

DOSLAL

Alumni Newsletter

Vol. 12

College of Arts & Sciences

Summer 2008

Passion for policy

A childhood fascination with the politics of the Cold War set Nathan Feltman, winner of the 2006 College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Young Alumni Award and Indiana's new secretary of commerce, on the path to **success**.

Ronald Reagan was president. The Cold War was raging. And in Mishawaka, Ind., a young boy was becoming increasingly interested in issues of geopolitics, arms control, and the tense relationship between the United States and Soviet Union. "As a kid, I was always fascinated by the whole concept that there were these two countries that wanted to destroy each other," says **Nathan Feltman**, BS'92, JD'94. "I remember saying to my teacher, 'Do we really need to do this homework, because we might not even be here tomorrow?'"

When it was time for college, Feltman enrolled at Indiana University Bloomington — the only school he applied to — where he found a wide variety of course offerings perfectly suited to his burgeoning interests. At IU, he was able to study international politics, business, and Russian. "One of the awesome things about IU was that when I got there I saw many different opportunities in terms of my career path," says Feltman, 36, the newly appointed Secretary of Commerce for the State of Indiana.

To graduate with separate degrees in business and political science and learn a foreign language, Feltman took up to 12 hours of additional courses every summer. "I was just incredibly motivated at that time, because I had such a strong interest in the business world and the world of international politics," he says. "I decided to take Russian, and the main reason was that I started to see in 1990–91 the thaw in relations between the two countries. I saw there would be a meltdown, and my timing in this case was unbelievable."

The timing of his first trip to Russia

was also remarkable. In the summer of 1990 — a year after the fall of the Berlin Wall — Feltman participated in the Slavic Department's intensive Russian language program led by Larry Richter in what was then still the Soviet Union. While studying in Moscow, Kiev, and Leningrad, he met many Russians who craved information about the Western world and about Americans in particular. The trip was life-changing. "I felt like I stepped back in time and onto another planet," he says, adding that he was able to confirm the stories being reported back then — of people standing in huge lines for a roll of toilet paper, of American jeans becoming hot trade commodities, and of poorly stocked grocery stores.

"It was certainly eye-opening," he says, "and it was those kinds of things that made you realize that the system wasn't going to last. It wasn't working. We all heard sto-

"I felt like I stepped back in time and onto another planet.' He was able to confirm the stories ... of people standing in huge lines for a roll of toilet paper, of American jeans becoming hot trade commodities, and of poorly stocked grocery stores. "

ries, but to experience it firsthand ... I had friends who emigrated from Russia (to the United States), and when they walked into a supermarket, they just started crying."

Feltman's initial trip to Russia strengthened his interest in international politics and Russian culture. It also convinced him



Nathan Feltman, BS'92, JD'94

that the time was right to pursue a career in the increasingly vital field of international business law. Upon graduating from the IU School of Law–Indianapolis in 1994, Feltman returned to Moscow, where he earned a master's degree in Russian law and worked at an international law firm representing multinational companies entering the Russian market. "I was totally engaged by the people, and I couldn't

think of a more interesting place in the world to be at that time than Russia going through the transition to a market-based economy," he says.

After practicing law in Russia from 1995 to 1998, Feltman decided to return to the
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From the Department Chair

An exciting year

During my sixth and final year as chair of the department, we have had many interesting changes and developments to report.

Jeffrey Holdeman was appointed as the new director of the Indiana University Global Village Living-Learning Center. We congratulate Holdeman on his new position and welcome the increased prominence his presence will give our department at IU. I am also delighted to report on the continuing success of our summer Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages program (SWSEEL), under the able leadership of Professor **Jerzy Kolodziej**.

Another major development is our new grant to train ROTC candidates in the field of Slavic and other languages, as part of a project co-directed by professors **Henry Cooper** and **Paul Foster**. It is especially significant that this initiative is using SWSEEL as a key aspect of training military personnel. Our language offerings in SWSEEL have always been extraordinary and it was only a matter of time for these national security aspects to be recognized.

We welcomed **Miriam Shrager** as a visiting lecturer of Russian and **Elena Petroska** as visiting associate professor of Macedonian. Shrager and Petroska contribute a native knowledge of their respective languages, in addition to their extensive knowledge and experience in the field of Slavic linguistics. We also welcomed **Wioletta Próchniak** as visiting lecturer of Polish, under the auspices of the Kościuszko Foundation. **Martina Martinović** was our visiting lecturer of Serbian and Croatian, as part of our exchange with the University of Zagreb. During the spring 2008 semester we welcomed **Svitlana Melnyk**, of Kyiv, as visiting lecturer of Russian and Ukrainian.

We are also pleased to report that the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures awarded three fellowships to incoming graduate students, who started their work at IU in fall 2007. So, as always, we have many new and exciting developments to report. Over the next few years, we are anticipating the retirement of several of our senior faculty. This will require the most careful preparation, to make sure that we maintain our high standards of academic quality, which have placed us in the forefront of Slavic language training in the United States. We have every reason

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Gardiner leaves REEI office

Denise Gardiner, assistant director and outreach coordinator of the Russian and East European Institute, has been promoted to Area Studies Fiscal Officer/Title VI Coordinator in



Denise Gardner

the College of Arts and Sciences. In an e-mail announcing Gardiner's departure, then-acting director of REEI Maria Bucur called her "the heart and soul" of the institute. Gardiner worked in her position for 13 years and was known to all in Slavic studies for her dedication and superior administrative skills.

"Denise has been extremely helpful to the Slavic Department during her term at REEI," Department Chair **Ronald Feldstein** said. "She brought numerous federal and other grant opportunities to our attention and served as an effective liaison between the REEI director's office and the Slavic Department as the most effective REEI administrator in recent memory. We wish her well in her new position."

"Denise's devotion to the improvement of education and outreach programs at the REEI and to excellence at Indiana University goes far beyond anything I've seen in my 22 years of administrative posi-

tions here," REEI Director **David Ransel** added. "Her dedication to our programs was no doubt due to her deep interest in the area we study. She majored in international studies at Georgetown University and came to IU for advanced training in Russian studies. Within a short time she put what was then a sagging office operation into superb condition, the envy of all other international resource centers at IU. ... I am delighted that she will continue to keep an eye on our efforts from her high perch in the office of the Dean of the College."

Replacing Denise is **Mark Trotter**. Trotter is no stranger to IU, having taught Russian at SWSEEL for the past 10 years. He completed graduate work in Russian language and language pedagogy at the University of Michigan and then taught at Grinnell College for six years. He next moved to Hungary, where he taught English for many years while becoming an expert in Hungarian language and culture. Since 2004, Trotter has been directing a U.S. government-funded program in St. Petersburg, Russia, designed to train Americans in Russian language at the most advanced levels. He joined the department last fall, and we are happy to have him on board at REEI. The department will benefit from his administrative experience and knowledge of the languages and cultures of the regions which we study.

Melnyk brings expertise to faculty

Svitlana Melnyk joins the faculty of the Slavic Department for the next three semesters as an instructor of Ukrainian. She will be temporarily replacing Olena Chernishenko while Chernishenko is away on leave.

Prior to her coming to IU, Melnyk spent eight years as an assistant professor in the Department of Ukrainian Philology in the Institute of Philology at Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University, where she received a PhD in philology. She has published a book and several articles, including Elements of Ukrainian Morphology, a textbook for Hungarian students. She has many

years of experience teaching Ukrainian, as well as Russian, and has taught at the Summer Language Institute at the University of Pittsburgh (2003). Starting in 2007, she will serve as the Ukrainian teacher at SWSEEL. She is a native speaker of Ukrainian and speaks Russian and English.



Svitlana Melnyk

Department mainstay Larry Richter retires

Laurence R. Richter has been a major figure in the teaching of Russian at Indiana University for more than 32 years. His great sense of humor and wit have become such a mainstay of the Department of



Laurence Richter

Slavic Languages and Literatures, that many of us will find it hard to imagine the department without Larry Richter (or Lavrik, the Russian equivalent for “Larry” that has spread from our native Russian speakers to our department as a whole).

He has been a brilliant teacher of a specialized course in Russian phonetics which he developed, focusing not only on the practical aspects of how Americans might perfect their Russian pronunciation, but how phonetics should be taught in the classroom in general. I once attempted to substitute for Richter in this course and soon realized how difficult it was to successfully coordinate the course’s theoretical and practical aspects. At that point I began to appreciate how successful Richter had been in structuring the course and its materials. In fact his approach to teaching phonetics in general was so successful that he became the phonetics coordinator of SWSEEL as far back as 1979. He continues to the present to teach Russian-language students on all levels of the workshop.

Richter has also been our primary teacher of Russian-to-English translation, Russian for graduate students, and third-year grammar. In addition to the phonetics course, on which Richter has put his own indelible stamp, a number of other courses and areas have come into existence thanks to his insights and efforts. He initiated and served as director of the SWSEEL Leningrad (subsequently St. Petersburg) Language Study Program for 18 years, from 1986 to 2004, and performed an inordinate number of

tasks, from advertising the program and recruiting students to negotiating with Soviet tour operators and identifying competent Russian language professors. He also pioneered courses in Russian for opera singers at IU’s prestigious Jacobs School of Music. There he was able to combine his phonetics expertise with his profound knowledge and appreciation of opera and other musical forms.

In recent years Richter has published a series of invaluable books wherein he has developed a sophisticated transliteration system for training non-Russian speakers to sing the musical masterpieces of the Russian operatic repertoire. To date, the complete

inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and awarded highest distinction in Russian. He was named a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in 1963. His teaching career began in 1964, and, for the next four years, he taught at Valparaiso University and Grand Valley State College. In 1968 he came to Indiana University, and in 1970 he began teaching in SWSEEL (then known simply as the Slavic Workshop) and soon began his career as a full-time teacher of Russian. For 19 of his IU years, Richter served as well as the department’s scheduling officer, an onerous task to which he brought verve and no small measure of excitement.

Although Richter is known for his great

“More than teaching me Russian, you presented yourself in such a way that made me want to wake up and go to class.”

— former student of Richter

song texts of Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, and Mussorgsky have appeared along with a volume of other selected nineteenth-century Russian songs. A fifth volume with Shostakovich songs is at the printer, and a volume on Prokofiev is in preparation. As reviewers have noted, these books allow non-native singers of Russian to sing with accuracy and confidence, no small achievement given the phonetic complexities of Russian.

Like many Russian teachers of the Cold War generation, Richter received his first Russian language training at the Army Language School (now the Defense Language Institute), in Monterey, Calif., in 1956–1957, where even then he was singled out and honored for his scholastic excellence. After just one year of training he was already at work as a military translator of Russian, working at U.S. installations in Japan between 1957 and 1959. Upon completion of his military service, Richter earned both bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of Illinois, where he was

sense of humor and ability to relate anecdotes (which must have rubbed off on his son, the renowned humorist Andy Richter), he has a very serious side when it comes to upholding high academic standards. Students know that they have to work hard in his courses, but that they will be rewarded with knowledge, skill, and insight for their efforts. Perhaps the best way to illustrate that is to quote a student: “You were always a point of real reference when nothing at all made sense in my life. More than teaching me Russian, you presented yourself in such a way that made me want to wake up and go to class. You are the only teacher I ever had that was able to touch me in that way.”

Now, as he approaches what one of our earlier retirees liked to call “the classless society,” we sincerely thank our colleague and friend for sharing his expertise, integrity, and boundless good humor with us. A major part of any success we as a department have enjoyed in the field of Russian is surely due to him. — *Ronald Feldstein*

From the chair

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to believe that the College will give us the support we need.

Our most recent news is that our Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures has been awarded a grant in the U.S. Department of Education’s U.S.-Russia Program, a new competition administered by the Office of Postsecondary Education’s Fund for the Improvement of Postsecond-

ary Education. The two-year grant is part of a cooperative arrangement between IUB and IUPUI, as well as our Russian partner, the Southern Federal University in Rostov-on-the-Don. The focus of the program is the study of global public health in Russia and the United States. Indiana University will offer specialized Russian language courses, involving innovative computer-based technology and distance learning, together with courses in the field of global public health. **Olena Chernishenko**, of the

Slavic department, and **Natalia Rekhter**, of the IUPUI School of Public and Environmental Affairs, first conceived the program. They are working with **Denise Gardiner**, of the College of Arts and Sciences. We are extremely pleased that our department is at the forefront of this innovative project of U.S.-Russian cooperation.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Doslal* and all it says about the exciting activity in the IU Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. — *Ronald Feldstein*

Faculty Notes

Justyna Beinek was awarded a National Endowment for Humanities Collaborative Fellowship for the writing of a guidebook to Witold Gombrowicz, a project she will conduct with researchers in Poland in the spring of 2008. She received an REEI Summer Faculty Research Fellowship to support research for her book project *The Album in the Age of Russian and Polish Romanticism: Memory, Nation, Authorship* and a College Arts and Humanities Institute traveling fellowship to complete archival research in Moscow. She also won an REEI Mellon Endowment Grant-in-Aid of Research award for the revision of her essay "On Machines, Meat, and Misogyny: The Female Body in Polish Avant-garde Poetry of the 1920s." In summer 2007, she participated in a faculty exchange between IU and the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland. She co-organized "Polish-German Post/Memory: Aesthetics, Ethics, Politics," an international conference at IU which took place in April 2007. Beinek and Bill Johnston were awarded two IU grants for the project: one from the College of Arts and Humanities Institute and one from the New Frontiers in Arts and Humanities (New Perspectives) program. In January Beinek delivered, "The Idea of the 'West' in Russian and Polish Cultures," at the Hawaii International Conference of Arts and Humanities in Honolulu. She won a New Frontiers Exploration traveling grant and a conference travel grant from the Polish Studies Center for her trip. In December 2007, with Dr. Jessie Labov from Stanford University, she gave a lecture titled "Agnieszka, Angela, Anielica: Presence/Absence of Women in Polish Film (1976–2006)" at the conference "Gaps, Silences, Concealments, and Erasures in the Great Narratives of the 20th Century" at Warsaw University, Poland. While in Warsaw, Beinek also gave a presentation on Polish Romantic albums at the Stara Prochocznia Theater (The Old Powder House Theater) in Warsaw.

Henry R. Cooper Jr. published "Prešeren's 'Wreath of Sonnets'" in *Slavistična revijarevija* 54/4 (2006).

Andrew R. Durkin was a commentator on a panel on Turgenev at the November 2007 AAASS conference.

Ronald Feldstein's "Contradictory Quantitative Liquid Diphthongal Reflexes in Polish of the Type *plótno, król, we młodości*," a paper written in Russian, was published in the proceedings of the conference "Diachronia w badaniach nad językiem w dydaktyce szkoły wyższej," (Łódź). Forthcoming publications are

"Russian Dual Stem Aspectual Syncretism and the Opposition of Phase and Determinacy" (*Glossa* online journal, www.seelrc.org/glossos/) and "Russian phonological desinences as a conditioning factor in accentual paradigms," to be published in *Tones and Theories: Proceedings from the International Workshop on Balto-Slavic Accentuation* (Zagreb). He presented his paper "Nominal Prosodic Paradigms and their Synchronic Reflexes in West Slavic" at the International Workshop on Balto-Slavic Accentology in the Netherlands in 2007.

Paul M. Foster was awarded a grant with Henry Cooper from the National Security Education Program of the Department of Defense. The grant funded 24 fellowships for ROTC cadets at this year's Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages.

Steven L. Franks traveled to Zagreb, Croatia, in November 2006 to present "Splitting in Croatian" at Zagreb University. In December he presented "Splitting Puzzles in South Slavic" (with Anita Peti-Stantic) at Formal Description of Slavic Languages 6.5 in Nova Gorica, Slovenia, for which he received an REEI Mellon Endowment Grant-in-Aid for international travel. He also presented "Deriving Discontinuity" at AATSEEL in Philadelphia, where he was a vice president. Franks edited the fall 2006 issue of the online journal *Glossos*, 8, available at www.seelrc.org/glossos/issues/. In spring 2007, he presented "Splitting (up) Splitting" at the Midwest Slavic Conference in Columbus, Ohio, and presented "Topic, Focus, and the Structure of the Left Periphery in Macedonian and Bulgarian" at the Third South East European Studies Association Conference, with graduate student Lora Bolton, of the IU Department of Linguistics. Later in 2007, Franks presented "On Accusative First," (co-authored with James Lavine) at Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics 16, SUNY Stony Brook. He was invited by the Israel Science Foundation to present his work on "Slavic Clitics and the Syntax-Phonology Interface" at a workshop at Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva, and he also presented "Reflections on Spell-Out" at Hebrew University, Jerusalem. In August 2007, Franks was keynote speaker at the second annual Slavic Linguistics Society meeting in Berlin, talking on "South Slavic Clitics: Balkanization or Unification?" He also took part in the 40th International Seminar on Macedonian Language, Literature, and Culture in Ohrid. At the annual awards ceremony, Franks' work with Department of Slavic Languages

Emeriti Faculty

Dodona Kiziria was contributing editor to the February 2007 issue (volume 23, no. 6) of *Faces: People, Places, and Culture*, a children's magazine published by Cobblestone Publications. The issue focused on Georgia, and it includes articles and activities appropriate for upper elementary or middle school students. Teachers may order the publication at www.cobblestonepub.com.

Vadim Liapunov joined the faculty of the University of Chicago for the spring quarter. He taught a course on Tolstoy's *War and Peace* and another titled "Art and Answerability: An Introduction to the Thought of Mikhail Bakhtin."

and Literatures graduate students was recognized with the "Faculty Mentor of the Year" award. Franks recently published "What Makes Clitic Doubling Obligatory?," a work co-authored with **Catherine Rudin**, PhD'82, in *Jordan Penchev: In Memoriam*.

Jeffrey D. Holdeman co-organized and participated in a roundtable discussion Notes from the Field: Current Research in Old Believer Studies at the 38th National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Washington, D.C., in November 2006. In December, he presented "What Do You Want on Your Tombstone?: The Correlation Between Informational Weight and Language Choice in Russian Old Believer Gravestone Inscriptions in the Eastern United States" at the AATSEEL National Convention. In January 2007, he was invited to give the lecture "The Russian Old Believers of Detroit" at the Wayne State University series Celebrating Slavic Cultures. He spent June and July 2007 in Poland and Lithuania continuing his fieldwork on Russian Old Believers in central Europe and the U.S. Holdeman continues to host workshops on foreign language study skills, leading an informational meeting and roundtable on study abroad in Eastern Europe, and co-organizing the annual Slavic and East European Career Night with Lance Erickson. In August 2007, Holdeman began work as the new director of IU's Global Village Living-Learning Center, while keeping his administrative duties in the Slavic department.

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Faculty notes

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Christina Zarifopol Illias published “23 Palade Street: A Memoir” in *Bucharest Stories* (2006). In June 2007, she delivered “A Romanian Cultural Embassy in the United States of America: The Romanian Studies Program at Indiana University,” at the invitation of the Romanian Cultural Institute in Bucharest, Romania. On this occasion, she gave two one-hour interviews to Romanian national and international TV about the IU Romanian Studies Program. The interviews were broadcast in July and August 2007. Later in 2007, she also published “Dora Pavel,” “The Weapons of Seduction,” and “Cluj-Napoca” in a volume of collected interviews with various Romanian cultural personalities.

Nina Perlina received an REEI Mellon Endowment Grant-in-Aid for international travel to the XIII Symposium of the International Dostoevsky Society, held in Budapest, where she presented her paper “Dostoevsky’s Novel *The Idiot*: Poetics of Plot and Genre from the Position of Genetic and Semantologic Approaches.” She participated as a panel discussant on Biblical Texts and Subtexts in Dostoevsky at the 38th National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Washington, D.C.

Bogdan Rakić presented “Double Dialogue: Traditional Elements in the Poetry of Georg Nikolich” and participated as a panel discussant on Culture of Yugonostalgia at the 38th National Convention of the

American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Washington, D.C., in November 2006.

Bronislava Volkova published several articles and poems this past year, including an article in *Česka literatura* (a journal of the Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic), 11 poems in *Listopad* (a yearly collection of literature and literary criticism in the Czech Republic), a poem “And the foliage falls” in *The Dirty Goat*, and two poems and collages in support of action for Darfur at www.writersalliance.net. She was invited to present a lecture at Brown University in October 2006, and Charles University, Prague, in November 2006. Volkova gave a poetry reading from her new CD, “The Slightest Reminder of Your Being” (Three Decades of Exile: 2004–2006), at the IU College of Arts and Humanities Institute. She was subsequently awarded a grant for publication of her books and CDs. Volkova also traveled to San Francisco and Prague to do research for an anthology of 20th-century Czech poetry in translation and to Washington, D.C. for the Board of Directors meeting of CET International exchange program. Volkova was profiled in the June 2007 edition of *České listy*, a publication of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. The article highlighted her essay “Exile: Inside and Out” and “The Slightest Reminder of Your Being” (*Three Decades of Exile: 1974–2004*), a CD production of her poetry in Czech and English, both of which focused on the 30th anniversary of her exile from Czechoslovakia, as well as her work with the IU Czech Program.

Visiting Lecturers and Research Fellows 2006–07

Lidija Cvikić completed her second year as a visiting scholar at IU. For the past two years she has been on an exchange program through the University of Rijeka as a Croatian lecturer. In November, she presented “Croatian as a Second Language at American Universities,” at the 38th National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Washington, D.C. In April, at the third South East European Studies Association Conference, she presented “New Trends in the Description of the Croatian Language.”

Elena Petroska completed her first year of teaching Macedonian at IU and was recently awarded an ACLS grant to conduct research on heritage speakers of Macedonian living in the United States. She will be working closely with Christina Kramer not only to determine the status of the language as it is spoken in Macedonian communities but also to identify the characteristics and locations of the communities themselves. Ultimately, her research will contribute to the development of advanced-level Macedonian courses for heritage speakers and, at the same time, will hopefully attract these speakers to the study of Macedonian so that they may use it in the development of their professional lives. At the third South East European Studies Association Conference, she presented “The Agreement Hierarchy and Collective Nouns in Macedonian and Other South Slavic Languages.” In November 2007, she presented “The Use of IT in the Teaching of Macedonian,” at the annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies.

Miriam Shrager joined the faculty as a visiting lecturer of Russian for the 2007–08 academic year.

Wioletta Próchniak joined the department as a visiting professor of Polish, under the auspices of the Kościuszko Foundation.



Jeff Holdeman shows a high school student some balalaika basics during an outreach trip. The group visited Russian classes at Arsenal Technical High School, in Indianapolis.

Graduate student accomplishments

Bethany A. Braley was chosen as the 2006–07 outstanding graduate to receive the third annual Neatrou-Edgerton Award and scholarship.

Bora Chung received a Mellon Endowment Grant-in-Aid of travel to the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies convention to present her paper, “The Image of Shop in *The Doll* and *Cinnamon Shops*” in November.

Lina Khawaldah completed her MA in Slavic literature.

Bo Ra Kim successfully passed all qualifying exams and papers and has advanced to candidacy in Slavic linguistics. She presented her paper “Distribution of Vowel Quantity in Czech Dialects” at the Midwest Slavic conference in April 2007 at The Ohio State University.

Heather Rice taught Russian Level II at the Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages. In May 2006 she received her MA in Slavic linguistics and in the fall she was officially admitted to the PhD program.

Stuart Mackenzie received his MA in Slavic literature this spring. He has also successfully completed his doctoral

exams in Slavic literature and is currently working towards the completion of his dissertation on “Russian Satirical Prose of the 1920s.” He served as assistant to the director in SWSEEL 2006 and since August 2006 has been working as the business manager of Slavica Publishers.

Miriam Shrager received an REEI Mellon Endowment Grant-in-Aid for travel to the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and Eastern European Languages conference to present her paper, “Plural Accentuation of the Masculine Nouns in Pskov Dialects.” The conference took place in Philadelphia in December 2006. She presented “The Domain of the Reflexive in Russian and Other Slavic Languages” at the Midwest Slavic Conference in Columbus, Ohio, in April. She was also awarded an REEI Mellon Endowment Grant-in-Aid of Travel to Conferences to support her participation at the International Workshop on Balto-Slavic Accentology in the Netherlands, where she presented her paper “Plural Accentuation in ‘Krivichi’ Dialects.” She defended her dissertation, “The Accentual System of Masculine Nouns in the ‘Krivichi’ Dialects,” in July 2007.

Yekatrina Vernikov received an MA in Slavic literature.

Student activity report

Enrollments & graduations

The 2006–07 year marked another successful term for the department as it continues to grow. Undergraduate enrollments increased to a total of 122, up from 89 in 2005–06. There were 18 graduating seniors, many of whom have gone on to continue their involvement with Russian in some form or fashion. Graduates for May 2006 were: **Katie Davis**, who is now working in Michigan; **Clark Everitt**, who spent a year with ACTR in St. Petersburg; **Aaron Hale-Dorrell**, who spent one year with Serendipity in Vladimir and is now attending graduate school in Russian history at the University of North Carolina; and **Ryan Kilgore**, who is currently an IU REEI graduate student. In August 2006 the following graduated: **Jean Morrison**, **Chris Wininger**, **Michael Smith**, **Robert Hall**, who is currently enrolled at IU as a graduate student in SPEA, and **Justin Moore**, who is now a graduate student in opera at IU. In December 2006: **Ryan Goffinet** and **Justyna Lenik**. In May 2007: **Wyatt Huff**, **Kelly Lostroscio**, **Kathleen Minahan**, who received a Ko’ściuszko Fellowship to study Polish in Kraków, for 2007–08, and **Tom Schafbuch**, who successfully found a job in Moscow working at *The Moscow Times*. **Aaron Ferris**, **Jessica Lex**, **Ryan McMeen**, **Tim Kenlan**, and **Leah Tannen** graduated in August 2007, and **Dan Florek** graduated in December 2007. It should be mentioned that 16 of the 18 graduating students studied abroad or otherwise lived for an extended period abroad.

Dobro Slovo

Three students and one staff member were inducted into the Dobro Slovo National Slavic Honor Society in 2007: **Rosemarie Connolly**, **Kern Daniel Lunde**, **Richard Payne-Holmes**, and **Lance Erickson**. Dobro Slovo recognizes academic achievement in the field of Slavic studies.

Extracurricular language & culture activities

Russian Tea and Russian Table continue to be popular extra-curricular activities among faculty and students both, usually drawing crowds that reach beyond the Slavic Department. Graduate students **Lina Khawaldah**, **Galina Krivonos**, and **Bethany Braley** have contributed greatly to the success of these activities. Also in operation and steadily gaining popularity

New students enter program

Three graduate students joined the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures in 2007–08:

Brigid Henry graduated from Bryn Mawr College with a BA in Russian Area Studies. She also attended the University of Notre Dame, the University of Toronto, and the Russian State Pedagogical University in St. Petersburg, Russia. While studying abroad in St. Petersburg, she was an apprentice to Russian printmaker Peter Belyi at the St. Petersburg Print Studio. She was awarded a departmental fellowship for 2007.

Melissa Witcombe received a master’s degree in music from Johns Hopkins University, where she majored in piano and organ at the Peabody Institute and minored in Slavic languages and

literatures. She received her bachelor’s in music from Northwestern University. At IU, Melissa is researching Slavic languages in relation to musicology and linguistics. She received a FLAS to study Russian and was additionally awarded a departmental fellowship.

Magdalena Mulek received her MBA from the Georgia Institute of Technology, a BA in Computer Science from Emory University, and most recently attended the University of South Florida. She is now pursuing a PhD in Slavic literature. Mulek spent the first 14 years of her life in Košice (then part of Czechoslovakia) and she speaks Slovak, Czech, Russian, Spanish, and English. She was awarded a departmental fellowship.



Above, department faculty members and students gathered for the annual Spring Tea in 2007.

are the Polish Table, Czech Club, Macedonian Coffee Hour, Serbian/Croatian Tables, Romanian Table, and the Ukrainian Club. This rise in popularity is thanks to faculty **Justyna Beinek**, **Bronislava Volkova**, **Elena Petroska**, **Lidija Cvikic**, **Christina Illias**, and **Olena Chernishenko**. Guslari Slavic choir, led by **Kirill Dyachkov** and **Bo Ra Chung**, and Slavic folk dancing, led by **Miriam Shrager** resumed in fall 2007 after a semester-long hiatus.

ACTR Contest

Indiana University again claimed success in ACTR's national essay contest. Of the 20 students who participated in the contest, four students received national recognition. **Dan Tam Do** and **Jeffrey A. Truelock** each received honorable mention for non-heritage learners for level two. **Kelly Lostroscio** was awarded second place for non-heritage learners for level four. **Ian Lanzillotti** received honorable mention for non-heritage learners for level 4. This is the fifth year IU participated in the competition. There were more than 700 participants nationwide from 51 universities and colleges, and over 100 students from 40 institutions throughout the United States were awarded gold, silver, bronze, or honorable mention certificates.

Dean's List

Nine students made the dean's list in 2006–07. In the fall, **Joshua Elle**, **Matisse Giddings**, **Jessica Lex**, **Kelly Lostroscio**, **Kathleen Minahan** and **Jeffrey Truelock**



At left, Jeff Holdeman with graduating seniors Kelly Lostroscio and Kathleen Minahan.

were honored. In the spring, **Sasha Goring**, **Michaelene Hanley**, **Jessica Lex**, **Kelly Lostroscio**, **Kathleen Minahan**, and **DoRena Stuckwisch** were recognized.

Outreach Report

The Slavic Department, in coordination with REEI, engages in several outreach activities with the community and with other Russian programs in the state.

Jeff Holdeman, **Denise Gardiner**, and **Lance Erickson** visited Indiana's Merrillville, Andean, Southport, Jefferson, and Arsenal Technical high schools in the spring of 2007. In March, students from the Indiana Academy in Muncie, Ind., visited the department with their Russian teacher. And the Upward Bound Project at Indiana University again offered Russian as a foreign language in summer 2007. This is the third time Russian has been selected for this college preparatory program for disadvan-

taged students and attests to the quality and popularity of Russian language study at IU.

Study Abroad

Two students of the department, **Ryan McMeen** and **Katya Israel**, returned home after having completed the 2006–07 academic year abroad in St. Petersburg. Six students were studied or worked overseas in the spring of 2007. **Sara Ronald** was in St. Petersburg, **Matisse Giddings** in Prague, **Joshua Elle** in Croatia, and **Dan Florek** in Kraków. In the summer, **David Bubenicek** and **Jessica Lex** went overseas. **Adam Julian** will be in Yaroslavl, then St. Petersburg in the spring. **Alex "Sasha" Hall** will be in Prague in the fall. Two students spent the entire academic year 2007–2008 studying abroad: **Andrea Messenger** in St. Petersburg, Russia, and **Laura Patton** in Kraków, Poland.

Class notes

Before 1960

Peter H. Von Wahlde, BA'57, MA'58, PhD'66, is retired. He lives in Gulf Breeze, Fla.

1960s

Lauren G. Leighton, MA'62, Cert'63, is professor emeritus of Russian at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He lives in Madison, Wis.

Michael A. Kandel, BA'63, MA'65, PhD'71, is an assistant editor for the Modern Language Association in New York City. Previously, he was an assistant professor at George Washington University. Kandel lives in Port Jefferson Station, N.Y.

Alexander Rabinowitch, Cert'63, PhD'65, is professor emeritus of history at IU Bloomington. He is the author of *The Bolsheviks in Power: The First Year of Soviet Rule in Petrograd*, published by Indiana University Press. Rabinowitch lives in Bloomington.

Gustave W. Carlson, MAT'64, is retired and living in Chicago.

Since 1970, **Christine A. Rydel**, MA'68, PhD'76, has taught Russian language, literature, and culture at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich. She moderates the Russian Circle and the Grand Valley chapter of Dobro Slovo, the national Slavic honor society.

Gary D. Wiggins, BA'66, MA'68, MLS'71, PhD'85, is an adjunct professor and director of the Chemical Informatics Program at the IU School of Informatics in Bloomington, Ind. He received the Special Libraries Association Hall of Fame Award in June 2007. Only 124 people have received the award since the organization's inception in 1959.

1970s

Carl W. Reddel, Cert/PhD'73, is executive director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission in Washington, D.C. He retired from the U.S. Air Force with the rank of brigadier general.

Maria Carlson, MA'74, PhD'82, is a professor and associate chairwoman in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas. She

lives and works in Lawrence, Kan.

Allan I. Grafman, BA'75, is president of All Media Ventures, a media consulting and investment-advising firm in White Plains, N.Y. He was previously president of Archie Comics Entertainment. Grafman lives in White Plains.

Vreneli R. Farber, PhD'76, is a professor at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Ore. She published the books *The Playwright Aleksandr Vampilov* and *The Prose of Aleksandr Vampilov*. Farber lives in Corvallis.

Lenell R. Nussbaum, BA'77, is a self-employed criminal defense lawyer in Seattle. In March 2007, she taught about the U.S. Constitution at Petrozavodsk State University Law School in Petrozavodsk, Russia. "It was a wonderful opportunity, after 30 years, to combine my Russian studies with my legal career," Nussbaum writes. She lives in Seattle.

Mark T. Hooker, MA'78, received an award from the 2006 Hollywood Book Festival for his collection of contemporary fairy tales, *Once More Upon a Time*.

Mark L. von Hagen, MA'78, is a professor and chairman of the history department at Arizona State University in Tempe. He is the co-editor of the book *Russian Empire: Space, People, Power, 1700-1930*, published by Indiana University Press.

"I have transferred from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow to the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, where I will be the press attaché for the next three years," writes **David M. Marks**, MA'79, Cert'81. He has also worked as a foreign-service officer for the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C.

Luke Springman, BA'79, is associate professor in the Department of Languages and Cultures at Bloomsburg University in Pennsylvania.

1980s

Pamela J. Sanford, BA/Cert'81, is a senior analyst in international programs for the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C. She lives in McLean, Va.

Elizabeth L. Winship, BA'82, MLS'86, Cert'88, is the regional head of mission for United Methodist Committee on Relief Non-Governmental Organization in Tbilisi in the Republic of Georgia.

Mari A. Firkatian, MA'84, PhD'91, is an assistant professor of history at the University of Hartford in Connecticut. She is

the author of "Struggling for Each Other: the Stancioff Family at Work," published in the *Journal of Family History: Studies in Family, Kinship, and Demography* in April. She has a book chapter and book that are forthcoming.

B. Michael Long, MA'84, PhD'94, is an associate professor of Russian and director of Slavic and East European studies at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. Since June 2006, he has served as interim chairman of Baylor's Department of Modern Foreign Languages.

Alan D. Brooks, MA'85, is a political analyst for the CIA in Washington, D.C. He has also served as a Russian translator for the organization. Brooks lives in Alexandria, Va.

Shelley Medlock Cannady, Cert/BA'85, writes, "Following my eight years of active duty in the U.S. Navy (1988-96, all overseas and focused on former Soviet/Russian military operations), I left the Navy to be home with my husband and daughter, now 15. I got a master's degree in landscape architecture at the University of Georgia in 1999. I teach there, non-tenure track, have a boutique landscape design business with a partner, and grow wine grapes on the horse farm my husband and I own in Madison County, Ga. I have recently been developing an interest in somehow merging my current focus with my past, as in perhaps doing some research on the changing function, use, and social significance of public open space in Russian cities, primarily St. Petersburg. If anyone there has a similar interest, I would love to correspond." Cannady can be reached at scannady@starband.net.

Sibelan E. Forrester, MA'85, PhD'90, is a professor of Russian at Swarthmore (Pa.) College. In 2006 she won the Heldt Prize for best translation in Slavic/East European/Eurasian studies from the Association for Women in Slavic Studies. The award recognized Forrester's translation of Dubravka Oraic Tolic's poems, published in 2005 by Ooligan Press. Forrester lives in Swarthmore.

Robert A. Fradkin, MA/PhD'85, teaches Latin, Russian, and French at Atholton High School in Columbia, Md. Previously, he worked for the University of Maryland in College Park. Fradkin lives in College Park, Md.

Michael C. Finke, MA'86, PhD'89, teaches in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of

Alumni notebook

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Illinois at Urbana–Champaign. His work will be featured in *Chekhov the Immigrant: Translating a Cultural Icon*, forthcoming from Slavica Press.

Peter I. Holquist, BA/Cert'86, is an associate professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author of *Making War, Forging Revolution: Russia's Continuum of Crisis, 1914–1921*, published by Harvard University Press in 2002, and is the associate editor of *Europe Since 1914: Encyclopedia of the Age of War and Reconstruction*, published by Thomson-Gale in 2006. Holquist lives in Bala Cynwyd, Penn.

John T. Bartle, MA'87, PhD'94, is an associate professor of Russian at Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y.

Maureen Riley, MA'86, is associate professor of Russian at the Defense Language Institute–Washington in Washington, D.C.

Georgina Cundiff Wagoner, BA'87, is a social studies teacher for Evansville (Ind.) Vanderburgh School Corp. She lives in Evansville.

1990s

Sue Brown, MA'91, PhD'96, is resident dean of freshmen for the Harvard College Freshman Dean's Office in Cambridge, Mass. She lives in Cambridge.

Kasia Jarski-Firlej, Cert/BA'92, is a continuing lecturer in marketing, human

resources, and management at Purdue University Calumet. She lives in St. John, Ind.

Michael A. Denner, BA'93, is an assistant professor of Russian studies at Stetson University, where he has worked since 1999. He is the director of the Honors Program at the university. Denner is also the editor of the *Tolstoy Studies Journal*. He and his wife, Nicole (Wilson), BA'93, MA'96, who also works at Stetson, live and work in Deland, Fla.

Jennifer Nofziger Wahba, BA/Cert'93, is a stay-at-home mother of two daughters, ages 6 and 2. Her husband, John, is a professional supervising video editor who recently worked as supervising editor for the feature film *The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A Veggie Tales Movie*, released in January 2008. Wahba and her family live in Franklin, Tenn.

Andrea Rossing McDowell, MA'95, PhD'01, MS'02, is a visiting assistant professor of Russian literature at Seattle University. She and her husband, Sean, MA'95, PhD'00, live in Federal Way, Wash., with their son, Kieran, who was born on Sept. 20, 2006.

Michael H. Horlick, Cert/BA'97, is a linguist and lexicographer for the McNeil Technologies Language Research Center in Hyattsville, Md. Horlick specializes in Uyghur, Russian, and Chinese. He is the author of a Uyghur-to-English dictionary and an editor of a Uyghur reader. He is a doctorate student at the University of Maryland in College Park. Horlick lives in Hyattsville.

Rebecca Williams Kaegi, MA'97, is a stay-at-home mother in Chicago. Previously, she was a teacher at Percy Julian Middle School in Oak Park, Ill.

Donald F. Reindl, MA'97, PhD'05, is an instructor in the faculty of arts at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. Previously, he was an instructor for Slovenia's Ministry of Defense. Reindl lives in Ljubljana.

Alla A. Smyslova, MA'97, is a lecturer in Russian language at Columbia University in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures in New York City.

2000s

Rebecca E. Bartlett, BA'02, MA/MLS'04, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is a cataloger at the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. In June 2006, she attended a Slavic librarian conference at the University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign.

Jennifer Challgren Whitaker, BA'02, MD'06, is an internal medicine resident at Emory University in Atlanta.

Ji-Seon Eom, MA'03, and **Sukhoon Choo**, PhD'03, were married on May 29, 2007. The couple lives in Bloomington, Ind.

Sarah Gilchrist, BA'04, lives in Indianapolis and works as a guest services representative at the Indianapolis Art Center.

Jean M. Morrison, BA'06, is pursuing a PhD in economics at Michigan State University. She writes that she plans to specialize in the area of development economics with a focus on Russia and former Soviet states.

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U.S. to get "a more rounded experience in law." He spent five years as a mergers and acquisitions specialist for Altheimer & Grey in Chicago, where he met his wife, Jo-Ann, before coming home to Indiana to work for Indianapolis-based law firm Ice Miller in 2003. Not surprisingly, Feltman's fast-rising star caught the attention of the state's political leaders. In 2005, Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels asked Feltman to serve as executive vice president and general counsel of the newly established Indiana Economic Development Corp., the premier entity charged with driving the state's economic development. He's also quick to credit others for his successes, including his alma mater. "Without the background and experience I received at IU, none of this would have been possible." Feltman was

recently in Russia leading an Indiana trade delegation in summer 2007. REEI Director David Ransel, who happened to be in Russia at the same time, and met up with the group for breakfast, said, "I was enormously impressed with Feltman's energy, commitment and intelligence. He was, for his part, very grateful for all that he had learned at IU and told me that his study of Russian there was a life-changing experience. He recalled with special warmth the Russian-language summer program in St. Petersburg conducted by Larry Richter. We are very fortunate to have Feltman seeking out commercial opportunities for Indiana businesses. He is an outstanding representative."

Ryan Piurek, MA'02, is a media relations specialist for IU's Office of Media Relations and a freelance writer living in Bloomington. This article was adapted from The College, Winter 2007.



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