



REES NEWS

University of Pittsburgh, Spring 2009
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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Although the academic year is ending on notes of financial unease in the University and in UCIS, I have a number of positive programmatic developments to report.

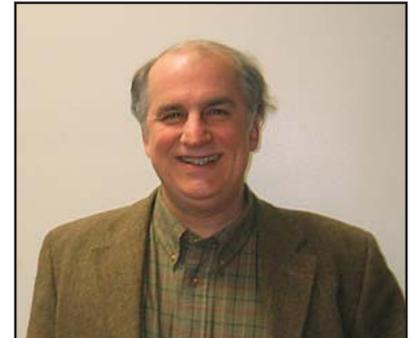
First, I am immensely pleased that the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies will transfer its headquarters from Harvard to the University of Pittsburgh during the next academic year—details are now being worked out. AAASS will join the company of the national headquarters of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) and the European Union Studies Association (EUSA) in Bellefield Hall. The presence of the headquarters of three national area studies associations is

a mark of the importance given to international studies by the highest levels of Pitt's administration. I expect a number of tangible benefits to our programs to derive from the transfer of AAASS to Pitt, and will report on the possibilities as they develop.

The AAASS move is the result of more than three years of effort on my part, with crucial assistance from Bob Donnorummo and Eileen O'Malley in REES and also from the UCIS leadership, first William Brustein and Glema Burke, and now Larry Feick and Rose Wooten. Larry and Rose were especially important in the final stages of negotiations between AAASS and Pitt, and all of us owe them a great many thanks.

We have other successes to report. Vera Sebulsky has been so effective in her new position as REES undergraduate advisor that 16 students have signed up for Bob Donnorummo's summer study abroad program

...From the Director continued on next page



Robert Hayden



The Carpathian Music Ensemble, directed by Professor Adriana Helbig, takes the stage. Read more on pages 3 and 6.

From the Director Cont'd

to Prague and Krakow. Since student commitments to study abroad programs are dropping nationally, it is noteworthy that our program has attracted more students than we have seen in many years.

We have also begun what we hope will be a continuing relationship with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. To enhance PSO performances of symphonies by Brahms and Dvorak, in February REES and the European Studies Center/European Union Center of Excellence provided materials for lobby displays on Vienna as the late nineteenth century capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. We also arranged to have a pre-concert lecture given by Reinhard Heinisch and an intermission performance by a tambouritza group. In April, Anna Nisnevich of our Music Department hosted a symposium on Rachmaninoff in conjunction with the PSO's Rachmaninoff festival, while the Film Studies program, and specifically Vladimir Padunov, sponsored a showing of films by David Lean and Werner Herzog that used Rachmaninoff's second piano concerto in their soundtracks. (David Lean and Werner

Herzog? Now THAT is truly an odd couple.) Since the PSO is one of the most important cultural institutions in Pittsburgh, we hope to develop more ideas that will bring our academic work into conjunction with their programming and other activities. Emilia Zankina has taken on the main responsibility for this connection, as one of the new directions that she is taking us as REES Associate Director.

Finally, let me end with two notes on the financial environment in which we are now operating. UCIS, and thus REES, have been forced to make cuts in our hard money budgets in the current and upcoming fiscal years. We are working hard to ensure that the cuts cause as little damage to our activities as possible, while also searching for new streams of revenue. As it happens, one of our most important revenue sources, the Title VI National Resource Center and FLAS program, is up for renewal later this year. We think that our center should be at least as competitive as we have been for the past three Title VI competitions, but we also know that more universities will be applying for the funds. We are thus already engaged in putting together our Title VI proposal, and especially the supporting documents. With this in mind, please anticipate receiving requests from REES for updated CVs and perhaps other information on your activities. We do this not to bother you, but because this information is truly important for the success of the Title VI proposal that is so vital to the professional activities of our faculty and students.

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Electronic Newsletter



If you would prefer to receive the *REES News* electronically, please let us know by sending your request, along with your name and e-mail address, to crees@pitt.edu.

From that point, you will receive an email with a link to the most recent edition of the *REES News*, which can be viewed as a PDF file. You can access topics in the table of contents, email addresses, and web addresses by clicking on the respective hyperlink. As always, thank you for your continued interest in the *REES News*.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: ADRIANA HELBIG

REES is very pleased to welcome Adriana Helbig, who joined Pitt's Department of Music as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2008, to our affiliated faculty.



Adriana Helbig

Professor Helbig grew up among a Ukrainian-American community in New Jersey. She completed her bachelor's degree in German and Music at Drew University, then completed her master's and doctoral degrees in Ethnomusicology at Columbia University. Beginning in 2001-02, she traveled to Roma villages in Ukraine, and then to the city of Uzhhorod in the Trans-Carpathian region, to conduct research for her dissertation, titled "Music as Political Resource in the Roma Rights Movement in Ukraine." During this time, she also worked for a Roma newspaper, "Romani Yag" ("Roma Fire"), and assisted a local non-governmental organization with writing grant proposals for Roma rights initiatives. Her dissertation examined how Romani NGOs worked to change popular perceptions of Roma in Ukraine by using music to draw awareness to Romani political agendas.

Professor Helbig also has worked on parallel projects concerning the revival of Ukrainian musical culture during the post-Soviet period, and particularly the development of hip-hop and the role of African migrants within the contemporary music scene in Kharkiv, Ukraine. She is currently working on a book project, *Hip-Hop Revolution: Music, Race and Class in Ukraine*, for which she has received a Short-Term Travel Grant from IREX, a Collaborative Research Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and a Postdoctoral Advanced Research Fellowship from the American Councils for International Education. The NEH award funded collaborative work with three ethnomusicologists in Ukraine. Professor Helbig has been awarded a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship by the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars to continue working on her hip-hop music project at the Kennan Institute in Summer 2009. In Fall 2009, she will be one of the first internal Fellows of the new Center for the Humanities at the University of Pittsburgh. The book that is under development through these funding sources will be the first one published on popular music in Ukraine within the field of cultural studies.

In addition, Professor Helbig recently published a book

entitled *Culture and Customs of Ukraine* (Greenwood Press, 2009), which drew upon her general research and fieldwork experience in the country. She worked on this book as part of a three-person team with Oksana Buranbaeva and Vanja Mladineo through their mutual connection with the Harriman Institute at Columbia University, where Professor Helbig was the Petro Jacyk Visiting Professor in Ukrainian Studies in Spring 2007. She also held a Visiting Assistant Professor position at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2007-08.

Since she arrived at the University of Pittsburgh, in addition to courses in the Music Department, Professor Helbig has directed the new Carpathian Music Ensemble at Pitt. The ensemble, which includes 20 students, uses several nontraditional instruments and explores new fusion musical genres that are now emerging throughout Eastern Europe. Students can participate on either a credit or noncredit basis, and they have the opportunity to improvise on traditional and popular melodies rather than use orchestrated music. Although the ensemble performs songs in various languages, including Romany, Macedonian, Slovak, and Latvian, its members are not required either to have a background in Slavic languages or to be music majors. The group uses instruments drawn from the Carpathian mountain region, Turkey, and the Balkans.

Professor Helbig has directed the Carpathian Music Ensemble at several concerts this year. The ensemble performed and led dancing lessons at a Slavic Dance Party on the Pitt campus in December 2008, and in March 2009 they held concerts at "Your Inner Vagabond" in Lawrenceville and at the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium. The latter concert included 20 songs from eight countries, as well as singing lessons for the audience. On April 9, 2009, the ensemble performed at the "East European Gala," which was co-sponsored by REES, the Study Abroad Office, and the Russian, Slovak and Ukrainian student clubs.

Professor Helbig also has taught courses on "Introduction to World Music," "Global Hip-Hop," and "Music, Culture and Technology" at Pitt so far, and in 2009-10 she will teach "Music of the Ottoman Empire," which will include discussions of music in the Balkans and Central Asia. She reported that she enjoys living in Pittsburgh, and she especially appreciates the presence of local klezmer and Gypsy music scenes.

FACULTY NEWS

Nancy Condee (Slavic Languages and Literatures) gave talks in October 2008 at the Columbia University Society of Fellows in the Humanities and Harriman Institute at the research symposium *Screened Sexuality: Desire in Russian, Soviet, and Post-Soviet Cinema* (“Rape and Camera Work: Mikhail Kalatozov’s *Cranes are Flying*”) and at the School of Slavonic Studies, University College London (“Russian Film at 100: Art-House Identity and the State’s Autobiography”). She also presented a paper on “State Death and Family Intimacy: Mikhalkov’s Official *Narodnost*” at the AAASS conference in November 2008.

The volume *Antinomies of Art and Culture: Modernity, Postmodernity, Contemporaneity* (Duke, 2008), which Professor Condee co-edited with Terry Smith and Okwui Enwezor, appeared in December 2008. This volume includes her article, “From Emigration to E-migration: Contemporaneity and the Former Second World.” Her other recent publications include: “The State Face: The Empire’s Televisual Imagination” in Birgit Beumers, Stephen Hutchings, and Natalya Rulyova, eds., *The Post-Soviet Russian Media: Power, Change, and Conflicting Messages* (Routledge, 2008); “The Modern after Postmodernity? Victor Erlich, Slavic Studies, Modernism” in *Slavic and East European Journal* 52:1; “Ponty patriotov kak skrytaia reklama: chto uvideli inostrannye uchennye, posmotrev na sovremennoe rossiiskoe kino?” (with **Vladimir Padunov**) in *Novaia gazeta* 55:16; and a review of Victor Erlich’s *Child of a Turbulent Century* in *Slavic and East European Journal* 52:2.

Professor Condee’s recent professional activities include election to the AATSEEL presidency for a two-year term (2011-2012) and election to the AAASS Board of Directors for a three-year term (2009-2011). Also, UCIS has appointed her for a three-year term as Academic Director of the Pitt Multi-region Academic Program (Pitt MAP) in 2008-2011. She continues to participate in the Oxford University

(New College) Research Network *Russian National Identity since 1961: Traditions and Deterritorialisation*, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK, 2007-2009); and participated as a committee member on the University College London *viva* for Christina Felicitas Ezrahi (School of Slavonic and East European Studies), whose Ph.D. dissertation, “Artistic Autonomy and the Soviet Cultural Project: The Kirov and Bolshoi Ballet Companies, 1853-1968,” was defended in October 2008 under the direction of Alena Ledeneva. Locally, Professor Condee works as a consultant to the Andy Warhol Museum for the Warhol Timeweb Project (2006-) and is a member of the Pittsburgh 250 Celebration Committee with the Presidents of the Heinz Endowments, Buhl Foundation and Pittsburgh Symphony; the Executive Editor of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*; and the Director of the Andy Warhol Museum.



Jane Harris attending an International Congress of Gerontologists in St. Petersburg, Russia.

“Myth and Reality: Aging and the Elderly in Russia Today”; as well as a paper at the 8th Aleksanteri Conference on “Gender, Welfare, and Agency” at the University of Helsinki, Finland, entitled “Serving the Elderly in Russia Today: A Micro-level Observational and Exploratory Account of the Current State of Social Services in St. Petersburg (2005-2008).”

Jonathan Harris’s (Political Science) book, *The Split in Stalin’s Secretariat: 1939-1948*, was published by Lexington Books in 2008. This book analyzes the fundamental conflict over the role of Party officials in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union during the 1940s.

Reinhard Heinisch (Political Science) has two forthcoming publications: “Unremarkably Remarkable, Remarkably Unremarkable: Schüssel as Austria’s Foreign Policymaker in a Time of Transition” in *The Schüssel Years in Austria*, Volume XVIII of Contemporary Austrian Studies, eds. Fritz Plasser and Günter

In the summer of 2008, **Jane Harris** (Slavic Languages and Literatures) conducted research in St. Petersburg on the Complex Centers of Social Services and Informal Service networks. In the fall of 2008, she presented a paper at the AAASS conference, entitled

Bischof (Transaction); and "AUSTRIA: Social Policy Reform in the Era of Integration and Rising Populism" in *Social Policy in the New Europe*, ed. Gary Cohen (Berghahn Books).

Ronald Linden (Political Science) has been awarded a Transatlantic Academy Fellowship for the 2009-2010 academic year. The Transatlantic Academy is a partnership of the German Marshall Fund (GMF) of the United States, the Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius ZEIT Stiftung, the Robert Bosch Stiftung, and the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation. The GMF offers only four senior awards, plus two junior awards, to create a team to work in Washington on a specific theme. Next year's theme is "Turkey and Its Neighbors." Professor Linden was chosen for one of the senior positions, along with two Turks and one dual-national. His work on Turkey has been aided by two EUCE faculty fellowships, which facilitated travel to Turkey and made possible a grant last year from the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research.

Irina Livezeanu (History) taught a new graduate seminar in Fall 2008 on "Gender, Sexuality & Nationalism in the Modern World," together with her colleague, **Martha Chaiklin**. They received a Women's Studies Center Course Development Grant to work on the course and to bring in a speaker, **Mary Neuburger** from the University of Texas, who spoke on the gendered history of tobacco and smoking in Bulgaria. Professor Livezeanu was also the convener of the History Department's European Colloquium, which hosted four speakers from Pitt and other institutions.

In November 2008, Professor Livezeanu traveled to Philadelphia to attend the AAASS convention, where she chaired the panel "Moving People and Borders: World War II in Eastern Europe" and attended the board meeting of the Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS). She also served on the AWSS Zirin Prize committee, which makes awards to independent scholars (this year's award went to Pavla Frýdlová, co-founder of the Prague Gender Studies Centre and author of *FrauenFilme in Osteuropa*), and on the Barbara Jelavich Prize committee of the AAASS (this year's award went to Deborah R. Coen for *Vienna in the Age of Uncertainty: Science, Liberalism, and Private Life*, University of Chicago Press). Both prizes were presented during the 2008 AAASS conference.

Professor Livezeanu's new publications are: "Cosmopolitanism și avangarda românească," in Mircea Martin, ed., *Conferințele "Cuvântul": Identitate românească-identitate europeană*, Bucharest: Ed. Cuvântul și Fundația Amfiteatru, 2008, vol. 1 (with Andreea Deciu-Ritivoi), and two pieces in the Moldovan journal *Interstitio: East European Review of Historical Anthropology*, vol.

1, no. 2 (registered date December 2007; actually published in December 2008). These two pieces are: "On Memory, History, and Identity in Bessarabia and Beyond" (with Jennifer Cash), and "Nationalism and Internationalism in Moldova, 1917-1990." Professor Livezeanu and **Jennifer Cash** (a former faculty member in Pitt's Department of Anthropology and REES staff member) had organized the conference "Memory, History, and Identity in Bessarabia and Beyond" at Pitt in October 2005, with REES as a co-sponsor. A grouping of the papers originally presented at that conference was published in this issue of *Interstitio*.

In October 2008, **Svitlana Maksymenko** (Economics) presented a paper entitled "Do Economic Reforms and Human Capital Explain Post-Reform Growth?" at the 31st Annual Meeting of the NorthEastern Association for Business, Economics and Technology in State College, PA. She also chaired a session at this conference. In addition, Professor Maksymenko won a small grant from Pitt's Office of Experiential Learning to support her students' undergraduate teaching experiences.

John Markoff (Sociology/History/Political Science) published "Contentious Politics and Liberal Democracies" in *Kasarinlan: Philippine Journal of Third World Studies* 23(1), 2008. With collaborators María-José Alvarez and Verónica Montecinos, he presented research on transnational connections among think tanks at the meetings of the Society for the Advancement of Socioeconomics in San José, Costa Rica. In September 2008, Professor Markoff participated in a roundtable discussion at a conference on "The Origins of Democracy in the Americas" at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at Notre Dame. In October, he commented on Jackie Smith's research on transnational social movements at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at Notre Dame. In November, he gave several lectures in Spain on the theme of social movements, democracy and citizenship.

STUDENT NEWS

Undergraduate Students

Laura Czarnek (Computer Science) received the Polish Room Committee Scholarship through the Nationality Rooms Program to study Polish language and culture through the Kosciuszko Foundation at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.

Patrik Suwak (Biology) wrote, "I was born in Slovakia and lived there for six years. I am fluent in Czech and Slovak, and I return to southern Slovakia for a few months almost every summer... I am currently employed by LLE-LINK interpreting and translating services as a telephonic interpreter for the Czech and Slovak to English languages."

Undergraduate Research Symposium

Congratulations to REES certificate program students **Daniel Gore** (Political Science/History) and **Jeff Reamer** (History/Philosophy), who won first prizes on the "Post-Communist Transitions" and "Literature and Biography" panels, respectively, at "Europe: East and West" Undergraduate Research Symposium 2009. Please see **Center News** (page 10) for more information on the Symposium.

Internship Awards

The following students received REES Undergraduate Internship awards for Spring 2009: **Sarah Adams** (Russian) to work with Catholic Charities, **Catherine Bohner** (Anthropology) to work with Magee Womencare International, and **Michael Kohlbrenner** (Film Studies) to work with the Russian Film Symposium. REES Undergraduate Internship Awards provide an opportunity for REES Undergraduate Certificate Program students with foreign language skills to participate in internship experiences in Russian and East European Studies. For information on applying for an award for Fall 2009, please contact **Vera Sebulsky** at (412) 648-7418 or ved5@pitt.edu.

Summer Study Abroad Awards

The following REES Undergraduate Certificate students were awarded REES Summer Study Abroad Awards for 2009: **Melissa Babitz**

East European Gala

Pitt's Ukrainian, Slovak, and Russian student clubs, along with REES and the Study Abroad Office, presented the East European Gala on the evening of April 9, 2009. This event featured the Carpathian Music Ensemble led by Professor Adriana Helbig, the Bulgarian Folk Ensemble "Otets Paissii," East European cuisine, and information on study abroad programs.



Top: left, an array of East European cuisine; right, learning traditional dances. Bottom: left, performing for a full house; right, members of the Carpathian Music Ensemble play for the audience.

(Linguistics), **Tyler Conrad** (Politics and Philosophy), **Jay Evick** (Russian), **Deirdre Ruscitti** (History and English Writing), **Samantha Reabe** (Political Science and Communications), and **Dana Stiles** (History and Political Science). In addition, the following students received tuition assistance to participate in REES's Prague/Krakov Integrated Field Trip Abroad program in May 2009: **David Cristello** (Psychology), **Lisa Dibas** (English Literature), **Melissa Gibson** (History), **Jessica Lipp** (Philosophy and Economics), **Sumir Pandit** (History), **Brandy Ringer** (Political Science and Philosophy), and **Sara Wozniak** (History and Anthropology). For information on applying for an award to study abroad in the REES world area in Summer 2010, please contact **Vera Sebulsky** at (412) 648-7418 or ved5@pitt.edu.

Graduate Students

The following graduate students received scholarships through the University of Pittsburgh's Nationality Rooms Program to support study or research in the REES world area in Summer 2009:

Joel Brady (Religious Studies) received the Eugene Manasterski Memorial Award to research transnationalism resulting from conversions from the Greek Catholic to the Greek Orthodox religion between 1890 and 1914 in L'viv, Ukraine.

Boryana Dobрева (German) received the Austrian Room Committee Grant to research identity development in the Eastern European and Balkan diasporas in Vienna, Austria.

Kerry Ann Fraas (Law) received the Eugene Manasterski Memorial Grant

DECEMBER 2008 AND APRIL 2009

REES GRADUATES

Congratulations to the following students, who completed the requirements to receive a REES Certificate in Fall 2008:

Undergraduate Certificates

Natalia Arutynov • Stacie Cifrulak • McKenzie O'Brien • Adam Plutecki
Tiffany Smith • Eliz Tchakarian • Todor Toromanov

Graduate Certificates

Julie Draskoczy

Also congratulations to these students, who are to receive their REES Certificates in Spring 2009:

Undergraduate Certificates

Sarah Adams • Caitlin Arndt • Hannah Bergman • Olga Bugera
James Dzuricky • Molly Exten • Aliyah Furman • Stephen Grebinski
Amanda Gregg • Janice Hamilton • Yuriy Margolin • Aleksandr Permyashkin
Justin Wass • Elana Woolf • Sonia Zakharenko

Graduate Certificates

Samantha Hryciuk • Olga Klimova • Michelle Kuhn • Daniel Pellathy

to participate in a legal internship and research "rule of law" at Kyiv-Mohyla University in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Izabel Anca Galliera (Art History) received the Hungarian Room Committee Grant (Dr. Samuel Gomory/ Joseph Arvay Memorial Award) to research artist Miklos Erhardt and the "Big Hope" project to determine ways that art can intervene in sensitive social conditions in Budapest, Hungary.

Mary Kovacik (Anthropology/Public Health) received the Stanley Prostrednik Grant to analyze the bones found in mass graves for identification purposes in Zagreb, Croatia.

Deborah Rogers (History) received the Hungarian Room Committee Scholarship (Dr. Samuel Gomory/ Joseph Arvay Memorial Award) to research the ways in which 19th century Hungarian cooking contributed to national identity in Budapest, Hungary.

Melissa Stauffer (Occupational Therapy) received the Greek Room Committee Scholarship to participate in an internship with The Silva Project and research equine-assisted occupational therapy in Corfu, Greece.

For information about the annual Nationality Rooms Summer Study Abroad Scholarship Program, please visit www.ucis.pitt.edu/natrooms.

CENTER NEWS

First Annual Graduate Student Eurasian Archaeology Workshop

On January 24-25, 2009, the workshop “Taking Small Steps: Conducting Archaeological Research in Eurasia” was held at Pitt. This workshop was supported by REES, the Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization, the Department of Anthropology, and the Anthropology Graduate Student Fund. The organizers included Professor **Bryan Hanks** and graduate students **James Johnson** and **Alicia Ventresca** (all in Anthropology). Students and scholars of Eurasian archeology from institutions throughout the US gathered to present their current research and to participate in roundtable discussions on problems affecting their field of inquiry. The working group from this event intends to continue to meet annually in order to reinforce the cross-institutional ties that were formed among participants in this workshop.

Sixth Annual GOSECA/REES Graduate Student Conference

The Graduate Organization for the Study of Europe and Central Asia (GOSECA) and REES presented the sixth annual Graduate Student Conference, “Ties that Bind and Ties that Divide: Cultural, Economic and Political Linkages in Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia,” on February 20-22, 2009. The keynote address, “Thinking About 1989,” was delivered by Professor Emeritus **Gale Stokes** of Rice University.

Pitt faculty members who served as panel discussants at the conference included **William Chase** (History), **Bob Donnorummo** (History), **Helena Goscilo** (Slavic Languages and Literatures), **Jonathan Harris** (Political Science), **Svitlana Maksymenko** (Economics), **Patrick Manning** (History), **Paul Nelson** (Public and International Affairs), and **Emilia Zankina** (REES Associate Director). Papers were presented by 26 graduate students from 16 U.S. universities, including Pitt students **Carrie Cecil** (Law), **Daniel Pellathy** (Public and International Affairs/Business), and **Lyudmila**

Sanina (Public and International Affairs). The conference was organized by a committee of REES graduate students, headed by **Samantha Hryciuk** (Public and International Affairs). **Bob Donnorummo** and **Emilia Zankina** of REES served as faculty advisors. Financial support for the conference was provided by Pitt’s Graduate and Professional Student Assembly.



Top: Gale Stokes addresses those gathered for the 6th annual GOSECA conference. Bottom: Paul Nelson of GSPIA (right) joins his fellow panelists

Eighth Annual “Europe: East and West” Undergraduate Research Symposium

REES and the European Studies Center/European Union Center of Excellence (ESC/EUCE) sponsored the eighth annual “Europe: East and West, Undergraduate Research Symposium” on March 27, 2009. The Symposium is an opportunity for undergraduate students interested in Europe or Russia to improve their academic writing and presentation skills and participate in an event modeled on a graduate-level conference.

At the 2009 Symposium, 24 students from seven different campuses (Bethany College, Dickinson College, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, the University of Pittsburgh at Oakland, Washington and Jefferson College, and West Virginia Wesleyan College) presented their research papers. The students were placed on six panels according to their paper topics, and each panel was judged by two faculty members and/or doctoral candidates. The student on each panel whose paper and presentation were scored most highly received a \$300 cash prize. The names of the panel winners are posted at www.ucis.pitt.edu/ursymposium.

Prior to the Symposium, interested students submitted abstracts of

their papers (most of which had been written for a class in the spring or fall of 2008) to be reviewed by a faculty selection committee in February 2009. Those students who were selected to participate worked with their professors or a member of the Symposium staff to polish their papers and oral presentation skills in the months leading up to the event. A dinner was held for all participants on March 26 with a keynote address by Dr. **Kenneth Thompson**, Associate Director for Medical Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Public Health, University of Pittsburgh.

We would like to thank those REES faculty members who served as panel judges or on the selection committee for the 2009 Symposium: **Bob Donnorummo** (History), **Pinar Emiralioglu** (History), **Jonathan Harris** (Political Science), **Adriana Helbig** (Music), **Ronald Linden** (Political Science), **Svitlana Maksymenko** (Economics), and **Tony Novosel** (History), as well as **Olga Klimova** (doctoral student in Slavic Languages and Literatures) and **Emilia Zankina** (REES Associate Director). **Brandon Boylan**, a doctoral student in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, assisted REES with organizing the Symposium and helping the students to revise their papers.

The next Undergraduate Research Symposium will take place in Spring 2010, and REES would like to encourage faculty members who teach undergraduates to share information on the Symposium with their students. If you have questions about any aspect of the event, please contact **Gina Peirce** at (412) 648-2290 or gbpeirce@pitt.edu, or **Vera Sebulsky** at (412) 648-7418 or ved5@pitt.edu. Extensive information is also available on the Symposium website at www.ucis.pitt.edu/ursymposium.

Collaboration with Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra

REES and Pitt's European Studies Center collaborated with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra on two February 2009 performances of Brahms' *Piano Concerto No. 1* and Dvorak's *Symphony No. 8*. A lecture on the Austro-Hungarian Empire by Professor **Reinhard Heinisch** (Political Science) preceded the concerts. REES and ESC also consulted with the PSO on the production of informational panels on the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which were displayed in the Heinz Hall lobby during the concerts, as well as arranging a performance by a Central European gypsy dance company.

In addition, REES collaborated with the PSO and Pitt's Department of Music to present the conference "Music, Memory and Nostalgia: Rediscovering the Music of Rachmaninoff," which took place concurrently with the first weekend of the PSO's Rachmaninoff

Festival on April 4–5, 2009. This conference was organized by Professor **Anna Nisnevich** (Music), with events held at Heinz Hall and on the University of Pittsburgh campus. For more information, please visit www.pittsburghsymphony.org/pghsymph.nsf/web/rachfestconference.html.

Eleventh Annual Russian Film Symposium

The eleventh annual Russian Film Symposium, "The New 'Positive Hero': Masculinity and Genre in Recent Russian Cinema," will take place on May 4–9, 2009 at the University of Pittsburgh and the Melwood Screening Room of Pittsburgh Filmmakers. At the center of this year's Symposium is an examination of the interrelationship of two recent, seemingly unrelated developments in the Russian film industry: the emergence of genre cinema and the reconfiguration of masculinity on-screen. Russian screens for the past decade have presented viewers with a wide array of genre films: adaptations, historical and costume dramas, melodramas, romantic comedies, buddy films, re-makes, war films, social satires, etc. This emergence of genre cinema, in turn (or rather in tandem), has resulted in a more nuanced representation of masculinity on-screen. Genre conventions are quite inflexible; as a consequence, the representation of masculinity (as with all characterization) has to be tailored to the genre.

The Symposium will screen and discuss twelve recent Russian films: Aleksei Balabanov's *Morphia* (2008), Bakur Bakuradze's *Shutes* (2008), Mikhail Kalatozishvili's *Wild Field* (2008), and Nikita Mikhalkov's *12* (2007) at Pittsburgh Filmmakers; Aleksei German Jr.'s *Paper Soldier* (2008), Sergei Mokritskii's *Four Ages of Love* (2008), Vladimir Kott's *The Fly* (2008), Aleksandr Proshkin's *Live and Remember* (2008), Katia Shagalova's *Once Upon a Time in the Provinces* (2008), Karen Shakhnazarov's *The Vanished Empire* (2008), Andrei Khrzhanovskii's *Room and a Half* (2009), and Aleksei Uchitel's *Captive* (2008)

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Center News Cont'd

on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh. For the complete Russian Film Symposium schedule, please visit www.rusfilm.pitt.edu/2009.



The annual Russian Film Symposium is organized by Professors **Vladimir Padunov** and **Nancy Condee** (Slavic Languages and Literatures), together with several graduate students and a REES-sponsored undergraduate intern. The Symposium hosts film critics and internationally recognized scholars from Russia, Europe, and the United States. The 2009 event is

co-sponsored by REES, the Slavic Department, the Film Studies Program, the Graduate Program for Cultural Studies, and Pittsburgh Filmmakers.

Collaboration with Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre

REES is collaborating with the Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre to arrange two panel discussions to accompany April–May 2009 performances of Tom Stoppard's play *Rock-N-Roll*, as well as several short plays by former Czech President Václav Havel. Several members of the REES faculty and staff will participate

in the panel discussions, which will explore the political, economic, and artistic contexts of these plays. *Rock-N-Roll* deals with events in Czechoslovakia between the 1968 Prague Spring and the 1989 Velvet Revolution. For more information, please visit www.picttheatre.org.

European Sources Online Database

The University of Pittsburgh Library System (ULS) recently subscribed to European Sources Online (ESO). ESO is an online database that provides access to information on the institutions and activities of the EU; the countries, regions, and other international organizations of Europe; and issues of importance to European citizens and stakeholders. ESO provides access to thousands of expertly selected, well-known and less well-known websites, documents, and publications from the EU and other international organizations, national governments, think tanks, and stakeholder organizations, along with working papers, full-text articles from the authoritative news sources *Financial Times* and *European Voice*, and a series of unique "Information Guides on the EU." ESO can be accessed through the ULS home page by clicking on the Faculty Express link, then Databases by Title, then European Sources Online. Alternately, ESO can be accessed directly at the ESO website at www.europeansources.info.

VISITING SCHOLARS

REES is hosting two visitors during the Spring 2009 term through the Junior Faculty Development Program of the American Councils on International Education. **Jasenska Gudelj**, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Art History at the University of Zagreb, Croatia, obtained her Ph.D. in the history of architecture at the Instituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia in 2008. Her main fields of interest are the history of Renaissance art and architecture, the classical tradition and urban history. She has co-edited two books, *Costruire il dispositivo storico: tra fonti e strumenti* (with P. Nicolini), Milano, 2006, and *Renesansa i renesanse u umjetnosti Hrvatske* (Renaissance and Renascences in Croatia, with P. Marković), Zagreb, 2008. Jasenska is currently preparing a publication on Renaissance perceptions of the antiquities of Pula, which is based on her dissertation.

The other Junior Faculty Development Program Fellow in residence at Pitt this spring, **Ana Nikodijevic**, is an

instructor in the Department of Management at the Faculty of Organizational Sciences, University of Belgrade, Serbia. She specializes in the field of e-Business Law. Ana has co-authored a book, *Guide to Public Participation in Environmental Protection* (2007), and has presented at a number of international conferences pertaining to public administration and the uses of electronic media in fields including government, education, law and commerce.

Angelantonio Rosato is also spending the spring semester at Pitt as a Fulbright-Schuman Research Scholar, affiliated with both REES and the European Studies Center/European Union Center of Excellence. He resides in Rome, where he works as an independent journalist and analyst specializing in issues of energy security and relations among the European Union, the US, Russia and Central Asia. Angelantonio is also a Research Fellow at the Italian Military Centre for Strategic Studies and the Centro Studi Politici Internazionali in Rome.

Visiting Scholars Cont'd

Zilka Spahic-Siljak of the Center for Interdisciplinary Post-Graduate Studies at the University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, is a visiting professor who is teaching two courses this term in Pitt's Department of Religious Studies, "Women in Religion" and "Marriage Life and Sexual Ethics in Islam." She is a human rights and Islamic feminist scholar, researcher and activist with more than ten years' experience in the public and non-governmental sectors. Recently she has conducted two major projects: "In-depth Study on Domestic Violence" and "Women, Religion and Politics: Exploring the Impact of Religious Interpretations of Judaism, Christianity and Islam on Women's Status in Public Life and Politics." She has worked with international human rights organizations on issues of women's rights, intercultural dialogue and reconciliation.

Slobodan Naumovic is also a visiting professor who is teaching two courses in Pitt's Department of Anthropology this term, "Cultures and Societies of Eastern Europe" and "Visual Anthropology: A Glass Eye on the Balkans." Dr. Naumovic teaches in the Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy, Belgrade University, Serbia. He is also a Senior Research Fellow of the NEXUS Project. His research interests include the ethnography of Serbia, political anthropology, historical anthropology, visual anthropology, and internet culture. Among his publications are *Between the Archives and the Field: A Dialogue on Historical Anthropology of the Balkans* and "Identity Creator in Identity Crisis: Reflections on the Politics of Serbian Ethnology," *Anthropological Journal on European Cultures* (vol. 8, no. 2, 1999).

Correction: The Fall 2008 issue of *REES News* incorrectly stated the professional title of **Dusan Repovs**, who was hosted at Pitt in September 2008. His correct title is Professor of Geometry and Topology at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia.

ALUMNI NEWS

Alexander Bielicki (B.A., Anthropology, 2006) started a research fellowship position at the University of Oslo on February 1. The position is part of a research project titled, "Red-Letter Days in Transition: Calendric Public Rituals as an Expression of Identity; Central Europe and the Balkans, 1985 to Present." Alexander's research focuses on the multiple religious and national interpretations of present-day Slovak Catholic pilgrimages, building upon the master's thesis work that he completed at Central European University in 2008.

Karla Huebner (Ph.D., History of Art and Architecture, 2008) defended her dissertation on December 8. In the spring of 2009, she is teaching a seminar at Pitt on Czech Modernism and will give a talk on the Czech surrealists and transgressive eroticism in Manchester, England in April. She has a chapter, "Girl, Trampka, nebo Žába? The Czechoslovak New Woman," appearing in *The New Woman International: Representations in Photography and Film, 1890s – 1930s* (University of Michigan Press), anticipated for 2010.

Veli Kreci (MPIA, Public and International Affairs, 2005) is currently a full-time Lecturer in the Public Administration and Political Science Department at South East European University (Macedonia). He is also a Founding Council Member of Analytica, a non-profit, non-partisan institution dedicated to helping individuals and institutions with the aim to foster lasting improvement in democracy and governance in Macedonia and elsewhere in the region of South Eastern Europe. Analytica is a unique institution, as both a public policy research organization and a "think tank". It draws solutions to contemporary problems from the ideas, principles and traditions that make Macedonia such an important historical and geopolitical place. It is dedicated to promoting greater cooperation and understanding among the people in Macedonia and more widely in the region of Southeastern Europe.

Simona Popa (Ph.D., Education, 2007) wrote, "I am still working for the UNESCO International Bureau of Education, in Geneva (but I do most of my work from home, wherever that might be, and travel quite often to Switzerland). I am also teaching for Drexel University in Philadelphia, and from January on, I will be a visiting scholar at... Pitt. We cannot wait to return to Pittsburgh. Tibi will be a visiting professor in the spring, and we decided to join him."

...Alumni News continued on next page

Alexander Prokhorov (Ph.D., Slavic Languages and Literatures, 2002), an Associate Professor of Russian in the Modern Languages and Literatures Department at the College of William and Mary, won the Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award in 2008 and was one of five faculty members at the College who received the Alumni Fellowship Award from the William and Mary Alumni Association.

Zak Shusterman (J.D., Law, 2005) started his own law practice in 2008. He focuses on intellectual property and business law matters, while devoting a significant amount of time to pro bono work for artists and community organizations.

Maksym Sysoiev (LL.M., Law, 2008) proudly reported to REES that he passed the New York state bar exam. He also wrote, "I keep working on different projects at the international law firm Gide

Loyrette Nouel. Presently, I am involved in handling different international matters related to construction work, corporate, energy and taxation law... Furthermore, I was invited to participate in the so-called 'working group' which will prepare the draft of amendments to the Ukrainian laws on production sharing agreements. I was especially pleased that I got personal invitations from directors of Shell and Vanco Energy's subsidiaries in Ukraine after my participation in the initial conference devoted to the draft prepared by the Ministry of Economy."

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS



REES will send students abroad on several programs in our world area during the upcoming summer and academic year. This will be the fourth year of the field trip abroad entitled "Czech Republic and Poland: Impact of European Union and Globalization." Led by REES Associate Director **Bob Donnorummo**, this program will bring a group of Pitt undergraduates to Prague and Krakow for two and a half weeks in May 2009 to examine current political, cultural and economic developments in the new European Union member states through daily lectures, meetings with local scholars and officials, and field trips to sites of interest in the region. The program will be hosted by the Dartmore Institute for Central European Studies in Prague.



Top: Bob Donnorummo with students during the 2008 study abroad trip to Prague, Czech Republic and Krakow, Poland; Bottom: Old Town Square, Prague (Patrick Suwak)

REES also offers a semester study abroad opportunity at the American University in Bulgaria (AUBG) for Pitt undergraduate students. **Leah Rosin** (Biological Sciences) spent the Fall 2008 term at AUBG, and **Sarina Forester** (Anthropology) plans to study there during the Fall 2009 term. AUBG offers courses in English in a wide variety of academic fields, at a tuition rate that is significantly lower than the cost of tuition at Pitt. Expenses for housing and meals are also very reasonable. For more information on either the Prague/Krakow or AUBG study abroad program, please contact **Vera Sebulsky** at (412) 648-7418 or ved5@pitt.edu.

Finally, in 2009 the annual Slavic and East European Summer Language Institute (SLI) will again conduct its highly successful language-based study abroad programs in Moscow, Russia; Lodz, Poland; Sofia, Bulgaria; and Modra, Slovakia. All of these SLI courses involve several weeks of study in Pittsburgh, followed by an immersion program in the target country. Also, the "Advanced Mastery Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian" program will be offered for the third consecutive summer to advanced and heritage speakers of B/C/S. Participants will spend a total

of six weeks in Belgrade, Sarajevo, and Zagreb, where each student will complete an individual research project using original language sources. This program is funded by a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies.

The SLI also offers intensive summer courses at Pitt in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Bulgarian, Czech, Hungarian, Polish, Russian, Slovak and Ukrainian. Multiple levels of instruction are available. For more information, please visit <http://sli.slavic.pitt.edu>, or contact Christine Metil at (412) 624-5906 or slavic@pitt.edu.



A gathering of REES enthusiasts at the East European Gala, April 9, 2009. Left to right: Carl Shimmel, BCS Club; Vera Sebulsky, REES; Olga Bugera, Ukrainian Club; Elana Woolf, Russian Club; Erica Metzger, Main organizer of East European Gala; Matt Smith, REES Alumnus; and Alex Bodnar, Owner of Josza Corner Hungarian Restaurant

THE BOB DONNORUMMO STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

You are cordially invited to partner with faculty, friends and alumni in supporting the **Bob Donnorummo Study Abroad Scholarship Fund** of the Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES), University of Pittsburgh Center for International Studies. This scholarship fund will carry on Bob's compassion and support for students who study abroad for years to come.

Monies from the fund will provide University of Pittsburgh REES certificate students with tuition assistance and/or financial aid pertaining to their study abroad experience. Your gift is important and will make a difference in the lives of students who wish to enhance their education with a study abroad venture.

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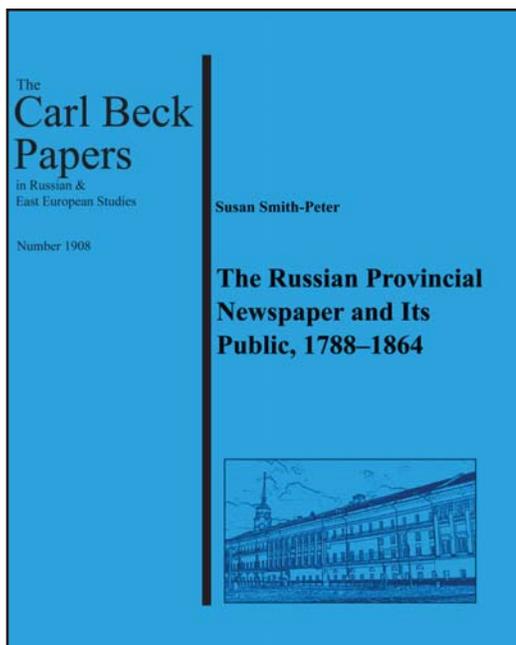
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THE CARL BECK PAPERS IN RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES

The Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES) supports its own publication, *The Carl Beck Papers in Russian and East European Studies*. This scholarly paper series, named after the first director of the University Center for International Studies (UCIS), publishes work of both new and more experienced scholars in many disciplines and areas of inquiry. This series is an excellent opportunity for anyone who is trying to have his/her paper published.

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For More Information

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IN MEMORIAM: GEORGE LUKIC

Dr. George Lukic, former professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Pittsburgh and long-time REES faculty member, passed away on October 23, 2008 at the age of 88.

Professor Lukic was born in Milosevac, Serbia. During World War II, as a second lieutenant in the Royal Yugoslav Army, he was captured by German soldiers and placed in a POW camp. He spent four years as a prisoner of war in Germany. After the war ended, he found himself in a zone liberated by the British, for whom he worked as an interpreter. He emigrated to England and later moved to Chicago, then to Pittsburgh.

While in Pittsburgh, Professor Lukic went back to school, earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at Pitt, and began teaching in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. In addition to Serbo-Croatian language courses, he also taught cultural courses, including a class on the Slavs in America. He wrote a textbook on Slavic languages and a monograph on medieval art in Serbian churches. He twice donated substantial amounts of Serbian material to the University of Pittsburgh's library collection.

Professor Lukic retired in 1984. In his final years, he lived near his sons in northern New Jersey. His wife of 54 years, Mildred Kukic Lukic, a former teacher and guidance counselor in the East Allegheny school system, passed away on March 17, 2009. They are survived by sons Peter and Dushan and daughter Averill.

According to Pitt Slavic Department administrator Christine Metil, "He was an extremely colorful, interesting man with a marvelous smile. He just made such an impression on you... You just wouldn't forget him."

Professor Ronald Linden (Political Science) wrote in Dr. Lukic's online guest book, "It was my great pleasure and honor to have known George during his time at the University of Pittsburgh. I got to know him as I began to work on the country of Yugoslavia and the Serbo-Croatian language. I use that term on purpose because that is how George taught the language... His textbook was not only extraordinarily good, informative and rich, but it was perhaps the only one to offer both the Latinica and Cyrillic variants of the language.

In teaching, he always stressed the importance of knowing both and taught them with enthusiasm and love of his country and its linguistic and cultural heritage."

(The above information is taken in part from the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, October 28, 2008.)

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