In January of this year, I took over as interim director of CREEES, replacing Professor Gabriella Safran of the Slavic Department, who was beginning a year’s sabbatical leave. Since Gabriella herself had begun her tenure as director in the fall of 2007, and since, moreover, the Center had also just appointed a new Associate Director, Rob Wessling, and a new Publicity and Events Coordinator, Karen Haley, there existed a real possibility of incoherence and chaos. Fortunately, the Center was blessed with two exceptionally able holdover staff members, Van-Anh Nguyen, Center Administrator, and Jack Kollmann, Lecturer and Academic Coordinator. Their expertise and steadiness helped the new CREEES leadership to avoid numerous pitfalls, as did the firm support of the Center’s distinguished Steering Committee. Furthermore, I soon learned that both Rob Wessling and Karen Haley represented outstanding new hires.

My first major task as Center director was to host the thirty-second annual Stanford/Berkeley Conference on Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies on March 7th. The conference took place five days after Dmitrii Medvedev was elected Russian president, succeeding Vladimir Putin. The theme of the conference was, appropriately, “Political Succession in Russia.” By all accounts the conference, which brought together leading specialists from Stanford, Berkeley and the Hoover Institution, represented a smashing success; for the first time ever the conference was televised (by FORA.TV). A link to the filmed version of the conference is available through the CREEES website.

The theme of leadership change in Russia also occupied CREEES in early May when we, together with partnering centers at the Freeman Spogli Institute of International Studies, hosted three exceptionally informative lectures by Edward Lucas of The Economist, Marshall Goldman of the Davis Center at Harvard, and Dmitrii Trenin of the Carnegie Center in Moscow. All three speakers discussed their new books on Russia.

During academic year 2007-08, CREEES’s Ukrainian Studies Program, whose director is Nancy Kollmann of the History Department, sponsored more than fifteen campus lectures, film screenings and musical performances. The Stanford Lecture Series on Ukraine featured distinguished experts on Ukraine, like David Lane (Cambridge University), Serhy Yekelchyk (University of Victoria) and Roman Koropeckyj (UCLA). CREEES also supported a popular public concert of ancient Ukrainian songs performed by Fulbright Scholar and Ukrainian song preservationist Marjana Sadowska. Many thanks to Lessia Jarboe, Ukrainian Outreach Coordinator, for her work in making the Ukrainian programs a success.

During the past academic year, CREEES was also pleased to support the Eurasian
CREEES STAFF

Director: Gabriella Safran
gsafran@stanford.edu

Interim Director (2008): John Dunlop
dunlop@hoover.stanford.edu

Associate Director: Robert Wessling
rwess@stanford.edu
650-725-6852

Lecturer & Academic Coordinator
Jack Kollmann
kolljack@stanford.edu

Center Administrator:
Van Anh Nguyen
vnguyen@stanford.edu
650-723-3562

Publicity & Events Coordinator:
Karen Haley
khaley@stanford.edu
650-725-2563

Ukrainian Studies Outreach Coordinator:
Lessia Jarboe
ljarboe@stanford.edu

Program Assistant:
Lenka Strakova

Chronicle Editors:
Tanya Bulloch
Karen Haley
Monique Smith

CREEES is a Center in the Division of International Comparative & Area Studies (ICA)

CREEES is designated a National Resource Center for the study of Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia by the U.S. Department of Education, and receives Title VI funds for educational and outreach activities. The center is a degree-granting program within the School of Humanities and Sciences at Stanford University.

Further information about CREEES at Stanford is available at http://CREEES.stanford.edu

Studies Working Group, comprised of Stanford faculty and graduate students interested in the study of the Caucasus and Central Asia. Anthropology doctoral candidate Zhanara Naruzbayeva has been collaborating with faculty members Robert Crews (history), Shazhad Bashir (religious studies), Alma Kunanbaeva (anthropology) and Izaly Zemtsovyk (music/Slavic) to invite speakers with expertise in these regions to present their latest research to the group. The Eurasian Studies Working Group met four times during the spring quarter to discuss pre-circulated papers written by advanced graduate students.

The Stanford Initiative for Creativity and the Arts (SiCa) awarded a Major Grant to the CREEES “Sounds of Eurasia” Performance Series for 2008-09. The “Sounds of Eurasia” series was launched in March 2008 by Izaly Zemtsovsky and Alma Kunanbaeva in an effort to bring leading exponents of Eurasian musical traditions to the Stanford campus for concerts and educational workshops. In 2008-09, the CREEES “Sounds of Eurasia” series will bring to campus artists representing the musical traditions of the Republic of Georgia, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, and Kazakhstan.

CREEES also takes pride in its continued support of student summer research and language learning. For the summer of 2008 we awarded three undergraduate language grants for Russian and one for Ukrainian. Additionally, with the generous support of the US Department of Education, CREEES enabled four graduate students to do advanced language study in Russian, Polish and Azeri.

The incoming CREEES class of MA candidates in our one-year interdisciplinary program will be made up of eight remarkably talented students. Our incoming MA students have academic backgrounds in history, Russian/Slavic, earth systems, biological sciences, and international studies, as well as the Tatar and Russian languages. Many thanks to CREEES Academic Coordinator Jack Kollmann for all his work with our MA students.

CREEES offers an undergraduate minor in Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies and reaches out to undergraduates interested in studying abroad. In January, CREEES and the Bing Overseas Study Program co-sponsored an informational program for students interested in the Stanford-in-Moscow program. History Professor Amir Weiner is presently the faculty member in residence in Moscow, where seventeen Stanford undergraduates are studying. In late August and September, Nancy and Jack Kollmann took sixteen undergraduates to St. Petersburg for a three-week Overseas Seminar under the aegis of the Bing Overseas Study Program.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Rob Wessling for the consistently outstanding work he has put in as CREEES’s new associate director. It also gives me pleasure to report that, in May, CREEES Center Administrator Van-Anh Nguyen was awarded the prestigious Dean’s Award of Merit at Stanford’s annual Staff Recognition Luncheon. Van-Anh’s passion for cost-saving, thoughtful budgeting and careful adherence to finance policy have constituted a major asset for CREEES over the past three years.

Finally, I should announce that on Friday, November 21st, CREEES will co-sponsor the first ever joint Stanford/Berkeley Reception at this year’s meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) to be held in Grand Ballroom C of the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. We look forward to welcoming all Stanford and CREEES faculty, students and alumni attending the convention as well as CREEES alumni residing in the Philadelphia area.
Director’s Report on East European and Eurasian Language Programs

Eva Prionas, Ph.D.
Director, Special Language Program
Stanford University

CREEES, the US Department of Education (Title VI funding), and the Special Language Program of the Stanford Language Center, jointly support language instruction in the less commonly taught languages (LCTLs) of East Europe and Eurasia. As a result, this academic year Czech, Hungarian, Polish, Kazakh, Uzbek, Serbo-Croatian, Georgian, Romanian, Yiddish, and Ukrainian are offered to both undergraduate and graduate students as part of the Stanford curriculum. The course offerings include two levels of instruction at the beginning and intermediate levels and often advanced level courses in the form of directed reading or independent study.

The language programs are carefully planned to take into consideration the linguistic and academic needs of the students whose studies and research focus in specific geographical areas. Enhancing cultural understanding of the area and the people whose language is studied becomes an essential component of language learning. With CREEES support the language programs were able to bring to campus a film series (Czech Film Night) and to participate in music performances and lectures (“Sounds of Eurasia”).

Aligned with the Stanford Language Center’s philosophy on professional development, instructors of East European and Eurasian languages receive long-term, sustained support that promotes competency and growth; support that raises consciousness about learning and achievement, provides for updates on teaching and assessing students by following national standards, and creates opportunities for teachers to become members of learning communities.

Last year CREEES supported professional development by providing Title VI funds for Jara Dusatko, who teaches Czech at Stanford, to participate in a special workshop for Title VI National Resource Centers (NRCs) & Foreign Language Resource Centers (LRCs). The workshop addressed the topic “Best Practices in Proficiency Testing for Slavic and Eurasian Languages” and was devoted to discussing existing practices and problems in testing proficiency, improving learning outcomes, and strengthening curricula at the advanced levels.

Thanks to CREEES, support has also marked a new direction towards specific efforts in creating novel professional development opportunities for the East European and Eurasian LCTL instructors at Stanford. A new web site, funded by CREEES and Title VI, will support and enhance faculty development. Our goal is to bring together part-time faculty who need to share teaching ideas in a very efficient manner, and to make sure that digital content and resources become more accessible to them. The site will provide access to general information and resources on topics such as designing courses, syllabi and lesson plans for the language classroom as well as information and examples on topics such as differentiation in the LCTL classroom, assessment, and teaching heritage students.

Internet communication and interactivity provide powerful features that are changing many fields by creating communities and intellectual work that is at par with what our “blog generation” students are creating and demanding as part of their learning experience. This initiative will offer instructors of East European and Eurasian LCTLs the opportunity to create better learning environments and use their classroom time more effectively.

For information on language courses, visit http://www.stanford.edu/dept/SLP/

---

CREEES-Sponsored Courses, Fall 2008

Central and East European Politics
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4:15 - 5:30, Jane Curry

With God in Russia: Orthodox Christianity in the 19th and 20th Centuries
Wednesdays, 2:15- 4:05, Jack Kollmann

Language courses in Czech, Hungarian, Polish, Kazakh, Uzbek, Serbo-Croatian, Georgian, Yiddish, Romanian, and Ukrainian (including Ukrainian for speakers of a Slavic Language) offered every quarter on the beginning, intermediate and advanced level

Contact Eva Prionas, Director, Special Languages Program, for details: eprionas@stanford.edu

http://creees.stanford.edu

European Studies Conference Confronts Legacy of the 1989 Revolutions

The two-day conference “1989 Revolutions: Roots, Course, Legacies” brought leading historians, sociologists, and political scientists in East European and Russian studies to the Stanford Campus to mark the approaching twentieth anniversary of the revolutions that have so profoundly transformed the region.

The Center for European Studies sponsored the conference, comprised of six panels held on March 14-15, 2008 in the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy and Research conference room. Co-sponsors included CREEES, the Mediterranean Studies Forum, the Forum on Contemporary Europe, the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, the Journal of Contemporary European History, and the UC Berkeley Department of History. This conference was also funded by Title VI, US Department of Education.

Amir Weiner (Associate Professor of History, Stanford) and John Connelly (Associate Professor of History, UC Berkeley) provided the opening comments before the six panels began: 1989 in European and World History, 1989 as Institutional Revolution, Communism and 1989, Social/Generational Paradigm, Ethno-national Paradigm, and Geopolitics of 1989. A partial list of participants includes: Charles Maier (Harvard), Padraic Kennedy (Indiana), Vladimir Tismaneanu (Maryland), Paul Gregory (Houston and Hoover), James Krapfl (McGill), Jeffrey Kopstein (Toronto), Silvio Pons (Rome), Alexei Yurchak (UC Berkeley), Marci Shore (Yale), Tom Simons (Harvard), Mark Beissinger (Princeton), V.P. Gagnon (Ithaca), Lucan Way (Toronto), and Gregory Domber (Stanford).

Conference organizer Amir Weiner is also Co-Director of the Center for European Studies, Research Affiliate at the Forum on Contemporary Europe, Director of Stanford University History “Kruzhok,” and the Faculty in Residence at Stanford-in-Moscow for Autumn 2008. Professor Weiner’s research concerns Soviet history with an emphasis on the interaction between totalitarian politics, ideology, nationality, and society. His first book Making Sense of War (2001) analyzed the role and impact of the cataclysm of the Second World War on Soviet society and politics. His current project, Wild West, Window to the West investigates the interaction between the territories located between the Baltic and Black Seas that were annexed by the Soviet Union in 1939-40, from the initial occupation to present. Professor Weiner has taught courses at Stanford on modern Russian history, the Second World War, the Origins of Totalitarianism, War and Society in Modern Europe, Modern Ukrainian History, and History and Memory.

The two-day conference “Utopia’s Coasts: Stoppard in New York and Moscow,” held on May 22-23, 2008 at the Stanford Humanities Center, featured the directors of the New York and Moscow productions of Tom Stoppard’s three-part dramatization of nineteenth-century intellectual life: The Coast of Utopia: Voyage, Shipwreck, Salvage. The Czech-born Tom Stoppard’s critically acclaimed epic trilogy broke records last year for the most Tony Awards ever won by a play. It won best play, best director, best featured actor and actress, and all three design awards for costume, lighting and set.

The international conference included discussions and lectures by Carey Perloff, director of the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco, and noted scholars of drama, Russia intellectual history, and American Studies. The conference was supported by a major grant of the Stanford Initiative for Creativity and the Arts (SiCa) and co-sponsored by CREEES, the Stanford Humanities Center, the Division of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages (DLCL), and the Dean’s Office of the School of Humanities and Sciences.

A dissertation fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center for 2007-08, Steven Lee describes himself as an “American Russian comparativist.” He saw both the American and Russian productions of The Coast of Utopia (Continued on next page)
along with Stanford undergraduate Courtney Weaver ‘08, who graduated in June with a bachelor’s degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures and served as the assistant conference organizer.

On Thursday evening, May 22, students from the Stanford Drama Department produced and performed a staged reading of one scene from The Coast of Utopia. After the reading, Alexei Borodin and Tony Award-winner Jack O’Brien, the directors of Utopia in Moscow and New York, respectively, compared several video clips—selected by Stoppard himself—from the two productions. Carey Perloff, artistic director of the American Conservatory Theater, lead a comparative discussion of featured scenes.

On Friday, May 23, an all-day symposium at the Stanford Humanities Center featured leading scholars of Russian intellectual history, drama, and American studies. The first panel introduced the trilogy through images and video of the productions, as well as overviews of public and critical responses. The second panel put the Stoppard script in the context of Russian history post-socialism and the many other depictions of Herzen and his cohort. The third, featuring talks by the two directors, examined the formal aspects of the play and its productions. The final session juxtaposed the New York and Moscow productions to consider visions of utopia and post-utopia today.

For online video and audio transcripts of the student dramatization, directors’ comments, and the academic panels, visit the CREEES website homepage.

Cynthia Haven of the Stanford News Service contributed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE EXAMINES HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN EAST EuROPE AND RUSSIA

The international conference “Trafficking of Women in Post-Communist Europe” examined the trafficking of women for sexual exploitation, a trade that has rapidly expanded since the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the USSR. The conference, held on April 17-18, 2008 in the Bechtel Conference Center of the Freeman Spogli Institute, brought together scholars, policy experts, government officials and NGO analysts to discuss the issue from the economic, legal and human rights perspectives. Special attention was devoted to strategies to combat the problem and address the needs of the victimized females.

The Forum on Contemporary Europe sponsored this international conference in partnership with CREEES, the Stanford Law School, and the Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research. This conference was also funded by Title VI, US Department of Education.

Madeleine Rees, Head of the Women’s Rights and Gender Unit, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, delivered the conference keynote address, “The Failures of Identification and Response to Trafficking of Women in Eastern Europe,” on April 17, 2008. April 18 was devoted to an all-day conference comprised of three panels. The first panel, “The Trafficking Problem: Who’s Involved,” featured talks by Sarah Mendelson (Director, Human Rights and Security Initiative, Center for Strategic and International Studies), Ted Gerber (Professor of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, Madison), Simona Zavrtnik (Research Associate, University of Primorska, Slovenia), and Donna Hughes (Professor of Women’s Studies Program, University of Rhode Island). The first panel was chaired by Jayashri Srikanthath (Associate Professor, Stanford Law School).

The second panel “Interventions: Law and State” included papers by Eva Brems (Professor of Human Rights Law, Ghent University), Martina Vandenbarg (Associate, Jenner & Block, LLP), Antoaneta Vassileva (Executive Secretary, National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Bulgaria), and Daniel Horodniceanu (Chief Prosecutor, Anti-Trafficking Bureau, General Prosecutor’s Office, Romania). The panel was chaired by Helen Stacy (Senior Lecturer, Stanford Law School).

The third panel, chaired by Kathleen Kim (Associate Professor, Loyola Law School), was titled “Interventions: Non-Governmental and International Organizations” and featured Stana Buchowska (National Coordinator, La Strada Poland), Oksana Horbunova (Deputy Counter-trafficking Program Coordinator, International Organization for Migration, Kiev), and Jacqueline Berman (Principal Research Analyst, Berkeley Policy Associates).

Conference organizer Kathrine Jolluck, Acting Director of the Forum on Contemporary Europe 2007-08 and Senior Lecturer in the History Department, has been offering courses at Stanford on a variety of topics concerning East European history and gender studies since 2001. Her research interests include modern Poland, modern Russia and the Soviet Union, women and war, and gender and nationality. Jolluck’s book Exile and Identity: Polish Women in the Soviet Union during World War II was published in 2002.

A streaming mp3 file of the conference keynote address and a complete program of the conference panels, including paper titles, are available online at fce.stanford.edu.

http://creees.stanford.edu
CREEES was pleased to host the 32nd Annual Stanford/Berkeley Conference on Russia, East European & Eurasian Studies on Friday, March 7, 2008. This year’s conference “Political Succession in Russia” was held in the immediate aftermath of the March 2nd Russian Presidential Election that resulted in the election of Dmitry Medvedev as the third President of the Russian Federation. Conference panelists put the recent election results in historical perspective and considered what they might signify for the future of Russia and the world.

John Dunlop, Interim Director of CREEES and Hoover Institution Senior Fellow, served as host and moderator of the daylong conference held in the Stauffer Auditorium of the Hoover Institution. The morning panel featured historians and literary scholars discussing political successions of the medieval, Tsarist and Soviet periods. The two afternoon panels were composed of political scientists and social science researchers analyzing the recent Russian Presidential Election from a variety of perspectives. Yuri Slezkine, Professor of History and Director of the Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ISEEES) at UC Berkeley, delivered the closing remarks.

Proceedings of “Political Succession in Russia” may be viewed online at FORA.TV, a public affairs web portal partnered with C-SPAN. Visit the CREEES website homepage for quick links to streaming video of lectures and discussions of the conference panelists.

CREEES and UC Berkeley’s ISEEES co-sponsor the annual Stanford/Berkeley Conference. The first joint conference was held in Berkeley in 1977, and since then the conference has alternated each year between the Berkeley and Stanford campuses. The next joint conference (topic to be determined) will be held on the Berkeley campus on Friday, March 6, 2009.

This conference was made possible, in part, by US Department of Education Title VI funding.

Panel One: Political Successions of the Medieval, Tsarist and Soviet Periods

The first panel at the 2008 Stanford-Berkeley Conference “Political Succession in Russia” focused on the history of such successions prior to the fall of the Soviet Union. Presenters included Monica White (post-doctoral Humanities Fellow in the Stanford Slavic Department, 2007-08, and Assistant Professor of Russian Studies, University of Nottingham), Harsha Ram (Associate Professor of Slavic and Comparative Literature, UC Berkeley), Robert Crews (Assistant Professor of History, Stanford), and Amir Weiner (Associate Professor of History, Stanford). CREEES director, Gabriella Safran (Associate Professor of Slavic Languages and Literature) moderated.

In the first talk, Monica White discussed the Russian transition from Communism in light of the country’s medieval historical roots. In doing so, she reassessed the legitimacy of appealing to the historical precedent of Russian autocracy as a reason for the failure of the consolidation of democracy in contemporary Russia.

Harsha Ram, who delivered the second talk, spoke on the political valence of the verse of the great Russian Romantic poet Alexander Pushkin. Ram analyzed poems that revealed the poet’s intimate and often problematic relationship with the Russian political system. He also discussed Pushkin’s interest in and reflections on the nature of dynastic succession in Russia in the 19th century.

Robert Crews discussed monarchy and the drama of succession in imperial Russia. His talk contextualized the legacy of Russian President Vladimir Putin within the history of monarchy as a regime type in Russia. He first described the mechanics of Russian monarchy and then described how the general historical principles of the institution of Russian monarchy relate to Putin’s regime and the succession of President Dmitry Medvedev.

Crews, moreover, underscored the critical role that foreign powers have played in the succession games in Central Asia and how the familial, dynastic succession in these regions differs from the situation in which Putin finds himself. Crews also compared the concept of dynastic succession to the state of contemporary American presidential politics.

Amir Weiner, who gave the final presentation of the morning panel, spoke on Stalin’s successors and the Communist Party in 1953. Affirming that the legacy of Tsarism is very much alive in Russia today, he analyzed the relevance of the 1953 succession to contemporary politics.

Panel Two: The Putin-to-X Succession, Part I

The second panel featured panelists Pavel Podvig (Research Associate, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford), M. Steven Fish (Professor of Political Science, UC Berkeley), and Kathryn Stoner-Weiss (Associate Director of Research, Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law, Stanford). Kenneth Jowitt (Professor of Political Science, UC Berkeley and the Pres and Maurine Hotchikis Senior Fellow, the Hoover Institution) served as moderator.

Pavel Podvig began the discussion with a presentation on the changes and continuities in the Russian military industry. He analyzed the effects of trends in military and government interaction on the Putin administration and the future Medvedev administration. “The military industrial complex is very strong and resilient,” he asserted, “but it is not impossible to change it.” These concluding remarks brought a hopeful tone to the discussion of the future of the Russian military industrial complex.

Steven Fish posed the seemingly unanswerable question of why Russians have chosen autocracy. He followed this up by asking whether or not a possibility for change exists within the current situation. He emphasized that we know very little about popular opinion: we know that Putin is very popular, yet this still does not explain the popular embrace of autocracy as a system. He outlined the connections between oil politics and the collapse of democratic principles, and spoke on the weakness of state capacity as another reason for the increased acceptance of autocratic principles. From what we know now, he pointed out, Russia had a 55 percent chance of failing in its pursuit of democracy just because of structural factors.

Kathryn Stoner-Weiss analyzed the potential legacy of Putin’s policies for the Medvedev

(Continued on next page)
administration. She demonstrated the overwhelming extent to which Medvedev has relied on Putin for political stability and continuity as the legitimizing factor for his own presidency. Furthermore, she explained that the increase in GDP has been falsely attributed to the consolidation of autocracy as embodied in the Putin presidency. This, she continued, would be likely to influence the policy goals of Medvedev as well. Potential problems for Medvedev include: high expectations for his abilities and accomplishments, expectations for the maintenance of economic growth, and the issues of rising inflation (nearing 10 percent this year), social welfare, and corruption.

**Panel Three: The Putin-to-X Succession, Part II**

The third panel consisted of three talks on current and future Russian politics and foreign relations delivered by Michael McFaul (Professor of Political Science, Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, and Director of the Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, Stanford), Gail Lapidus (Professor Emerita of Political Science, UC Berkeley and Senior Fellow Emerita at the Freeman Spogli Institute, Stanford), and Edward Walker (Associate Adjunct Professor of Political Science, UC Berkeley and Executive Director, Berkeley Program in Eurasian and East European Studies). The panel was moderated by Michael Urban (Professor of Politics, UC Santa Cruz).

Michael McFaul examined recent trends in foreign relations between America and Russia in his talk “Change and Continuity in US-Russian Relations.” McFaul said that for approximately two decades before Presidents Bush and Putin took office, both Russia and the United States have shared the strategic policy objective of Russian integration with the West. By the end of the 1990s, however, this policy had faded and become exhausted.

President Bush decided that Russia was weak and insignificant, and should not be an important player on the international stage. The events of September 11th, moreover, created a false honeymoon between the US and Russia, as the two countries united in a common struggle against terrorism. As the war in Iraq became a major policy issue, however, Russia faded into the background; additionally, the democratic erosion in Russia created tensions between Putin and the West. Russia began to believe that it was strong enough to be unilaterally powerful — without integration or help from the West.

McFaul admitted that there are some fresh ideas for US-Russia relations among the candidates for the 2008 presidential election in the US, but that US-Russian relations will most probably continue under the next president without major policy shifts, though there may be new confrontations and tensions.

In her talk “Between Assertion and Insecurity: Russian Elite Attitudes under Putin,” Gail Lapidus pointed out two features that have characterized the most recent years of the Putin presidency: an increased assertiveness about Russia’s international influence and an extreme anxiety and insecurity about Russia’s domestic stability. These have been manifested not only in international aggression but also in domestic assertiveness and the attempt to control all aspects of Russian society.

Russia’s assertiveness has been a result, in part, of growing disenchantment with the Bush administration, differing opinions about the Colored Revolutions (the Orange Revolution in Ukraine and the Rose Revolution in Georgia, for instance), the awareness that Russia does not necessarily desire to emulate the West, and Russia’s burgeoning influence as an energy superpower. The Russian government believes that its era of economic and political weakness is over, and a new assertiveness has been captured in the political idea of Russia as a “sovereign democracy.” The emphasis on “democracy” is intended to displace the charge that Russia is moving toward autocracy; meanwhile, the word “sovereign” conveys Russia’s rejections of the West’s tutelage. This new assertive conception of sovereignty has led Russia to challenge the norms and rules of the international arena, restrict the impact of international, legal, and economic bodies, break treaties, and justify new actions such as increasing state control of the media, oil, infrastructure, and other sectors of society.

Meanwhile, the Russian government is highly insecure about the state of domestic affairs in Russia, in part because of globalization, and in part because of increasing Western influence in neighboring states. As a result, Russia has increased measures to control society and returned to the discourse of “the enemy” in regard to the West. The image of a malevolent “enemy” is used to justify repressive measures against the public, eliminate checks on power, and limit political competition. These are measures, however, which undermine transparency and accountability, as well as the existence of civil society in Russia. As a consequence of these actions, corruption continues to flourish, and this is harmful to modernization.

In the future, Lapidus predicted that Medvedev, Putin’s successor, will continue to emphasize stability and continuity in Russian government and society, increasing security and continued anti-Western sentiments will probably be part of his policy. However, in the long term, dissatisfaction among some elites concerning impediments preventing the improvement of conditions in Russia could spark change and even conflict in Russian society.

Edward Walker delivered the final talk of this panel “Base, Superstructure, and the Sustainability of Putinism.” Walker, addressing the question “What can we expect to happen to Putin’s legacy in the next eight years?”, wondered whether the autocratic structure developed by Putin could survive, or if it would be undermined by factors such as a market economy or a growing middle class. He also emphasized that it is extremely difficult to make predictions about Russia because it is shrouded in uncertainty; the regime is weakly institutionalized and the policies and politics are opaque. Political practices changed a great deal under Putin, and informal practices and norms are very important, but the regime is still malleable.

Walker emphasized that there are many things about Russia and Russian politics that are uncertain or unknown, and these uncertainties and unknowns could prove to be most important. For example, we do not know the true nature of the relationship between Medvedev and Putin, or how they will share executive power, and if that will work. The public really knows very little about Medvedev in general. We don’t know what will happen to the Russian economy, or if fate will smile or frown on Russia over the course of the next few years.

Walker also made several predictions about what can be expected over the course of Medvedev’s presidency. He contended that we can expect that the regime’s formal institutions will not change dramatically; the broad outlines of the economy will probably not change either, the Russian public and elite will remain “Statist” in their political orientation, corruption will be difficult to uproot, the North Caucasus will continue to be a trouble spot for Russia, Russians will remain cynical about politics, and the Russian state will continue to insist on its right to behave as a great power in the world.

Walker concluded that the main sources of instability in Russia do not come from below, but from inside the state itself. Although the unpredictable often occurs and there is great uncertainty about Russia’s future, he is more optimistic about the possibility of positive changes developing in Russia.

The panel concluded with a question-and-answer period and an interesting discussion between panelists and audience members. Yuri Slezin wrapped up the conference with his concluding remarks.

Monique Smith, Allison Glass, and Susan Skoda contributed to this report.
CREEES/SPICE K–12 Teachers’ Workshop

CREEES partnered with SPICE to produce the 2008 teachers’ workshop “Soviet and Russian Leaders.” On Saturday, April 12, 2008, a dedicated group of California teachers participated in the daylong workshop on Russian leadership and the curricular units focus on topics relevant to the teaching of Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies in US schools. The CREEES Ft. Ross Initiative sponsors school visits to the Russian colonial settlement in Ft. Ross, CA, in an effort to support extra-curricular enhancements of school curricula in California and Russian history, Russian language studies, or other relevant courses. CREEES can also arrange for lectures on Russian and California history on the Stanford campus to supplement a school visit to Ft. Ross.

CREEES sponsors outreach programs specifically intended for K–12 teachers and students. The Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE) joins CREEES in producing an annual teachers’ workshop on campus and high-quality curricular units for school use. The workshop and the curricular units focus on topics relevant to the teaching of Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies in US schools. CREEES maintains a sizeable lending library of documentary films, appropriate for classroom use, on a range of topics in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. Teachers may send an email message to creeesinfo@stanford.edu to learn more about the K–12 programs or to join our mailing list for teachers. The K–12 outreach programs are funded in part by a Title VI grant from the US Department of Education.

Gary Mukai, SPICE director, presented the curricular unit Inside the Kremlin: Soviet and Russian Leaders from Lenin to Putin to the participating teachers and conducted a pedagogic workshop on how best to make use of the unit in the classroom. The teachers also received complimentary documentary films on Putin, Yeltsin, and Stalin appropriate for classroom use.

Next year’s CREEES/SPICE teachers’ workshop will take place on Saturday, April 4, 2009. The workshop will explore environmental science, politics, and history in a daylong examination of the Chernobyl disaster. An hour-long teachers’ workshop on Eurasian history and music, to precede a performance of the Silk Road Ensemble (Bloomington, IN) on the Stanford campus, is tentatively scheduled for early March 2009.

Kathryn Stoner-Weiss (Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law) spoke to teachers on the topic of her co-authored article published in Foreign Affairs Magazine (a journal of the Council on Foreign Relations) in January 2008. Stoner-Weiss asked teachers to question the commonly accepted truism that the institution of the Russian presidency, after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, has become more successful under Vladimir Putin. Much of Putin’s apparent success, she argued, can be attributed to economic reforms that began under Putin’s predecessor Boris Yeltsin. The “myth of Putin’s success” masks endemic social, economic, and political challenges in today’s Russia.

Kristin Edwards, Russian history professor at Menlo College, presented a demonstration of online resources available to support the teaching of Soviet leadership. The website www.soviethistory.org maintains a user-friendly database of primary source documents and photographs that may be incorporated into the classroom teaching of Soviet history.

SPICE Curricular Units for Schoolteachers

SPICE produces a variety of high quality curricular units. CREEES
K–12 Outreach

supports the production of one curricular unit in Russian, East European & Eurasian studies annually.

In 2008-09, SPICE will produce a curricular unit on the Baltic States, which will include easy-to-use lesson plans, supplementary pedagogic materials, and expert commentary. Other curricular units supported by CREEES include:

- Examining Long-term Radiation Effects: Case Studies of the Chernobyl Power Plant Thermal Explosion and the Atomic Bombings of Japan
- Inside the Kremlin: Soviet and Russian Leaders from Lenin to Putin
- Central Asia: Between Peril and Promise
- Along the Silk Road
- Mapping Russia: Geographic and Cultural Diversity

These curricular units may be purchased online at spice.stanford.edu. Teachers may also request CREEES funding to support the purchase of these units.

Gary Mukai and the SPICE staff facilitate interactive workshops on the curricular units for public school teachers around the US. In early Nov. 2008, the SPICE staff will travel to New York City to introduce public school teachers to the Along the Silk Road curricular unit. Cellist Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble collaborated in the development of the SPICE curricular unit by providing musical material for an accompanying CD: www.silkroadproject.org/teachers/index.html

For its outstanding work in distance-learning education with high school students, SPICE was awarded the Goldman Sachs Foundation Media and Technology Prize in March 2008.

CREEES Ft. Ross Initiative

Thirty students, teachers, and parents from the Helix Charter High School (La Mesa, CA) traveled to the Stanford campus and Fort Ross to participate in an educational program on California and Russian history, March 27-29, 2008. Helix Charter is one of only a handful of California high schools with a robust Russian language and literature program.

Maya Kruglyak, Russian language teacher and organizer of the trip, brought the school group to Stanford for a campus tour and lecture that emphasized the history of Russian studies at Stanford and the slice of California history that Stanford represents.

On the next day, the group traveled to Ft. Ross, the reconstructed Russian colonial settlement on the California north coast. California State Park Historical Interpreter Robin Jay met the group and facilitated the daylong environmental living simulation of early 19th century Russian colonial life.

Students, parents, and teachers dressed in historic costume as each role-played a pre-assigned colonial persona. Small groups performed specific duties: gardening, fishing, cooking, handicrafts, and the defense of the fort. The cooking group prepared a delicious meal of borsch, blini, and grechka on the open flame, the handicraft group painted Russian Orthodox Easter eggs, and the defense group raised the Russian flag at the beginning of the day and fired off a fully functional historic cannon at day’s end.

Student Aaron Mina reflected on the day’s activities, “I chose to play the part of Iik [a Native American living in Fort Ross in the early nineteenth century]. Iik was a chef who was said to be an experimental cook and did it as his hobby. I fixed salad with shredded carrots and beets, and I also helped with churning the butter…. Before everyone sat down to eat, we took a tour around the fort and learned some more about California and Russian history.”

The CREEES Ft. Ross Initiative supports schools groups seeking opportunities for hands-on learning and extra-curricular enhancement to language and history programs in Russian and California Studies.
**CREEES Events 2007 - 08**

### CREEES Special Events 2007-08

**“The Legendary Wayne Vucinich: His Memoir”**
Larry Wolff (NYU) and Norman Naimark (Stanford)  
October 29, 2007

**The Alexander Dallin Lecture in Russian, East European & Eurasian Affairs**  
“Russia before the Parliamentary and Presidential Election: Towards a New Authoritarian Regime”  
Lev Gudkov (Levada Center Moscow)  
October 30, 2007

**“The Sputnik Legacy: An Interdisciplinary Roundtable”**
Donald Kennedy (Stanford President Emeritus), David Holloway (History, Politics, FSI), J. David Powell (Aeronautics, Astronautics & Mechanical Engineering) and Pavel Podvig (CISAC)  
November 13, 2007

**“Moscow... Europe’s Most Dynamic Capital, Roundtable for Stanford Undergraduates”**
Norman Naimark (History, Hoover, FSI, BOSP), Michael McFaul (Politics, CDDRL, FSI, Hoover), David Holloway (History, Politics, FSI), Alexander Abashkin (Stanford-in-Moscow), and Stanford student participants of Stanford-in-Moscow 2007  
January 24, 2008  
Co-sponsored with the Bing Overseas Studies Program (BOSP)

**“Roundtable on the Crisis in Georgia”**
John Dunlop (CREEES, Hoover), Gail Lapidus (FSI), Norman Naimark (History, FSI, Hoover), David Holloway (History, Politics, FSI), Michael McFaul (Politics, CDDRL, FSI, Hoover), William Perry (School of Engineering, FSI, Hoover), Grigory Shvedov (Draper Hills Summer Fellow, CDDRL), Eka Kemularia (Draper Hills Summer Fellow)  
August 14, 2008

### CREEES Seminars 2007-08

**“Report from the Stanford Overseas Seminar in Mongolia”**
Mark Mancall (History Professor Emeritus), Budruun Gardi ’09, and Saya Kitasei ’08  
November 5, 2007

**“How Firm Is President Lukashenko’s Grip on Power in Belarus?”**
Jan Maksymiuk (Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty)  
November 14, 2007

**“Cultural Heritage in Kosovo: Violence, Healing and Legislation”**
Ana Bezic (Stanford PhD Candidate)  
November 28, 2007

**“The West’s Secret Plan for the Mind: Book Distribution to East Europe During the Cold War”**
Alfred Reisch (University of Economics, Izmir, Turkey)  
December 11, 2007

**“Pleistocene Park: Revising the Extinct Mammoth Steppe in the Kolyma to Avert Global Warming?”**
Adam Wolf (Stanford PhD candidate)  
February 11, 2008

**“The Other Black Gold of the Caspian: International Caviar Markets and the Destruction of Sturgeon Populations in the Caspian Sea”**
Ben Knellman (MA, CREEES)  
February 11, 2008

**“Is ‘Eastern Europe’ Disappearing? Reflections on a Concept from a Western European Perspective”**
Klaus Segbers (Freie Universitat, Berlin)  
February 25, 2008

**“Personal Testimonies of Public Service: The Peace Corps in Post-Socialist Bulgaria”**
Jeffery Hawthorne (Haas Center for Public Service)  
April 30, 2008

**“Getting Russia Right”**
Dmitri Trenin (Carnegie Moscow Center)  
May 1, 2008  
Co-sponsored by the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC)

**“The New Cold War: Putin, Medvedev, and the Threat to the West”**
Edward Lucas (The Economist)  
May 2, 2008  
Co-sponsored by the Forum on Contemporary Europe  
*Online audio transcript: fce.stanford.edu

**“Petrostate: Putin, Power, and the New Russia”**
Marshall Goldman (Davis Center, Harvard)  
May 5, 2008  
Co-sponsored by the Forum on Contemporary Europe  
*Online audio transcript: fce.stanford.edu

**“Power and Money in Medvedev’s Russia (Or is it Putin’s?)”**
Don Jensen (Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty)  
May 28, 2008

**“Cooperating’ with the Past: The Attitude of Romanian Society toward the Former Communist Secret Police (the Securitate)”**
Florin Sperlea (CREEES Visiting Scholar)  
June 3, 2008

**“When Languages Die: Tracking Global and Local Trends of Language Extinction”**
K. David Harrison (Swarthmore College; Living Tongues Institute)  
December 5, 2007  
Co-sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, the Center for African Studies, and the Center for South Asia

**“The Merchant of Death: Money, Guns, Planes, and the Man Who Makes War Possible”**
Stephen Braun (LA Times)  
January 10, 2008  
Co-sponsored by the Ford Dorsey Program in International Policy Studies, the Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies, and the Forum on Contemporary Europe

**Co-Sponsored Events with the Centers and Programs of the Division of International, Comparative & Area Studies (ICA)**

**“Getting Russia Right”**
Dmitri Trenin (Carnegie Moscow Center)  
May 1, 2008  
Co-sponsored by the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC)
“Do Autocracies Perform Better than Democracies? Evidence from Russia under Yeltsin and Putin”
Michael McFaul (CDDRL) and Kathryn Stoner-Weiss (CDDRL)
October 9, 2007

“Russia After Putin”
Lilia Shevtsova (Carnegie Moscow Center)
October 17, 2007

*Online research paper: cddrl.stanford.edu

“The Oil and the Glory: The Pursuit of Empire and Fortune on the Caspian Sea”
Steve LeVine (Wall Street Journal)
November 6, 2007

“Supporting Revolution: American NGOs and Poland’s Transition to Democracy, 1981-1989”
Gregory Domber (CDDRL)
January 8, 2008

“Russia’s Capitalist Revolution: Why Market Reform Succeeded and Democracy Failed”
Anders Aslund (Georgetown; Peterson Inst.)
February 13, 2008

“Between Hitler, Benes, and Tito: Czechoslovak-German and Yugoslav-German Confrontations in World War II”
Arnold Suppan (University of Vienna)
March 6, 2008

“Understanding Massacre: Exploring the Genocidal Process (the Holocaust – Bosnia – Rwanda)”
Jacques Semelin (Centre d’études et de Recherches Internationales)
April 16, 2008

“Poland in an Integrated Europe: Perspectives for Sustainable Development, Greater Innovation and Strategic Partnership in the Globalized Economy”
Waldemar Pawlak (Minister of Economy, Poland)
April 30, 2008

“The Transatlantic Link: Repairing EU-USA Relations”
Dr. Vaira Vike-Freiberga (fmr. President, Lithuania)
May 15, 2008

“How Can We Live After This? Women’s Memories of Srebrenica”
Selma Leydesdorff (University of Amsterdam)
May 22, 2008

“The Puzzle of Slovenia and Estonia in the Post-Communist Era: How Deliberated Nationalism Explains Reform and Consensus-Driven Transition”
Li Bennich-Bjorkman (Uppsala University)
May 27, 2008

“Tserkov’ Merezhkovskikh (Istoriia intellektual’nogo dvizheniia)”
Margarita Pavlova (Institute of Russian Literature, Pushkinskii dom)
April 16, 2008

“Stalin a Contemporary Richelieu? Writing History under a ‘Fatwa’”
Gabriel Gorodetsky (Tel Aviv University/Oxford)
April 3, 2008

“Revitalizing Cultural Boundaries: A Muslim Double Agent in Late Imperial Russia”
Olga Bessmertnaya (Russian State University for the Humanities)
May 19, 2008

Fortress Europe (Serbia, 2000)
Introduced by director Zelimir Zilnik and Pavle Levi (Stanford), Director’s Workshop with Zelimir Zilnik
November 8-9, 2007
Sponsored by the Stanford Humanities Center

The Short Films of Lithuanian Filmmaker Audrius Stonys, Master Class with filmmaker Audrius Stonys
April 10, 2008
Sponsored by the Stanford Documentary Film Program

The Trap (Serbia, 2007)
Introduced by Rajko Grlic and Pavle Levi (Stanford)
May 12, 2008
Sponsored by the Stanford Mediterranean Film Festival

Miss Sarajevo (US, 1995)
Introduced by director Bill Carter
May 20, 2008

Jewish Luck (USSR, 1925)
Introduced by Amelia Glaser (UCSD)
August 13, 2008
Sponsored by the Division of International, Comparative & Area Studies (ICA)
The Stanford Ukrainian Studies Program enjoyed an active year in 2007-08 sponsoring more than fifteen campus lectures, film screenings, and performances. The Stanford Lecture Series on Ukraine featured distinguished experts on Ukraine, including David Lane (Senior Research Associate, Faculty of Social & Political Sciences, Cambridge University), Serhy Yekelchyk (Professor and Chair of Germanic and Slavic Studies, University of Victoria, Canada), Roman Koropeckyj (Associate Professor of Slavic Literatures, UCLA), and others.

See our featured article on the next page for coverage of the two lectures on Ukrainian literature and culture that Professor Oleh Ilnytzkyj (University of Alberta, Canada) delivered on campus in April 2008. All told, this year’s lecture series presented the fruits of some of the best research conducted on Ukrainian history, literature, art, politics, and society.

The Ukrainian Studies Program was also pleased to host visiting scholars from Ukraine in 2007-08. Chopivsky Family Fellow Pavlo Kutuyev (formerly of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy), a sociology professor who studies developmental state-building in Ukraine, joined CREEES from April through July 2008. Kutuyev presented the lecture “Weimar on the Dniiper: Ukrainian Politics in the Post-Constitutional Reform Period” in early June.

Read more on the Visiting Scholars pages in this newsletter about Professor Kutuyev and next year’s Chopivsky Fellow, social historian Kateryna Dyva (Kyiv-Mohyla Academy), who will join us from January to April 2009. CREEES is grateful to the Chopivsky Family Foundation for its generous support of our visiting scholars from Ukraine.

The National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEEER) supported Carnegie scholar Anton Shynkaruk (Rivne Institute of Slavonic Studies, Kyiv), an expert on Ukrainian media and politics, who joined CREEES for the Winter Quarter 2008. Shynkaruk gave a thought-provoking lecture on the media coverage of Ukrainian foreign policy in April 2008. Faith Hillis (doctoral candidate in history, Yale University) joined CREEES in 2008-09 while she conducted research on her dissertation on the history of the city of Kyiv. She delivered a lecture on her research in early June 2008.

The Ukrainian Studies Program presented a popular public concert of ancient Ukrainian songs performed by Fulbright Scholar and Ukrainian song preservationist Marjana Sadowska (see related article on the next page). CREEES also brought several film directors and screen writers to the Stanford campus - including the noted Ukrainian author and screenwriter Andriy Kurkov-- to discuss cinematic work dealing with Ukraine and Ukrainian topics.

CREEES supported courses on Ukrainian language, literature, and society.

2007-08 Ukraine Studies Events

Lectures on Ukraine

“Galicia in the Age of Metternich and Fredro”
Larry Wolff (NYU), October 30, 2007

“Ukraine after the Sept. 30 Elections”
Steven Pifer (fmr. US Ambassador to Ukraine) November 14, 2007
Sponsored by the Forum on Contemporary Europe

“The Social Bases of Reform and Anti-Reform: A Comparative Study of Ukraine and Russia”
David Lane (Cambridge University) December 4, 2007

“A National History for a New Ukraine”
Serhy Yekelchyk (University of Victoria) January 17, 2008

“Contemporary Political Violence and the Work of Robert Conquest”
Paul Hollander (Davis Center) January 28, 2008

“Globalization Challenges, New Religions Answer”
Vyacheslav Ageyev (Fulbright Scholar) February 14, 2008

“Contemporary Ukrainian Literature: Writing, Translating, Publishing”
Roman Tashleetsky (Fulbright Scholar) March 13, 2008

“Foreign Policy Management in Ukraine”
Anton Shynkaruk (NCEEER Visiting Scholar) April 14, 2008

“Victor and Yuliya: Repeating 2005?”
Steven Pifer (fmr. Ambassador to Ukraine) April 10, 2008
Sponsored by the Forum on Contemporary Europe

“The so-called ‘Russian Avant-Garde: An Imperial or National Phenomenon?’ and “Two Nationalities, Three Cultures: Russians and Ukrainians in the (Russian) Empire”
Oleh Ilnytzkyj (University of Alberta) April 23, 2008

“Self-Portraiture and Narrative in Taras Shevchenko”
Roman Koropeckyj (UCLA), May 13, 2008

“Between Empire and Nation: Urban Politics and Local Culture in Late Imperial Kyiv”
Faith Hillis (Yale), June 2, 2008

“Weimar on the Dniiper: Ukrainian Politics in the Post-Constitutional Reform Period”
Pavlo Kutuyev (Chopivsky Scholar) June 5, 2008

Film Screenings

The Orange Revolution (Ukraine/US, 2007)
October 28, 2007
Sponsored by the United Nations Association Film Festival

A Friend of the Deceased (Ukraine, 1998)
Intro. by Ukrainian author and screenwriter Andriy Kurkov, January 18, 2008

Odessa … Odessa! (Israel/France, 2005)
Intro. by director Michale Boganim February 28, 2008

A Kingdom Reborn: Treasures from Ukrainian Galicia (Canada, 2007)
Intro. by film director Dani Stodilka and writer Peter Beiger, May 29, 2008

Performances

“Borderland, Ancient Songs from Ukraine”
Marjana Sadowska (Fulbright Scholar) Co-sponsored by the Music Department.
April 3, 2008

Secrets of the Forest, one-man play
Written and performed by George Wyhinny’08, May 30 – June 1, 2008
Sponsored by the Drama Department.
UKRAINIAN STUDIES NEWS

for Stanford students. Jessie Labov, Assistant Professor of Slavic Literatures, Ohio State University, taught a literature and culture course “The Gogol Bordello: Ukraine as a Meeting House of Cultures” at Stanford in the Winter Quarter. Lessia Jarboe, lecturer in Ukrainian, Stanford Special Languages Program, continued her dedicated teaching of Ukrainian language courses in 2007-08. Special thanks for the generous grant from the Ukrainian Federal Credit Union that supports the teaching of courses on Ukrainian language, culture, and society at Stanford.

Two Stanford undergraduates received awards this year for their work in Ukrainian language and cultural studies. George Wyhinny ’08 was awarded the Robert M. Golden Medal for Excellence in the Humanities and Creative Arts for his one-man show Secrets of the Forest. CREEES awarded Andrew Wyhinny ’11 a $2,000 scholarship for Ukrainian language study in Kyiv during the summer of 2008.

CREEES looks forward to the return to active duty in 2008-09 of Nancy Kollmann, William H. Bonsall Professor of History and Director of the Ukrainian Studies Program, who was on sabbatical 2007-08. Many thanks to Lessia Jarboe, Ukrainian Studies Outreach Coordinator, who has been organizing Ukrainian Studies events and activities for 2008-09.

Events in the works include: Roy Gardner, Chancellor’s Professor of Economics and Western European Studies, Indiana University, lecture, “Where Ukraine is Headed: the Road to Europe” on Oct. 2, 2008; a campus performance by the women’s vocal ensemble Kitka in early 2009; Karl Qualls, Associate Professor of History, Dickinson College, discussion of his forthcoming book on Sebastopol in January 2009; Joseph Coleman Carter, Professor of Classics with the Institute of Classical Archeology at the University of Texas, Austin, lecture “Crimean Chersonesos from Independence to the Present” in February 2009; and Alla Nedashkivska, Associate Professor of Slavic Linguistics, University of Alberta, lecture on socio-linguistic practices in contemporary Ukraine, April 2009. Watch the CREEES websites for future developments in Ukrainian studies in 2008-09.

CREEES is grateful for the donations it receives that help us sponsor Ukrainian Studies visiting scholars, course offerings, and campus events.

REVIEWS OF KEY EVENTS
2007-08

By Lessia Jarboe
Ukrainian Studies Outreach Coordinator

ONE-MAN SHOW SECRETS OF THE FOREST RECEIVES UNIVERSITY PRIZE

George Wyhinny ’08 was awarded the Robert M. Golden Medal for Excellence in the Humanities and the Creative Arts in July 2008 for writing and starring in the one-man show Secrets of the Forest. The Golden Medal is awarded by the University annually to acknowledge outstanding work by Stanford graduating seniors.

Wynchynny’s play, sponsored by the Stanford Drama Department, was performed for three nights in May and June in the Prosser Studio Theater in Memorial Hall and tells the story of Ukrainian life in the 1930s and 1940s, when Ukraine in alternating periods fell under Soviet and Nazi control. Wyhinny worked with Amy Freed, Drama Department Artist-in-Residence, to create a dramatic adaptation of the novel he had written on this topic. In the novel and the play, a young man wants to know what really happened to his family in Ukraine decades ago. He travels to Ukraine to ask questions of survivors about the dark past in an effort to uncover the tragic family history that remains shrouded in secrecy. From the surrealistic mixture of fantasy and reality in the Bykivnia Forest near Kyiv, the young man elicits responses to troubling questions.

The story behind the play is based on actual family experiences, and Wyhinny performs not only the lead role of the young man seeking out the historical truth, but also a dizzying array of ten other characters. There is never a dull moment for the hour-and-a-half duration of the play in which Wyhinny, with the help of a few props, creates the illusion of a rich and varied cast of characters inhabiting this haunting recreation of the past. Most memorably, Wyhinny performs the role of “Baba” (Grandmother) -- the only remaining storyteller of the family’s Ukrainian history -- with perfect poise. (The inspiration for “Baba,” Wyhinny’s actual grandmother, was present at one of the Stanford performances of the play.)

George Wyhinny began acting as a junior in high school and studied acting at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA). As an undergraduate at Stanford, he performed in many campus productions, including Harold Pinter’s Betrayal (2008), Stan Lai’s Secret Love in Peach Blossom Land (2007), Eugene Ionesco’s Frenzy for Two, or More (2006-07) and many others. He was a member of the Stanford a cappella group Talisman and worked on the Stanford Student Film Festival. Wyhinny graduated from Stanford in June 2008 with a major in Drama, and a minor in English. He plans to pursue a career as an actor and director in theater, television, and film.

George Wyhinny (left) in Frenzy for Two, or More

http://creees.stanford.edu
The Ukrainian Studies Program featured Marjana Sadowska, Fulbright Scholar at the Pennsylvania State University, musical historian and preservationist, on April 3, 2008. Her concert was co-sponsored by the CREEES “Sounds of Eurasia” performance series and the Department of Music.

Sadowska has traveled extensively in the Ukrainian countryside collecting folk tunes and ancient songs which she sings while accompanying herself on the harmonium. Her Stanford concert “Boarderlands: Songs from Ancient Ukraine” took place in the Campbell Recital Hall, Braun Music Center, on the Stanford campus.

Sadowska, a prominent Ukrainian scholar and internationally-acclaimed performer, actress, singer and musician, has collected songs from various regions of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Diaspora. Each song she performs has been learned from a unique individual representing a distinct Ukrainian region or émigré community: Poltava, Polissia, the Carpathian Mountains, Ukrainians emigrants in Canada and the US.

Sadowska creates her own interpretations of the ancient Ukrainian songs, crafting unique arrangements, instrumentation, and musical dramaturgy for each. The audience is treated to a marvelous blend of folk songs, surrealism, humor, and serious academic commentary. Sadowska engages in a dialogue with traditional performance methods and expresses her artistic vision not only through the meaning of the Ukrainian lyrics she sings, but also through the evocative sound quality of the Ukrainian words themselves. Sadowska’s mesmerizing performances left the Stanford audience wanting much more. Watch for samples of Sadowska’s Stanford performance on the CREEES website.

Marjana Sadowska was born in Lviv, Ukraine. For three years she worked with the Les Kurbas Theatre of Lviv, before joining The Centre for Theatre Practices “Gardzienice” in Poland, 1991 to 2000. She performed in the following productions in Gardzienice: The Life of Avvakum, Carmina Burana, Metamorphoses, and Gardzienice Cosmos. Sadowska later became an artist-in-residence in New York City where she has given numerous concerts and entered into collaborative projects with various international artists.

That work resulted in publishing her first solo CD Songs I Learned in Ukraine. Sadowska was a Fulbright Scholar at Pennsylvania State University in 2007-08 and has been pursuing musical projects, such as a “Rusalky” (“Mermaids”) with the Oakland-based Eastern European musical band Kitka.

**PROFESSOR ILNYTZKYJ REFLECTS ON CONCEPTS OF IMPERIAL CULTURE**

Oleh Ilnytzkyj, Professor of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, University of Alberta (Canada), shared his deep knowledge of Ukrainian literature and culture in two talks delivered on the Stanford campus on April 23, 2008.

Ilnytzkyj is the author of influential studies of Ukrainian literature and culture, including Ukrainian Futurism, 1914-1930: A Historical and Critical Study (1997) and A Concordance to the Poetic Works of Taras Shevchenko (2001).

His first Stanford talk “The So-Called ‘Russian’ Avant-Garde: An Imperial or National Phenomenon?” was intended for students in an advanced literature course offered by Professor Lazar Fleishman in Stanford’s Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Ilnytzkyj’s public lecture, “Two Nationalities, Three Cultures: Ukrainians and Russians in the (Russian) Empire” engaged a broader audience, including members of the South Bay Ukrainian community.

A key question that arose in both lectures was how Russian nationalism constructed a distinct definition of “Russianness” operative in the former Russian Empire and the Soviet Union, and how this definition sometimes stands at odds with the full gamut of cultural processes experienced among Eastern Slavs, including Ukrainians.

According to Ilnytzkyj, Russian nationalism takes Great Russian (ethnic Russian) culture as a foundation and then “cherry picks” the best from imperial East Slavic cultures to create a “Russian national culture.” Many Ukrainian Studies scholars have observed that the national-imperial nature of “Russian national phenomenon” precludes or inhibits cultural, art, and literary historians from fully analyzing other models of self-representation and self-construction. In his lectures, Ilnytzkyj calls on students, scholars, and the reading public to forge new depictions of the great entirety of East Slavic culture, not wholly dependent on the commonly-accepted constructs of Russian nationalist discourse on East Slavdom.

Ilnytzkyj emphasized that the word “Russian” functions as a “master narrative” that privileges and centers cultural events around the Great Russians. This narrative marginalizes other national groups and processes in the Empire and interferes with the ability to examine the national diversity that made metropolitan culture such an interesting phenomenon elsewhere in the world. He brought the attention of the audience to such a diverse group of artists as Kandinsky, Malevich, Chagall, Burluk, and Bogomazov and examined the creative process in their own articulations of national identity. Ukrainian Futurism was another interesting and rich subject of his analysis.

Ilnytzkyj also warned against the opposite harmful tendency that is taking place in Ukrainian Studies: consciously trying to disengage Ukrainian cultural activity from the Russian Empire by creating a separate artificial framework for its realization. His lecture helped students, scholars, and the Ukrainian community to find a reasoned middle ground for considering and analyzing the rich artifacts of Ukrainian culture.
“TRANSFORMING BUREAUCRACY: CONDITIONAL NORMS AND THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION OF STATISTICS IN RUSSIA”

By David Laitin
Professor of Politics

On March 10, 2008, Yoshiko Herrera, Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, presented her paper, entitled: “Transforming Bureaucracy: Conditional Norms and the International Standardization of Statistics in Russia” at the CREEES-sponsored Comparative Politics Workshop, organized by the Political Science Department. Her research examined the forces that drove radical institutional changes in the Russian Statistics Bureau (Goskomstat) following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. She asked why and how the Goskomstat transitioned so seamlessly from the Soviet statistics tradition to the internationally accepted system of national accounts (SNA). This transition is surprising given the reputation of Soviet bureaucracies (and their Russian inheritors) for being static, secretive, anti-foreign, and underpaid. What caused such an interest in change?

Using a constructivist approach, she located the answer in her conception of “conditional norms”. She argued that Russian statisticians’ desire to gain acceptance and recognition in the international professional community spurred them to implement necessary changes, particularly as Russia moved towards a market economy. This normative desire, she argued, was more powerful than material incentives. In her words, reforms at Goskomstat were “spearheaded by people who are moved not by their meager salaries, but by the idea of making Russian statistics legitimate and respected internationally. This is a story both of the power of identity and norms, and the ingenuity of local actors who adapt those norms to suit their circumstances.” She then tested her theory of conditional norms by comparing SNA achievement standards across countries and found that the former Soviet countries had performed significantly better than other developing states. Her research combined both extensive interviews with Goskomstat bureaucrats and cross-national quantitative analysis.

Prof. Herrera’s research brings us beyond the obscure details of what used to be an impenetrable organization. She raises several questions of broad interest to social scientists. First, her findings shed light on the conditions necessary for bureaucracies—which are notorious everywhere for their inertia—to initiate wrenching change. Secondly, she explores how international institutions diffuse across countries, as well as the variation of such diffusion. Lastly, her focus on conditional norms refines the conventional literature on norms by tracing the process by which local actors respond to international norms. Specifically, by going inside the state and examining in-depth what has happened over the last 15 years at Goskomstat, she provides a micro-level analysis of the implementation of international norms in the Russian bureaucracy. Her approach introduces the oft-neglected role of international players in bureaucratic reforms. And while most studies focus on material incentives as a key driver of change, Prof. Herrera chooses to shine the spotlight on organizational identities and norms. In short, her research helps us to arrive at a fuller understanding of the varying factors that drive post-Soviet bureaucracies to conform to international standards.

TOLSTOY AND THE EXPERIENCE OF WAR

By Tom Roberts
PhD Candidate, Slavic Department

Donna Tussing Orwin, Professor of Russian Literature at the University of Toronto, spoke about Russian novelist Leo Tolstoy and the experience of war to a graduate student workshop in the Slavic Department on May 16, 2008. CREEES supported this event.

A preeminent specialist in nineteenth-century Russian literature, and particularly Tolstoy studies, Orwin was recently awarded the prestigious Pushkin Medal by former Russian President Vladimir Putin for her contributions to the understanding of Russian literature and culture. She is the author of numerous articles and books, including Tolstoy’s Art and Thought, 1847-1880 (Princeton, 1993) and Consequences of Consciousness: Turgenev, Dostoevsky, and Tolstoy (Stanford, 2007).

Prof. Orwin, presently researching a book-length study of the representation of war in nineteenth-century Russian literature, devoted the workshop to “Tolstoy and the Experience of War” as manifest in the author’s three Sevastopol sketches of the 1850s. The three sketches emerged from Tolstoy’s personal military experience in Sevastopol during the Crimean War, a tenure that would prove formative in both his life and writings. Following Orwin’s introductory presentation, the workshop addressed structural and thematic issues in the text. Tolstoy’s epic novel War and Peace also figured into the discussion.

The faculty of the Slavic Languages and Literatures plans to make the graduate student workshop an annual event.
Library Travel to Bosnia and Macedonia

by Karen Rondestvedt
Curator for Slavic & East European Collections, Green Library
Member, CREEES Steering Committee

In 2004, Engineering graduate student Jakov Čakareski called my attention to the fact that Stanford's library was missing a number of publications from his country, Macedonia. I was already painfully aware that the few lists of Macedonian publications that I saw regularly were far from all that was coming out and that might be of interest to the Stanford community. Jakov and fellow graduate student Nikola Stikov helped me to obtain several dozen Macedonian publications while they were here. Unfortunately, the contacts they had made stopped sending lists and books after they graduated. Then, in the fall of 2007, a Macedonian publisher sent a list of books from throughout Macedonia. The library ordered from the list, received the books and paid for them. This is wonderful, I thought, but then everything stopped.

From April 17 to May 7, I traveled not only to Skopje, but also to Sarajevo. In Sarajevo I attended the Fourth International Congress of Slavic Librarians. There I read a paper about making the most of the library staff one has, using Stanford's uniquely organized and efficient Acquisitions and Cataloging Departments as an example. (I can't claim any credit for this efficiency myself, since I work in a different department.) I also learned more about our exchange partner libraries and about libraries in general in Bosnia, Serbia and Slovenia. The organizers were so glad to have librarians from outside of former Yugoslavia at the conference that they provided simultaneous translation from Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian to English and vice versa, even though there were only four of us who were not proficient in the local language. The conference was held in the lovely Bošnjački institut, built after the war of the early 1990s by the Foundation Adil Zulfikarpašić from a combination of a 16th-century hamam (Turkish bathhouse) and new construction.

In Sarajevo I began to learn how the breakup of Yugoslavia into so many pieces has complicated travel among the successor states. For example, a Bosnian travel agent could not sell me a ticket for a bus ride that did not originate in Bosnia. Once I got to Dubrovnik, I learned that there are very few buses between there and Montenegro, which I intended to be my next stop. An additional difficulty was that Montenegro had two 4-day weekends during the period April 25-27 and May 2-4 (Orthodox Easter and Labor Day). This combination ended up forcing me to abandon the idea of going to Montenegro, since I would have been able to accomplish very little business there, anyway. I decided to fly from Dubrovnik to Skopje (via Zagreb), allowing me to avoid not only the trip between Dubrovnik and Montenegro, but also the trip through Serbia and Kosovo on the way to Skopje.

When I arrived in Skopje, it reminded me a bit of Warsaw about 10 years ago, with a preponderance of socialist-style architecture. Like Sarajevo, though, it has a čaršija, an old-fashioned Turkish-style bazaar with small shops and narrow streets. In the newer part of the city, I visited bookstores and purchased some material for the library. I also met with the publisher who had sent the first list and shipment of books and then stopped. They will send another list in the fall; exporting books to the United States involves so much hassle and expense that they find it better to consolidate into a single list and a single shipment per year. And I also visited the National and University Library, our only exchange partner in Macedonia.

I learned a great deal from this trip, and I think our library acquisitions from Bosnia, Macedonia and also Serbia will improve as a result of it. I am grateful to both CREEES and the library for sending me.
CREEES Launches Eurasian Studies Group

The concept of “Eurasia,” central to the mission of CREEES, has enabled the Center to facilitate academic collaboration across conventional area studies and disciplinary boundaries. In 2002, “CREES” was renamed “CREEES” – the Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies -- to reflect the increasing importance of Eurasia as an area of study and concern.

In spring 2008, CREEES took a further step, launching the Eurasian Studies Working Group, a forum for scholars and graduate students of various disciplinary backgrounds to discuss research that examines the regions known as Eurasia.

CREEES faculty members Robert Crews (History), Shazhad Bashir (Religious Studies), Izaly Zemtsovsky (Music/Slavic), Alma Kunanbaeva (Anthropology), and guest faculty and scholars from the Law School, Department of Classics, the Hoover Institution, and the Freeman Spogli Institute have participated in the group. Workshops have also included graduate students studying Anthropology, Modern Thought and Literature, Political Science, Slavic, and Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies. Zhanara Nauruzbayeva serves as the graduate student coordinator of the group in 2008-09.

In its inaugurating quarter, the Working Group featured three graduate students and one visiting scholar presenting works-in-progress. The group discussed pre-circulated papers at its workshops.

Jesse Driscoll (PhD candidate, Political Science) presented the paper “Inside Anarchy: Militia Politics in Tajikistan and Georgia” (April 12, 2008). Based on nearly two years of fieldwork, including extensive interviews with former members of militia groups, Driscoll’s study analyzes the dynamics of the militias in the aftermath of civil war. His innovative use of rational choice theory brings a new understanding to the post-Soviet conflicts in Tajikistan and Georgia.

Zhanara Nauruzbayeva (PhD candidate, Anthropology) presented the paper “In the Ghetto of National Identity: Visual Artists in Contemporary Kazakhstan” (May 7, 2008) which examines how the contemporary art of Kazakhstan articulates a post-socialist national identity. Drawing from fifteen months of ethnographic fieldwork in Almaty, Nauruzbayeva analyzed how the aesthetics of contemporary Kazakh artists and their concepts of national identity are inextricably linked to the broader global forces of the international art market.

Mukarrama Burkhanova, a visiting scholar from Tajikistan and Open Society Institute Fellow at the Stanford Law School, presented the paper “Child Adoption in Tajikistan, Russia, and the US: Legal and Religious Parallels and Differences” (May 20, 2008). Burkhanova’s comparative project traces the practices of child adoption in various religions and legal systems.


The Eurasian Studies Working Group will host speakers in 2008-09, including Chirstine Jojarth (FSI), Munkh-Erdene Lhamsuren (National University of Mongolia), and Pauline Jones-Luong (Brown). Plans for a separate Eurasian Studies webpage are in the works for the CREEES website.

Eurasian Studies Events 2007-08:

**Seminars**

“Turkmenistan in Transition”
Muhammad Tahir (RFE/RL)
October 23, 2007

“Between Reform and Revolution: Islamic Debates in Early Soviet Central Asia”
Adeeb Khalid (Carleton College)
February 11, 2008

Sponsored by the Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies

“Chechnya: Stability or Illusion?”
Tony Wood (The New Left Review)
February 27, 2008

**Performance**

“The Mugham: Music of Azeri Islam”
(A “Sounds of Eurasia” concert)
Faik Ibragim Ogly Chelebi
(Herzen Pedagogic Institute)
March 12, 2008

**Film**

the other silk road (2008)
Introduced by directors Susan Thieme (University of Zurich) and Xonzoi Barbora (Panos South Asia)
April 8, 2008

Sponsored by the Anthropology Dept.

Koryo Saram: The Unreliable People
(2006)
Introduced by Steven Lee (Stanford)
August 20, 2008

Sponsored by the Division of International, Comparative & Area Studies (ICA)

---

**2008 Wayne S. Vucinich Book Prize**

for the most important contribution to Russian, Eurasian, and East European studies in any discipline of the humanities or social sciences was awarded to:

Adeeb Khalid


This annual prize is sponsored by CREEES and AAASS.
Nikolayev unwittingly falls under the spell of a mysterious, hallucinogenic and irresistible “East.” The assault on the moral senses and logic of the European colonizer reminds us of the classic account of colonialism in Africa depicted in Joseph Conrad’s novel *Heart of Darkness*.

Following his instincts, Nikolayev moves into the indigenous quarters of Tashkent, where he observes and documents the everyday life of a group of “Bacha boys.” Nikolayev adopts Islam and becomes known as “Usto Mumin”; he becomes the boys’ leader when their master is murdered on the streets of Tashkent. Mumin’s idyllic, escapist life is forever altered when the earth-shattering events of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution shake the Russian Empire.

The ethos driving *Ecstasy* corresponds in many ways to the larger intellectual and creative project of Ilkhom Theater director Mark Weil, who has been credited with creating a “new wave” of dramaturgy in the former USSR.

*Ecstasy with the Pomegranate* brings to life the iconic paintings of the Tashkent “Bacha Boys” made by Alexander “Mumin” Nikolayev in the 1930s. *Bacha*, performed exclusively by young males, was the only allowable form of dance in pre-revolutionary Turkistan, where Muslim women were forbidden to expose their faces in public. After 1917, the Soviet Regime stamped out most Islamic traditions, including the *Bacha*. Under Stalin, Mumin memorialized the dance form in sensual paintings. *Ecstasy with the Pomegranate* reenacts these images, capturing the male eroticism during an epoch when homosexuality had become criminalized.

*Ecstasy with the Pomegranate* opens with scenes from pre-revolutionary Tashkent. It dramatizes the testimony of Alexander Nikolayev, the Russian-born artist who has arrived in Tashkent with a division of the Russian army, dispatched to document the *Mission civilisateur* of the Russian Empire and to record the traditions and culture of indigenous peoples.

---

**Ecstasy with the Pomegranate, The Ilkhom Theater**

By Zhanara Nauruzbayeva
PhD candidate, Anthropology

CREEES students and faculty attended a performance of Uzbekistan’s legendary Ilkhom Theater at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco on May 16. The Ilkhom Theater, founded in 1976 by Mark Weil and his colleagues (graduates of the Tashkent Institute of Theater and Art), is renowned for its experimental performances and considered the first independent theater company in the former USSR.

*Ecstasy with the Pomegranate* brings to life the iconic paintings of the Tashkent “Bacha Boys” made by Alexander “Mumin” Nikolayev in the 1930s. *Bacha*, performed exclusively by young males, was the only allowable form of dance in pre-revolutionary Turkistan, where Muslim women were forbidden to expose their faces in public. After 1917, the Soviet Regime stamped out most Islamic traditions, including the *Bacha*. Under Stalin, Mumin memorialized the dance form in sensual paintings. *Ecstasy with the Pomegranate* reenacts these images, capturing the male eroticism during an epoch when homosexuality had become criminalized.

*Ecstasy with the Pomegranate* opens with scenes from pre-revolutionary Tashkent. It dramatizes the testimony of Alexander Nikolayev, the Russian-born artist who has arrived in Tashkent with a division of the Russian army, dispatched to document the *Mission civilisateur* of the Russian Empire and to record the traditions and culture of indigenous peoples.
The CREEES Central Asian Film Series, Spring 2008

In Spring 2008, Alma Kunanbaeva (Department of Anthropology) moderated the CREEES Central Asian Film Series, screening films from five Central Asian nations: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. Kunanbaeva introduced the eight films and conducted question-and-answer sessions at each of the weekly screenings, beginning April 15, 2008. In Winter and Spring 2009, the series will be repeated and expanded to include all ten films of the DVD set Two Epochs of National Self-Determination in Central Asian Cinema: the 60s and 90s, prepared by Gulnara Abikeyeva, Director, Center of Central Asian Cinematography. This is a non-commercial DVD project, which has been financially supported by the Open Society Institute, Budapest. (The series has been donated to the Silk Road House in Berkeley, where Kunanbaeva is President). Learn more about the individual films and the details of the Central Asian Film Series in Winter-Spring 2009 on the CREEES website.

Spring 2008 Central Asian Films:

**The Land of the Fathers** ("Atameken," Kazakhstan, 1966)  
April 15, 2008

**Difficult Crossing** (released as “White Mountains,” Kyrgyzstan, 1964)  
April 22, 2008

**You Are Not an Orphan** (Uzbekistan, 1963)  
April 29, 2008

**Hassan-arbakesh** (Tajikistan, 1965)  
May 6, 2008

**Daughter-in-Law** (Turkmenistan, 1972)  
May 13, 2008

**Aksuat** (Kazakhstan, 1997)  
May 20, 2008

**Beshkempir** ("The Adopted Son," Kyrgyzstan 1998)  
May 27, 2008

**The Orator** ("Voiz," Uzbekistan, 1998)  
June 3, 2008
Visiting Scholars

Golfo Alexopoulos was a Campbell National Fellow at the Hoover Institution in 2007-2008. She is Associate Professor of History at the University of South Florida and author of the book Stalin's Outcasts: Aliens, Citizens, and the Soviet State, 1926-1936 (Cornell, 2003). Alexopoulos spent the year working with the Hoover archive’s collection of microfilms from the former Soviet party and state archives, particularly the file of the Gulag administration as research toward a projected book on the Gulag under Stalin. The book focuses on select themes, such as everyday life, women and children in detention, and the management of disease and disability. While at Stanford, she published “Stalin and the Politics of Kinship” in the journal Comparative Studies in Society and History and “Letter from the Gulag” in Hoover Digest.

Olga Bessmertnaya is a Fulbright visiting scholar at the Hoover Institution and the Stanford History Department, Jan. – Oct. 2008, and a senior research scholar at the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow (RGGU). She has published widely in Russia, the US, and France. Recent articles focus on Muslim responses to the ‘colonial challenge of the West’ of Muslims in late-Imperial Russia (her previous work concerned the same problems in West Africa), as well as on theoretical and historiographic questions. Her forthcoming book Russian Muslims and the Russian State: The Controversy Over Panislamism (in Russian) will be published in 2008 by Smolny College. Bessmertnaya presented the talk “Relativizing Cultural Boundaries: A Muslim Double Agent in Late Imperial Russia” to CREEES and the Stanford History “Kruzhok” on May 19, 2008 (see related article on p. 29).

Mukarrama Burkhanova is a visiting scholar at Stanford Law School working with faculty mentor Richard Banks, the Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor of Law. She was in residence at Stanford from January through May 2008 as a Fellow on the Faculty Development Fellowship Program of the Open Society Institute, and will return in January 2009. An expert in adoption law, Burkhanova delivered the talk “Child Adoption in Tajikistan, Russia, and the US: Legal and Religious Parallels and Differences” to the CREEES Eurasian Studies Working group in May 2008.

Kateryna Dysa, lecturer in the History Department at the National University “Kiyiv-Mohyla Academy” since 2005, will be the CREEES Chopivsky Fellow in Winter 2009. She completed her PhD in Comparative History at the Central European University (Budapest, Hungary) in 2004 where she developed her scholarly interests in social history, the history of everyday life, and the historical anthropology of the early modern period. Her current research project investigates marginal groups and the control of morals in Ukrainian towns and cities of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. She is the author of the monograph Witches and Others: Witchcraft Trials in the Ukrainian Palatinates of Rzeczpospolita in the 17th - 18th Centuries, which will be published in 2008. Kateryna Dysa is the recipient of numerous fellowships and scholarship and joins CREEES in Winter 2009 to pursue her research of Ukrainian social history of the 17th - 18th centuries.

Amelia Glaser is an assistant professor of Russian and comparative literature at the University of California, San Diego. She spent the summer at Stanford completing two articles, one dealing with Ukraine as a literary memory space, and a second on the Yiddish poet Peretz Markish and the avant-garde. She worked on her book Trading Tales: Literary Exchange in the Pale of Settlement, in which she examines inter-ethnic marketplace encounters in Russian, Ukrainian, and Yiddish literature. Amelia completed her PhD in comparative literature at Stanford in 2004 and taught courses for CREEES and Jewish Studies in 2005-06. She introduced the film Jewish Luck (USSR, 1925) to an audience of 100 viewers at the ICA International Film festival in August 2008.

Faith Hillis, a doctoral candidate in history at Yale University, was a CREEES visiting scholar in 2007-08. Hillis made substantial progress on her dissertation project while conducting research at the Hoover Institution, and plans to submit her dissertation “The Empire in the City: Urban Politics and Community in Late Imperial Kiev” in March 2009. Hillis presented talks on her dissertation research at the Stanford History “Kruzhok” and at a CREEES seminar.

Nozima Kamalova is an independent scholar, a human rights lawyer, and the Chairman of the Legal Aid Society of Uzbekistan, a nongovernmental organization that
works with international human rights organizations, including Human Rights Watch, World Organization Against Torture and Amnesty International, to safeguard and promote the rule of law. Kamalova has been instrumental in the revision of several Uzbek laws related to torture and human rights, and her lobbying activities have influenced much policy and legislation adopted both internationally and in Uzbekistan. During her fellowship year at CDDRL she completed a research project on how Western antiterrorism policies limit civil liberties and freedoms in less-developed, transitional countries. She studied the impact of the war against terrorism on authoritarian countries, with Uzbekistan as an example, and developed recommendations for legislation and practice. Nozima has been admitted to an advanced Law degree program at Stanford Law School for the 2008-09 academic year.

Natalia Koulinka is the Lyle and Corinne Nelson International Fellow, 2008-09, with Stanford's John S. Knight Fellowship for journalists. She is the news editor of Radio Unistar 99.5 in Minsk, Belarus where she focuses on news journalism and models of broadcasting by non-governmental radio in a post-Soviet regime. In 1992-96 she helped create the Women's Newspaper, the only independent women's paper in Belarus. She is co-editor of Krasnim po belomu (Red on White), a collection of texts by murdered Belarus journalist Veronika Cherkasov. Koulinka has been an associate professor at Belarusian State University since 2001.

Pavlo Kutuyev, Professor of Sociology at Mykhaylo Drahomanov National Pedagogic University in Kiev, was the Chopivsky Fellow in Spring 2008. While at Stanford, Kutuyev worked on a project in comparative history and sociology entitled “Comparative-Historical Perspectives on Ukrainian State Building.” His research focuses on state-making and developmental state-building. In May 2008 he delivered the talk “Getting Powers Right versus Getting Institutions Right: The Tale of Constitution Struggles in Ukraine” at the Kennan Institute in Washington, DC. In June 2008 he gave the talk “Weimar on Dniper: Ukrainian Politics in the Post-Constitutional Reform Period” as part of the Stanford Lectures on Ukraine.

Alfred Reisch, was on a Senior Scholar Fellowship at the Hoover Institution in Autumn 2007, and gave the CREEES seminar “The West’s Secret Plan for the Mind: Book Distribution to East Europe during the Cold War” in December. In February 2008, he presented this lecture at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. Reisch made use of archival documents at the Hoover to trace the development of the book distribution program from 1956 to 1973. Reisch received a PhD in Political Science from Columbia University and since 2002 he has taught at the University of Economics, Izmir, Turkey.

Florin Sperlea is a historian from Romania, and was a CREEES visiting scholar in 2007-08. Sperlea holds a PhD in Contemporary History and studies East European military history during the Soviet era; he was the recipient of the European Generation Foundation grant that funded his nine-month residency at Stanford from Oct. 2007 – July 2008. In June 2008 he delivered the talk “The Attitude of Romanian Society Toward the Former Communist Secret Service, the Securitate” at a CREEES seminar.

Monica White, post-doctoral Humanities Fellow in the Slavic Department 2007-08, has accepted a position in the Department of Russian & Slavic Studies at the University of Nottingham as a lecturer (assistant professor) in Russian Studies. She holds a PhD from the University of Cambridge. Her research interests include the cultural, religious and military history of Kievan Rus and Byzantium; cults of saints and dragon-slaying miracles. She recently gave the talk “Succession in Kievan Rus: The Rules of the Game and their Consequences” at the 32nd Annual Stanford/Berkeley Conference on Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies held at the Hoover Institution in early March.

Jane Curry is Professor of Political Science at Santa Clara University and joins CREEES for Autumn 2008, when she teaches REES 105/205 “Central and East European Politics” at Stanford. Curry is the author of Polish Journalists: Professionalism and Politics (Cambridge, 1990), co-editor with Sharon L. Wolchik of Central and East European Politics: From Communism to Democracy (Rowman & Littlefield, 2008), co-editor with Luba Fajfer of Poland’s Permanent Revolution: People vs. Elites, 1956 to the Present (American University, 1996), and editor and translator of The Black Book of Polish Censorship (Vintage, 1984).
Daniel Babinski received a bachelor’s degree in Economics with a minor in Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies in 2008. He will pursue a two-year Masters Degree in Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies at Harvard University beginning Autumn 2008. Babinski plans to focus on recent economic and political history in the CIS, as well as contemporary economic, political, and social challenges facing the region. After completing the Masters Degree, he may pursue a PhD in history or political science or work for the government or an NGO. At Stanford, Babinski took a wide array of courses in literature, language, film studies, history, economics, political science, and international relations and participated in Stanford-in-Moscow in Autumn 2007.

Dave Borowitz received a bachelor’s degree in Mathematical and Computational Sciences with minors in Linguistics and Russian Language in 2008. In summer 2008, he worked as a software engineering intern at Google’s San Francisco office. He hopes in the future to move to Moscow for several years to work for Google or one of Moscow’s many growing technology companies.

Borowitz returns to Stanford to work on an MS in Computer Science in 2008-09. Borowitz first became interested in Russian studies as a freshman enrolled in the first-year Russian language course. In addition to Russian language and linguistics, he is interested in the influence of the great works of 19th-century Russian literature on contemporary Russian writing, film, and culture. Borowitz plays trumpet with the Stanford Wind Ensemble, and serves as the Drum Major of the Stanford Band.

Badruun Gardi, a senior majoring in psychology, spent the summer conducting research in Mongolia. He studied the causes and effects of the migration of nomadic herders into the capital city, Ulaanbaatar. An international student from Mongolia, Gardi was interested in returning to his native country as a young researcher and scholar. He investigated the reasons why the nomadic lifestyle is increasingly abandoned and the subsequent problems facing former nomads as they assimilate to urban life. He conducted interviews with migrant families to assess possible causal relationships between the personality, beliefs, and external factors leading to migration and a successful assimilation.

Gardi participated in the BOSP Mongolia Overseas Seminar in September 2007 and is a member of the Stanford Archery Team, competing nationally throughout the year.

Jesse Gross received a bachelor’s degree in Computer Science with a minor in Slavic Languages and Literatures in 2008. Gross participated in Stanford-in-Moscow in Autumn 2006. While at Stanford, he directed the Stanford student television station and conducted research in computer security. He begins work in 2008-09 at MokaFive, a startup company in Redwood City. He will also work as a consultant for companies engaged in US-Russia venture capital. Gross spent summer 2008 in Belarus and Ukraine.

Natasha Pereira-Kamath received a bachelor’s degree in Political Science with a Russian Language and Literature minor in 2008. She has accepted a position at Bain & Co. Consulting, Boston, as an Associate Consultant. Pereira-Kamath wrote her honors thesis on the evolution of Russia’s energy policy in the natural gas realm, through the prism of Gazprom, and its effect on European energy security. She worked with faculty and scholars in the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC).

Pereira-Kamath was one of six representatives from Stanford to an International Student United Nations Security Council simulation in Russia, in which the group represented Russia; she participated in Stanford-in-Moscow, Autumn 2006; she has been co-president of Project Read, a student group that aims to fight illiteracy by providing conventionally disadvantaged groups in developing countries with libraries; and she has also been involved in political movements on campus, spending time in the Stanford Democrats and Stanford in Government, in various positions.

Kat Lewin received a bachelor’s degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures (Russian Language and Literature track) with a minor in Creative Writing in 2008. She was awarded the Slavic Department’s Leytes Prize for her honors thesis on Nina Sadur’s perestroik-era story cycle Touched. Her thesis examines the cycle through the lens of Vladimir Propp’s narrative functions. Lewin participated in Stanford-in-Moscow, Autumn 2007 and, while abroad, wrote a weekly column about her experiences for The Stanford Daily. In her senior year, Lewin served as the Managing Editor for Intermission, the Daily’s weekly Arts & Entertainment section. She has also been a contributing writer for Gaieties, the annual pre-Big Game pep rally. After graduation she plans to continue writing in a freelance capacity and to enroll in a MFA program for prose.

David Lombardi, a junior majoring in International Relations, spent summer 2008 in the Czech Republic on a business internship in the Prague office of Karcher. At Stanford, his academic focus is on international studies and foreign languages. He has taken courses in Czech and Italian at Stanford. Lombardi, a high-school athletic record holder, continues his swimming career at Stanford, training daily with the Stanford Masters Team. He coaches swimming at the Gunn High School in Palo Alto during the academic year and started his own summer swim camp and clinic in Visalia, CA (his hometown). Lombardi serves as the Stanford football and baseball radio broadcaster for the campus station KZSU 90.1 FM.
PULITZER-PRIZE WINNING JOURNALIST DISCUSSES “THE MERCHANT OF DEATH”


Braun’s talk chronicled the life of rogue arms merchant Viktor Bout, a Russian national, whose vast transnational enterprise illegally transports money, arms, and other provisions to Al Qaeda, the Taliban, and opposing sides of civil war conflicts in several African nations. Bout, widely regarded as one of the world’s most wanted arms smugglers, was arrested in Bangkok on March 6, 2008, targeted by an undercover sting operation by federal narcotics agents. Bout is currently detained in a maximum security jail by Thai authorities and the US is seeking to extradite him for trial in New York.

Little had been known publicly about Bout’s biography other than a few details, before Braun and Farah began their research. Bout was supposedly trained at a language institute in the USSR and during the Soviet era worked as a government officer. After the fall of the Soviet Union, which left a vacuum for enterprising businessmen like Bout to exploit, he began buying abandoned Soviet aircraft at bargain basement prices. Bout ingeniously created a functional air fleet from these crafts which he used to illegally traffic munitions and arms to feuding parties around the globe. He turned a handy profit from this illicit supply business, adding fuel to conflicts internationally.

Nicknamed “the merchant of death,” Bout was also memorialized in the fictional character Yuri Orlov, played by Nicolas Cage in the film Lord of War (2005).

The Ford Dorsey Program in International Policy Studies and the Forum on Contemporary Europe co-sponsored this event with CREEES.

Bridget Gongol contributed to this report.

LOOKING FOR A BOLSHIE VITA: EUROPEAN FILMS ABOUT MOVEMENT

This series, which ran from February through May, presented films concerned with people moving in and around Europe. The title of the series refers to Ibolya Fekete’s film Bolshie Vita (Hungary, 1995), a transposition of Fellini’s Dolce Vita to 1989 Budapest, as it is overrun with people moving from East to West and West to East, looking for some kind of ‘bigger,’ and maybe ‘better,’ life. All of the contemporary European filmmakers in this series touch in some way on the topic of immigration/emigration, but the different aspects of movement represented by these films are much broader. Some characters are moving from one place to another for economic or political reasons. Others are not moving physically at all, yet the European world around them is shifting and evolving because of immigration, which causes those in a fixed place to embark on some internal movement or journey in order to make sense of their new landscape. In other
words, these films depict how European identity itself is changing to accommodate the idea of movement across borders. “Movement” also stands in for a wide range of kinetic vs. static filmmaking techniques: Michale Boganim’s Odessa…Odessa! (France, 2005), a documentary full of lyrical, long tracking takes reminiscent of feature films; Pawel Pawlikowski’s Last Resort (U.K., 2000), which uses wide, panoramic shots to frame the industrial seascape around the town of Margate; Jan Dunn’s Gypo (U.K., 2005), a ‘Dogme’ film also shot in Margate but relying exclusively on a hand-held camera with no artificial lighting, sound, or action; and finally, Ulrich Seidl’s Import/Export, which features static, almost theatrical tableaux of scenes that we would like to move away from but can’t. Boganim shows us how far Odessans have moved, Pawlikowski traps us in the same world that holds political refugees for indefinite amounts of time, and both Dunn & Seidl force us to confront the effect of open borders on people with very fixed states of mind.

The two films for which we had 35mm prints were shown in Cubberly Auditorium, while the rest were shown in Pigott 113. A consistent group of attendees stayed after each film to discuss its impact on them and relevance to the general topic of movement. Thanks to this core audience (which included many people who themselves have immigrated from Europe), we generated a truly diverse and multi-generational discussion of how Europe is changing today, and how films like these offer us a unique access to that picture.

**Updates From Graduate & Professional School Students**

**Elif Batuman**, a 2007 PhD in Comparative Literature, received the Rona Jaffe Award for emerging women writers in September 2007. The award enabled her to spend 2007-08 on writing-related projects. She has published articles in the UK Guardian, The London Review of Books, and The New Yorker. Her most recent article for The New Yorker examines the repatriation of Russian church bells. In Winter and Spring 2008, Bautman taught Humanities 199A and B, academic writing workshops for senior thesis writers in the interdisciplin ary humanities.

**Erik Christensen**, a 2008 graduate of the Stanford Law School, co-authored the online article “The Candidates and Russia” on March 6, 2008 on the Foreign Policy in Focus website with the John Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies. (The article may be accessed at www.fpol.org/fpftxt/5043). The article analyzes the foreign policy stances toward Russia taken by Clinton, McCain, and Obama on the eve of the Russian presidential elections. While at Stanford, Christensen was the co-editor-in-chief of the Stanford Journal of International Law; he begins work in New York City for the law firm Sullivan & Cromwell in October 2008. Christensen received a FLAS fellowship for advanced Russian languages study at Stanford in 2007-08.

**Chris Condlin**, a third-year Stanford Law School student, received the FLAS fellowship for advanced Russian language study for 2008-09. Before entering law school, Condlin spent three years in Russia, first on a Fulbright Fellowship in St. Petersburg and then as the Moscow-site coordinator for the Middlebury College School in Russia. In Spring 2008, he participated in an externship away from Stanford Law School, working at the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative in Kyiv, Ukraine. During summer 2008, Condlin worked for the law firm Dewey & Leboeuf in their New York, London and Moscow offices.

**Jesse Driscoll**, a sixth-year doctoral student in the Department of Political Science, has been named a pre-doctoral research fellow at the Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence (MacMillen Center, Yale University), 2008-09. His dissertation compares state reconstruction processes in Georgia and Tajikistan since the early 1990s. Beginning in the Spring of 2005, he spent nearly two years in Central Asia and the Caucasus, dividing his time between rural and urban areas in pursuit of interviews with former combatants, journalists, current and former regime elites, and other knowledgeable observers of state failure and recovery. During November and December 2007, he served as a project manager and statistical consultant for the Caucasus Research Resource Centers based in Sukhumi, the Abkhazia region of the Republic of Georgia.

**Ilija Gruen**, a fifth-year doctoral student in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, received Stanford University’s Centennial Teaching Assistant Award in June 2008. Gruen has taught Russian language and other courses in the Slavic department and in Slav Dom, the undergraduate Slavic theme house. In 2008-09, he continues to work on his dissertation which chronicles the story of Boris Pasternak’s long and complicated relationship with Rainer Maria Rilke, man, image, and oeuvre.

**Katherine Kuhns**, a second-year doctoral student in the International and Comparative Education Program, Stanford School of Education (SUSE) will work with Professor Martin Carnoy, the Vida Jacks Professor of Education, on a comparative project involving the educational systems of Brazil, Russia, India, and China in 2008-09. The project seeks to shed light on how these countries are adapting their science and technology university curricula to gain improved performance of their graduates within the emerging

### 2008 Bolshe Vita Films:

- **Feb 28:** Odessa…Odessa! (Michale Boganim, France, 2005) (35mm print)
- **April 2:** Bolshe Vita (Ibolye Fekete, Hungary, 1996)
- **April 16:** Moonlighting (Jerzy Skolimowski, U.K., 1982)
- **April 30:** The Last Resort (Pawel Pawlikowski, U.K., 2000)
- **May 7:** Quando sei nato, non puoi piú nasconderti / Once you are born you can no longer hide (Marco Tullio Giordana, Italy, 2005)
- **May 14:** Gypo (Jan Dunn, U.K., 2005)
- **May 30:** Import/Export (Ulrich Seidl, Austria, 2007) (35mm print)

Co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Studies Program
knowledge economy.

Prior to joining SUSE, Kuhns directed the Initiative on Distance Learning (IDL) program at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford. IDL offered five Stanford courses in international security to Russian regional universities, with the goal of helping to rejuvenate the study of the social sciences in Russian institutions of higher education. During summer 2008, Kuhns worked at the World Bank, Moscow, conducting surveys at targeted Russian universities on curricular offerings in science and technology.

Steven Lee received a PhD in the Modern Thought and Literature in 2008. A Geballe Dissertation Prize Fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center for 2007-08, he was awarded a post-doctoral fellowship at NYU’s Center for the United States and the Cold War for 2008-09, and will begin a tenure-track position in the Department of English at UC Berkeley in July 2009.

In March 2008, Lee’s article “Borat, Multiculturalism, Mnogonatsional’nost” was published in the Slavic Review. The article condensed a chapter of his doctoral dissertation which compares multiculturalism in the US to the official policies of multi-nationalism in the former USSR. In May 2008, Lee served as organizer and moderator of the international symposium “Utopia’s Coasts: Stoppard in New York and Moscow,” a comparison of the American and Russian productions of Tom Stoppard’s trilogy The Coast of Utopia. The symposium was supported by CREEES, SiCa, the DLCL, and the Stanford Humanities Center. In August 2008, he introduced the film Koryo Saram: The Unreliable People (2006) at the ICA International Film Festival. This documentary depicts the fate of Soviet Koreans deported to Central Asia during the Stalin era. Before coming to Stanford, Lee was a Fulbright fellow in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, comparing Soviet-Korean and Korean-American literatures and histories.


In November 2007, he presented a paper on the panel “Development in the ‘Developed’ Second World” that he and Natalia Roudakova (UCSD) organized for the American Anthropological Association conference. The panel examined the intersection of socialist and capitalist “developmentalisms” ethnographically, and Matza’s paper was concerned with the status of psychological personhood as a matter of education policy and practice under Putin. In March 2008, he delivered a paper at the Council for European Studies conference in Chicago, which discussed fieldwork in several “psychology camps” for children of the new Russian elite.

Erika Monahan, who received a Stanford PhD in History in 2007, began a tenure-track job as assistant professor of Russian history at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, in August 2008. An expert in Russian frontier trade and culture in the 17th and 18th centuries, she taught Western Civilization at the University of Alaska, Anchorage, Spring 2008.

Monahan is currently working on turning her AAASS paper “Regulating Vice and Virtue: Tobacco and Rhubarb Trade on the Seventeenth-Century Eurasian Steppe” into an article for the proposed volume Tobacco in Russian History and Culture: The Seventeenth Century to the Present (eds., Matthew Romanella and Tricia Starks). She is also working on the article “Gavril Romanov Nikitin: A Portrait” for the forthcoming volume People of Empire: Lives of Culture and Power in Russian Eurasia, 1500-1950 (eds., Willard Sunderland and Stephen Norris).

Dina Moyal, doctoral candidate in the Department of History, was named a Geballe Dissertation Prize Fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center for 2008-09. Her dissertation “Did Law Matter? – Law, State, and Individual in the Soviet Union 1953-1985” offers a new interpretation of what took place inside Soviet courtrooms in the Krushchev and Brezhnev eras. She studies the contents of the protocols of court sessions, indictments, appeals, stenographic records of meetings, the correspondence of state, and reports issued by legal institutions and the media in an effort to gain an in-depth knowledge of the Soviet legal system. Moyal received a CREEES travel grant for Summer 2008 to conduct research in Moscow archives.

Bruce O’Neil, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology, was a Fulbright Scholar in Romania for 2007-08. O’Neil researches the relationship between governance and urban forms in Romania, and while conducting research in Romania last year, he studied the spatial politics of homeless shelter placement in the city of Bucharest. His secondary research interest was tracking the relationship between time, boredom and affect within these overnight shelters. Other areas of academic interests include the anthropologies of post-socialism, neoliberalism, consumption and suburbanization.

Natalie Rouland is a doctoral candidate in the Slavic Department at Stanford. She received her B.A. in English and Russian from Wellesley College and has conducted research in Russia and Europe with the support of IIE Fulbright, Knafel, and CREEES fellowships. Last year, Ms. Rouland was the recipient of a Geballe Dissertation Prize Fellowship at the Stanford Humanities Center. She plans to complete her dissertation, “Ballet and the Imperial Body in Russian Literature, 1851-1895,” this year as a Fulbright-Hays Fellow in St. Petersburg.

Mengkai Shieh, a fourth-year M.D. student at the Stanford Medical School, received a FLAS fellowship for Russian language study in 2007 and is participating in Stanford-in-Moscow, Autumn 2008. While in Moscow, Mengkai will pursue his academic specialization in the Biomedical Ethics and Medical Humanities Scholarly Concentration at the Medical School by studying the history of medicine in Russia. Mengkai will also develop his broader interest in researching the international history and development of the medical profession. He devoted summer 2008 to clinical rotations at Stanford Hospital.

Suzanne Sutherland, a fourth-year doctoral student in the History Department, received a Fulbright Scholarship for 2008-09. A specialist in seventeenth-century Habsburg Empire with a particular focus on the Czech lands, she will in conduct archival research in the Czech Republic during the term of her fellowship. She devoted summer 2008 to working on her dissertation prospectus and reading academic writing in German, Italian, and Czech. After graduation, she plans to become a professor and continue her research.
Scilla Bennett comes from Brandeis University with a bachelor's degree in Russian Language and Literature, May 2008. She attended American Councils Advanced Area and Russian Language Studies in Vladimir, Russia during the summer of 2007. She was also an Aids volunteer in Tanzania the previous summer. Her interests are primarily related to international public health issues in Russia. In the future, she plans to work with an international NGO in public health. She is a recipient of the FLAS Fellowship in Russian, Stanford University, 2008-2009.

Tatyana (Tanya) Larissa Colman Bulloch graduated from Trinity College with a AB in International Studies/Russia and a double minor in Russian language and Human Rights Studies in May 2008. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa, with honors in general scholarship. The senior thesis she completed for her major was entitled “The Truth Will Not Be Televised: The Russian Media’s Representation of the Second Chechen War.” Tanya also wrote a human rights minor thesis “Fifty Years of Statelessness: The Case of the Meskhetian Turks of Krasnodar Krai.” At Trinity College she worked as a teaching assistant in Russian History during the Spring 2008 semester. She attended the Russian language program at the Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow in the spring of 2007. While there, she also worked as an editor and translator for the Memorial Human Rights Center, Moscow. Her interests include: Russian nationalism, human rights, and political transition. In the future she plans to work for the government on issues of politics and human rights. She received a FLAS Fellowship in Russian, Stanford.

Christopher (Chris) Allen Jones comes from American University with a master’s degree in International Affairs, May 2008. He graduated with his BA in History/Political Science, summa cum laude, from Bradley University in 2003. His master’s degree thesis was on the struggle for autonomy of the Republic of Tatarstan. He was a Boren Research Fellow, Russian and Tatar language at Kazan’ State University in 2007-2008. From June 07-Sept. 08, he travelled to 31 countries, and spent the summer of 2008 retracing the Silk Road through Central Asia. He also received a State Department Fellowship to study Tatar language at Arizona State University in 2004. His interests pertain to the study of radical Islam, Central Asia and Russia. His future plans include: government research and policy work. He received a FLAS Fellowship for the study of Russian or Kazakh, Stanford University, 2008-2009.

Saya Snow Kitasei, Stanford University, BS in Earth Systems/Anthropology; Minor in Russian Language, is a Co-Terminal student in AM REEES. Her academic work includes research in molecular cardiology, plant genetics, paleo-oceanography, and ecosystem change. She worked as a tutor for the Program in Structured Liberal Education, Stanford University, 2006-2008. She was a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association Hollings Scholar, 2006-2008. She was also a research assistant at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Kachemak Bay Research Reserve, Homer, Alaska in the summer of 2007. She speaks several languages, including: Russian, German, Japanese, and Norwegian. She is interested in Russian literature, economics, and politics. In the future, she plans to work on international environmental problems and energy issues, particularly involving Russia. She received two FLAS Fellowships this year: one for Intensive Advanced Russian, Moscow State University, summer 2008, and the other for Russian, Stanford University, 2008-2009.

Larisa Marie Lehmer, Stanford University, AB in Russian Language, Culture, and History, BS in Biological Sciences, is a Co-Terminal student in AM REEES. Larisa has been working on a research project in the Central Pacific relating to environmental issues in the migratory path of the Pacific Leatherback Sea Turtle. She attended Middlebury Russian School in the summer of 2006 and Stanford in Moscow in the fall. Her interests include: global energy, environmental, and security issues; water politics in Central Asia. In the future, she is interested in going into academia, healthcare, law, or environmental policy. She is a recipient of a CREEES Summer Travel/Research Grant for study in Russia, summer 2008 and a FLAS Fellowship in Russian, Stanford University, 2008-2009.

John Colin Moore graduated from San Diego State University with a bachelor’s degree in International Business, magna cum laude in 1996. He is a Major in the U.S. Army Foreign Area Officer Program (FAO). He was affiliated with the George C. Marshall Center, Garmisch, Germany, 2005-2008, is a Military Aide to the Director, Deputy Chief of the Office of Military Cooperation, U.S. Embassy, Astana, Kazakhstan Advanced Security and Terrorism Studies, and Tactical Advisor for Georgian 22nd Infantry Battalion, Tbilisi, Georgia and Baghdad, Iraq. He was a Tank Company Commander, U.S. Army, Germany and Iraq, 2003-2004. He received the Silver Star for valor in Iraq, 2004 as well as the U.S. Army MacArthur Award, 2004. He is fluent in German and speaks both Russian and French at an intermediate level. In the future, he plans to work as a military attache in U.S. embassies in the former Soviet Union. He is also a Graduate Student Research Assistant, Preventive Defensive Project, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, 2008-2009.

Alan Russell Smith comes from the University of Colorado, Boulder, with an AB in International Affairs and Russian Studies, 2007. He received a research grant from the University of Colorado to process audio interviews regarding folk beliefs and bylichki in the contemporary Russian village. He studied Russian for several years at St. Petersburg State University and is interested in Russian politics, economics, law, history, and language. In the future he may enroll in a Ph.D. program in economics or pursue a job in international business operations in Russia. He received a FLAS Fellowship, Stanford University, 2008-2009.

Jiwon Yoon graduated from Seoul National University with a bachelor’s degree in English Literature and a Minor in International Relations in 2000. He did graduate work in International Studies from 2000 to 2002. He is currently Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Republic of Korea. He studied Russian beginning in high school and worked as a foreign liaison officer with Russia in the Air Force of Korea, 2004-2007. He is interested in the political and economic transition of former socialist countries. In the future, he plans to be stationed at the Korean Embassy in Moscow.
Nikolai Gogol's Revizor
By Tom Roberts
PhD Candidate, Slavic Dept.

On the evening of Saturday, April 12, 2008, a CREEES-sponsored group of PhD, MA, and undergraduate students from various departments (CREEES, Modern Thought and Literature, and Slavic Languages and Literatures) attended the American Conservatory Theater's production of Nikolai Gogol’s 1836 play Revizor (The Government Inspector) in San Francisco. The production was directed by Carey Perloff (who recently visited campus, to participate in the CREEES-sponsored symposium at the Stanford Humanities Center on Tom Stoppard's The Coast of Utopia), and translated and adapted from the Russian by Alistair Beaton. Ably rendering Gogol's satiric genius to a contemporary audience, the play lived up to its advertised maxim of “politicians behaving badly,” gleefully exposing the corruption and vulgarity of provincial Russian officialdom. The entire ACT cast turned in excellent performances, particularly Gregory Wallace, who played the lead role of Khlestakov. Many thanks to CREEES, for sponsoring our night at the theater!

In the Army Now: CREEES Visits the Tank Farm
By Alison Glass
CREEES MA Student

On May 9, 2008, students, staff, and affiliates of Stanford University’s Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (CREEES) visited Jacques Littlefield’s Military Vehicle Technology Foundation (MVTF) museum complex in Portola Valley, California. Incidentally, this visit coincided with Russia’s ‘Victory Day’ holiday, which celebrates Russia’s military achievements in World War II.

The Military Vehicle Technology Foundation, or, as it is more affectionately known, the “Tank Farm,” oversees one of the largest and most significant collections of historical military vehicles in the world. The goal of the foundation, according to their website, is to “acquire, restore, and interpret the historical significance of 20th and 21st century military vehicles.” The collection focuses on combat vehicles, such as tanks, armored cars, and self-propelled artillery. In addition to the vehicles, however, the Foundation also collects and displays towed artillery, antitank, and antiaircraft guns, military support equipment, inert ordnance, and general accessories. Mr. Littlefield’s Foundation also maintains a vast technical library that describes many vehicles intricately, down to the part level.

Upon arrival at Mr. Littlefield’s estate, members of the CREEES group were first taken to MVTF’s workshop, where they learned how tanks and other military vehicles are restored to combat-ready appearance and operating condition. The visitors were able to learn about and see some of the many tools used to work on the tanks; these tools include a large drill press, powered grinders, a band saw, variable-speed drills, 1/2 and 3/4-inch impact wrenches and sockets as well as portable hydraulic rams.

When parts for these incomplete military vehicles are missing, no longer available, or damaged beyond recognition, the Foundation does everything they can to recreate them. Employees search through the Foundation’s large collection of books, photos and technical manuals for illustrations showing the missing part, visit museums to measure and photograph similar items, and employ an engine lathe, a milling machine, a hydraulic ironworker, a band saw, an arbor press, and sheet metal equipment to recreate metal parts.

In addition to learning about the restoration process, CREEES visitors were also able to see some of the Foundation’s current projects, including a German tank that is relatively close to completion. Students enjoyed seeing the inside of this incomplete tank, and photographing these vehicles in the process of restoration.

Following the workshop visit, group members were given a tour of the Foundation’s museum, which consists of four large buildings containing over 160 pieces of restored heavy military vehicles, dating variously from WW I to the present, and coming from the Soviet Union, Germany, the US and other places throughout the world. Included among these military vehicles are 56 tanks, 8 of which are Soviet. In addition, visitors could see two SCUD missiles on their mobile launching vehicles, armored personnel carriers, reconnaissance vehicles, self-propelled artillery, antiaircraft weapons, and displays of tank engines, among numerous other fascinating military artifacts and pieces of memorabilia. The tour was led by Michael Green, one of the Foundation’s curators, who is a virtual expert on the MVTF collection, having written over fifty books on military hardware.

Members of the CREEES group greatly enjoyed the visit to the “Tank Farm,” and it is safe to say that this was the perfect way for these Russia enthusiasts to celebrate Victory Day.

BOSP Students Visit Russian Consulate

More than twenty student participants of Stanford Bing Overseas Study Programs (BOSP) in the Russian Federation attended a send-off reception at the Russian Consulate in San Francisco on May 22, 2008. Nancy Kollmann (William H. Bonsall Professor of History), Jack Kollmann (CREEES), and Jennifer Mulowney (BOSP) accompanied the students to the reception.

Consul General Vladimir Vinokurov and a group of Vice Consuls hosted the reception. The Consul General offered formal remarks on the value of study abroad programs to enhancing international understanding and cooperation. The students were treated to an array of traditional Russian zakuski (hor d’oeuvres) and enjoyed the views of the San Francisco Bay from the Russian Consulate, located on Green St. in Pacific Heights.

Sixteen students participated in the BOSP Overseas Seminar “St. Petersburg and Beyond” in September 2008, with the Kollmanns. Seventeen students are participating in Stanford-in-Moscow, Autumn 2008, with Amir Weiner, Faculty in Residence, Associate Professor of History.
Three Distinguished Speakers Offer Stanford Lecture Series on Russian Affairs

A trio of leading experts on contemporary Russian affairs offered CREEES noontime seminars on Thursday-Monday, May 1-5, 2008 in the CISAC conference room, Encina Hall. Dmitry Trenin (Carnegie Moscow Center) addressed Russian politics, Edward Lucas (The Economist) spoke on Russian international relations, and Marshall Goldman (David Center, Harvard) lectured on the Russian economy. Each of the talks, based on a recently published book, drew a sizable audience and lively discussion – a clear indication that interest in Russia has captured the attention of the Stanford academic community and the public at large.

Audio transcripts of the lectures by Edward Lucas and Marshall Goldman are available online on the website for the Forum on Contemporary Europe (fce.stanford.edu), co-sponsors of these lectures. The Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC) co-sponsored Dmitry Trenin’s lecture.

The lecture series was supported in part by a Title VI grant from the US Department of Education.

Dmitry Trenin: Getting Russia Right

Deputy Director of Carnegie Moscow Center, Dmitry Trenin kicked off the series on May 1, speaking on topics raised in his book Getting Russia Right (2007). In a talk many Stanford audience members considered “optimistic,” Trenin contended that the Putin-Medvedev transition is important and should not be written off.

Trenin described the recent March 2008 Russian presidential election as “undemocratic,” but he argued that the vote was still significant. He noted that the election was not “anti-democratic,” as

Russians by-and-large supported Putin’s choice. Furthermore, he underlined the importance of Putin’s decision to abide by the Russian Constitution and refusal to amend it. Trenin commended this move, stating that “in the end, a piece of paper prevailed over the political expediency of the day.”

Trenin dismissed remarks that President Medvedev would serve only as a “puppet prince” to Prime Minister Putin; rather, he offered the Medvedev regime as a “regency.” In this vein, Trenin suggested that Medvedev’s presidency brings a doubling of institutions in Russia’s political system. The office of prime minister will join that of the president to become Russia’s second center of political power, and no longer will the presidency be the epicenter of all political control.

Trenin expects Medvedev to establish himself independently of Putin. For the first several months, Medvedev may turn to Putin, but this will be temporary. He suggests that it will take Medvedev between six and twenty-four months to establish himself as Russian president. Still, much debate and speculation focus on the interaction between Medvedev and Putin. Trenin posits that their future political relationship cannot be predicted, and the world will need to watch developments closely.

Edward Lucas and the New Cold War

Edward Lucas, the Central and Eastern Europe correspondent for The Economist magazine (London), presented a talk based on his book The New Cold War: Putin’s Russia and the Threat to the West (2008). His lecture on May 2 focused on the various ways in which Putin’s Russia resembles its predecessor -- the Soviet Union -- through the application of Realpolitik in foreign relations and the diminution of civil rights domestically.

The main idea of Lucas’ theory is that Putin has reestablished Russia as a “great power” by revisiting the nation’s authoritarian political history. This has meant that the clamping down on the media, the arbitrary incarceration of political opposition, and the reinvigoration of political influence of the secret police (the FSB) have proceeded with little public debate or protest.

Lucas argued that Putin’s endorsement of the Soviet Union writ large has provided him with the legerdemain to be granted concessions for his policies from the Russian public. The growth of the Russian economy, thanks to the revenues from oil and natural gas, has inclined the general populace to accept a political culture that deviates from the norms of Western ideas of “democracy” and “freedom.”

In foreign policy, Russia has become a dominant force on the world stage by opposing the US and the EU. And for this reason, Lucas’s concept – the “new cold war” -- has increasingly resonated with scholarly observers of Russia.

The lecture concluded on a hopeful note: Lucas stressed that the US and the EU may induce change in Russia through the adept and persistent insistence on democratic ideals and values. He also emphasized the necessity of Western political leaders to recognize the importance of Russia on the world stage.

An audio transcript of Mr. Lucas’ lecture is available at fce.stanford.edu.

Marshall Goldman: Russia, the Petrostate

Marshall Goldman, the Kathryn W. Davis Professor of Soviet Economics Emeritus (Wellesley College) and former Associate Director, Davis Center for Russian Studies (Harvard University), spoke on his book Petrostate: Putin, Power, and the New Russia (2008) on May 5.

He chronicled Russia’s dramatic reemergence on the world stage, illuminating the key reason for its rebirth: the use of its ever-expanding energy wealth to reassert its traditional great power ambitions. Goldman traced how this has come to be, and how Russia is using its oil-based power as a lever in world politics.

Professor Goldman provided an informative overview of oil in Russia,
tracing Putin’s determined effort to reign in the upstart oil oligarchs who had risen to power in the post-Soviet era, and described Putin’s efforts to renationalize and refashion Russia’s industries into state companies and his vaunted “national champions” corporations like Gazprom, largely owned by the state, who do the bidding of the state.

Goldman showed how Russia paid off its international debt and has gone on to accumulate the world’s third largest holdings of foreign currency reserves -- all by becoming the world’s largest producer of petroleum and the world’s second largest exporter. Putin and his cohort have stabilized the Russian economy and recentralized power in Moscow, and fossil fuels (oil and natural gas) have made it all possible.

An audio transcript of Professor Goldman’s lecture is available at fee.stanford.edu.

Anjali Vithayathil and Susan Skoda contributed to this report.

**Stanford Scholars Discuss Georgian Crisis at CREEES Roundtable**

An impromptu roundtable discussion on the events unfolding in the Republic of Georgia was held in Encina Hall on August 14, 2008. CREEES interim director John Dunlop moderated the discussion which included participants from the Freeman Spogli Institute (FSI), the Hoover Institution, and the Departments of Political Science and History.

John Dunlop, a Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, opened the roundtable by summarizing press accounts detailing the events beginning on August 8 in the Russian-Georgian conflict. Gail Lapidus, Senior Fellow Emerita at the Freeman Spogli Institute (FSI), outlined the larger strategic and security issues involved.

Two Draper Hills Summer Fellows at the Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law (CDDRL) with intimate knowledge of the region provided comments at the roundtable discussion: Eka Kemularia, head of staff of the Committee on Human Rights and Civil Integration for the Parliament of Georgia, reported testimony of relatives and associates living in the conflict zones. Grigory Shvedov, editor-in-chief of the 24/7 Internet edition of Caucasian Knot, provided a detailed account of the recent history of events in Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

Also participating in the roundtable discussion were Norman Naimark (Robert & Florence McDonnell Professor of Eastern European Studies and Senior Fellow, by courtesy, at FSI and the Hoover Institution), David Holloway (Raymond A. Spruance Professor of International History and Senior Fellow at FSI), Michael McFaul (Professor of Politics, Deputy Director of FSI, Director of CDDRL, and the Peter and Helen Bing Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution), William Perry (Michael and Barbara Berberian Professor at FSI and Engineering, Senior Fellow at FSI and Hoover), Chaim Braun (Consulting Professor, Center for International Security and Cooperation, CISAC), David Elliott (CISAC affiliate), Andrei Illarionov (Draper Hills Summer Fellow, CDDRL, Senior Fellow at the Cato Institute’s Center for Global Liberty and Prosperity), and Lisa Trei (Public Affairs Manager, CISAC).

A Muslim Double Agent Illuminates Russian Imperial Culture

Olga Bessmertnaya, Fulbright Visiting Scholar in the History Department and the Hoover Institution, presented the fruits of her current research project “Muslim Azef, or the Encyclopaedia of Russian Modernity” in her talk co-sponsored by CREEES and the Stanford History “Kruzhok” on May 19, 2008.

The talk, entitled “Relativizing Cultural Boundaries: A Muslim Double Agent in Late Imperial Russia,” dealt with the figure remembered differently and under two different names. One name was Maghomet-Bek Hadjetlaché (1870-1929), a State agent working against Muslim opposition and fostering the conflict, but claiming to defend Muslim interests against the Government – and hence, nicknamed by his Muslim contemporaries “Muslim Azef” (after the notorious Russian Jewish double agent Evno Azef, a principle socialist-revolutionary leader and an outstanding police informant); the other name was Yuri Kazi-Bek Akhmetukov, the most prolific Adyg writer of the era, expressing the humanistic values of national culture.

He was, in fact, both, acting as a trickster crossing social boundaries, an ‘impostor’ playing political and cultural “Other.” Professing Muslim and Adyg authenticity, he was, most probably, born Jewish and baptised to Orthodoxy, named Grigoriy Ettinger. Discussing the questions of how that strategy was possible, why it was needed, what instilled trust in the hero among people from different cultural and political milieus, and what made them discover his deceits, Bessmertnaya plumbed the larger question about “late Imperial Russian space”: how it was, on the one hand, multi-confessional and multi-ethnic, and on the other, reciprocally-mirrored and cohesive.

Bessmertnaya analyzed how cultural

(Continued on page 30)
boundaries were constructed, both by the hero and the people surrounding him, and she underscored the role of conspiracy thinking and the image of the enemy (based on the notion of genetic and primordial “culture”) on the eve of the World War I. These and other factors allowed the hero to turn his invented cultural “Otherness” into a kind of symbolic capital. Bessmertnaya pondered whether one should take the story as a phenomenon of “Russian modernity” (even if illiberal), as a seed of the crisis of modernity -- sowing disbelief both in universal progress and in the stability of particular “social” boundaries. She drew parallels to later trends of thought and action in Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany.

Olga Bessmertnaya is a senior research scholar at the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow (RGGU) and will be conducting research at Stanford through October 2008.

CREEES 2007 Summer Fellowship and Grant Recipients

Graduate Research Travel Grants
Alexander Frese (History): Soviet diplomacy in the Political Archive of the German Foreign Office.
Larisa Lehmer (CREEES): Internship at the Institute for the Economy in Transition in Moscow.
Katharina Matro (History): “Recovered Territories” archives in Western Poland.
Kathryn Ward (History): “Civilizing the Borderlands: Education, Moderization, and Nation-Building in South-Eastern Poland, 1918-1939.”

Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships for Graduate Intensive Language Study
Saya Kitasei (CREEES): Russian, Moscow University
William Leidy (Slavic Languages and Literatures): Polish, Catholic University of Lublin
Nicholas Lund (History): Azerbaijani, American Councils of International Education’s Eurasian Regional Language Program in Baku
Monique Smith (CREEES): Russian, Columbia University

Undergraduate Language Study Grants
(co-sponsored by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, the Ukrainian Studies Program, and the Division of Literatures, Cultures and Languages)
Siyeona Chang ’11: Russian, Pushkin Institute, Moscow
Julian Gropp ’11: Russian, Pushkin Institute, Moscow
Nathan Hayflick ’10: Russian, St. Petersburg State University
Andrew Wyhinny ’11: Ukrainian, “Kyiv-Mohyla Academy,” Kyiv

CONGRATULATIONS, CREEES 2008 GRADUATES!

CREEES Faculty conferred Masters Degrees on six students in a ceremony at the Center on June 15, 2008

Alison Glass plans to return home for the summer to spend time with family before relocating to DC in the fall to pursue a job in the nonprofit sector.

Bridget Gongol is moving to Kansas City, MO and is interviewing for medical interpretation and ESL tutoring positions. She wants to use languages to help people in a medical environment, and is planning on starting EMT training in the fall.

Ben Knelman will be continuing in his teaching assistantship in the Department of Economics this fall, and as well as continuing his work in Environmental Studies at Stanford. He is currently researching the threatened sturgeon populations of the Caspian and Black Seas and methodically exacting promises from all his friends that they will never eat wild-caught black caviars.

Susan Skoda will move to Washington D.C. to begin work with the federal government this fall. This summer, Susan will help lead a group of undergraduates from Stanford and Harvard (her alma mater) to South Africa on a mission trip. The group of thirty students will be working in HIV clinics, helping out in local orphanages, and heading up art projects for orphans. This will be Susan’s second trip to South Africa. She is most thankful for the opportunities and experiences ahead.

Monique Smith will be moving to New York to study Russian at Columbia University for the summer. She then plans to find a job working in journalism or communications.

Anjali Vithayathil plans to spend time in India this summer, after which she will be traveling to Iran to continue studying Farsi. She will be applying to History Ph.D. programs this fall.
Van-Anh Awarded H&S Dean’s Award of Merit

Van-Anh Nguyen, CREEES Center Administrator, received the Humanities & Sciences Dean’s Award of Merit on May 8, 2008 for her outstanding service. Van-Anh joined CREEES in July 2005 and has become a most valued employee in the three years of her tenure with us. In this same period, three faculty directors and three associate directors have served CREEES -- all can agree that Van-Anh’s stellar performance has brought consistent excellence to all Center endeavors, despite the change in leadership in recent years.

Van-Anh studied finance and liberal arts at Mission College, in Santa Clara, and majored in French at the UC Davis. In 1997, she began working at Stanford, first as a finance associate in the School of Engineering and later in the Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine. Her knowledge of University policies, the principles of accounting, and the operations of our Center have proven invaluable to all of us. A skillful networker and cost-cutter, she combines her love of people and finances to serve the Center’s faculty, guests, and students with insight, efficiency, and good humor. CREEES is thrilled to see Van-Anh’s talents and contributions recognized by the Dean’s Award of Merit. Congratulations!

CREEES Welcomes Teo Straka

Congratulations to Lenka Strakova (CREEES Program Assistant) and Matus Straka (Radiological Sciences Lab, School of Medicine) on the birth of their son Teodor (Teo) Matej Straka on May 3, 2008. Teo tipped the scales at 9.1 lbs. and stretched to 20.9 inches.

Lenka and Teo joined the rest of the CREEES staff at the annual retreat in Half Moon Bay on July 17. In the months that have passed since his birth, Teo has grown considerably, and he understands both English and Slovak equally well.

Naruzbayeva Observes Traditional Kazakh Wedding Rituals

Congratulations to Zhanara Nauruzbayeva, doctoral candidate in Anthropology and CREEES graduate student coordinator of the Eurasian Studies Working Group, on her marriage to Daniel Gallegos!

Zhanara’s mother Aiman-apa, brother Temirzhan, and her “village” (The Silk Road House community in Berkeley) “saw off the bride” at a traditional Kazakh pre-wedding rite of passage held on August 9 at the Hillside Club in Berkeley.

Daniel broke into the Hillside Club, against a mob of Zhanara’s relatives, to “capture the bride.” Once inside, Daniel and Zhanara sat at a banquet of traditional Central Asian foods and were regaled with speeches by relatives and friends. The ceremony was officiated by Alma Kunanbaeva, who teaches Kazakh and Uzbek language and Central Asian anthropology courses at Stanford.

Zhanara and Daniel spent 2006-07 on an Anthropology department fellowship in Alma-Aty, Kazakhstan on a joint project to study the creative work spaces and aesthetics of contemporary Kazakh artists.

A New Logo for CREEES!

CREEES thanks Drew Fagan for designing the Center’s new logo. Drew received a BFA from Stanford University and studied with Daniel Mendelowitz, Matt Kahn and Victor Arnautoff. CREEES was very fortunate to have Drew engineer our new look. His logo design appears on our newsletter, our website, and on posters publicizing CREEES events.

Drew is a multiple award-winning fine artist whose work can be seen on his website http://www.drewfagan.com. His paintings have been shown at the old Stanford Art Museum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the original Spago Restaurant in Hollywood, the Gualala Arts Center, the Women’s City Club of Pasadena, and in a number of other solo and group shows. In 2007, Drew was elected to the prestigious California Art Club as a Professional Artist Member and was selected to show in the 97th Annual Gold Medal Exhibition at the Pasadena Museum of California Art in April 2008.
CREEES EVENTS, AUTUMN 2008

DALLIN LECTURE, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2008, 4:15PM - 6PM
“The Unstable Politics of Russia’s Diarchy: Some Preliminary Thoughts”
Professor Peter Reddaway, Emeritus Professor of Political Science & International Affairs
George Washinton University
Fisher Conference Center, Arrillaga Alumni Center
Free and open to the Public

CREEES FALL RECEPTION, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008, 4PM-6PM
Open to Stanford faculty, students and staff by invitation

AAASS STANFORD-BERKELEY RECEPTION, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008, 7:30PM - 9:30PM
Philadelphia Marriott Hotel, Grand Ballroom C
Open to all Stanford and UC Berkeley affiliates and alumni

APPLICATION DEADLINES

One-Year, Intensive MA Program in Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies
Applications due Tuesday, January 6, 2009
For application and information: http://creees.stanford.edu/academic/graduate-masters.html

Academic-Year Foreign Language Areas Studies (FLAS) fellowships
(Full tuition and stipend for Stanford MA and professional school students studying a REEES language)
Applications due Tuesday, January 6, 2009
For application and information: http://creees.stanford.edu/grants/academic-years.html