

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Hearty greetings to all of you at the beginning of this new academic year. We are especially pleased to be welcoming two new colleagues who will be inducted into the Melikian Center at its fall affiliates meeting on Friday, September 25—**Peter Schmelz** and **Ana Olenina**. Professor Schmelz, a Russian musicologist, comes to us from Washington Univer-

sity, St. Louis, where he chaired the music department. His work addresses popular culture and the politics of Russian and Ukrainian music since World War II. Ana Olenina, a recent Harvard Ph.D. graduate specializing in Russian film studies, is in residence this year at ASU and on leave from teaching at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington. Both Peter and Ana will be giving presentations in our fall series, “At the Melikian Center.” Please mark your calendars and join us for these and all the other featured events this fall “at the Melikian Center” (see the full schedule on p. 3 of the newsletter).

Kudos to **Kathleen Evans-Romaine** and to all the faculty and staff of the Center’s Critical Languages Institute (CLI) on receipt of an annually renewable \$200,000 U.S. Department of State Title VIII award for the 2016 fiscal year to support training in less commonly taught languages of Eastern Europe and Eurasia. The Title VIII program, as many of you know, dates from the “Soviet and East European Research and Training Act of 1983.” Since the Reagan era, that Act has provided annual fellowship and operational funding to advance East European and Eurasian studies, offering support for nationally recognized institutes and agencies that are serving the U.S. national interest by advancing graduate student and faculty research and training. The Title VIII budget, which was never very large, but used to exceed \$6 million annually, has supported a number of key fellowship granting agencies, such as IREX, the Kennan Institute, the National Council for East European and Eurasian Research, the American Council of Learned Societies, the Social Science Research Council, and a few

select university training programs. Although the Melikian Center has received prior Title VIII funding, there has been a two-year hiatus in Congressional and State Department support for the Title VIII program. In an effort to revive funding for Title VIII, ASU President Michael Crow joined other university leaders last spring in appealing to Secretary of State John Kerry to restore funding. The disappointing news is that only \$2 million was allocated for the revived 2016 Title VIII program. Nevertheless, the good news is that our ASU Critical Languages Institute joins Indiana University’s Summer Language Workshop as one of just two university training programs to receive competitive State Department Title VIII awards for 2016. Congratulations, Kathleen!

Thanks to the leadership of Melikian Center adjunct professor and affiliate **Shahin Berisha** (GateWay Community College), the Melikian Center has received USAID support to expand its partnership with the University of Prishtina (UP) in Kosovo. The award, part of USAID’s \$32 million Kosovo Transformational Leadership Project (KTLP) administered by World Learning, Inc., is described elsewhere in this edition of the newsletter. ASU joins three other U.S. universities (University of Minnesota, Indiana University, and Dartmouth) in partnerships with the University of Prishtina that are being underwritten by USAID/Kosovo TLP and World Learning.

Finally, as some of you have noted, the 2015-16 year is turning out to be a year of major staffing turnover and renewal. The article below notes the significant turnover in our business operations and the very helpful addition of our new outreach coordinator, Andrew Gunn. As many of you know from the announcement at the spring 2015 meeting of the Melikian Center affiliates, I will be retiring at the end of 2015-2016. ASU Social Sciences Dean Elizabeth Wentz has set in motion the work of a committee that will be heading up the search for a new director. Professor Hava Samuelson, director of the ASU Center for Jewish Studies, has kindly agreed to chair that committee. Your support, especially during this period of staffing changes, has been and will be very much appreciated. Thanks to all of the Center’s wonderful partners—the Melikian family, our Advisory

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MELIKIAN CENTER STAFFING CHANGES

Despite a round of very significant staffing changes in 2015, the Melikian Center is entering the new academic year with a reorganized and vibrant core staff. The irony in Melikian Center operations is apparently that the more things change, the more they remain the same.

The Center bid farewell to three key staff members this year. Belorussian Post-Doc Alexei Lalo returned to Belarus at the end of December 2014. He had been working with our youth democracy project implementing an exchange of Azerbaijani and Arizona young people, and had assisted in a variety of other Center projects. Alexei is currently back in the United States visiting at the University of Texas, Austin. Our longtime business manager, Phil Carrano, was promoted

to a leadership position in financial operations for the ASU College of Nursing and Health Solutions in downtown Phoenix. We miss Phil's leadership in the Center, but will be welcoming him into membership on the Melikian Center Advisory Board at our December 3 meeting. Congratulations, Phil! Finally, Catherine Ashmead, who briefly came to replace Phil Carrano in the Center's business office in mid-year, left us this fall to assume a financial position in the ASU Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics.

On the other hand, this staffing attrition has been matched by two major appointments that have reinforced Melikian Center operations. The first of these is the promotion of the Center's ROTC Project Global Officer national outreach coordinator, Marina Akins, to the business manager position in the Melikian Center. Marina brings to Melikian Center financial operations the kind of meticulous care for detail that will assure a smooth leadership transition from the longtime financial management of Phil Carrano. The timing of the Akins appointment turned out to be fortuitous inasmuch as the Institute of International Education announced at the end of the fiscal year that they wished to move the Project GO national outreach coordinator position back into their home offices in Washington, DC. Fortunately, Marina has decided to stay with the Melikian Center in her new position as head of financial operations.

Finally, this past spring the Melikian Center was able, with Melikian Center Advisory Board support, to hire a full-time outreach

coordinator, Andrew Gunn (Andrew.T.Gunn@asu.edu). Gunn is assuming some of the local duties that Marina performed for the IIE ROTC Project GO program, while also expanding the reach of our CLI recruitment efforts in metropolitan Phoenix, as well as nationally. Andrew comes to the Melikian Center following his baccalaureate degree in Russian from ASU (2008) and his M.A. degree in Russian from the University of Arizona (2011). From 2008, he became the founding owner and operator of Adroit Technology, Inc. (Gilbert, AZ), which specialized in web design/development, company branding, search engine optimization, and various coding and custom applications. His clients included Sharp Electronics, the World Health Organization AS Roma FC, and many others. Alongside his outreach efforts for the Center, Andrew has managed to bring the Melikian Center website (<https://melikian.asu.edu/>) into ASU institutional conformity, adding features that make the website far more accessible and content rich. Andrew is married to Yuliana (who has taught Russian in the CLI) and they are the parents of a new baby boy.

From the Director, cont. from pg. 1

Board and other friends, our ASU and international faculty, and our institutional partners spread across much of the world—the finest days of the Melikian Center lie ahead. Its research and training mission is compelling, its international footprint growing, and its impact on students life-changing.

— Stephen Batalden

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MELIKIAN CENTER EVENTS

Thursday, October 22, 3:00 p.m., Coor Hall 4411

“Mediating the Liberated Body: Representations of Modern Dance in Soviet Avant-garde Cinema”

Ana Hedberg Olenina, University of North Carolina, Wilmington

Ana Hedberg Olenina, Assistant Professor of Russian Film Studies, University of North Carolina, Wilmington. Originally from Lithuania, Professor Olenina completed her Ph.D. degree (Harvard, 2012) in comparative literature with a focus in film studies, and writes on avant-garde Soviet cinema. She is currently on leave and in residence at Arizona State University. Dr. Olenina specializes in 20th-century Russian literature and film, with a focus on the Soviet avant-garde. She has published in *Film History*, *Discourse*, and *Kinovedcheskie Zapiski* and is currently completing a monograph entitled *Psychomotor Aesthetics: Conceptions of Gesture and Affect in Russian and American Modernity, 1910's-1920's*. She received her M.Phil. from Cambridge University.



Thursday, October 29, 3:00 p.m., Coor Hall 4411

“The Return of Nationalism: Valentin Silvestrov on the Maidan”

Peter Schmelz, ASU School of Music

Professor Schmelz is a new affiliate of the Melikian Center and a new faculty member in the ASU School of Music. An authority on “unofficial” music of the Soviet Union, Schmelz comes to ASU from the Music Department of Washington University in St. Louis. This session addresses the role of music in the contemporary conflict in Ukraine.



Thursday, November 12, 3:00 p.m., Coor Hall 4411

“Polish Holocaust Survivors in America: Immigration and Assimilation, 1945-1965”

Anna Cichopek-Gajraj, ASU School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies

Melikian Center faculty affiliate Anna Cichopek-Gajraj introduces her new research project involving interviews with surviving Jewish emigres from Poland after World War II.



Friday, November 13, 1:00 p.m., Coor Hall 4411

“Challenges Facing Higher Education in Kosovo,”

Dr. Enver Hoxhaj

Enver Hoxhaj, currently a PDK party member of the Kosovo Parliament, holds the Ph.D. degree in history from Vienna University. Over the past decade he has served successive terms as Foreign Minister and as Minister of Education for the Republic of Kosovo. He joins us on November 13 to participate in the weekly Friday seminar series for visiting Kosovar scholars in residence under terms of the Kosovo Transformational Leadership Project. The November 13 session is open to the general public.



CRITICAL LANGUAGES INSTITUTE

LIVING IN EXCITING TIMES...

2015 was an exciting year for CLI, with some of the best student outcomes ever observed at the Institute, as well as the establishment of two new expertly-run and highly-effective overseas programs. It was also a year of challenges, however, particularly overseas, where several CLI study-abroad locations experienced unrest or disturbances. Although these challenges provided an unparalleled learning opportunity for the students, they also limited program activities to some extent and diverted staff resources. It is very much to the credit of the study-abroad staffs in Sarajevo, Yerevan, Izmir, and Bishkek that despite, the various challenges each location faced, students had a positive experience and almost without fail achieved their language-learning goals.

CLI Expands Overseas Offerings

In a major expansion of its programming, CLI opened summer-long programs for Albanian in Tirana, Armenian in Yerevan, and Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian in Sarajevo. In each case, the Institute leveraged its existing academic partnerships in order to guarantee that the overseas programs would meet CLI standards for academic and logistical excellence. Based on CLI's one-on-one mentoring structure for overseas training, the new

programs provide extensive opportunities for structured, immersive learning. The effectiveness of this approach is demonstrated by the progress that CLI 2015 students made by spending the summer in Tirana, Yerevan, or Sarajevo.

CLI continues to offer its hallmark 2-months-in-Arizona-plus-1-month-abroad programs for beginning students. As in past years, students who complete the entire 11-week sequence make extraordinary progress. CLI's first-year students in Izmir, Turkey, for example, achieved test scores superior to those of students completing a second-year program at another university.

Turkish Program Gains Steam

CLI's Turkish program, added in 2014, expanded and improved in 2015. Under the leadership of instructor Emrah Basoglu, the Turkish program in Tempe generated the highest average proficiency scores of any CLI section ever tested. Students arriving in Izmir reported that they were pleasantly surprised by how well the Tempe program had prepared them to negotiate day-to-day life and communicate with their host families and language coaches in the full-immersion program. Staff members who met the students in Izmir did not believe they were beginners.

In addition to making significant progress in their Turkish proficiency, students in this year's program received a first-hand look at an evolving geopolitical crisis and the responses of their host families, instructors, and friends to the rapidly changing situation. Several students reported returning home with a more nuanced



Armenian CLI students Wayne Seifried, Joselyn Rodriguez, Sabrina Papazian and Alisa Turkina in Yerevan, Armenia



CLI students in Izmir, Turkey

appreciation for events in the Middle East and for Turkey's role in the region.

The students also found time for recreation with their Turkish coaches and friends, as this photo from a small bazaar near the home of one of the host families shows. CLI looks forward to improving its Turkish programs even further in 2016.

Ukraine Events Continue to Affect Russian Programs

Events in Ukraine in 2014 and the subsequent restrictions on spending federal funds inside the Russian Federation—including federally funded scholarships and fellowships—have forced CLI to close its programs in Kiev and Kazan indefinitely. All CLI Intermediate Russian courses are now held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, in partnership with the London School of Languages.

Highlights of the Bishkek program in 2015 included an exemplary language-coach program, excellent instruction, excursions to the Tian Shan Mountains (an offshoot of the Himalayan range), horseback-riding courses, and most importantly, in-depth, first-hand experience of life on the perimeters of the Russian Federation. More than one participant commented that visiting Kyrgyzstan and living in a Russian-speaking Kyrgyz family provided a unique perspective that had given them a new appreciation for relations between Russia and the former states of the Soviet Union and for Russian immigration and labor policies. Most of this year's students plan to go on to study inside Russia, but are grateful to have had the chance to experience a unique window on Russia and the Russian experience.

Advanced Russian students study with CLI in its program in St. Petersburg. Hosted at the Derzhavin Institute, this program caters to language learners at the 5th-year level and up, and helps them develop the breadth of register and style that they will need in order to achieve professional proficiency.

CLI 2016: New Programs, New Opportunities

Looking toward 2016, CLI is pleased to announce the addition of its first non-European and non-Eurasian language. Next summer, CLI will launch a program in Indonesian, with study-abroad programs

at Ngurah Rai University in Denpasar, Bali. The program will be spearheaded by Dr. Peter Suwarno, long-time instructor of Indonesian and linguistics at Arizona State University, and former director of the State Department's Critical Languages Scholarship program in Indonesia.

CLI is delighted to announce the reinstatement of the Department of State's Title VIII Graduate Fellowship program. Title VIII Fellowships support CLI students studying the less commonly taught languages of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. From 2011 to 2013, when funding was cut off at the national level, Title VIII awards helped 54 CLI graduate students from across the country become proficient in languages from Albanian to Uzbek and to immerse themselves in the cultures where those languages are spoken.

Closer to home, CLI pleased to welcome Andrew Gunn as its new assistant director and Project GO coordinator. Andrew brings a unique combination of talents to CLI. A fluent speaker of Russian with extensive overseas



CLI Students on a hike in Kyrgyzstan

CRITICAL LANGUAGES INSTITUTE

experience, he has also run a successful web development business for several years. He has already given CLI's website (<http://cli.asu.edu>) a facelift, and we expect that with his assistance, CLI will continue to improve its marketing and outreach.

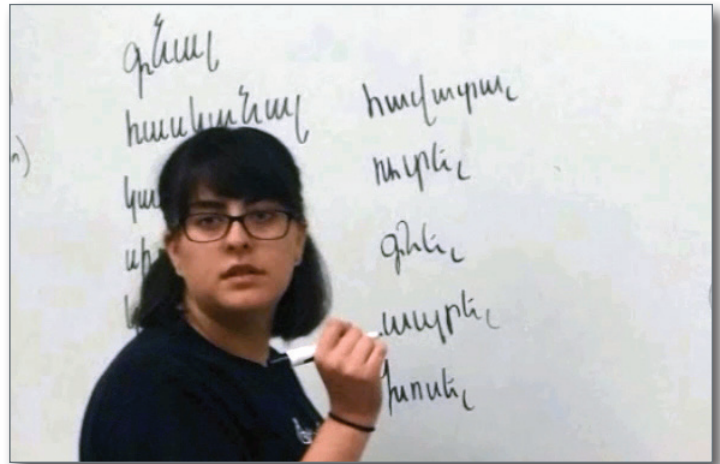
Andrew replaces Marina Akins, who, after five years of outstanding service as the “face of CLI” for both students and faculty, has accepted a position as business manager for the Melikian Center.

In 2016, for the first time in five years, CLI is projected to balance its budget and offer its unique combination of intensive programs in the U.S. and tightly managed and tightly coordinated study-abroad programs without drawing down the reserves of the Melikian Center. This was made possible by extensive structural changes over the past half-decade and by the success of Melikian Center fund-raising efforts.

CLI looks forward to 2016 with optimism. The program continues to strengthen and grow, both in Tempe and overseas, and we are optimistic that CLI in 2016 will once again offer the widest range of accessible, high-quality summer language training in less commonly taught languages available in the United States.

Student Support

In 2015, CLI provided over \$500,000 in tuition waivers and \$271,500 in scholarships and fellowships. Twenty-nine ROTC students studied with CLI under the auspices



Armenian student Joselyn Rodriguez practicing Armenian

of Project Global Officer (Project GO), a nationwide effort to ensure that new lieutenants and ensigns enter military service with the linguistic and cultural sensitivity skills that come only through living abroad. Since 2008, CLI has trained 260 young men and women preparing to enter the armed forces.

Twelve students studied with CLI with assistance from the Melikian Awards program. Funded by the Melikian Endowment and by private donations to the Center, the Melikian Awards program helps students who are working toward international careers and who are not eligible for other funding to study in CLI programs in the U.S. and abroad.



CLI 2015 on ASU Campus

2015 CLI STUDENT SUPPORT

Six students studied in the CLI with assistance from the Doris Hastings International Engagement Award or with support from contributions by members of the Melikian Center Advisory Board. Three students studied Modern Hebrew at CLI with assistance from the Arizona State University Jewish Studies Center. Finally, two students studied Albanian at CLI with assistance from a fund established by CLI alumna Dr. Elaine Berkowitz.

2015 Melikian Fellows

Melissa Bevilacqua (Elementary Albanian) recently completed her B.A. in psychology with a minor in Italian at ASU. Her interest in Albanian arose as a volunteer with the local Albanian community in Phoenix, in particular one family of war refugees from Kosovo with whom she has worked closely. Melissa intends to continue her study of Albanian both in Albania and in the CLI.

Ani Minasian (Elementary Armenian) is a pre-med Barrett Honors College sophomore at ASU. Of Armenian heritage, Ani is closely involved with the Armenian community in greater Phoenix, and looks forward to continuing her studies of Armenian language and culture.

David Minasian (Elementary Armenian) is an honors graduate of Valley Vista High School. Like his sister Ani, David is committed to maintaining ties with his Armenian heritage and culture, learning the language of his parents and grandparents.

Patrick Orion (Elementary BCS) is an ASU Barrett Honors College undergraduate majoring in global studies and political science. Seeking to emulate the global interests of his father, who died when Patrick was just 14 years of age, Patrick is preparing for the Foreign Service Exam, and is intent on a career in the U.S. State Department.

Sabrina Papazian (Fifth-year Armenian) studied in the 2015 CLI program in Yerevan and is a doctoral student in anthropology at Stanford University, with a focus on the

2015 ROTC PROJECT GO STUDENTS

Last Name	First Name	Institution	Course
Corbet	Lauren	Texas Christian University	1 st -year Russian in Tempe and Bishkek
Graham	Rita	Marist College	
Halber	Emily	Northern Arizona University	
Holmes	Nathaniel	North Carolina State University	
Johanesen	Maggie	The George Washington University	
Kiefer	Joseph	University of California, Berkeley	
Schloo	William	Norwich University	
Drakulic	Rebecca	Ohio University	2 nd -year Russian in Bishkek
Fluegel	Larissa	Arizona State University	
Fydenkevez	Ashley	University of Maryland	
McGee	Geer	Texas Tech University	
Mossman	David	University of N. Carolina at Chapel Hill	
Novak	Wynter	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	
Price	Rachel	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	
Babbitt	Forrest	Arizona State University	3 rd -year Russian in Bishkek
Edwards	Jonathan	Miami University	
La Fetra	Noelle	Tulane University	
Moser	Charles	University of Mississippi	
Silver	Courtney	University of Colorado Boulder	
Sunder	Poornima	University of Virginia	
Smith	Parker	Arizona State University	4 th -year Russian in Bishkek
Connors	Erin	Arizona State University	1 st -Year Turkish in Tempe and Izmir
Hanel	Dan	Ohio State University	
Mewha	Jack	Liberty University	
Nelson	Joseph	The Ohio University	
Segarra	Ashley	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	
Szeliga	Jessica	Clarkson University	
Ackley	Cole	Trine University	1 st -Year Uzbek
Rodriguez	Giovanna	Norwich University	

management and preservation of historic archeological sites in Armenia. In 2014, she was a CLI IDEA Award winner while taking intermediate Armenian. Upon completion of her Ph.D., Sabrina intends to pursue a career as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer in public diplomacy.

Joselyn Rodriguez (Elementary Armenian) is a linguistics and computer science undergraduate major from the University of Utah. In 2011, she won the Andrew Poprosky Award for excellence in Russian. Having been introduced indirectly to Armenia when her father was employed in western Armenia, she is interested in Armenian studies as part of her career commitment to linguistic and cultural studies. Joselyn traveled to Armenia with the CLI this summer for the first time.

2015 CLI STUDENT SUPPORT



Melikian Scholar Award recipients from left to right: David Minasian, Ani Minasian, Melissa Bevilacqua, Patrick Orion and Tawheeda Wahabzada

Bianca Van Deusen (Third-year Russian) studied in the CLI Russian program in St. Petersburg, Russia, at the Derzhavin Institute. Bianca, who hails from a small town in northern Arizona, is an ASU undergraduate major in political science pursuing Russian language study as part of a career goal of becoming a member of the U.S. Foreign Service. As she nears graduation, she is concentrating on her Russian studies.

Tawheeda Wahabzada (Elementary Farsi/Persian) is a graduate student in the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas (UT) at Austin. Tawheeda is of Afghan parentage and a heritage speaker of Dari. She is also currently a graduate research affiliate working on peace and development initiatives in the U.S. Department of Defense Minerva Project at UT. Her goal is to continue her peace initiatives as part of a think tank or other NGO.

The Doris Hastings International Distinguished Engagement Award

Mary Elizabeth Walters (Intermediate Albanian) studied Albanian this summer in the CLI eight-week program in Tirana, Albania. She is a Ph.D. student in history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where her specialization is in the field of Balkan studies and military history. Mary Elizabeth also held this summer a Title VI U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship. Her dissertation addresses the interaction between NATO,

the Albanian government, and local communities during the crisis of 1999. She received a Boren Fellowship for 2015-2016 to study Albanian in Tirana and to conduct research in several archives. Her goal is to become a Balkan-area specialist either in the academic world or in public service.

Melikian Center Advisory Board Fellows

Emily Lipira (Fifth-year Russian) is in the M.A. program in Russian and East European Studies at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Upon completion of her regional M.A. studies, she plans a career working with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe or other intergovernmental organization. Studying this past summer at the CLI advanced Russian program in St. Petersburg, Emily was the Senderov Fellow, named for the late Russian émigré parents of Melikian Center Advisory Board member, Stella Saperstein. Emily also received support from a Title VI U.S. Department of Education FLAS Fellowship.

Alysse Padilla (Elementary Polish) is a doctoral student in music at New York University with a special interest in women's studies. She is continuing Polish language study begun in the 2015 CLI as part of a Polish studies program in 2015-2016 at Jagiellonian University (Krakow) with support from the Kosciuszko Foundation and the Polish Ministry of Education. Alysse intends a career working with NGOs in the field of women's studies. She held this summer the Birks Polish Scholarship, named for contributing Melikian Center Advisory Board member Ron Birks, who this summer returned to the CLI as a student in elementary Albanian.



Melikian Advisory Board Fellow Alysse Padilla is congratulated by Advisory Board Member and fellow CLI student Ron Birks

Paul Danielson (Elementary Farsi/Persian) is an undergraduate chemistry major from Cedarville University (Ohio). Upon graduation from college he will commission into the U.S. Air Force, where he hopes to be able to continue his Persian language studies while on active duty.

Jamie Putnam (Fourth-year Russian) studied Russian this summer in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Jamie is an

2015 CLI STUDENT SUPPORT

undergraduate psychology major at Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania. She will be taking the Foreign Service Exam this fall, and plans a career as a foreign service officer for the U.S. State Department. This was Jamie's third year with the CLI.

Kate Tanzosch (Fourth-year Russian) also studied in Bishkek this summer. She is an M.A. student in Russian and East European studies at Florida State University. Kate's thesis addresses Menshevik White Army activity in the Russian Civil War immediately after World War I. This is Kate's second year in the CLI. She studied Russian in the 2014 CLI in Batumi, Georgia. She intends to pursue a Ph.D. in Russian history following graduation from Florida State.

Anna Sklenar (Fifth-year Russian) studied Russian in the CLI program at the Derzhavin Institute in St. Petersburg. She is an undergraduate mechanical engineering major at Case Western Reserve University in Ohio, where she started her Russian studies in the National Security Language Initiative for Youth as a high school student. Anna's goal is to serve in a hybrid diplomatic-technical role in the U.S. State Department. She is continuing her study of Russian in Kazakhstan in the 2015-2016 academic year.

The CLI Friends Scholar

Zuoting Wen (Intermediate Farsi/Persian), is a graduate student in Chinese literature and history at Arizona State University. Zuoting completed the first-year Farsi program in the 2014 CLI, and took intermediate Farsi this past summer in the CLI. This fall he is participating in a seminar project in Jerusalem, Israel, on "Mobility, Empire, and Cross-Cultural Contacts in Mongol Eurasia."

Jewish Studies Center Scholarships

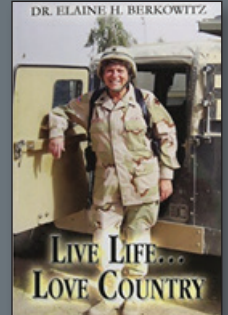
The Critical Languages Institute is grateful for scholarship funding from the ASU Jewish Studies Center that contributes significantly to the CLI's Hebrew program. In 2015, there were two Jewish Studies Center Scholarship awardees.

Dr. Elaine H. Berkowitz Award

New to our CLI Awards this year is the Dr. Elaine H. Berkowitz Award in the field of Albanian Studies. Dr. Berkowitz attended the CLI in 2013, pursuing Albanian language study. But, prior to her CLI Albanian studies, she served for several years as a dentist for American military personnel in Kosovo, serving also as an instructor in dentistry at the University of Prishtina. Her love for Albania and for Kosovo has animated her ongoing study of Albanian and her support for the CLI Albanian program (see her 2014 autobiographical account, *Live Life, Love Country*—cover illustration pictured here). The CLI was honored to bestow the first two Dr. Elaine H. Berkowitz Awards to students in the 2015 CLI Albanian program:

Anna Ivers-Frank (Elementary Albanian) received her B.A. in Spanish and German from ASU in May 2015.

Miriam Kraja (Elementary Albanian) is an ASU undergraduate majoring in global health.



Kerri Mathew (Elementary Hebrew) is a teacher in the Higley Unified School District who coaches the Academic Decathlon team from Higley. She plans to continue her studies next summer in Israel.

Claire Weisberg (Elementary Hebrew) is an undergraduate student at Northern Arizona University majoring in anthropology and art history. She plans to continue her studies at the post-graduate level in Middle Eastern studies.



Jewish Studies Hebrew Award recipients: Claire Weisberg and Kerri Mathew with Jewish Studies Center Director, Dr. Hava Samuelson, and CLI Director Dr. Kathleen Evans-Romaine (center)

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Once again this year the Melikian Center is pleased to be able to recognize the recipients of highly competitive U.S. Fulbright and Boren awards for international study in Russia, Eurasia, and Eastern Europe. The following students will be studying abroad during the 2015-2016 academic year:

John Fahey (Graduate Fulbright Fellow) is a doctoral student of history at Purdue University. He received the Fulbright Fellowship to conduct research in the archives of Przemyśl, Poland, for information on the political, social, and economic relationship between the city's civilian population and its military garrison throughout the late Austro-Hungarian Empire and the interwar Polish Republic. Fahey studied elementary Polish in the CLI in 2014 and received a Melikian Center Advisory Board IDEA award. In addition, he received a Kosciuszko Foundation graduate studies research grant to conduct research at the Jagiellonian University Institute of History in Krakow, Poland.

Alyssa Meyer (Graduate Boren Fellow) is a graduate student in the MPA/MA program focusing on energy and Central Asian studies at Indiana University. She received a Boren Fellowship to research the topic, "Assessing the Impact of Energy Access on Daily Life in Kyrgyzstan." Meyer studied elementary Russian in CLI 2010 and third-year Uzbek in CLI 2011. She received a Title VIII Fellowship for her Uzbek studies in the 2011 CLI.

Monet Niesluchowski (Undergraduate Boren Scholar) is a student in the ASU Barrett Honors College majoring in public health. She will use her Boren Scholarship to study advanced Persian in Tajikistan.

Anna Sklenar (Undergraduate Boren Scholar) is a baccalaureate student majoring in engineering at Case Western Reserve University. She will use her Boren Scholarship to study Russian in Kazakhstan. Sklenar studied fifth-year Russian in the 2015 CLI, receiving a Melikian Center Advisory Board Fellowship.

Mary Elizabeth Walters (Graduate Boren Fellow) is a Ph.D. student in history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She received the Boren Fellowship to conduct research in Albania on the topic, "Opportunism or Compassion?: NATO's Humanitarianism and Albanian Responses during the 1999 Kosovo Refugee Crisis." Mary Elizabeth studied elementary Albanian in CLI 2014 and intermediate Albanian in CLI 2015, receiving a Melikian Center Doris Hastings IDEA Award in both 2014 and 2015.

Alfred Yannucci (Graduate Boren Fellow) is a graduate student in the MA International Affairs program at Texas A&M University. He received a Boren Fellowship to advance his Persian language studies while conducting graduate research in Tajikistan. Yannucci studied elementary Tajik/Farsi in the 2011 CLI and intermediate Tajik in the 2012 CLI, receiving Title VIII Fellowship support both summers.

2015 CLI Outstanding Achievement Awards

Melissa Bevilacqua, Arizona State University, 1st-year Albanian. **David Minasian**, Valley Vista High School, 1st-year Armenian. **Hannah Spencer**, Arizona State University, 1st-year BCS. **Paul Danielson**, Cedarville University (Ohio), 1st-year Farsi. **Wen Zuoting**, Arizona State University, 2nd-year Farsi. **Claire Weisberg**, Northern Arizona University, 1st-year Hebrew. **Michael Su**, Jagiellonian University (Krakow), 1st-year Polish. **Maggie Johanesen**, The George Washington University, 1st-year Russian. **Rory Roccio**, Defense Language Institute, 1st-year Russian. **Gillian, Rochkind**, Wesleyan University, 2nd-year Russian. **Christopher Dendy**, Arizona State University, 1st-year Turkish. **Katherine Allomov**, Teacher, Westview High School, 1st-year Uzbek

2015-2016 Visiting Macedonian Fulbright Scholar

From August 2015 through January 2016, the ASU Melikian Center will be helping to host Dr. Nikica Mojsoska Blazevska, professor and dean of the Business School at the University American College-Skopje. Dr. Mojsoska Blazevska is in the U.S. as a Fulbright Scholar. While at ASU, she will be conducting research on a study entitled, "School-to-Work Transitions of Young People in Developing Countries: What Can We Learn about Factors of Successful Transition to Work? – From Evidence to Policymaking." Please contact the Melikian Center for details about Dr. Mojsoska Blazevska's stay at ASU.

VISITING SCHOLARS

Fall 2015 Scholars-in-Residence from the University of Prishtina (UP) in Kosovo

During the Fall 2015 semester, the Melikian Center is hosting three scholars-in-residence from the University of Prishtina. **Dr. Gazmend Pula** is a professor in the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering (FECE) at the University of Prishtina. **Dr. Skender Kabashi** is an associate professor in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at UP. **Mr. Kushtrim Podrimqaku** is an assistant in FECE at UP. These three scholars-in-residence are preparing syllabi for courses to be taught at the University of Prishtina.



Dr. Gazmend Pula

The ASU Melikian Center is participating in a partnership with the University of Prishtina for an initial two-year project to build curricular and research capacity in electrical, computer, and energy engineering. At

ASU, the partnership involves collaboration with the ASU Fulton School of Electrical, Computer, and Energy Engineering, and the ASU Global Institute of Sustainability. At UP, the partnership involves collaboration with FECE. The primary goal of the two-year project is to develop curriculum and research capacity at FECE in the field of energy engineering. The Kosovo Transformational Leadership Project is funded by a grant from USAID administered by World Learning, Inc. A special feature of the project is the opportunity for UP graduate students and faculty members to participate in a full semester-in-residence program of study at Arizona State University.

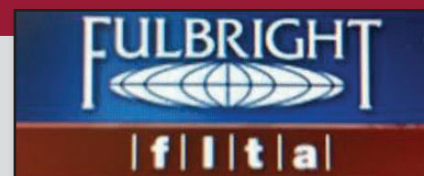


Kushtrim Podrimqaku

FULBRIGHT TEACHING ASSISTANTS at ASU

2015–2016 Fulbright Language Teaching Assistants at ASU

The Critical Languages Institute is pleased to announce that ASU is hosting four visiting Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTAs) this year—**Azamat Mamadaliev** from Uzbekistan, **Berrin Karasac** from Turkey, **Valeria Caldas Vieira** from Brazil, and **Wilman Septiana** from Indonesia. They will be teaching their native languages and studying at ASU in the fall and spring semesters. Two of these scholars, Ms. Karasac and Mr.



Mamadaliev, are hosted through the Melikian Center. While Mr. Mamadaliev is working with CLI Director Kathleen Evans-Romaine to offer instruction in elementary and intermediate Uzbek, Ms. Karasac is working with Professor Souad Ali in the School of International Letters and Cultures (SILC) to offer Turkish. Ms. Caldas Vieira is hosted by Dr. David Foster of the School of International Letters and Cultures (SILC). Mr. Septiana is hosted by Dr. Peter Suwarno, also of SILC.



Left to right: Azamat Mamadaliev, Berrin Karasac and Wilman Septiana

All 4 FLTAs are available to make presentations on their native countries and cultures, as well as upon topics in their fields. Contact the Melikian Center for details about the Uzbek and Turkish FLTAs, and SILC for details about the Indonesian and Brazilian Portuguese FLTAs.

MELIKIAN CENTER PROJECTS

Kosovo Transformational Leadership Project

Set in a conflicted international neighborhood with serious domestic challenges, Europe's newest independent state, the Republic of Kosovo, remains among the most loyal U.S. allies in southeastern Europe. Yet, its youthful population—half of the population of 1.9 million people is under the age of 25—suffers the highest rate of unemployment and underemployment in Europe. Its educational system struggles to train students for the new global knowledge-based economy. And its flagship university, the University of Prishtina with 55,000 students, offers three-year baccalaureate degrees (based on the European/Bologna protocol) that are often difficult to articulate alongside counterpart four-year western, particularly American, degrees.

These realities in 2013 led the U.S. Agency for International Development Mission in Kosovo to launch the Kosovo Transformational Leadership Project (Kosovo TLP), a \$32 million investment in graduate training and university partnerships intended to transform higher education and the public sector in the Republic of Kosovo. The prime contractor for Kosovo TLP is World Learning, Inc., a non-profit educational contractor with headquarters in Washington, DC. In 2014, the ASU Melikian Center, which has been working in Kosovo since 2001, entered into a subagreement with World Learning to expand its partnership with the University of Prishtina (UP). Specifically, ASU is working with the development of a program in “energy and sustainability” drawing together colleagues from the ASU Fulton School of Electrical, Computer, and Energy Engineering with their counterparts in the UP Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and other

UP faculties. This fall the first delegation of three UP faculty members—**Gazmend Pula**, **Kushtrim Podrimqaku**, and **Skender Kabashi**—arrived at ASU (see page 11 for scholar profiles). A second contingent of four UP semester-in-residence scholars will follow in the spring of 2016, with further cross-cutting collaborations planned in subsequent semesters.

Meanwhile, ASU colleagues, including three members of the Melikian Center Advisory Board, are also visiting Prishtina to participate in scholarly seminars and curricular development programming. In early June, Advisory Board member **Ronald Birks**, a Honeywell software engineer, traveled to Kosovo to address a seminar for Kosovo start-up companies engaged in international software manufacturing. This November, **David Jankofsky**, a local Phoenix-based energy consultant for USAID projects, will be giving an expanded seminar on “Best Practices in Energy Regulatory Policy.” Attending the Jankovsky seminar will be a mix of UP scholars and energy practitioners, including managers from the main Kosovo electrical generating company (KEK), the Kosovo energy regulatory body, and the large USAID energy reform project, “Re-Power.” ASU PI for the Kosovo TLP initiative is Melikian Center director, Stephen Batalden, who works closely with Professor **Shahin Berisha**, a Melikian Center adjunct professor and Kosovar-American math and science professor from GateWay Community College. Berisha is a founding member and secretary of the Melikian Center Advisory Board. For further information on the ASU-UP partnership under terms of the Kosovo TLP, readers are encouraged to consult the Melikian Center website.



**ASU LTC Instructor
Olena Chernishenko**

Melikian Center LTC Enters Third Year

Supported with a \$400,000 grant from the Institute of International Education, the Melikian Center has continued to grow its Language Training Center in Washington, DC. The ASU Language Training Center offers advanced Arabic, Persian/Farsi, and Russian language sustainment and enhancement training to national security and Department of Defense clients. Building on a talented group of language instructors who have demonstrated their capacity to generate significant proficiency gains for advanced language learners, the program is serving the needs of national security clients who otherwise would be dependent on commercial language vendors for sustaining their skills. New to this third year of the Language Training Center is the piloting of online synchronous language instruction tailored to connect trainees at multiple sites with a single real-time training hub at ASU's Washington, D.C. Center. A

demonstration of the new synchronous online Russian program (SORS—Synchronous Online Russian Sustainment) was held at the ASU Washington Center on September 28, attended by observers from the Department of Defense, the Defense Language and National Security Education Office, and the Institute of International Education. The pilot demonstration, conducted by ASU LTC Russian instructor, Olena Chernishenko, linked language trainees based in Washington, D.C. and Arizona. Overseen by Melikian Center project co-PI Professor Danko Sipka, the SORS program will be experimenting with full-time online language training from December of this year.

MELIKIAN CENTER PROJECTS

Melikian Center Hosts National Training for Fulbright Foreign Language Teachers

For the fifth summer in a row, the Melikian Center welcomed incoming Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTAs) to Tempe to help prepare them to teach in the U.S. In addition to experiencing Phoenix and Arizona by enjoying a cruise on Canyon Lake, visiting a ghost town, and taking hoop dance lessons from the YellowBird Productions Native American dance company, the visiting scholars improved their teaching skills in workshops on language materials creation, curriculum development, classroom management, and classroom technology use. The FLTA Orientation is sponsored every year

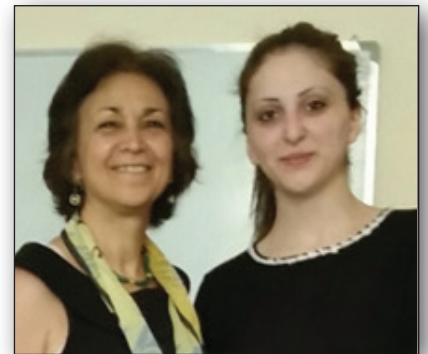


by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Educational and Cultural Affairs, in collaboration with the Institute for International Education. ASU is one of seven sites providing orientation sessions for the over 400 Fulbright FLTAs who visit the United States each year to teach their native languages. During their one-year residency, FLTAs refine their teaching skills, improve their English language proficiency, and deepen their knowledge of the cultures and customs of the United States, while pursuing non-degreed study in their chosen field at U.S. colleges and universities.

Armenian Women's Leadership Project

Funded with a \$1.3 million grant from USAID and Higher Education for Development, ASU has completed an initial three-year partnership with Yerevan State University intended to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in Armenia. The "Armenian Women's Leadership Project," directed by Professor Victor Agadjanian and administered by the Melikian Center in cooperation with the ASU Women and Gender Studies Program, drew ASU and YSU colleagues together in establishing, under the leadership of YSU Professor Gohar Shahnazaryan, the YSU Center for Gender and Leadership Studies (CGLS). CGLS, now having accepted its first cohort of graduate students into its M.A. degree program in "Women, Leadership, and Development," has also hosted a series of international conferences and commissioned public policy research bearing on the status of women. The project carried out the first statewide "Armenian Gender Barometer Survey," a sophisticated attitudinal survey of public perceptions regarding gender equality in contemporary Armenian society. While the idea of gender equality is often contested in Armenia and throughout much of the former Soviet Union, the leadership of the project at Yerevan State University has brought together scholars, NGO

activists, and public policy practitioners in a formidable alliance under the umbrella of the new YSU Center for Gender and Leadership Studies. The CGLS leadership team, headed by Shahnazaryan and supported by Siran Hovhannisyan and Sinara Navoyan, will



Mary Alvord & Siran Hovhannisyan

be continuing to advance project goals well after the June 30 end date of USAID/HED funding. A final report on the three-year project, informed by the most recent site visits of Melikian Center Advisory Board member Mary Alvord and project director Victor Agadjanian, is now available either directly through the ASU Melikian Center or online via the USAID DEC (Document Experience Clearinghouse) website. Congratulations to Gohar Shahnazaryan and all of our CGLS colleagues at Yerevan State University.

MELIKIAN CENTER ADVISORY BOARD

Melikian Center Advisory Board Member Profile—Ilene Lashinsky



Ilene J. Lashinsky

What is a leading Arizona bankruptcy lawyer doing in the Republic of Macedonia? That is the question Ilene Lashinsky's friends asked her in 1998 when she left the United States with her son Jim to work for fourteen months on a USAID project implementing Macedonia's newly enacted commercial law governing insolvency. While working there with Macedonia's finest commercial lawyers, accountants, trustees, and judges, Lashinsky developed lasting ties with her adopted city of Skopje, capital of the newly independent Balkan republic. Those ties were not just built on "insolvency," as she would remind us, but also based on the \$25,000 gift she helped to orchestrate from Temple Beth Israel in Phoenix to rebuild Skopje's Bet Yaakov Synagogue, home

to the small Macedonian Jewish community that survived the Holocaust and postwar tribulations. Rebuilt on the top floor of the Jewish community center building in downtown Skopje, the simple sanctuary is decorated with striking stained-glass windows

The recovered Jewish community in Skopje now has its own Macedonian-born rabbi, the young Avi Kozma, a graduate of the Law Faculty of the University of Ss. Kiril and Metodij and a student of the renowned Yeshiva Rabbinical College (Beth Midrash Sephardi) in Jerusalem. Lashinsky returned to Macedonia in 2009 as part of a State Department-sponsored Melikian Center project linking religious and NGO leaders of southeastern Europe with their counterparts in Arizona. Since 2002, Ilene has served as the U.S. Trustee for Arizona, one of 21 federally appointed trustees responsible for protecting the integrity of the U.S. bankruptcy system. An active participant in Melikian Center projects, Ilene is a founding member of the Melikian Center Advisory Board.

Melikian Center Annual December Advisory Board Meeting

The Melikian Center Advisory Board will hold its annual board meeting on Thursday evening, December 3, at 6:00 p.m., in the ASU University Club. On the agenda is the reception of three new board members, former

Melikian Center business manager Phil Carrano, Phoenix energy consultant David Jankofsky, and Scottsdale financial advisor, Bishara Bahbah. Carrano is profiled above in Melikian Center staffing changes. Jankofsky

this fall is participating in a Melikian Center university partnership seminar in Kosovo, "Best Practices in Energy Regulatory Regimes." Bahbah, who earlier taught in the Harvard Middle East Institute, served as a member of the Palestinian delegation to the Oslo Peace Accords.



Bishara A. Bahbah



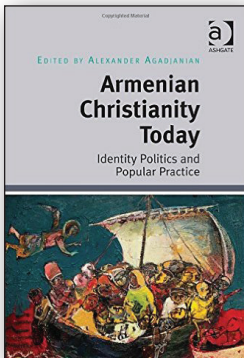
Phil Carrano



David Jankofsky

Among other Melikian Center Advisory Board agenda items, there will be a full financial report and Judge Charles Case, II, Board chair and member of the search committee for the Melikian Center director position, will be reporting on the progress of the search.

MELIKIAN CENTER AFFILIATE NEWS



Alexander Agadjanian (Adjunct Faculty, Melikian Center; Professor, Russian State University for the Humanities) published *Turns of Faith, Search for Meaning: Eastern Orthodoxy and the Post-Soviet Experience* (Peter Lang, 2014). His edited volume, *Armenian Christianity Today: Identity Politics and Social Functions* (Ashgate, 2014—see adjoining cover illustration) was

supported in part by a grant from the Melikian Center Research Fund. See also his coedited volume with A. Jodicke and E. van der Zweerde, *Religion, Nation and Democracy in the South Caucasus* (London: Routledge, 2015). Additionally, he is a member of the ongoing project, *Intra- and Inter-Societal Sources of Stability and Instability in the Caucasus*, which is under the European Union's Seventh Framework Research Programme, 2014-2016 (<http://www.issiceu.eu/>).

Victor Agadjanian (formerly, ASU Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics) has taken the position of Foundation Distinguished Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Kansas (Lawrence). He will be joining the growing "migration, immigration, diaspora, and human trafficking KU faculty cluster and will co-direct a new research center for migration and immigration studies. Most recently for the Melikian Center Agadjanian served as the PI on the USAID/HED Armenian Women's Leadership Program. Best wishes go with Victor in his new KU position.

Lenka Bustikova (ASU School of Politics and Global Studies) published "Voting, Identity and Security Threats in Ukraine: Who Supports the Ukrainian 'Svoboda' Party?" *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 48:3. She was awarded the 2015 Best Article Prize by the American Political Science Association's European Politics and Society Section for her article, "Revenge of the Radical Right," *Comparative Political Studies*, 2014, 47:12, 1738-1765. In the summer of 2015, she served as a guest professor in the Center for Intercultural Studies (ZIS) at the Johannes Gutenberg-Universität in Mainz, Germany.

Anna Cichopek-Gajraj (ASU School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) is the recipient of the 2015 Association of Women in Slavic Studies Heldt Prize, honorable mention, for Best Book by a Woman in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies. The prize recognizes the importance of her 2014 volume, *Beyond*

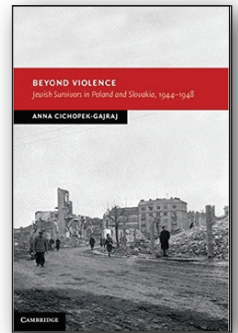
Violence: Jewish Survivors in Poland and Slovakia, 1944-1948 (Cambridge University Press—see adjoining cover illustration).

Eugene Clay (ASU School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) published "Utopian Communities on the Southwestern Frontier of the United States and China," *Comparative Studies on Chinese and American Areas* (2015): 3-10; "Multiculturalism and Religious Education in the Russian Federation: The Fundamentals of Religious Cultures and Secular Ethics," *State, Religion, and Church* (March 2015): 44-74, <http://srch.ranepa.ru/node/482>; and "The Orthodox Church of the Sovereign Mother of God (OCMSG)," *World Religions and Spirituality Project*, ed. David Bromley, 1-11. Richmond, VA: Virginia Commonwealth University, 2014, <http://www.wrs.vcu.edu/profiles/OCMSG.htm>. His conference presentations included "Making Medicines and Magic Potions in Muscovy," Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies; "The 'Quaker Heresy' in Siberia, 1733-1800," Association of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies; and "Digitally Mapping the Transformations of Buddhism in Siberia," Western Conference of the Association of Asian Studies.

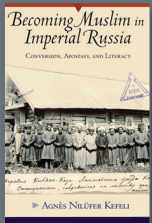
Dan Fellner (ASU School of Letters and Science, Polytechnic Campus) spent the 2015 spring semester as a Fulbright Scholar teaching at the American University in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria. He also conducted guest lectures at the University of Sofia, University of Veliko Turnovo, and South-West University Neofit Rilski. This was Fellner's third Fulbright Scholar grant to Eastern Europe.

Hilde Hoogenboom (ASU School of International Letters and Cultures) has published "Sentimental Novels and Pushkin: European Literary Markets and Russian Readers," in *Slavic Review*, 74.3 (Fall 2015).

Agnes Kefeli (ASU School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) was promoted to Principal Lecturer in the spring of 2015. Her monograph, *Becoming Muslim in Imperial Russia* (Cornell U. Press, 2014) was awarded the ASEES Reginald Zelnik Book Prize for Outstanding Work in the Field of History (see inset), an honor for which she will be recognized at the forthcoming annual convention of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian



MELIKIAN CENTER AFFILIATE NEWS



REGINALD ZELNIK BOOK PRIZE IN HISTORY

The Reginald Zelnik Book Prize in History, established in 2009 and sponsored by the Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, is awarded annually for an outstanding monograph published on Russia, Eastern Europe or Eurasia in the field of history in the previous calendar year. The Reginald Zelnik Book Prize in History carries a cash award. The award is presented in November at the ASEES Annual Convention. <http://aseees.org/programs/aseees-prizes/reginald-zelnik-book-prize-history>

2015 PRIZE WINNER: Agnes Nilufer Kefeli, *Becoming Muslim in Imperial Russia: Conversion, Apostasy, and Literacy* (Cornell U Press)

Studies (ASEES). She has also been appointed a member of the editorial board of *Slavic Review*, the official ASEES journal. In the summer of 2015, with travel support from the Melikian Center Research Fund, Kefeli worked in the Bibliothèque des Langues Orientales in Paris.

Laurie Manchester (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) published in 2015 a Russian translation of her 2011 volume, *Holy Fathers, Secular Sons* (No. Illinois U. Press). The revised Russian edition, published by Novoe literaturnoe obozrenie (Moscow), is entitled *Popovichy v miru: dukhovenstvo, intelligentsiia, i stanovlenie sovremenogo samosoznaniia v Rossii*. She is co-recipient with Brian Horowitz (Tulane University) of an ASU Institute for Humanities Research grant for the project “Cosmopolitanism and Historic Homelands: Ethnic Return Migration to and from the Soviet Union.” Her conference presentations include “The Development in Post-Soviet Russia of an Alternative Concept of Russianness among Post-War Repatriates from China Living in Siberia and the Urals,” at the University of Virginia conference, Centrifugal Forces: Reading Russia’s Regional Identities and Initiatives; “Can Stateless Refugees be Colonizers?: Colonial Impulses among First Wave Russian Émigrés in Africa, China and South America,” University of Michigan Russian History Workshop; and “Ethnic Return Migration to a Totalitarian Country that Undergoes a Revolution: The Shifting Identities of Russian Repatriates from China Before and After the Collapse of the Soviet Union,” School of Public Administration, Moscow State University.

Robert Niebuhr (ASU Barrett Honors College) is serving as the coordinator for the Slavic Section of the 2016 Western Social Science Association Conference (13 to 16 April 2016). The website to submit paper proposals is <http://www.wssaweb.com/sections.html>. Deadline for sub-

missions is 1 December 2015. Those wishing to present papers in the Slavic Studies section need not be members of the WASS, but are welcome to join. The Slavic Studies section is interested in all aspects of East Central Europe and the lands of the former USSR, including, but not limited to: Anthropology, History, Literature, Music, and Sociology.

Danko Sipka (ASU School of International Letters and Cultures) has published his *Comprehensive English-Serbian Dictionary* (Novi Sad: Prometej, 2015); and a monograph, *Lexical Conflict: Theory and Practice*, Cambridge University Press, 2015—see adjoining cover illustration). Conference presentations have included “Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian Heritage Speakers in Four Major US Metropolitan Areas,” National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages Annual Conference; and “Multiple Equivalence in Bilingual Dictionaries: Types and Lexicographic Treatment,” Dictionary Society of North America Conference. Sipka also edited two volumes of the *Journal of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages*, Vol. 15, Fall 2014 and Vol. 15, Spring 2015. In October/November 2014, he was a featured author of the International Book Fair in Belgrade, Serbia http://www.beogradskisajamknjiga.com/active/sr-cyrillic/home/levi_meni/gosti_iz_inostranstva.html. He continues to serve as co-PI with Batalden and Evans-Romaine on the ASU Language Training Center project in Washington, DC.

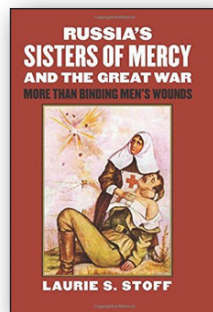


David Siroky (ASU School of Politics and Global Studies), during summer 2015, was a visiting researcher in the Academy of Sciences in Prague, Czech Republic (Sociologický ústav), and conducted joint research on the rising nationalist movement at the University of Corte in Corsica, France. Recent publications include “The Sources of Secessionist War: The Interaction of Local Control and Foreign Forces in Post-Soviet Georgia,” *Caucasus Survey*, 2016; “E Pluribus Unum?: Ethnicity, Islam and the Construction of Identity in Azerbaijan” (with Ceyhun

MELIKIAN CENTER AFFILIATE NEWS

Mahmudlu), *Problems of Post-Communism*, forthcoming 2016; “The Empire Strikes Back: Ethnicity, Terrain, and Indiscriminate Violence in Counterinsurgencies” (with Valeriy Dzutsev), *Social Science Quarterly*, 96 (2), 807-829 [2015]; and “Lost Autonomy, Nationalism and Separatism” (with John Cuffe), *Comparative Political Studies*, 48 (1), 3-34 [2015]. Conference presentations have included “The Calculus of Irredentism,” Association for the Study of Nationalities Convention; and “Cultural Legacies, Political Preferences and Intergroup Bargaining” (with Sean Mueller & Michael Hechter), Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association. He has two data collection projects in progress, one of which includes a new experimental survey in Dagestan.

Laurie S. Stoff (ASU Barrett Honors College) has published her monograph on Russian nurses in World War I, *Russia's Sisters of Mercy and the Great War: More than Binding Men's Wounds* (University Press of Kansas, 2015—see adjoining cover illustration).



Mark von Hagen (ASU School of International Letters and Cultures; and School of Politics and Global Studies) gave a U.S. Congressional briefing, “The Crisis in Ukraine,” National History Center, American Historical Association (Capital Visitors Center), January

2015. His invited presentations have included the annual Mohyla Lecture, “Between Ukrainian Diasporas in Germany: Reflections on Teaching Modern Ukrainian History,” Prairie Center for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage, University of Saskatchewan, and “A Forgotten Peace, a Forgotten War, and the Making of Modern Ukraine, 1917-1918,” Harriman Institute, Columbia University. He served as faculty sponsor for the ASU Model UN Club, Far West Model UN Conference, San Francisco. In the summer of 2015, he taught the course, “The Ukrainian Revolution, 1914-1922,” at the Ukrainian Free University, Munich. He received the Certificate of Honor from the Embassy of Ukraine for Contributions to US-Ukraine Relations and to the Development of Ukrainian studies. He is also the recipient of the \$4,000 (CAD) Stasiuk Family Award for his work, “Pavlo Khrystiuk: Chronicler of Revolution,” Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta-Edmonton.

Amanda Weaver (ASU Melikian Center CLI Russian Instructor; Ph.D. student, ASU Department of English; Law Student, University of Arizona) delivered the paper, “The Genitive of Negation and Unaccusativity in Russian,” Arizona Chapter, American Association of Teachers of Slavic and Eastern European Languages. She taught elementary Russian in the 2015 CLI. Weaver has been appointed to the *Arizona Law Review* at the James E. Rogers College of Law, University of Arizona.

MELIKIAN CENTER AFFILIATE SUPPORT

The Melikian Center awards competitive research incentive funding to its faculty and graduate affiliates. The Melikian Center Research Fund draws upon monies received by the Center as overhead on its grants and contracts. Eleven awards were chosen competitively for funding in 2015-2016.

Lenka Bustikova (School of Politics & Global Studies) was awarded funding to conduct fieldwork on the reception of refugees fleeing through East-Central Europe. She intends to publish on the impact of the refugee crisis on political polarization and extremism in Hungary.

Anna Cichopek-Gajraj (School of Historical, Philosophical, & Religious Studies) was awarded funding to conduct interviews in Florida on a new research project entitled, “From Poland to American: Polish Holocaust Survivors’ Immigration and Assimilation (1945-1965).”

Eugene Clay (School of Historical, Philosophical, & Religious Studies) was awarded funding to conduct archival

research in Russia on a project tentatively entitled, “Religion on Russia’s Southeastern Frontier: Competing Christianities in Astrakhan Province.” The research is a part of Professor Clay’s wider monographic study of the history of Russian religious dissent.

Hilde Hoogenboom (School of International Letters & Cultures) was awarded funding to conduct research in archives in Russia for a second book project on representations of corruption in nineteenth-century Russian literature, tentatively entitled, “Noble Rot: Corruption in Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature.”

Continued on pg. 18

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

American Councils for International Education

Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program

(scholarships available)

Summer deadlineFeb. 15, 2016

Fall deadline.....Mar. 15, 2016

Academic-year deadline.....Mar. 15, 2016

Balkan Language Initiative

(financial aid and scholarships available)

Summer deadlineFeb. 15, 2016

Fall Semester deadlineMar. 15, 2016

Academic-year deadline.....Mar. 15, 2016

Eurasian Regional Language Program

(financial aid available)

Summer Program deadline.....Feb. 15, 2016

Fall Semester deadlineMar. 15, 2016

Academic-year deadline.....Mar. 15, 2016

American Council of Learned Societies

Kennan Institute

Kennan Institute Title VIII Research Scholarships

DeadlineJan. 15, 2016

Kennan Institute Title VIII-Supported Summer Research

Scholarships Deadline.....Jan. 15, 2016

Kennan Institute Title VIII-Supported Short-Term Grants

DeadlineFeb. 15, 2016

Kennan Institute Internships

DeadlineDec. 15, 2015

National Endowment for Humanities

NEH Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections

DeadlineDec. 1, 2015

NEH Scholarly Editions and Translations Grants

DeadlineDec. 9, 2015

NEH Collaborative Research Grants

DeadlineDec. 9, 2015

NEH Digital Humanities Implementation Grants

DeadlineFeb. 17, 2016

Boren/National Security Education Program**

NSEP Boren Fellowships (graduate students)

DeadlineJan. 28, 2016

NSEP Boren Scholarships (undergraduate students)

On-Campus DeadlineFeb. 9, 2016

Social Science Research Council

International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF)

DeadlineNov. 3, 2015

U.S. Institute of Peace

South and Central Asia Grant

DeadlineRolling basis

Jennings Randolph Peace Scholarship Dissertation Program

DeadlineRolling basis

**ASU maintains earlier internal deadlines for these fellowship programs.

Affiliate Support, cont. from pg. 17

Mehmet Kasikei (Ph.D. student, School of Historical, Philosophical & Religious Studies) was awarded funding for research in Kazakhstan on his dissertation that addresses the Sovietization of everyday life in interwar twentieth-century Kazakhstan.

Tyler Kirk (Ph.D. student, School of Historical, Philosophical & Religious Studies) was awarded funding for his dissertation research on Gulag survivors in Syktyvkar (Komi Republic, Russian Federation).

Victor Peskin (School of Politics & Global Studies) was awarded funding to continue his research on international criminal tribunals, specifically in this case his work in The Hague and Brussels examining allegations of Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) war crimes against Serbs.

John Romero (Ph.D. student, School of Historical, Philosophical & Religious Studies) was awarded funding for research in Kazan, Russia, for his dissertation tentatively entitled, "Socialist in Form, Nationalist in Content: Soviet

High Culture and National Identity in the Tatar Autonomous Republic after Stalin."

Danko Sipka (School of International Letters & Cultures) was awarded funding for travel funds for conference presentations and consultations in Vienna and Klagenfurt, Austria, and Prato, Italy, on cross-cultural (mis)communication.

David Siroky (School of Politics & Global Studies) was awarded funding for his research on ethnic conflict, irredentism, and conflict resolution in Eastern Europe for which he will be using archival holdings of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in Prague.

Philip Skorokhodov (Ph.D. student, School of Historical, Philosophical, & Religious Studies) was awarded funding for dissertation research, to be conducted in Moscow, on comparative issues of food, scarcity, and survival in World War II Moscow and Paris.

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE MELIKIAN CENTER

Please consider joining the Friends of the Melikian Center by making a gift to support our faculty and students.

Your support for deserving students, for world-class language instruction in the Melikian Center's Critical Languages Institute, for timely public programs and research conferences, and for distinguished international scholars-in-residence has helped to make ASU a premier national research and training center for East European and Eurasian studies.

We thank you and encourage you to make a gift to support the Critical Languages Institute and our scholarship program. Your investment in an IDEA — an International Distinguished Engagement Award — creates a transformative opportunity for students to travel and immerse themselves in a country's culture while advancing their proficiency in the language learned in the Critical Languages Institute.

I am pleased to join the Friends of the Melikian Center. Please designate my donation to the following account:

- ☐ \$1,500 Support an IDEA scholarship for students in our less commonly taught language program (30004870)
Give online at <http://www.asufoundation.org/HastingsIDEA>
- ☐ \$150 Support the Critical Languages Institute (30002536)
Give online at <http://www.asufoundation.org/criticallanguagesinstitute>
- ☐ \$150 Support the Melikian Center (30002516)
Give online at <http://www.asufoundation.org/melikiancenter>
- ☐ Please specify amount and list the account for your gift: \$ _____
- ☐ Please contact me to discuss a named IDEA student scholarship endowment (\$30,000).

You may also elect to make a gift online at the respective web address. Please make your check payable to the ASU FOUNDATION, enclose this information and mail both to:

The Melikian Center
Attn: Business Manager
PO Box 874202
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Arizona State University
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