heidi will continue to work for Montage, the American-Soviet student journal.

Ryuichi Hirano is a diplomat-in-training with the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He spent last year studying Russian at the Defense Language Institute at Monterey. Previously, Ryuichi earned a law and political science degree at the University of Tokyo. Per Birk Monsted is a Fulbright scholar from the University of Aarhus, Denmark, where he earned a B.A. in political science and is working on the Cand. Scient. (M.A.) degree. Per has already been researching and has published on the topic of Soviet new political thinking and the formulation of Soviet foreign policy.

Jenny Schmitz is earning a co-terminal B.A. in international relations. For the second year in a row, Jenny is the recipient of a federal work-study research fellowship and will be assisting Professor Norman Naimark in his work on Poland and Eastern Europe since 1945. Jenny studied Russian this past summer under a FLAS award at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. Elisabeth Spilman is working on a co-terminal B.S. in geophysics. Her primary interest is in Hungarian studies. She spent this past summer studying advanced Hungarian on the ACTR program in Hungary under a FLAS award.

As a captain in the U.S. Army (infantry), Dave Stewart comes to Stanford as a Soviet and East European specialist-in-training in the Army Foreign Area Officers program. Dave received his B.S. in engineering at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1982, with minors in Russian and German. Tom Thliveris just completed his B.A. degree at Princeton University in political science, minor in Russian studies. In addition to his work this year on the REES M.A., which is supported by a federal FLAS award, Tom will be working on his fencing (as in foils, not fence posts) and hopes to make the U.S. Olympic team.

Kathy Vitz, who is working on a co-terminal B.A. degree in history and Slavic languages and literatures, is on leave this summer quarter in Moscow on the ACTR Russian language training program. Amy Weisman comes to Stanford from Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania, where she earned Phi Beta Kappa and graduated Magna cum laude in government and law, with a minor in Russian Studies. Her research interests include Soviet foreign policy and women’s rights and Soviet constitutional law. Amy is the recipient of a work-study research fellowship and will be assisting Professor Dallin.

Jack Kollmann, M.A. Program Coordinator, CREES
Gorbachev at Stanford

No one knows why Mikhail Sergeevich came to Stanford last May as part of his whirlwind visit to the Bay Area. Few Soviets back home were likely to derive much satisfaction from watching the television coverage of his spectacular reception under beautiful California skies. But Gorbachev certainly made a deep impression on Stanford, and his visit elicited pride and excitement appropriate for the university's centennial year.

The crowds were huge; the tickets for seeing, hearing and cheering the Soviet leader were passed out by lottery. The local, national and international press invaded the campus as never before. A number of the Center's members, associates and graduate students were interviewed repeatedly and appeared on television before, during and after the great event.

Gorbachev arrived on campus with his wife Raisa, a number of prominent Soviet academics and surrounded by a crowd of security agents. Met by a delegation of Stanford dignitaries, Gorbachev strolled through the Quad, shook hands with cheering onlookers and received the gifts of several paintings from local artists at the Stanford Art Museum. Andrew Wachtel served as translator (see his notes in this newsletter) and Andy Kuchins provided expert comments during the visit for the television pool.

Gorbachev then proceeded to a small meeting at the Business School with Stanford scholars and students. The meeting was chaired by George Shultz and included several CREES members, associates and students. The meeting itself was short, roughly half an hour, and consisted of short statements about their work by a number of prominent scholars, including several Nobel Prize winners, and equally brief - though fully appropriate - responses by Gorbachev about Soviet problems and accomplishments in the respective fields. The meeting ended with George Shultz inviting Gorbachev to return to Stanford for a sabbatical!

The Soviet leader would have been hard-pressed to disappoint the expectant Stanford community waiting for his speech in Memorial Auditorium. The Cold War is over, Gorbachev proclaimed, and international relations have entered a new era of peaceful contacts and partnership. He especially emphasized the important role of scholars in the Soviet Union and the United States in creating an atmosphere of trust and cooperation. A part of his speech was in fact devoted to scholars and institutions at Stanford that had worked with Soviet counterparts over the years. The Center for International Security and Arms Control was among the institutions praised by Gorbachev; among the dozen or so scholars mentioned (and invited to the Kremlin!) was David Holloway, long-time member of CREES' Steering Committee.

Gorbachev's speech was greeted by genuine "long and stormy applause." After the speech, Donald Kennedy and George Shultz presented Gorbachev with an original Soviet poster from the Hoover Institution Archives.

It was a wonderful day for the Stanford community. It must have also been a blissful day for the beleaguered Soviet President: no recalcitrant Moscow intellectuals, truculent miners or Lithuanian separatists here. The panel discussion/press conference that followed the visit, chaired by Richard Lyman of IIS, and including Robert Conquest, David Holloway, John Litwack and Norman Naimark, found it hard to turn to the bleak realities of Soviet life after the buoyant, hopeful mood of the day.
Slavianskii Dom

Slavianskii dom, the Soviet and East European Theme House, is entering its fourth year as a popular center for activities dealing with the Soviet Union, and Eastern Europe, and as an undergraduate residence (dom sweet dom to 49 students).

As many of you know, 1989-90 was a wonderful year for the Dom under the leadership of Rachel May and staff. Rachel has gone on to a job at SUNY Stonybrook and Jehanne Gheith and Paul von Stamwitz return as resident fellows after a one year hiatus. The other staff members include: Gogi Hodder, resident assistant, kitchen manager Mike Swanson, house manager Rebekka Mittermaier, and five theme associates: Radu Costin, Pete Hopkins, John Kissane, Ashok Rai and Patricia Welsh.

This fall, Paul von Stamwitz will teach a film course, “The Influence of East European Directors on the American Film Industry” on Monday evenings in the Dom lounge. We will also offer weekly Russian language tables (Monday nights for advanced speakers, Thursdays for beginners) as well as a variety of other activities, including a slide show of Jehanne and Paul’s recent trip to the USSR.

Students at the Dom will participate in one of five theme projects. At the time of writing only two of these have been decided on (it’s important for students to have some choice in what projects are offered). One group will focus on food and culture and the other will work on developing Russian language skills.

One of the major changes at Slavianskii dom this year is that we are moving from being a university-operated kitchen to being a student-operated one. This should mean that we have more flexibility in planning meals. It will also mean that we can have “Eating Associates,” who, for a nominal fee, eat meals on a regular basis at the Dom. We would love to have Eating Associates who are involved in the theme area. If you are interested, please call Gogi at 497-2933 or Jehanne at 497-5262.

Would you like to be on our mailing list and participate in CREES activities?
Please fill in your name and address, and return to the CREES office.

Name

Address

Telephone

Area of Interest: USSR, Sociology, Eastern Europe, Language and Literature, Political Science, History, Everything?
Stanford-Berkeley Program in Soviet Studies

Although the term has just started, the Stanford-Berkeley Program in Soviet Studies is already in full swing. The Program, established in 1983 with a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, joins the resources of Stanford and Berkeley universities and seeks to create a unique and lively intellectual community focused on the study of the Soviet Union. Central to the program is a series of joint-graduate and faculty seminars where scholars from both universities have a chance to meet and discuss contemporary Soviet issues with leading academics and policy-makers from the Soviet Union, the United States, and various other countries. The program provides funding for research and language training, runs an active outreach program directed at increasing the public’s awareness of Soviet issues, and provides a context within which government specialists and academics can interact and benefit from each other’s respective insights.

The faculty members directly involved with the program from Stanford are Prof. A. Dallin, Prof. D. Holloway, Prof. J. Litwack, Prof. C. Rice, Prof. S. Sagan, Prof. V. Zaslavsky and Prof. V. Zubok. (Prof. Zaslavsky and Prof. Zubok are visiting professors.) This year there are several graduate students from Stanford in the program: Dan Abbasi, a third-year Political Science student whose interests lie in U.S.-Soviet negotiations, particularly in the Middle East; Ian Bremmer, a second-year Political Science student who studies Soviet domestic and economic policy; Eva Busza, a third-year Political Science student whose interests lie in doing comparative work on “democratization” processes in Poland and the Russian Republic; Steven Fish, a fifth-year Political Science student who will be spending this year in the Soviet Union studying the emergence of interest groups and their significance within the context of theories of civil society; Laura Roselle Helvey, a fifth-year Political Science student who is currently doing comparative work Soviet television coverage of the Afghan war and American coverage of the Vietnam war. Two new student join the group this year: George Lin from Harvard University who is interested in doing work on Soviet foreign policy toward Poland and Hungary; and Kenneth Schultz, also from Harvard, who plans to focus on Soviet and East European security.

The Stanford-Berkeley Graduate seminar held recently in Berkeley with Nina Beliaeva, Lilia Shevtsova and Jadwiga Stanizkis has set a precedent for what promises to be a very exciting year!

Eva Busza,
Graduate Student Coordinator at Stanford

The success of last Spring’s XIV Annual Stanford-Berkeley Conference, “The Nationalities Question: The Future of the Soviet Union,” has led to the Center’s decision to publish a conference-based collection of papers. The volume is designed to present an overview of

Stanford-Berkeley Conference

Soviet nationalities problems and to provide insight into future nationalities developments. Topics discussed include history, development of nationalities institution and present regional and issue-specific areas of conflict. Edited by history professor and CREES Director Norman Naimark and by Ian Bremmer, graduate student in Political Science, the volume is scheduled to be published by the end of the year.

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