LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies" – it’s breathtaking when you think about the huge expanse that our Center covers. Of course we can’t cover everything all the time, but what constantly amazes me is how much intellectual excitement there is here at Stanford for the many countries and cultures under our very broad purview. We at CREEES are indebted to our energetic faculty and curious students for stretching us to provide a wide range of activities and events.

This year, for example, CREEES supported new courses in the curriculum in fields as diverse as a survey of "Russian" music from high symphonic and operatic music to Slavic folk music to ethnic music of the peoples of the Russian empire; to popular religion in nineteenth-century Russia; to "Russia and Islam" by Hoover Senior Fellow John Dunlop; to "Women and Islam" and "Mythology, Folklore, and Oral Literature of Central Asia." In departmental courses Assistant Professor Robert Crews’ seminar course on "Russia, Islam and Afghanistan" in the Autumn required two sections to meet student demand; in Art History Assistant Professor Bissera Pentcheva is attracting healthy numbers of students to her courses on Byzantine iconography, while Film Studies Assistant Professor Pavle Levi is introducing East European film to eager Stanford undergrads. And these are just highlights of courses from our professors in the Slavic Language and Literature, History, Political Science, Art, Drama and other departments. We are particularly excited that we are helping to develop "Islamic Studies" at Stanford through our courses and public events on Central Asia, as well as deepening our study of Eastern Europe, balancing our strong focus on Russia and its Federation. From Prague to Almaty, Stanford has broad student and faculty engagement and we at the Center enjoy serving these various interests.

We have a broad range of activities in progress this academic year 2006 - 07 – CREEES’ mission is four-fold – to support faculty and graduate student research, to expand the teaching of our part of the world in the curriculum, to broaden knowledge of the broad REEES area through public events, and to help in the internationalization of the university – a goal of the President’s International Initiative – by hosting and forming close working relations with international scholars and universities. Thus, we are expanding our reach across campus – in frequent partnership with the Center for Democracy, Development and Rule of Law in the Freeman-Spogli Institute for International Studies for seminars and lectures, and in partnership with the Music and Slavic Language and Literature Depts to celebrate Dmitrii Shostakovich’s Centenary with a lecture and concert. And we are expanding our partnerships across the world, forging collegial relationships with the Kyiv Mohyla Academy and with St. Petersburg

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University and hosting visiting scholars from Kyiv, Saratov in Russia and elsewhere. You can read more about these initiatives in this issue as well.

As always, we appreciate your advice and feedback about programs. Do not hesitate to contact us!

Nancy S. Kollmann
William H. Bonsall Professor in History
Director, Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies

Thanks to our CREEES Steering Committee

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CREEES Associate Director Andrey Kunov

Andrey Kunov joined CREEES as our new Associate Director in September. It has been a very hectic couple of quarters as he acclimates to life as an administrator at Stanford. Andrey has expanded CREEES’s partnerships on and off campus, developing events with the Freeman-Spogli Institute’s Center for Democracy, Development and Rule of Law; and adding CREEES sponsorship to the US Russia Technology Symposium, a workshop for business investment in the FSU. Andrey has forged new relationships for CREEES with St. Petersburg University, and is active on the fund-raising front.

Andrey Kunov’s life course reflects the complexities and opportunities of Soviet and post-Soviet life. He grew up in Kazakhstan, in a Russian-speaking family; his mother is Polish and his father is Ukrainian. He received his university education at the Kazakh State University, Almaty and has earned three MA degrees in three different countries, all outside of the former Soviet Union: the first, in Politics and Transition Economics from the Central European University in Budapest, the second in International Political Economy from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, England, and the third in Political Science from Stanford, where he is completing his Ph.D. dissertation on “Constitutional Aspects of Macroeconomic Policies in Russia,” under the supervision of Professors Michael McFaul, Coit Blacker, Condoleezza Rice and Barry Weingast.

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Andrey thus brings a wide body of knowledge in Russian, East European and Eurasian studies to CREEES. In addition to his native Russian, he is fluent in English and reads Kazakh. Before coming to CREEES, he took time out of his graduate studies to work in the field, serving as research coordinator and Deputy Director of International Development at the Institute for Open Economy in Moscow, running the US-Russia Technology Symposium at Stanford and Moscow, and acting as Academic Coordinator for Stanford’s Initiative for Distance Learning at IIS. We congratulate him and his wife Victoria on the birth of their son Vladimir Andre Menshchikov Kunov on July 19, 2006!

Further information about CREEES at Stanford is available at http://CREEES.stanford.edu
On Friday, March 2, CREEES at Stanford and the Institute for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, devoted a day-long conference to “Ukraine: History and Society.” The conference was the 31st Annual Berkeley-Stanford Conference; its goal is to bring together scholars from the two universities, as well as a few invited experts, to discuss a theme of current significance. The two centers selected the theme of Ukraine this year to recognize the common interest on both campuses in Ukraine and to explore some of the more dynamic and fascinating developments in contemporary Ukraine.

Nine scholars presented papers in the day-long session, which was attended by an appreciative audience of about 75 members of the University communities and the interested public, several of whom had journeyed from the Stanford area to attend.

In the first panel of the day, devoted to history and culture, Berkeley professor David Frick presented the results of his fascinating research project on seventeenth-century Wilno; he is constructing a micro-history of communities and neighborhoods, in particular looking at the interaction of the many different religious communities in Wilno – Catholic, Lutheran, Greek Catholic and Orthodox. He explored evidence for “Ruthenian” identity among Greek Catholic and Orthodox residents of Wilno, drawn primarily from court cases. UCLA Professor Roman Koropecki explored the earliest debates about the identity of Ukrainian literature by scholars such as Mykola Kos- tomarov and Taras Shevchenko in the mid-nineteenth century. Finally, Berkeley Professor Marika Kuzma explored tradition and innovation in the music of contemporary Ukrainian composer Lesia Dychko, demonstrating folk themes in her work through selections of Dychko’s choral works.

The second panel of the day focused on Ukrainian political history from the seventeenth century to the twentieth. Stanford Professor Robert Crews addressed the issue of “Cossacks in Global Perspective,” noting that Cossack communities, including the Zaporozhian Cossacks, emerged all across the Eurasian steppe/forest and steppe/mountain boundaries at a certain historical moment, namely from sixteenth century onward. Initially outposts of para-military bands composed of men who had fled the taxation and serfdom of emerging empires, these communities gradually were drawn into frontier service to those empires. Yet they maintained their traditional identities and practices, such as democratic election of leadership, fierce group honor and warrior ethic. In a controversial and stimulating move, he argued that a modern day parallel is the Pashtun tribes of Afghani-stan, who share many of the same attributes, customs and attitudes of Cossack bands of earlier centuries. Berkeley Professor John Connelly examined recent history writing from Central European states – particularly Germany and Poland – on Ukraine’s role in World War II, while Stanford Professor Amir Weiner, under the topic “Laboratory of Soviet Dreams?,” also addressed World War II, exploring how Soviet policy in Western Ukraine was shaped by Soviet ideology more than by pragmatic politics.

The final panel of the day focused on the contemporary Ukrainian economy. Here the panel featured invited specialists from around the world. Professor Lucan Way from the University of Toronto explored “Rapacious Individualism and the Evolution of Democracy,” considering the phenomena of official corruption, oligarchy and voting patterns in Ukraine. Professor Roy Gardner, economist from Indiana University and Director of the MA Program in Economics at the National University “Kyiv Mohyla Academy,” addressed the problem of where the “transitional economy” of Ukraine was headed, giving a generally optimistic picture of growth and diversification. Finally, Nazar Kholod, Professor at the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv and currently a Fulbright Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, D.C., spoke on Ukraine’s economic development since the Orange Revolution, echoing Gardner’s generally optimistic assessment of large macro-economic indicators.

The day’s program was introduced by the Berkeley Institute’s Director Yuri Sieszkie and wrapped up with concluding comments by the Stanford CREEES Director Nancy Kollmann. The panels were chaired by Berkeley Professors Luba Golburt, Victoria Frede and Jason Wittenberg. Throughout the day the audience engaged the speakers in lively and productive interchange, informally at coffee breaks and in formal Q and A after the talks.
CREEES 2006-07 CHOPIVSKY SCHOLAR - VIRA AGYEVA

Professor Vira Agyeva of the National University of 'Kyiv-Mohyla' Academy, Kyiv, Ukraine comes to CREEES in winter and spring quarters as our third Chopivsky Postdoctoral Scholar.

Professor Agyeva is from the Department of Philosophy at the National University 'Kyiv-Mohyla' Academy (the Chopivsky Postdoctoral Scholar is always chosen from the 'Kyiv-Mohyla'). She is a specialist in Ukrainian Modernism, Postmodernism, and gender theory, and author of six books, including: Ukraińska impresjonistyczna proza (Ukrainian Impressionist Prose) 1994; Poets to slamu stali: Tworzystwo Lesia Ukrainki w postmodernnej interpretacji (The Poet of the Break of the Centuries: Lesia Ukrainka's Drama in Postmodern Interpretation) 1999; Zinochyj prostir; feministychnyj dyskurs Ukrajins’koho modernizmu (Women's Space: Feminist Discourse of Ukrainian Modernism), 2003; Poetyka paradoxu: Intelektualna Prosa Victora Petrova-Domontovyca, (Poetics of Paradox: An Intellectual Prose of Victor Petrov-Domontovych) 2006.

She has held a research fellowship at the University of Toronto (2004), received a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies and was awarded the Shevchenko National Prize of Ukraine (1996). In 2000, she directed a summer school on "Gender in Transitional Society" at the Open Society Institute, and since 2002, is the Head of the Council of Kyiv Gender Studies Institute. Her research project in Stanford is connected with the problems of psychoanalysis and literature.

VISITING CARNEGIE FELLOW SCHOLAR - TATIANA RUSSINOVA

Tatiana Russinova is a Carnegie Fellow at CREEES this winter and spring. Her fellowship in the US is sponsored by the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEER).

Professor Russinova is a Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at Saratov State University in Russia; she completed her kandidat dissertation in Linguistics in 2006, comparing Russian and English usage on verbal prohibitions.

In addition to her teaching and research she has frequently served as simultaneous interpreter at international scholarly conferences in Russia.

Her research focuses on exploring media attitudes to Russia and Russians, the depiction of Russia in American printed mass-media, power manifestation in political and media discourse, directive component of casual conversation, internet communication and media discourse.

Art History Field Trip!

On the weekend of February 23 - 24, 2007 CREEES-affiliate Assistant Professor Bissara Pentcheva led a group of students on a field trip to Los Angeles to view several museums in connection with three current courses: Professor Pentcheva’s Byzantine Art and Architecture and Aesthetics of the Icon and Professor Emine Fetvaci’s Islamic Art around the Mediterranean.

A group of 11 undergraduates and four graduate students went to the Getty Villa in Malibu and the Los Angeles County Museum for Modern Art on Friday to see their Islamic collections. The highlight of the weekend was a visit to the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles to see the historic “Holy Image, Hallowed Ground” exhibit, a collection of 53 Byzantine icons and precious objects from St. Catherine’s Orthodox Monastery at Mount Sinai, Egypt, including a precious sixth-century image of St. Peter. Professor Gabriella Safran joined them there -- the happy group is depicted in the photo.

On January 28, Professor Pentcheva also delivered a public lecture, “The Performative Icon,” at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles as part of a research symposium focused on the St. Catherine Sinai exhibit.
Post-Soviet Art in Armenia
Lilit Kazanyan
History Department, Undergraduate

I went to Yerevan, Armenia for one month in the summer of 2006 to research Post-Soviet Art in Armenia, a topic that, until recently, had remained untouched by scholars. I focused on the prevalent themes in paintings and their reflection of the history, society, and politics of Armenia since its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

I conducted my research in museums, galleries, exhibits, and studios, including the National Gallery, the Yerevan Artists' Union, and the Contemporary Art Museum. I interviewed a few dozen artists who represent the current art scene in Armenia to see how the present circumstances of their republic influence their lives and how their lives dictate what they transfer to the canvas. I also had access to catalogues published by artists and missing from scholarly archives. These sources helped me link Armenian art to its cultural history after artistic “freedom” was assumed with the fall of the Soviet Union.

I found that contemporary Armenian artists are more restricted now by the political and economic situation in their country than they were by the censorship in the Soviet Union. As administrative restrictions ceased to exist, so did the state financing and other privileges granted to artists unions. Most of these artists were students during Soviet times and remembered the many state-sponsored trips they would take around the world to study art. Now they sadly admit that their decision about what to paint is influenced as much by what they want to express as by what they can sell to make a living.

My interviews informed me about “the Third Floor,” a movement about which I found no published material. It featured an “alternative” art exhibition in 1987 on the third floor of the Artists’ Union. Such art was censored from exhibition before Gorbachev’s reforms. This opened the door for Armenian art that was now supposed to be free to express everything, including erotic and anti-government sentiments. But is this freedom real? While I saw paintings featuring erotic and shocking scenes, I could not find a single painting that explicitly showed resentment toward the government of Armenia and this is not because such resentment does not exist. While these artists want to communicate their complete view of the world with their art, they do not want to deal with the government beyond what is necessary. Despite this self-imposed, situational censorship, Armenian pop art displayed implicit political statements made with images of structures vaguely resembling government buildings covered with words like “cäsino,” illustrating the popular image of the government as an institution that gambles with and corrupts Armenian resources and citizens.

Beyond images of horses, warriors, circus fools, dancing nudes, and confusing emotions, I found nostalgia, a longing for a past these artists had never seen and a future they attempted to create. Many of these artists described their purpose as trying to reflect the present times as interpreted by their subconscious, to capture that moment when the past ends and the future begins, a moment that is but a moment but could be expressed by a never-ending collection of paintings. At first, I thought these paintings were much more personal than historical and worried about where this research would take me. I saw the paintings as random images piled up on the canvas. Speaking to the artists helped me recognize the themes and topics. I started to notice the little man on a bicycle floating on the right-hand corner of a painting not as a meaningless abstraction, but as the image of William Saroyan acting as a messenger between the Armenian Genocide of 1915 and the contemporary world. I started to notice the freaks with the driven off brains, twisted necks, and fallen out eyes as exaggerated images of the effects of societal constraints these artists face in their daily lives as citizens trying to survive.

Although I did not learn much about the history of Armenia as a republic from its art, I learned more than I expected about the history and present condition of its people and their inner and social struggles. The more I studied these paintings, the more I saw art as a dissection of reality, as evidence of pain, hope, etc., separating me from reality, but at the same time bringing me closer to it. When I asked one of the artists what he was painting, he said “Nothing.” After a long silence and many strokes and colors, he said, “Nothing is something too.” That summed everything up for me. This experience helped me improve my Armenian language skills, gave me interview and archival and field research experience in a foreign country, exposed me to the current cultural and political situation in Armenia, taught me about art criticism and interpretation, and gave me images and impressions that would continue to influence me.

Albania and the Yugoslav Federation 1944-1948
Daniel Perez
History Department

The purpose of my CREEES Summer Research Travel Grant was to undertake pre-dissertation research at the Albanian Central Archives in Tirana, Albania. Relying on Albanian archival documents, my dissertation will examine the failed Yugoslav initiative to annex Albania and then make it part of the Yugoslav federation between 1944-1948. Between July 15 and August 23, 2007, I surveyed archival collections located at the Albanian Central Archives and determined that the following funds contain documents that are relevant to my research: 1) Funds 410 (Prefectures and Communes of the Liberated Territories), 152 (The Ministry of the Interior), 166 (The Ministry of Liberated Territories), 149 (The Prime Ministry), and 147 (The Council of State), which all contain documents of the wartime nationalist Albanian government during the communist takeover in Albania and Kosovo in 1944; 2) Funds of the Albanian Central Committee, Poliburo and other high-level government entities; 3) Funds 561 (The Albanian-Yugoslav Electricity Association), 624 (The Association for Albanian-Yugoslav Cultural Cooperation), and 621 (The Albanian-Yugoslav Coordinating Commission), which contain reports from the economic and cultural institutions involved in preparing Albania for its merger with Yugoslavia.

Working conditions have improved drastically since I had last visited the Archives in 2003. Dr. Neville Nika was recently hired as Director. The new Archives administration has made efforts to make the Archives more accessible to Albanian and foreign scholars. I received permission to enter the Archives reading room after only showing my identification and submitting a brief written application. Continued on page 5.
explanation about the purpose of my visit, a procedure that was much simpler than that which was used in 2003. Additionally, the Archives staff was extremely helpful in processing my document requests. They often completed my requests the same day I submitted them. Last, in contrast to the situation in 2003, electricity was available at all times.

However, I, along with the other historians working in the Archives, faced a number of difficulties after we received our documents. First, requests to make photocopies took up to several days to process. Additionally, only 3-4 microfilm and microfiche machines are available, which historians often have to wait in line to use. Last, the Archives are open daily for only 6 hours, and are closed on weekends.

In sum, during my five-week stay in Tirana, I assessed the availability of archival documents at the Albanian Central Archives that pertain to my research topic. Overall, working conditions were excellent. I used the information I gathered during these five weeks to write my dissertation research grant applications that I submitted in the fall 2007, and my dissertation prospectus, which I will submit in June 2007.

Polish Anti-Zionist Campaign
March 1968
Anat Plocher
History Department

Thanks to the CREEES summer travel grant, I spent the summer of 2006 in the archives in Warsaw, completing the research for my dissertation, which focuses on the events of March 1968 in Poland. During that month, students at Warsaw University staged a demonstration in reaction to the expulsion of student leaders. In response, the regime used the Jewish origins of some leading protesters and portrayed them as Zionists, enemies of Poland. My dissertation, the first English-language study of this anti-Zionist campaign, traces its development, causes, consequences, and abrupt ending. Over the summer, I looked at written press and other published materials from 1967-1968 at the National Library and the Warsaw University Library and identified the main themes of the campaign. I watched films and television broadcasts at the Filmoteka Narodowa and the Wyswornia Filmow Dokumentalnych i Fabularnych. I read files at the Archiwum Muzeum University Warszawskiego, which contained information about the chain of events at the University, student participation in the demonstrations, and the fate of the protesters. These documents shed light on the attitudes of both the students and the heads of Warsaw University. In addition, I worked in the Archiwum Panstwowe m.st. Warszawy and looked at the Central Committee of Warsaw collection that includes unpublished records and minutes of committee meetings, correspondence between city officials and heads of the Party, and memos and reports from Party. The city of Warsaw archives gave me a clearer picture of the situation on the ground and of the internal mechanisms of the socialist state. This year I am using these materials to write my dissertation. In it, I, map the different voices in the Party using minutes of inner Party meetings, confidential government reports, and state-controlled newspapers, revealing the ideology behind the campaign and explaining this outburst of post-Holocaust anti-Semitism. I also analyze the Party's stance towards reformers, intellectuals, and the student protesters, connecting this episode to the fall of communism. My dissertation will show that the heads of the Polish Communist Party perceived demands for reform as attempts to overthrow communism rather than improve it. This led to a belief among participants in the reform movement that an alternative vision to Polish socialism could emerge outside it. In the 1980s many of these figures re-emerged as leaders of the Solidarity movement, which challenged the communist party's hegemony. On a more personal note, I never got tired of passing afternoons walking in beautiful Lazienki Garden. Warsaw is a lovely place in spring and summer.

Imperial Ballet and Literature in Late-Nineteenth-Century Russia
Natalie Rouland
Slavic Department

With the generous funding of a CREEES Travel and Research Grant, I completed library and archival research in St. Petersburg from June to August 2006. My research serves as the foundation for my dissertation, under the working title "Ballet and the Imperial Body in Russian Literature, 1851-1895." I made incredible progress in my work at the Russian National Library, the St. Petersburg State Theatre Library, the St. Petersburg State Theatre Museum, and the Russian Institute of the History of Art, and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity afforded by CREEES.

My two months of research in St. Petersburg yielded a cohesive outline for my dissertation, which investigates the Russian ballet from 1851 to 1895 and its relationship to literature, popular press, and imperial power. I argue that the imperial ballet during this formative period served two conflicting projects of empire and nationalism. In order to show that ballet remained an imperial art form while superficially adopting nationalist themes, I examine four ballets in their literary contexts: "The Naid and the Fisherman" (1851) by Jules Perrot, "The Little Humpbacked Horse" (1864) and "The Golden Fish" (1867) by Arthur Saint-Leon, and "Swan Lake" (1877, 1885) by Lev Ivanov and Marius Petipa. I consider the print and political responses to these performed events in theatrical chronicles and memoirs, the prose of Lev Tolstoy, the satirical works of Nikolai Nekrasov and Mikhail Saltykov-Shchedrin, and the critical essays of Apollon Grigoriev.

Through my contact with Irina Bogacheva, ballet bibliographer of the Theatre Library, I gained access to the restricted archives of Mikhail Fokine and Yuri Plonskis as well as the rare book and periodical collection, including the works of ballet critics Alexander Pleshcheev and Sergei Khudekov. With the benefit of the Theatre Library's wonderfully organized card catalog system, I identified which ballets of all those produced in the second half of the nineteenth century were closely tied with literary production and was able to read their librettos. In my pursuit of the literary responses to these ballets, I focused on four genres of texts: the memoirs of balletomane Khudekov, Pleshcheev, and Konstantin Skalkovsky; the fictional prose of Tolstoy; the satirical writings of Nekrasov and Saltykov-Shchedrin; and the critical prose of Grigoriev. My sources included theatrical chronicles and ballet reviews from contemporary newspapers and journals (such as Otechestvennie zapiski, Sovremennik, Severnaia pechata, Goly, Istra, Lektor, Petersburgskaiia gazeta, Russkaia teatra) as well as the personal correspondence and diary entries of ballet artists, choreographers, composers, and dramaturges Alexander Ostrowsky and Anton Chekhov. I also began research at the Theatre Library on the economic structure of ballet productions as published in the Annual of the Imperial Theatres.

At the archives of the Theatre Museum, Director Natalia Metelitsa and the Leading Curator were kind enough during their relocation to a new building on Petrogradskaya to allow me to view and order reproductions of rare photographs and set and costume designs, notably the studio photographs of "The Little Humpbacked Horse" that chronicle the "national" costumes and provide required material evidence for my interpretation of these ballet productions. And at the Russian Institute of the History of Art, Stanford Visiting Pro-continued on page 7
fessor of Music Izaly Zemtsovsky graciously introduced me to Director Tamarak Zakhrivakha, who permitted me to utilize archival photographs and videos of "Swan Lake" housed at the Institute.

While my days were spent in the halls of libraries and archives, my evenings were filled with the performances of the XIV International Arts Festival "Stars of the White Nights," directed by Valery Gergiev at the Mariinsky Theatre. Of particular relevance to my work, the Mariinsky struck a nostalgic note with the revival of four ballets of Mikhail Fokine, the imperial dancer and choreographer who gained international renown through his collaboration with Sergei Diaghilev, Alexander Benois, Igor Stravinsky et al. during the seasons of the Ballets Russes in Paris. It was an amazing experience to see these rarely-produced ballets relocated from the Paris Opéra to the Petersburg Mariinsky, especially after perusing the original set and costume designs held in the Theatre Museum. One deviation that I noticed in the otherwise faithful reproductions occurred in the costume design of "The Firebird." In the notes in his archive at the Theatre Library, Fokine explicitly specifies that the costume for the Firebird should be "eastern style" pantalons, yet Maya Dumchenko sported a classical tutu in the 2006 production. The choice of tutu over pantalons was particularly striking to me, as it reinforced my sense that the Mariinsky was incorporating Fokine's ballets produced (and financed) in France into the imperial Russian repertoire. The conclusion of my dissertation will address this period of transition from Petipa imperial ballet to Diaghilev's Ballets Russes and evaluate what the revolutionary Ballets Russes borrowed from their imperial ballet heritage, and how that legacy continued in the twentieth century.

When I returned from Petersburg, I was able to complete a detailed prospectus and begin work on my dissertation. I would like to express my gratitude to CREEES for the opportunity to explore the library and archival system in Russia, for the results of my initial dissertation research, and for my exposure to the current cultural scene in St. Petersburg.

Polish-Ukrainian Relations in Poland 1918-1939
Kathryn Ward
History Department

With the support provided by a CREEES Travel and Research Grant, I was able to spend seven weeks from June 21 to August 13, 2006 in Lviv, Ukraine. My plan was to use this time to further develop ideas for my Ph.D. dissertation. I intend to write my dissertation on Polish-Ukrainian relations in Poland between 1918 and 1939, with a specific focus on how the two communities (if they indeed perceived of themselves as significantly distinct) interacted in the ethnically-mixed settlements of the Polish kresy (eastern borderlands). This subject provides fertile ground for original research as the current literature, in English at least, tends to concentrate on central government policies concerning the 'Ukrainian question', rather than developments within the borderlands themselves. This has led to an oversimplification of the issues involved, and perhaps an exaggeration of the importance of 'nationality' as a source of identity in these areas. My project, which will be based on local archives, aims to fill this lacuna in the scholarship through a 'local' look at Polish-Ukrainian relations, with a particular focus on education policies and provincial schools. While I plan to cover the areas of Poland previously governed by both the Russian and the Austro-Hungarian empires, I am initially focusing on eastern Galicia.

I had three purposes for my visit. First, I wanted to collate a preliminary inventory of the archives in Lviv and thereby aid preparation towards my dissertation research. Second, I needed to improve my language skills in order to prepare for vital archival work. It was my aim to build on the knowledge I had acquired during a language course at the Ivan Franko National University in Lviv during 2005 by completing an intensive summer course at the Ukrainian Catholic University. Third, I was keen to gain a greater knowledge of the urban centers in western Ukraine with the purpose of selecting cities as potential 'case studies'.

Unfortunately, access to the archives in Lviv proved problematic. Upon visiting the State Archive of the Lviv Oblast (Derzhavnyi arkhiv Lviv'skoi oblasti), I was informed that it had closed indefinitely because, due to the theft of several valuable documents, they were preparing an inventory. I had slightly more success at the Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine, Lviv (Tsentral'nyi derzhavnyi istorichyi arkhiv Ukrainy, Lviv). As the head archivist had left for a vacation, the archive was officially closed and I was unable to view the collections. However, I did purchase a full inventory of the catalogue, which provides in-depth information about archival material, in both Polish and Ukrainian. Particularly fascinating are the collections on schools and universities, such as the records of pedagogical colleges and societies, the minutes of various school boards (both private and state), and collections of several educational journals. Considering the potentially valuable collections these archives hold, I can only hope that they will be fully functional by the time I begin my dissertation research in earnest.

I fulfilled the second of my three tasks more successfully. The Ukrainian language course at the Ukrainian Catholic University was well-run and involved intensive language study every weekday for six weeks. There were three hours of class each morning, followed by a communal lunch in which only Ukrainian was spoken and two hours of individual tutoring each afternoon. I also took part in various cultural activities, including historical field trips, and spoke as much Ukrainian as I could outside the classroom. I will continue to build upon these language skills during the forthcoming academic year at Stanford.

My third aim of traveling to potential 'case study' cities was also successfully fulfilled. During my trip to Ukraine in 2005, I had visited a number of urban centers in western Ukraine that, prior to 1939, had been home to mixed ethnic populations -Ivano-Frankivsk, Zhovkva, Uzhgorod, Chernivtsi, and several towns in the Carpathian mountains. This summer I also visited Drohobych in the Lviv region (a mixed Polish-Ukrainian-Jewish city in interwar Poland) and Lutsk in Volhynia. Lutsk was particularly interesting because, unlike the cities in Galicia, it had fallen under Russian rule prior to 1918. It therefore provides an excellent comparison with Lviv, Drohobych, or Ivano-Frankivsk (all of which were under Austrian rule until 1918).

Overall, I found my summer in Ukraine incredibly rewarding and useful. Despite the problems with archival access, I now have a much clearer idea about the material which will hopefully be available during my next visit.

Striving to Consider Early Polish and Russian Medieval Art
Iga Zelazny
Art History Department

Thanks to a CREEES Summer Research grant I spent one month traveling in Poland and Russia, absorbing as much of its medieval art and the culture that evolved around it as I possibly could. As I am still in the process of refining a dissertation topic, I purposefully kept my aims during trip rather broad. My goal was to look at art that often is badly cataloged; to look at art that is not well studied; and to look at art that is highly unlikely to ever leave its present location. After one year of

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graduate work in art history I felt equipped to allow the objects to speak to me. And after one year of studying art history in California I also felt an insatiable desire to viscerally experience the type of objects I am hoping to spend the rest of my life with.

Since I plan to work on the appropriation of Byzantine art in Eastern Europe in the Late Middle Ages, I chose to travel to major Polish and Russian sites of medieval art production and accumulation from the twelfth century onwards. My interest in this topic springs from the fact that current scholarship often nationalizes art history to an extent that I don’t consider appropriate given the rather international context of art production in the Middle Ages. Differences in the interpretation of scripture presumably separated styles and iconography more than identification with one political entity over another. And even the Orthodox/Catholic divide does not suffice to adequately explain differing iconographies and types of art. Ideas, together with producing artists, constantly traveled across the feeble conceptual and geographical borders. Eventually I want to select a group of objects that will help me understand how Byzantine artistic and religious concepts were digested and recycled in Eastern Europe and thanks to this trip I now know what is out there and what is not.

I had explored Eastern Poland as well as Krakow and Warsaw on several previous occasions and thus could focus this trip on the Western part of the country. My Polish itinerary began with Wroclaw, continued with Torun, Plock, Malbork and ended in Gdansk. In Russia, I started in Moscow and stopped in Pskov and Novgorod before arriving in St. Petersburg. Needless to say that in all these locations I spent my time in museums and churches, museums and churches and some more museums.

This route allowed me to significantly improve my understanding of Western medieval sculpture and altarpieces as well as of the main schools of early Russian icon painting. Seeing these objects in person and often from not more than an inch away, whether in a museum or in a church, helped me notice aspects of the different styles and the art in general that could not be gathered from photographed images. The thickness or translucency of the paint, the dynamism or stoicism of the brushstroke, the vivacity or opacity of the colors, the spiritually dwarving or intellectually stimulating effect of the size of the icons – appreciating these qualities brought me an enormous step forward in grasping the specificity of the works considered. It also helped me tremendously in my comprehension of art in general.

In the course of my research I gathered a multitude of information and experiences that will be of great value once I finally settle on a dissertation project. I brushed up on my Russian, and my fluency in East European and clerical bureaucracy. Next time, for example, I will not lose my patience with the Polish museum guard who will under no circumstances allow me to photograph a peculiar statue of the Virgin Mary because Mother Superior is not here to give explicit permission, nor is the priest director. In the gift shop there is a wonderful if maybe illegible and brownish colored Xerox copy of a black and white photograph of the statue and surely that would suffice for my purposes. And I will also know not to despair when the one UNESCO protected church in Pskov that I desperately wanted to see is closed for no reason whatsoever and the attendant explains to me calmly that ‘Evidently, this will not be your dissertation topic’.

### 2006 - 2007 CREEES Masters Students

**Captain Forrest Cook**
US Army Foreign Area Officer. He is preparing to be a Russian Language Instructor at the US Military Academy (West Point). His undergrad was in Russian at West Point. He served as Company Commander 82nd Airborne Division deployed to Baghdad, Iraq (2004-05). His interests include Political-Military relations in the FSU and Nuclear proliferation.

**Marc Engelberg**
UC Berkeley Poli Sci & Film grad. He is interested in post-Soviet democratization, political culture, and diplomatic relations between the FSU & the European Union.

**Ben Knelman** majored in Economics and Russian Language, History and Culture at Stanford. He currently is dividing his time between his CREEES coursework and a teaching assistantship in the Department of Economics.

**Andrew Moore** 2005 graduate of Northwestern University, majored in Slavic Languages and Literatures.

**Meagan Gorman** graduated in Russian Studies, Holy Cross. She spent 2005 in Ufa, capital of Bashkortostan, near the Ural Mountains, on a Fulbright Public Service Fellowship, working to transition orphans into society. She continues to work to raise funds and resources to help them.

**Charles Shaw** 2002 graduate of Brown University, majored in History and Slavic Studies. His interests include Central Asian religion, Byzantine and Russian icons and aesthetic theories, and comparative urbanism of the Soviet Union and the United States. One day he hopes to compare the de-urbanization of his native Detroit with cities in the former Soviet Union. He will begin a history Ph.D. program in the fall.

**Stephen Rogers** 2005 graduate of George Washington University, majored in International Affairs and Russian. He is studying Ukrainian domestic politics, issues pertaining to energy policy in the Post-Soviet space, and progress towards the formation of robust liberal democracies and fortified authoritarian regimes in the former Soviet states.

**Asako Suzuki** a young Japanese diplomat, with a BA degree in International Commerce (2000) and an MA degree in Economics (2002); for the last 4 years she has worked at the Japanese Embassy in Moscow; the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs is sending her to Stanford as part of her training.
Central and Eastern European Online Library Now Available to Stanford Community

Slavic and East European Collections Curator Karen Rondestvedt announces that the Stanford community now has available an online scholarly journal collection from and about Central and Eastern Europe. The Central and Eastern European Online Library (CEEOL) currently includes 260 journals from a total of 26 countries plus Kosovo. The majority are in Central and East European languages. However, there are also many in English and German, as well some articles in other languages. Subjects covered include a full range of social sciences and humanities.

Researchers can search the full text of the articles using Google Scholar, or they can search the English-language keywords and/or abstracts that often accompany the articles (see Figure 1). The full text of the articles selected can then be displayed in PDF (Figure 2).

CEEOL complements our popular Universal Databases, which cover Russia, Ukraine, other members of the Commonwealth of Independent-States, and the Baltic States.

While the library cannot stop collecting books, journals and other physical material from the region, online resources are playing an increasingly important role for most researchers at Stanford.

For more information on Stanford’s REES resources, see the Slavic Collection home page: http://library.stanford.edu/depts/hasrg/slavic/1slavic.html

New Publications from CREEES Affiliates


Terry Karl with co-authors Mary Kaldor and Yahia Said, Oil Wars (Pluto Press, 2007).


Kathryn Stoner-Weiss, Resisting the State: Reform and Retrenchment in Post-Soviet Russia (Cambridge University Press, 2007).

CREEES Reference Library Update

CREEES Office Assistant Lenka Strakova has spent the past month cataloging and reorganizing our reference library. She researched and created a database of books written by people affiliated with CREEES and we plan to acquire many of those titles for our collection in the next few years. We are very grateful to Lenka for sharing her time and talents with CREEES.

Lenka is from Slovakia, and her background is in history and finance. Her husband was offered a chance to work at Stanford and in her words: “So here I am, spending my time self-studying, enjoying California and volunteering. As I am from central/eastern Europe, my steps inevitably led to CREEES. I love books, so helping with the library is a perfect job for me.”

Books and materials in the CREEES library are available to be used in the library during normal Center hours.
**2006-07 Stanford Lecture Series on Ukraine**

**"The US - Ukrainian Relations: Change and Continuity"**
Thursday, October 19, 2006
Volodymyr Dubovyk, Director, Center for International Studies, Odessa National University
Fulbright/Kennan Scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC

**"Ukrainian History in Folk Songs and Dumas"**
Wednesday, November 15, 2006
Vasyl Nechepa, Kobzar, Senior Scientist, Ukrainian Studies Institute, Kyiv

**"Radio Liberty in Ukraine: Keeping Pace with Change and Development"**
Thursday, November 30, 2006
Irena Chalupa, Deputy Director, Ukrainian Service Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Hoover Visiting Scholar

**"Ukraine’s Quest for Europe: An Historian’s Perspective"**
Thursday, December 7, 2006
Serhi Plkhoy, Professor, Department of History and Classics, University of Alberta; Associate Director, Peter Jacyk Centre, University of Alberta

**"Post-Orange Ukraine: An Early Assessment of the Yanukovich Government"**
Wednesday, January 31, 2007
Anders Aslund, Senior Fellow at Institute for International Economics, Washington DC

**"Present State of Education in Ukraine"**
Wednesday, February 14, 2007
Vyacheslav Briukhovetsky, President of National University ‘Kyiv-Mohyla Academy’, Kyiv, Ukraine

**A Roundtable Discussion**
**"Democracy and Economic Development in Today’s Ukraine: Failure vs Success?"**
Thursday, March 1, 2007
Moderator: Michael McFaul, Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment; Director of CDDRL; Helen and Peter Bing Research Fellow, Hoover Institution, and Professor of Political Science, Stanford University
Roy Gardner, Chancellor’s Professor of Economics and West European Studies, Indiana University: Nazar Kholod, Fulbright-Kennan Institute Research Scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center

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**Ukrainian Studies Roundtable Discussion on the Economy**

On March 1, 2007, Ukrainian Studies organized a roundtable discussion entitled "Democracy and Economic Development in Today’s Ukraine: Failure versus Success?"

Professor Michael McFaul (Senior Associate Carnegie Endowment; Director of CDDRL; Helen and Peter Bing Research Fellow; Hoover Institution, Stanford University) moderated the discussion with panelists Professor Roy Gardner (Chancellor’s Professor of Economics and West European Studies, Indiana University) and Professor Nazar Kholod (Fulbright-Kennan Institute Research Scholar, Professor of Lviv University, Ukraine).

The topic of debate was as controversial as the state of economy in Ukraine. According to Professor Kholod, yearly economical growth is astonishing, although the economy still lags behind its pre-independence level.

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**We gratefully acknowledge these recent donations to the Ukrainian Studies Fund**

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http://creees.stanford.edu
2007 Annual Alexander Dallin Lecture in Soviet and Post-Soviet Affairs Series

Lecture Series on Soviet and Post-Soviet Studies, on the topic “Perspectives on Boris Yeltsin in History.”

Professor Colton was introduced by CREEES affiliate, Associate Director of Research and Senior Research Scholar, CDDRL, Kathryn Stoner-Weiss, who has long considered him a mentor and advisor. She mentioned her great respect for Professor Colton and his deep love and knowledge of Russia. She related a story about a long train ride that revealed his uncanny familiarity with the more remote regions of Russia.

Professor Colton based his remarks on his current research on a scholarly biography of Russia’s first President, Boris Yeltsin, Colton tested Yeltsin against a set of traits of successful leaders, rather than giving a conventional chronological biography. Stressing Yeltsin’s often underappreciated achievements in difficult political and economic challenges, Colton presented a nuanced picture of Yeltsin at odds with the often sensationalist press Yeltsin received.

The Annual Dallin Lecture honors Stanford Professor of History and Political Science Alexander Dallin, a founder of Russian and East European Studies not only at Stanford but also nationwide.

St. Lawrence String Quartet and Richard Taruskin Celebrate Shostakovich

On March 6 CREEES celebrated the Centenary of Dmitrii Shostakovich’s birth with a lecture recital featuring renowned musicologist Richard Taruskin, holder of the Class of 1955 Chair in the Department of Music at the University of California, Berkeley, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet, Stanford’s ensemble-in-residence and faculty members in the Stanford Department of Music.

Taruskin explored Shostakovich’s music with particular emphasis on his string quartets. Explaining that string quartets were poorly represented in Russian music before Shostakovich’s time, he argued that Shostakovich developed the genre (he wrote 15 in all) in the later stages of his career in pursuit of private space in the oppressive circumstances of official Soviet life.

Supporting Taruskin’s detailed explication of Shostakovich’s quartets nos. 3 and 8, the Quartet performed several excerpts of these works, a considerable feat given that they were performing as a “trio”, lacking their violist due to illness.

The large and rapt audience was very appreciative of their willingness to perform in such conditions, and showered the speaker and Quartet members with questions in an active give and take following the performance. All in all, a fitting tribute to a brilliant and complex composer.

Many thanks to the following donors for their recent contributions to CREEES

The Wayne S. & Sara Stys Vudinich Fund
Mr. Andrew Wayne Nussbaum
Ms. Mary Ann M. St. Peter

Special thanks to the Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies for generous support of Anthropology courses on Central Asia
**CREEES SPONSORED COURSES**

The following courses were sponsored or co-sponsored by CREEES, in some cases using Title VI funds provided by U.S. Department of Education.

**PROFESSORS**

- Robert Crews - Assistant Professor of History
- Jasmina Bojic - Lecturer, Slavic
- John Dunlop - Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution
- Jack Kollmann - Lecturer, CREEES
- Alma Kunanbaeva - Visiting Professor, Cultural and Social Anthropology
- Michael McFaul - CDDRL
- Izaly Zemtsovsky - Visiting Professor of Music

**COURSES**

- "Modern Russia, Iran and Afghanistan" in the History Department this fall.
- "Camera as Witness: International Human Rights Documentaries" in the fall.
- "Russia and Islam" this fall in International Policy Studies.
- "Demons, Witches, and Priests: Religion and Popular Culture in Russia" in History this fall.
- "Women in Islam: The Central Asian Case" at CASA in fall, and "Mythology, Folklore, and Oral Literature of Central Asia" in the spring.
- "Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law" in the spring.

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**STANFORD AT AAASS**

The following CREEES faculty, affiliates and graduate students participated in the 2006 Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS), in Washington, DC:

- **Emily Greble Balic** (History) Paper: "Race, Religion, and Civic Duty: Sarajevo’s Conflict with the Radical Right."


- **John Barrett Dunlop** (Hoover Institution) Chair: "What Are the Prospects of Russia’s Hard-line Nationalists?"

- **Simon Ertz** (History) Paper: "Institutional Strategies in the Stalinist Camp System: Constants, Changes, Conflicts."

- **Ekaterina Kozitskaia Fleishman** (Slavic) Paper: "Crossing the Border: 1972 God in Brodsky’s Poetry."


- **Monika Greenleaf** (Slavic) Chair: "The Pushkin Myth in Russian 20th-century Culture." Roundtable: "Self as Theoretical Category."

- **Anne Hruska** (Humanities) Paper: "Children without Fathers and Children without Children: Turgenev and Serfdom."

- **A. Ross Johnson** (RFE/RL/Hoover Institution) Paper: "Abandoning Childhood: Coming of Age in Post-Soviet Film."


- **Jessie Labov** (Comparative Literature) Paper: "Listening In: Foreign Radio Broadcasting as Distortion and Expression of the Cultural Sphere."

- **Gail W. Lapidus** (FSI Emeritus) Roundtable: "Russia in the Year 2006: The Ed Hewett Memorial Roundtable." Chair: "Contending Views on Russian Politics Today."

- **Ann Lvschitz** (History) Discussant: "Abandoning Childhood: Coming of Age (continues on page 13)."
in Post-Soviet Film.” Discussant: “Ritual and Violence - The Pogroms of Summer 1941 in Eastern Poland and Lithuania.”


Norman M. Naimark (History) Discussant: “Culture, Political Legitimacy and the Everyday Experience of the State(s) in Hungary’s Moson and Sopron Counties, 1938-1949”; Chair: “Stalin as Statesman: 200 Conversations with the Vozhd.”

Lynn Ellen Patyk (Stanford PhD 2006 Slavic) Paper: “Terrorism and Byronism: Blok’s Vozmezdie”


Anatol Shuleyev (Hoover Institution) Roundtable: “Cold War Western Broadcasting: Workshop on Research Sources and Methods.”

2006 Wayne S. Yucinch Book Prize

for the most important contribution to Russian, Eurasian, and East European studies in any discipline of the humanities or social sciences was awarded to: Francine Hirsch, Empire of Nations: Ethnographic Knowledge and the Making of the Soviet Union, Cornell University Press (2006).

This annual prize is sponsored by CREEES and AAASS.

FACULTY NEWS

Robert Crews (History) published For Prophet and Tsar: Islam and Empire in Russia and Central Asia (Harvard University Press, 2006). Congratulations to him and his wife Margaret on the birth of Christopher Isidro Flanagan Crews on December 26, 2006.


Terry Emmons (History, Emeritus) received a Mellon Emeriti Grant in the Humanities (one of 17 such grants awarded nationally) for research on the history of Russia in the 20th century as experienced by a (limited) number of individuals, including Vladimir Vernadskii, Kornei Chukovsky, Lidia Chukovskaya, Aleksandr Zinov’ev, and several others. His bibliography of Russian emigre memoirs, 1917-1991 has reached completion with the publication in October 2006 of the index volume IV, part 2: Rossiia i rossiiskiia emigratsiia v vospominaniakh i dnevnikakh: annotirovannyi ukazatel’ knig, zhurnal’nykh i gazetnykh publikatsii, izdannykh za rubezhom v 1917-1991 gg. V 4-kh tomakh. He also edited the posthumous book of his colleague and mentor, UC Berkeley Professor of History, Martin Malia: History’s Locomotives: Revolutions and the Making of the Modern World (Yale University Press, 2006).

Lazar Fleishman (Slavic) recently published several articles and essays on Russian literature, poetry and Boris Pasternak in Russian and English for the Slavic Department.

Grisha Freidin (Slavic) On sabbatical leave (Fall and Winter quarters, AY 06-07) working on a literary biography of Isaac Babel (EDC: 2007). He also prepared The Norton Critical Edition of Isaac Babel’s Writings for publication, due out Summer 07; submitted to Stanford University Press The Enigma of Isaac Babel: Biography, History, Context, a collection of articles by American, Russian, and Israeli scholars, based, in part, on the papers delivered at the International Isaac Babel Conference (Stanford, 2004). Spring 07 he returns to the Slavic Department, IHUM Program, the Program in Modern Thought and Literature, and, as Director of the Program for Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities.


Norman Naimark, Robert and Florence McDonnell Professor in East European Studies, serves as Burke Family Director of the Bing Overseas Studies Program. He has published essays this year on totalitarianism (Telos) and on the issue of rape in the occupation of Germany. He continues to serve on the editorial board of the American Historical Review. In December he gave a paper on totalitarianism and genocide at the final session of the Mass Killing Sawyer Seminar, which he chairs together with Ron Sury at the Center for Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences, at Stanford.


Reviel Netz (Classics) and Maya Arad welcomed their second daughter to their family, on Monday, March 19, 2007.

Anatol Shmelev, Archivist at the Hoover Institution Archives for collections including the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty collections, has edited and written the introductory essay for Tracking a Diaspora: Emigrés from Russia and Eastern Europe in the Repositories, (West Hazleton, PA: The Haworth Information Press, 2006).

Kathryn Stoner-Weiss wrote the “Russia” chapter of Freedom House’s Countries at the Crossroads due out Spring 07, and published an article in the January 2006 Journal of Democracy.
Margarita Akhvlediani International Fellow, John S. Knight Fellow. A journalist from Georgia, she manages 150 journalists from the Caucasus regions, editing articles for the weekly bulletin of IVPR, Caucasus Reporting Service (www.ivpr.net). She also conducts training for local journalists in the post-Soviet Republics of Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, and the North Caucasian regions of Russia including Chechnya to teach them international standards of journalism.

Aslan Doukaev Visiting Scholar, Hoover-Fall 2006, is Radio Free Europe/RFE North Caucasus Service Director. His area of interest is Prague, Caucasus/Chechnya and Russia with expertise in armed conflict and military, current affairs, terrorism, Chechen conflict, and Chechen-Russian relations. He oversees the entire RFE/RL North Caucasus Broadcasting. His current research includes OSCE activities in Chechnya (Conference in the Hague), and prospects of peace in the North Caucasus (Conference in Washington, D.C.). Publications: Project for Foreign Policy Magazine regarding Chechnya's Libraries.


Jovanna Knezevic is Acting Assistant Professor in the History Department (2006-08). She completed her Ph.D dissertation at Yale in 2006, on the topic of “The Austro Hungarian Occupation of Belgrade during the First World War - Battles on the Homefront.” At Stanford she is teaching courses on the history of Yugoslavia and the Balkans, World War I and Nationalism in the Hapsburg Empire.

Jessie Labow PhD Comparative Literature, NYU. 2006-07 Stanford Humanities Fellows Program. For the last two years, Jessie has also been co-organizer of an international project on cross-border publishing, which culminated in the conference “From Samizdat to Tamladta: Dissident Media Crossing Borders Before and After 1989” September, 2006 in Vienna, Austria.

Irina Kuteneva A Fulbright scholar in Education under professor Larry Leifer at the Center for Design Research in the Mechanical Engineering Department. Her current research focuses on the design of tools for learning communities in the field of Mobile Learning. She’s studying the uses of mobile technology with the goal of transferring their benefits from daily life to the distance learning process. She hopes to carry what she learns into the design of tools to support self-organized learning communities.

Boris Labin Humanities and International Studies Faculty Fellow in the Stanford Humanities Center & FSI. He has taught literature and rhetoric in Russia, UK, Japan, Hungary, and the USA. His current position is Head of Literature and Principal Research Professor at the Russian Academy of Education (Moscow). Author of “Symbols of Power and Political Rhetoric” in NIS: The Montage of Attractions in Totalitarian and Post Soviet Culture.

Semon Lyndres is the William C. Bark National Fellow in the 2006-07 Hoover Institution’s Postdoctoral W. Glenn Campbell and Rita Ricardo-Campbell National Fellow Program. He joins us from the History Department of the University of Notre Dame. His research concerns the origins of the Russian Provisional Government and the politics of the 1917 Revolution.

Eugene Mazo was a Short-Term Visiting Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC, in March and April of 2006. He delivered a paper at AAASS in Washington, DC., and he was awarded a grant by the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) and will go to Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, and Moldova during the summer of 2007. Most recently, he started a new job with a local law firm, AND we congratulate him and his wife Gwen on the birth of Maxwell Parker Mazo on February 17, 2007.

Sonja Schmid CISAC Science Fellow and Social Science Research Associate affiliated with the Program in Science, Technology and Society at Stanford. Her areas of interest include: reactor design choices and political legitimacy in the Soviet Union and Russia. Her research has focused on understanding complex decision-making processes at the interface between science, technology, and the state in the Cold War Soviet context; risk communication; and the popularization of science and technology.

She is currently working on a book about reactor design choices and the development of the civilian nuclear industry in the Soviet Union. In addition, she is involved in an international research project on Cold War Technopolitics and Colonialism, where she works on Soviet technology transfer to Central and Eastern Europe. She recently received the 2006 Brook Hindle Fellowship by the Society for the History of Technology.

Martina Winkler Humanities and International Studies Faculty Fellow in the Stanford Humanities Center & FSI. She graduated in history, law and comparative literature in Germany. She completed a dissertation on Czech history, and now focuses on Russian Imperial history. The initial work on her current project on cultures of ownership was done at Stanford, where she spent a year as a Humboldt-fellow at CREEES. Winkler’s book project, Perceptions of Property and Ownership Among the Russian Elite, 18th and 19th Centuries, discusses property and ownership as culturally constructed perceptions in contexts of nationalism, politics, economics and gender, and analyses the radical changes of ownership perception in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Etnomusicologist and folklorist Itzly Zemtsovsky was honored in June 2006 on the occasion of his 70th birthday with an international conference “Folklore and Us: Traditional Culture in the Mirror of Its Perceptions,” at the Russian Institute for the History of the Arts, St. Petersburg. Professor Zemtsovsky himself opened the conference with a paper entitled “Analysis, or the Apology of Love” and Folklorist Dr. Alma Kumanbaeva presented a paper entitled “Folklore, Us, and the Others.” In October 2006, Professor Kumanbaeva took part in the opening of the first Kazakh exhibition in the USA at the Minegi International Museum in San Diego, “Of Gold and Grass: Nomads of Kazakhstan.” Professors Zemtsovsky and Kumanbaeva also participated in a conference and roundtable entitled “Cultural Exchanges Along the Silk Roads,” March 17, 2007, UC Berkeley, and they opened a new cultural and educational center; the Silk Road House, in Berkeley, with Professor Kumanbaeva as its President. In the Spring Itzly is teaching “Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky, Shostakovich, and Beyond: A History of Russian Music” in the Music Department, and Alma is teaching courses in Cultural and Social Anthropology: “Women in Islam: The Central Asian Case,” and “Mythology, Folklore, and Oral Literature of Central Asia.”

http://creees.stanford.edu
Out and About

St. Petersburg and Beyond!

From September 1 to 21, 2006, CREEES Director Nancy Kollmann and Academic Coordinator Jack Kollmann led a group of 16 Stanford undergraduates to St. Petersburg for an Overseas Studies “September Seminar” entitled “St. Petersburg and Beyond.”

This two-unit class introduced students to Russian history and culture through the lens of St. Petersburg; the “beyond” part of the title encapsulated excursions to sites representing pre-Petrine traditional Russian culture, namely the medieval town of Novgorod and the island monastery complex of Valaam in Lake Onega.

The Seminar was a 24/7 immersion experience -- students visited museums and cultural sites from the Piskarevskii Cemetery to the Alexander Nevskii Monastery, attended “Swan Lake” at the Mariinsky Theater, squeezed in lectures and discussions of readings, and were invited to attend the opening ceremonies of the school year at European University, St. Petersburg.

September Overseas Seminar group of undergrads at the palace at Peterhof outside St. Petersburg; NSK at far left.

Stanford in Moscow Overseas Program Fall 2006

Students lived in home stays around the city where they had the opportunity to put into practice what they were learning in their beginning through advanced level language classes. Everyone quickly got used to taking the Metro to get around the city.

Some of the highlights of the trip include guided tours of the Kremlin and Tretiakov Art Gallery, seeing the ballet at the Bolshoi Theater, traveling to St. Petersburg and visiting its many palaces and cathedrals, riding in a horse-drawn sleigh through the snowy town of Suzdal, sightseeing in Europe over Thanksgiving break, and enjoying an elaborate banquet of fine Georgian cuisine.

Moscow was definitely an intensely fun and colorful experience that will not be easily forgotten.

by Larisa Lehmer,
Undergraduate

In autumn of 2006, nineteen Stanford students from a variety of disciplines including Russian Language and Literature, Political Science, Economics, and even Computer Science and Biology found themselves taking classes together at Stanford’s Overseas Campus in Moscow. Students studied at Moscow’s Academy of National Economy under the Russian Federation, taking courses in Russian history, politics, economic policy, and literature from preeminent Russian scholars and senior government officials.

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WINTER 2006-07 ISSUE 15
CELEBRATING JOSEPH FRANK

At the CREEES 2006 Fall Reception, Professor Emeritus on Active Duty Joseph Frank of the Slavic Department was awarded the 2006 Etkind Prize from the European University at St. Petersburg. The prize was awarded in the Best Book by a Western Scholar on Russian Literature/Culture category.

His work entitled Dostoevsky: The Mantle of the Prophet, 1871-1881 (Princeton, 2002) was particularly honored as well as his lifelong achievements in Dostoevsky scholarship. This fifth and final volume of Joseph Frank's justly celebrated literary and cultural biography of Dostoevsky renders with a rare intelligence and grace the last decade of the writer's life, the years in which he wrote A Raw Youth, Diary of a Writer, and his crowning triumph: The Brothers Karamazov. Slavic Department Chair Monika Greenleaf presented Professor Frank with the award plaque and statuette.