

# DOSLAL

## Alumni Newsletter

Vol. 9

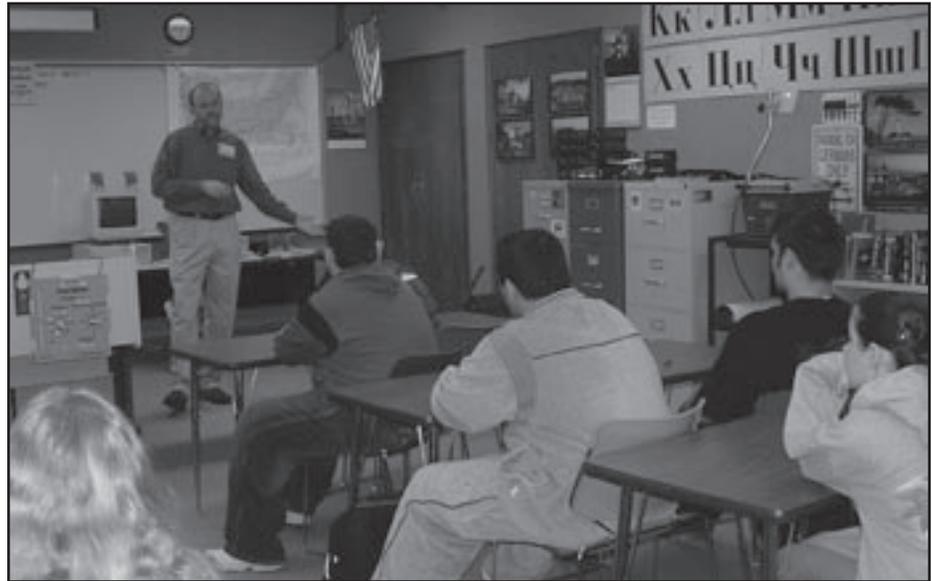
College of Arts & Sciences

Winter 2004–05

## Slavic department steps up outreach efforts

Working in collaboration with the IU Russian and East European Institute (REEI), Slavic department faculty members have initiated a number of efforts during the past year to share their knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm for Slavic studies with precollegiate teachers and members of the general public. This type of service to the university and to the profession often does not receive the credit it deserves. Outreach is a central obligation of the university's Title VI National Resource Center (REEI) and is important for student recruitment and maintenance of the public profile and outstanding reputation of the department.

Slavic language coordinator **Jeffrey Holdeman** has made several outreach trips in the state this year. He visited DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind., to speak to Russian language students there about opportunities for furthering their language study in the Summer Workshop or in a graduate program at IU. Last May, Holdeman traveled with REEI's outreach coordinator, **Denise Gardiner**, to speak to and perform Russian music for teacher Albert Stoner and his beginning Russian students at Merrillville High School in northwest In-



Jeffrey Holdeman lectures on Russian language study in Al Stoner's Merrillville classroom.

diana. Following this meeting, Stoner was selected to receive a professional development grant from REEI, which he used to enroll in Level 5 Russian at IU's Summer Workshop. Holdeman and Gardiner also met with the foreign language coordinator of the Gary Community School Corp.

The Gary school district has a summer Study Alternative International Languages Program for children in grades 2–10 that includes Russian. We provided a box of teaching materials for the summer 2004 SAIL program, and we plan to expand our support for 2005.

Another high school visit took Holdeman to the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities in Muncie, where he spoke to the first- and second-year classes of **Heather Rogers**, MA'99. Holdeman also repeated his popular "Intro to Russian" program for at-risk middle school students from poor rural and inner city schools who visit the Bloomington campus as part of a "Scholars Mini Camp," hosted by the College of Arts and Sciences.

**Dodona Kiziria** was a featured speaker in this year's IU International Studies Summer Institute for grade 7–12 in-service teachers. She presented a survey of the history of Georgia to the 20 teachers enrolled in the course. This was followed by a live

(continued on page 3)

## Chair notes much worth celebrating

As I begin my third year as chair of the Slavic department, we continue to receive good news about our language enrollments, thanks to the continued hard work of our language coordinator, Jeff Holdeman. We are excited about the addition of Aaron Beaver to our literature faculty this year. Beaver recently completed a notable dissertation on Joseph Brodsky at the University of Chicago and is also a graduate of our undergraduate Slavic program at IU! We have just received another item of wonderful news for our department: The dean has authorized a new tenure-track search in the area of Polish language and literature for this year. Thus, we have been given two back-to-back tenure-track positions, last year and this year. This is not only a strong vote of confidence in our department, but a great opportunity to build our department for the next generation and maintain our national strengths in Slavic languages and literatures.

— Ronald Feldstein

## Success stories from the department are encouraging

The department's students participated for the second time in the American Council of Teachers of Russian National Postsecondary Russian Essay Contest. IU's 20 participants represented five of six categories in the competition, and we are pleased to congratulate our four national winners. Among non-heritage speakers at the advanced level, **Neil Gipson** (MA student, REEI) won first place, and **Amy Zerebnick** (undergraduate, Slavic) and **Siobhan Reardon** (undergraduate, Slavic) won third place. In the heritage speaker category, Level 2, **Jane Charney** (undergraduate, journalism) won first place.

The Zeta Zeta chapter of Dobro Slovo National Slavic Honor Society inducted 21 new members at a ceremony on April 20. The Zeta Zeta members are **Matthew Joseph Adler** (undergraduate, criminal justice), **Nik Borjan** (undergraduate, business), **Bora Chung** (MA student, Slavic), **Kathryn Noelle Davis** (undergraduate, Slavic, psychology), **Catherine Drew** (undergraduate, French, political science), **Beth Ehram** (undergraduate, communication and culture), **Seth Clark Everitt** (undergraduate, Slavic, communication and culture), **Sarah Gilchrist** (undergraduate, Slavic, comparative literature), **Aaron Hale-Dorrell** (undergraduate, Slavic, history), **Philip Charles Hart** (MA student, REEI), **Stephanie J. Hockman** (MA/MPA student, REEI/SPEA), **Blake Randell Hulet** (undergraduate, Slavic, psychology), **John Alexander Ippoliti** (undergraduate, Slavic, classical studies), **Andriana Ivanovic** (undergraduate, political science), **Aleksandra Jovanovic** (undergraduate, Slavic, criminal justice), **Stuart MacKenzie** (PhD candidate, Slavic, philosophy), **Miriam Shrager** (PhD candidate, Slavic), **Michael Smith** (undergraduate, Slavic), **Michelle Stevens**, and **Amy M. Zerebnick** (undergraduate, Slavic). **Melinda J. Fountain** was inducted in the honorary category.

Enrollments in classes are up. Spring 2004 second-year and above language enrollments were at 122, up from 89 the year before. The number of Slavic majors in 2003-04 was up to 26, double the number at the same time of the previous year. Two-thirds of these are double majors, and they have one of the highest average GPAs of any major on campus. Participation in study-abroad programs is also up significantly. In 2003-04, three students spent a semester in St. Petersburg: **Sarah Atterson**,



Undergraduate Slavic major Amy Zerebnick receives her Dobro Slovo pin.

**Alex Ippoliti**, and **Kristen Stolt**; and **Nathan Gilbert** spent a semester in Bulgaria. **Miriam Osadchey** spent the summer in St. Petersburg. This fall, four students — **Erinne Daley**, **Katie Davis**, **Aaron Hale-Dorrell**, and **Mike Smith** — are participating in the CIEE study abroad program in St. Petersburg. Davis and Smith are there for this academic year. In spring semester, **Tim Kenlan** and **Ryan Kilgore** will join the others.

REEI and the department organized a concert by the Russian folk music group Zolotoi Plios, which drew a wonderful crowd of 85. Other extracurricular activities include a lecture on Russian translations of *Lord of the Rings*; a Vinni-Pukh cartoon night, organized by graduate student **Lina Khawaldah**; and a talk on the Soviet underground jazz scene, organized by local international students from Russia.



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or write to us at the  
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### Slavic Languages & Literatures

This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures and the College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University. For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or send e-mail to [iualumni@indiana.edu](mailto:iualumni@indiana.edu).

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# SWSEEL 2004 continues upward enrollment trend

The 54th annual Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages saw upward enrollment trends continue. Total enrollment went from 162 in 2003 to 223 in 2004, an increase of 40 percent. The largest increases were in Russian, from 77 to 107 students, and Central Asian, from 41 to 59 students, and in the addition of two new courses to SWSEEL: second-year Serbian and Croatian and beginning Yiddish.

The new Yiddish course was taught by special agreement between IU and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. The nine students in the course were competitively selected and received full fellowship funding from the museum.

The 2004 workshop was successful in

generating other external grant support. The East European program was awarded \$28,000 from the American Councils for Learned Societies for first-year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Polish, Romanian, and Slovene. ACLS support pays the instructor's salary and ensures that IU will offer the language tuition-free to graduate students in East European studies. The workshop has already received notification that ACLS will support first-year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Czech, Polish, Romanian, and Macedonian in 2005. The 2004 Russian and Georgian programs were awarded \$34,200 by the Social Science Research Council for salaries and fellowships and will receive \$45,000 in 2005.

Overall fellowship support remained at

a high level. Of the 152 students in Slavic department languages (Russian, Georgian, and East European), 50 had FLAS fellowships from IU or from other Title VI centers nationwide; eight had SSRC awards; five students received awards from the CIC; one student had an individual East European Language Fellowship from ACLS; and one student was a professional from the U.S. State Department (read about him in the alumni profile on page 7).

SWSEEL offered numerous extracurricular activities. A total of 53 lectures, 18 film showings, and seven cooking demonstrations took place. A highlight of this year's program was a seminar on Russian folklore taught by Professor Marina Balina (Illinois Wesleyan University).

## Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages

June 17 – Aug. 12, 2005, at Indiana University



### RUSSIAN

- First through sixth year
- Four- and eight-week courses available

### EAST EUROPEAN and BALTIC

- First-year Hungarian and Lithuanian
- First-year Bosnian/Serbian/Croatian, Czech, Latvian, Macedonian, Polish, and Romanian
- First- and second-year Estonian are *tuition-free* for graduate students specializing in any East European field (ACLS funded)

### CENTRAL ASIAN and GEORGIAN

- First- and second-year Azeri, Georgian, Kazakh, Tajik, Turkmen, Uyghur, and Uzbek
- First-year Pashto

FLAS and SSRC Fellowships are available

Application deadline for fellowships is April 1, 2005

IN-STATE TUITION for all languages

More information is available at <http://www.indiana.edu/~iuslavic/swseel/>.

Or write to Director, SWSEEL, BH 502, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

Telephone (812) 855-2608 • FAX (812) 855-2107 • E-mail: [SWSEEL@indiana.edu](mailto:SWSEEL@indiana.edu)

## Outreach efforts

(continued from page 1)

interactive video session between the teachers in Bloomington and Georgian teachers who were using the teleconferencing facilities of the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi.

**Andrew Durkin** has been kept busy with events associated with local Russian cultural programming. In November, he gave a pre-show talk before the IU Department of Theatre and Drama's production of Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*. Durkin

was also co-instructor for a lifelong learning course for IU's Division of Continuing Studies this fall. Ten adult students enrolled in the course on "Russian Romance: Tchaikovsky's Opera, Pushkin's Story," which coincided with the performance of *Eugene Onegin* by the IU Opera Theater. Holde- man also hosted an extracurricular event related to *Onegin* when they arranged for the visit of Jefferson High School Russian teacher **Todd Golding**, MAT'95, and several of his students for a dinner in Bloomington before attending the performance.

## Have tag, will travel

Send us your business card — or just your business information — and we'll send it back to you laminated and attached to a strap, perfect for your traveling pleasure. (One tag per graduate, please.)

Your luggage tag will show that you are proud of your connection to the College of Arts & Sciences at IU.

Mail your card or information to Luggage Tags, College of Arts & Sciences, Kirkwood Hall 208, 130 S. Woodlawn, Bloomington, IN 47405.

# Faculty Notes

## Faculty activities

**Henry Cooper** has two book reviews coming out, one in *Slavic Review* on a Slovak volume titled *Medzi vychodom a zapadom: Byzantsko-slovanska tradicia, kultura a jazyk na vychodnom Slovensku* and one in *SEEJ* on the English translation of the Croatian writer Miroslav Krleža's novel *Banquet u Blitvi* (*Banquet in Blitva*). He made a presentation last May to the faculty and students of the Slavic department of the University of Padua in Italy titled "From Glagolitic to Gundulic with Protestants in Between: The Earliest Writings of the Slovenes and Croats." Cooper's current project is an anthology of Bulgarian literature in English translation for publication by *Balkanistica*, the journal of the Southeast European Studies Association. He also continues to labor along on his survey of Slavic, Hungarian, and Romanian vernacular Bible translations. Finally, during spring break last year, he had the opportunity to visit saints Cyril and Methodius's home town, Thessaloniki, Greece. Alas, no trace remains of their lives there.

**Andrew Durkin** presented a paper, "Transgression and Transformation: Dostoevskian Subtext in Chekhov's 'Murder'," at the 2004 Summer International Symposium organized by the Slavic Research Center, Hokkaido University, in Sapporo, Japan.

**Ronald Feldstein's** Internet publication *Romanian Verb Handbook* appeared in 2004 on the Web site of the Language Resource Center, located at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also edited Dana Cojocaru's *Romanian Grammar*, which also appears on the Web site. His paper "The Unified Monophthongization Rule of Common Slavic," is scheduled to appear in the *Journal of Slavic Linguistics*. Another paper, "On the Structure of Syncretism in Romanian Conjugation," has been accepted for publication in *Contemporary Approaches to Romance Linguistics: Selected Papers from the 33rd Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages*, Bloomington, Ind., April 2003. It is vol. 258 of the John Benjamins series, *Current Issues in Linguistic Theory*. Finally, in July 2004, he gave a paper at the Language Resource Center meeting at Duke University, titled "Classifying Unusual Aspectual Pairs in the Russian Classroom: e.g., *zaxvatit'/zaxvatat'/zaxvatyvat'*."

**Jeffrey Holdeman** received the Trustees' Teaching Award, nominated by the chair, and the Mentor of the Year Award,

nominated by the department's graduate students, both in spring 2004. He also presented a paper, "History of the Erie Russian Old Believers: Isolation, Migration, Coexistence," and spoke in a syllabus design roundtable at AAASS in December.

**Nina Perlina** attended the XII Symposium of the International Dostoevsky Society, Sept. 1–6, 2004, in Geneva, where she delivered a paper titled "Vasily Rosanov's 'I' Created in the Image of Dostoevsky and Dostoevsky's Heroes Viewed by This Imagined Alter Ego of the Author."

**Bronislava Volkova** recently returned from a poetry reading tour in the Czech and Slovak republics. She read her poetry in the Czech and Slovak PEN Club, as well as bilingually at the World Congress of SVU in Olomouc in June, where she also chaired the creative writing panel. Apart from those readings, she also presented a paper at the World Congress on the panel on women's issues. She contributed collages to the Bellevue exhibition *Visual Jam* and read her poetry in a program on world peace in Bloomington on Sept. 10. Two interviews with her were published in the newsletter of the SVU Congress in Olomouc. She was also recently awarded a grant by the Indiana Arts Commission for her next book of poetry.



## Visiting faculty

**Grzegorz Jankowicz** is the visiting Polish language and literature instructor for 2004–05. He is a PhD candidate at the Institute of Polish Philology at Jagiellonian University in Krakow. His academic work focuses on "The Ekphrastic Tradition in 20th-Century Polish Poetry." He will conduct three courses: intermediate and advanced Polish language and Survey of Polish Literature and Culture.



Jankowicz

**Vlatka Stimac** is the visiting instructor for intermediate and advanced Croatian and Serbian during the 2004–05 academic year. She is currently a PhD candidate in the faculty of philosophy at the University of Zagreb. Her academic focuses include lexicology, semantics, and terminology. She is writing her dissertation on the terminology of fashion and clothing in Croatia from 1918 to 1945.



Stimac

**Jelena Runic** is a visiting scholar from Belgrade University, where she teaches Romanian language and Introduction to Romanian Studies. Her research interests include Romanian phonetics, phonology, morphology, and comparative syntax. While at IU, she will observe U.S. teaching methodologies and technologies for implementation at her home institution.



Runic

## New faculty

The department welcomes new tenure-track Assistant Professor **Aaron Beaver**. He comes to the department from the University of Chicago, where he earned a PhD in 2003. His dissertation

was titled "Time in the Lyric Poetry of Joseph Brodsky." While his major interest is in Russian literature, he has also studied Czech literature. Beaver was a lecturer at the University of Chicago during his PhD studies and taught the course Russian Through Pushkin to beginning Russian language students. He will bring greater depth to an already diverse Slavic department. This academic year, Beaver is teaching the two-semester graduate student sequence in 20th-Century Russian Literature and a section of second-year Russian.



Beaver

# Student News

## Graduate

Two new students entered the graduate program this year. **Andrew Moody** is studying Slavic literature. Moody spent two years in Russia prior to completing his undergraduate work at Miami University of Ohio. His interests include the works of Nikolai Gogol. **Yin-Ting Chen** is focusing on Slavic linguistics. Chen received a bachelor's degree in Russian from Tamkang University in Taiwan. She spent her junior year abroad at Moscow State University. Her interests include phonology and syntax in Russian linguistics.

Other students are also keeping busy. **Elizaveta Moussinova** attended the Midwest Slavic Conference at Ohio State University in February, where she participated in a panel on "Aspects of Slavic Folklore" and gave the presentation "Sviatochnii rasskaz v russkoi literature i folklore 19 veka" (Yuletide story in Russian literature and folklore of the 19th century). She spent the summer in Moscow researching Russian Orthodox philosophy. In August, she spent one month at the Summer School of the Slavonic Languages in Olomouc, Czech Republic.

**Heather Rice** received a FLAS fel-

lowship to study Czech language for the 2004–05 academic year.

**Jennifer Sanders** gave a paper, "Bridging Cultures: Examples from the 'Serbo-Croatian' Classroom," at the Cultural Diversity and Language Education Conference in September at the University of Hawaii, Manoa. Last spring, she worked for Campus Instructional Consulting on the Freshman Learning Project and then spent two months in Croatia working on advanced language skills with Jasna Novak Milic, a former Fulbright lecturer for the IU Slavic department. For this study, Sand-

*(continued on page 6)*

## In memoriam

### William B. Edgerton

On behalf of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures of Indiana University, it is my sad duty to inform the scholarly community of the passing of Professor William B. Edgerton, who died in Bloomington on Sunday, Feb. 8, 2004, at the age of 89.



*Edgerton*

Professor Edgerton played a major role not only in the Slavic department of Indiana University, but as a national and international figure of great importance in the study of Slavic languages and literatures. He served 11 years as chair of the department during its critical early years of building and consolidation (from 1958 to 1965 and 1969 to 1973).

One can best get a true sense of Edgerton's long and highly productive career by realizing that it consisted of three essential components, at which he excelled and made his international reputation. First, one should mention his humanitarian service during World War II as a relief worker for the Society of Friends. This first brought Edgerton into contact with several Slavic languages, in the former Yugoslavia and in Poland. During this period, he was one of the people credited with discovering evidence about children who were deported from their home countries by Nazi Germany.

Chronologically, the next major theme of Edgerton's career was his untiring work

on behalf of Slavic studies. After changing his academic focus from Romance languages to Slavic and after his wartime experiences, he received his PhD in Russian literature from Columbia University in 1954. He taught at Penn State, the University of Michigan, and Columbia University, before moving to Indiana University in 1958. One can immediately appreciate Edgerton's importance in the field by noting that he was a founder and the first president of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, in addition to playing a similar role on the Joint Committee on Slavic Studies of the ACLS and SSRC. He also helped found the Inter-University Committee on Travel Grants, the forerunner of IREX. From 1958 to 1978, he chaired the American Committee of Slavists and served as one of only two American delegates to the International Committee of Slavists. Thus, it is clear that Edgerton played a unique role in the establishment of many institutions that are taken for granted today.

Beyond Edgerton's humanitarian service and central role in founding many of the Slavic scholarly organizations, his research can be considered as the third major building block. He was the author of important publications on Leo Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, and Leskov and used his knowledge of Romance languages to write about Spanish and Portuguese responses to these great Russian authors.

In addition to observing Bill Edgerton's great accomplishments in the Slavic field, I would like to observe that he was a friendly and helpful colleague, always pleasant and willing to offer his time and assistance. He liked to encourage his younger colleagues in their scholarly pursuits and always dis-

played the good humor that many of us will forever remember about him.

A memorial meeting in remembrance of William B. Edgerton was held at the Bloomington Friends Meeting House last February. His family suggests that memorial donations be made to the Bloomington Quakers Society of Friends, 3366 Moores Pike, Bloomington, IN 47401, or to the Indiana University Foundation for the Neatrou-Edgerton Fellowship for Graduate Study in our department.

— *Ronald Feldstein*

### Felix Oinas

Felix J. Oinas, 93, died Saturday, Sept. 25, 2004, at his residence in Bloomington. Born March 16, 1911, in Tartu, Estonia, he received a master of arts degree from the University of Tartu in 1937 and a doctor of philosophy from Indiana University in 1952. He was appointed to the Indiana University faculty in 1951. He held the rank of professor emeritus of Slavic languages and literatures and of Uralic-Altaic studies (CEUS) and of the Folklore Institute. His areas of research included Slavic and Finno-Ugric linguistics and folklore and mythology, especially the Estonian epic *Kalevipoeg*. In 1997, Estonian President Lennart Meri awarded him the Order of the State Coat of Arms, II Class — the highest Estonian civilian honor.



*Oinas*

## Student news

(continued from page 5)

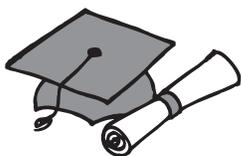
ers received an REEI/Mellon Grant-in-aid of Research. Sanders was recently advanced to candidacy in both the Slavic and linguistics departments.

**Miriam Shrager** received an IREX Individual Advanced Research Opportunities Grant to do linguistic field research in Russia for the 2004–05 academic year. The title of her project is “The Prosodic System of Northwest Russian Dialects.”

### Degrees granted

**Saera Yoon** defended her dissertation, “Mythical Imagination in Historical Fiction: Pushkin, Lermontov, and Gogol.” Her adviser was Andrew Durkin.

**Galina Krivonos** completed her master’s degree.



## Undergraduate

### Degrees granted

Eight students completed undergraduate majors in Slavic languages and literatures. **Vivian Eleven** (Phi Beta Kappa) and **Hilarie Morozova** graduated in December 2003; **Sarah Gilchrist**, **Natasha Ruser**, **Jessica Yoder** (Phi Beta Kappa), and **Amy Zerebnick** (Phi Beta Kappa) graduated in May 2004. **Sarah Atterson** and **Colin Nisbet** (Phi Beta Kappa) graduated in December 2004.

### William Beck Scholarship

Undergraduate Slavics student **Sarah Atterson** was awarded the 2003–04 William Beck Scholarship for Russian Language (formerly the Chair’s Award), an award presented to the outstanding junior who has made the most progress in the IU Russian program.



Atterson



### 1960s

**Gleb Zelenoy**, MA’63, attended the National Defense Education Russian Institute under the direction of Robert L. Baker. He also taught French and Russian for 12 years before joining the FBI as a language specialist, working in the intelligence and criminal area for 22 years. Zelenoy has since retired and lives in Marston Mills, Mass.

### 1970s

**Howard Zalkin**, BA’71, has earned an MA (1974, SUNY at Albany) and PhD (1979, University of Virginia) in Slavic languages and literatures since leaving IU. He taught Russian at Georgetown University (1977–79) and the University of Virginia (1979–80), and since then has spent most of his time working in the computer industry as a database software specialist, including six years as a technical manager in Moscow (1993–99). He lives in Oakland, Calif., and has started a business as a personal life coach and trainer.

**Allan I. Grafman**, BA’75, president of Archie Comics Entertainment, announces that IDT Entertainment acquired a stake in the company in January 2004, which allows IDT to co-develop and co-produce select animated projects based on Archie Comics characters. He writes, “Since joining Archie Comics Entertainment as president in February 2003, we have announced two major motion picture projects. The first is with Miramax for *Betty and Veronica*, and the second (soon to be announced) is with Paramount for *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*. I will be producing both of them.” Grafman lives in White Plains, N.Y., and can be reached at allang@archiecomics.com.

**Deena (Paris) Leventer**, BA’76, has been working as managing editor of the Cummings Center Series since its inception in 1991. The series is a forum for the publication of monographs, collections of essays, and documents pertaining to Russia, Central Asia, Soviet–Israeli relations, and Russian Jewry. She reports that they are now working on their 20th volume, titled *Educational Reform in Post-Soviet Russia: Legacies and Prospects*, which is being edited by Ben Eklof, of the IU history department, Larry Holmes, of the University of South Alabama, and Vera Kaplan, Leventer’s colleague at Tel Aviv University. More information is available at [www.tau.ac.il/~russia](http://www.tau.ac.il/~russia)

**Steinar E. Kottum**, PhD’79, writes, “I co-edited *The Comprehensive Norwegian-Russian Dictionary*, which was finally

## Alumni Notebook

published in December 2003 after 10 years in the making. It came to 1,600 pages, with approximately 90,000 entries. I also acted as a language consultant for the recently published forestry dictionary, titled *Russko-anglo-norvezhsky/Norvezhko-anglo-russky lesnoy slovar* (3,300 entries). This was a cooperative project between the county of Nordland, Norway, and the Arkhangelsk State Engineering University. In addition to my teaching duties, I am working on a Norwegian–Russian ecological dictionary, which I hope will be out in 2005.” Kottum lives in Nittedal, Norway, and can be reached at [stkottum@frisurf.no](mailto:stkottum@frisurf.no).

### 1980s

**Vincent K. Bennett**, MA’83, AC’83, is a foreign service officer and currently works as the political/military chief at the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw, Poland. He is moving, with his wife, Alina, and their five children, to Moscow, where he will be head of the political/external unit covering Russian foreign policy.

**Edna Andrews**, PhD’84, has published *Conversations with Lotman: The Implications of Cultural Semiotics in Language, Literature, and Cognition* (University of Toronto Press, 2004).

### 1990s

**Hilary Brandt**, BA’91, works at the U.S. State Department, where she uses the Russian she learned at IU almost every day of her job, working with past exchange participants from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. She lives in Washington, D.C., and can be reached at [hilary\\_brandt@hotmail.com](mailto:hilary_brandt@hotmail.com).

**Deborah Zaccaro Hoffman**, BA’93, finished law school in 1999 and practiced for a while before deciding to go back to school for Slavic studies. She entered the MA program in Russian translation this fall at Kent State University. Because Cleveland has a substantial immigrant community, she has regular opportunities to use her Russian and enjoy RTVi via satellite dish. She is happily married, with one child. She can be reached at [dzaccaro@hotmail.com](mailto:dzaccaro@hotmail.com) and would love to hear from old friends and acquaintances.

**Amy (Steiger) Roehrenbeck**, BA’95, reports her marriage to Arthur Roehrenbeck in March 2004 in Columbus, Ohio. The couple lives in New Albany, Ohio. She can be reached at [amybird33@hotmail.com](mailto:amybird33@hotmail.com).

**Curt Woolheiser**, PhD’95, has accepted  
(continued on page 7)

## Love of languages, practicality mark David Marks's career

This summer, David Marks, MA'79, did something few adults with steady jobs would do. He spent his four-week vacation studying Russian at IU's Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages. Marks's decision was as much one of practicality as it was his love of studying languages. He is a foreign service officer with the U.S. Department of State, and SWSEEL was his segue from eight years of working on Japanese issues and three years in Washington to his current assignment in the American Embassy in Moscow. Having served in Moscow in the past and studied Russian extensively, he is not new to the language or the country.

David Marks came upon the Russian language almost by accident. After the first draft lottery in 1969, he realized his number was so low he would almost surely be drafted and sent to Vietnam. Having learned that those who enlist voluntarily have greater control over their military assignments, he signed up for the army after leaving the University of Wisconsin in 1972. The move paid off. His first assignment after boot camp was to study Russian at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif.

Marks came to Bloomington for graduate study in 1976 after his military service, fully intending to earn a PhD in Russian literature. After three years in Bloomington, he received a fellowship to study in Berlin, and his stay in Germany led to a dramatic shift in his career choice. The diplomatic intricacies of Berlin fascinated Marks and convinced him that his future should be in the foreign service rather than the academy. He returned to Bloomington, completed a graduate certificate with the Russian and East European Institute and took the foreign service exam. He passed the exam and joined the foreign service in 1983.

After serving in Taipei, Bonn, and Tokyo, he finally obtained a coveted assign-



Marks

ment to Moscow. His post in Moscow proved rewarding. "I arrived in the Soviet Union in 1990 and left from Russia in 1992," he says. He recalls fondly having witnessed Western and Russian leaders sign the Two-Plus-Four Treaty on Germany (known more formally as the Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany) in Moscow in September 1990, which removed the last vestiges of Allied occupation and fixed the international borders of a reunited Germany.

But there was more excitement ahead for Marks. Less than a year later, he watched the collapse of Soviet Communism. The U.S. Embassy in Moscow is located directly across from the Russian "White House," where Russian President Boris Yeltsin, the Russian Supreme Soviet, and the people of Moscow organized their resistance to the August 1991 coup attempt. It was an exhilarating moment for everyone.

What is the role of the U.S. Embassy staff during such dramatic times of upheaval? According to Marks, two things are crucial: First, foreign-service officers need to make sure that the latest and best information about what is happening is sent to the State Department as quickly as possible. Second, they should immediately take steps to ensure the safety of American citizens living in the country during the crisis. At the time, no one knew for sure where the crisis might lead. Only days before the coup began, Marks had met with the only military member of the Politburo. This official gave no indication whatsoever of the historic events about to take place. During the chaos, Marks was asked to coordinate the many reports delivered to the embassy

and try to clarify and explain to those back in Washington what was happening.

During these experiences, Marks utilized the language training he received at IU and considers it the most beneficial aspect of his IU education. In particular, he remembers fondly the grammar classes taught by Professor Galina McLaws. He recommends that every student of Russian take Laurence Richter's class in Russian phonetics. It proves to be very useful when speaking with Russians, because, like English, spoken Russian does not sound the way it looks on paper. Marks states that his Russian language background has served him well throughout his career, and his participation in SWSEEL this summer helped him reestablish his proficiency.

Students studying the languages of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe often wonder if their language skills will give them an advantage in entering the foreign service. Unfortunately not — all applicants are screened on their performance on the written and oral sections of the foreign service exam. But languages *do* prove valuable once you are in the foreign service.

What advice does Marks have for students aspiring to join the foreign service? The same advice he would give anyone: Get in the habit of reading a good newspaper everyday and do not skip the stories that miss the front page. Foreign service officers need to be able to speak clearly about how apparently minor political or economic developments can have an impact on larger ongoing conflicts and tensions between states or ethnic groups. He adds, "Keep studying languages. They *do* come in handy."

— Alex Dunlop

*Alex Dunlop received his dual MA/MPA from REEI and SPEA in 2004. He currently works for the Services Group, an economic consulting firm located in Arlington, Va.*

## Alumni notebook

*(continued from page 6)*

a preceptor position in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University.

**Lori M. (Powell) Craig**, BA'97, reports that she is back in Bloomington with her husband and daughter. She is working as a paralegal for Mallor Clendening Grodner & Bohrer. She can be reached at LCraig@Browntodd.com.

**Elena I. Monastireva-Ansdell**, MA'97, PhD'02, started a two-year appointment as assistant professor of Russian and Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Russian Cinema at Oberlin College in fall 2003.

**Elizabeth Skomp**, BA'98, has accepted a visiting assistant professor of Russian position at Williams College.

### 2000s

**Hilarie Morozova Hutcherson**, BA'02, and her husband are pleased to announce

the birth of their son, Daelan Alexander Morozov, on April 20, 2004.

**Amy Zerebnick**, BA'04, is currently serving in the Peace Corps in Ukraine.

### In memoriam

**Alan Selby Pike**, MA'63, of Ogden, Utah, died on April 10, 2003.

**Werner Arthur Siems**, MA'53, died on July 21, 2004.

## AATSEEL '04 sees many from IU

Indiana University was well represented at the 2004 Convention of the American Association for the Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages in Philadelphia. Several alumni, faculty, and graduate students made presentations.

**Alumni:** **John Bartle**, PhD'94, chaired a panel on "Dostoevsky and Writing Women/Women Writing." **Sue Brown**, PhD'96, presented "Case Marking and Negative Closure: Arguments for A-Chain Reconstruction?" **Maria Carlson**, PhD'82, chaired a workshop on "Managing Job Interviews" and a panel on "Religious Ideas in Russian Modernism." **Andrew Drozd**, PhD'95, participated in a roundtable discussion on "Teaching Slavic Folklore for General Education." **Sibelan Forrester**, PhD'90, presented "Dubravka Ugresic: Fashioning the Post-Modern Post-Socialist Dissident" and participated in a roundtable discussion on "The Teacher-Scholar: Finding the Golden Mean." **Todd Golding**, MAT'95, chaired a roundtable discussion on "Teaching Russian at the Pre-College Level." **Jonathan Z. Ludwig**, PhD'95, presented "Basilieres Borrowers Bulgakov." **Valerii Petrochenkov**, PhD'83, participated in a roundtable discussion on "Russian Poetry Reading." **Elizabeth Skomp**, BA'98, presented "Maternal Ambivalence and the Roddom: Examining Arbatova, Sukhanova, and Palei." **Saera Yoon**, PhD'2004, presented "Contextualization of Idiot: Kurosawa's Film Adaptation."

**Faculty:** **Ronald Feldstein** participated in a workshop on "Managing Job Interviews." **George Fowler** and **Steve Franks** participated in a roundtable discussion on "Founding an Organization of Slavic Linguists." **Nina Perlina** chaired a panel on "Religious Ideas in Dostoevsky's Texts."

**Graduate students:** **Nikita Nankov** presented "Freedom in Captivity: Identity and Non-Identity with Oneself in Chekhov's Short Story 'Mechty.'" **Jennifer Sanders** presented "Form and Meaning in the Interlanguage Development of Russian Case." **Yekaterina Vernikov** chaired a roundtable discussion on "Literary-Cultural Trends of the Russian 18th Century."

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### Slavic Languages & Literatures alumni: What's new?

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Last name while at IU \_\_\_\_\_

IU Degree(s)/Yr(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

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Business title \_\_\_\_\_

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