Dear friends and affiliates of the Melikian Center,

After stepping into Steve Batalden’s very considerable shoes on July 1, I’ve been learning and re-learning a lot about area studies and Arizona State University, despite having been here since 2007 in various capacities. I have long felt very fortunate to have come into such a vibrant area studies community, so when the Dean of Social Sciences asked me to step in as interim director, in part because of a similar job I had at Columbia University as director of the Harriman Institute, I accepted the challenge. The search for Steve’s successor is still ongoing as we go to press.

I also continue to serve as the founding director of the Office for Veteran and Military Academic Affairs, and there are a lot more intersections between those two roles than I had even imagined, given Russia’s now two-year war with Ukraine and the discussions about “hybrid warfare” that are linked with Chinese military doctrine and even the Islamic state. I have been working with two ASU colleagues, Daniel Rothenberg, Professor of Practice (School of Politics and Global Studies) and Director of the Center on the Future of War, and Braden Allenby, President’s Professor in the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment and Director of the Center for Earth Systems Engineering and Management, developing a new online master’s degree in Global Security that will feature our Center’s Russia and Eurasia expertise.

These new (but in many ways familiar) realities are shaping the funding and the careers of the students who attended our summer 2016 Critical Languages Institute (Project Global Officer for ROTC cadets selected in a nationwide competition and State Department funding for graduate students through Title VIII). Our talented and enthusiastic faculty and students continue to come to Tempe for the summer sessions from all over the country and world. At the end of August, and for the seventh summer in a row, the Melikian Center hosted incoming Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTAs) for their national training before they went off to the U.S. universities and colleges where they will teach their native languages. This is an orientation program sponsored yearly by the US Department of State’s Bureau for Educational and Cultural Affairs. ASU has welcomed two FLTAs, Yulia Babkina of Russia and Gaye Bayri of Turkey. This summer our staff also launched a new program and taught local high-school students in intensive three-week immersion Russian-language courses with support from the National Security Administration (see more detailed reports in newsletter).

I inherited from Steve a professional, seasoned staff at the Melikian Center, who have been sharing with me their institutional memory and good ideas. I am also beginning slowly to get to know our remarkable advisory board members who have their own area experience from work they have done in the region on civil society building, institutional reforms and personal connections. We have a very strong and internationally known faculty, including my younger colleagues in the Schools of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, the School of International Letters and Cultures, and the School of Politics and Global Studies, Barrett the Honors College, and elsewhere across ASU, including the director of the new Center for Global and Comparative Education at Teacher College, Iveta Silova. Our faculty and graduate students have been traveling, researching, and even teaching abroad from Jerusalem to Kazan to Syvtyvkar and Bratislava. A large delegation of ASU faculty and graduate students will be attending the November 2016 meetings of

Continued on page 2
FROM THE DIRECTOR

the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies in Washington, DC, for meetings with colleagues from across America and around the globe.

Despite many differences in the institutional and geographic settings of the Harriman Institute at Columbia University and the Melikian Center at ASU, and the differences between the region we study then and now, there are still many activities that we take part in and help to organize that are very familiar. We continue to bring to ASU the best and most recent research on our region with talks by visiting scholars. Charles Armstrong, professor of history at Columbia University, is one of the world’s top specialists on communist North Korea and its fascinating history, but his research and teaching has taken him lately to “our” part of the world in his exploration of post-socialist urban spaces. Professor Matjaž Klemenčič, professor of history at Maribor University in Slovenia, spent a week with us in October as the Erasmus Visiting Scholar (European Union), for talks about the history and contemporary politics of immigration in Europe and the United States.

We host visiting scholars and other international delegations and connect them with their counterparts in our communities, acting as translators of cultures in both directions. As a good example, on November 10, we co-hosted with Tom Broderick, a former Utilities Director for the Arizona Corporation Commission, a delegation from the Ukrainian National Commission for State Energy and Public Utilities Regulation for a luncheon seminar at the downtown Phoenix San Carlos Hotel with local community leaders, advisory board members, and ASU faculty.

We are organizing a symposium for January 23 on US-Russian cooperation in space exploration featuring Anthony Vanchu, Director of the Language Education Center of Johnson Space Center (Houston, Texas), Jonathon Hill, a doctoral student in geological sciences at the School of Earth and Space Engineering who studied Tatar language at CLI in 2003 and took part in the AZ Study Abroad in Russia in 2005 and is now a research specialist for the Mars Space Flight Facility at ASU, and other colleagues at the School of Earth and Space Exploration.

On February 20, Graeme Robertson, professor of political science at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, will share with us some of his recent research on political identities in post-Soviet Ukraine and the effects of war and revolution on Ukraine. After the recent death of the iconic Polish filmmaker Andrzej Wajda, we are also planning a retrospective film series and discussions about the rich legacy of Polish history, literature and film.

Finally, we hope to convene a series of panel discussions and lectures reflecting on several important anniversaries for our field, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the end of the Soviet Union and, with it, the Soviet empire in December 1991, and the upcoming hundredth anniversary of the Revolutions of 1917 in the Russian Empire. Another anniversary, the sixtieth of the Hungarian uprising against Soviet rule in October 1956, reminds us of the early resistance movements and efforts to reform or end the Soviet socialist system (and how they were crushed by Soviet-led Warsaw Pact forces).

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and welcome suggestions for other activities.

– Mark Von Hagen
Friday, September 23, 12:30 p.m., Coor Hall 4403

“The Refugee Crisis, Slovenia, and the EU”

Matjaž Klemenčič, University of Maribor (Slovenia)

Matjaž Klemenčič is Professor of History at the University of Maribor in Slovenia. He is former chair of the Department of History and former chair of the scientific council at the Institute for Ethnic Studies in Ljubljana. He has published ten books in Slovenia, Austria, and the U.S., and numerous scholarly articles in outlets such as the Journal of American History and Journal of American Ethnic History.

Thursday, October 20, 12:00 PM, Coor Hall 4403

“Socialist Postmodernism: Representative Architecture in Pyongyang, Astana & Ashgabat in 1989”

Charles K. Armstrong, Columbia University


Upcoming Events

Thursday, January 12, 2017, 7:00 PM

Viceland @SMoCA: Russia and USA

Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art presents the provocative shows Woman (2016 Emmy Nominee) and States of Undress from the brand-new VICELAND television channel developed by Peabody Award-winning VICE media. The final screening of this series surveys motherhood in two unique political and cultural contexts: Russia and the United States. Special guests Laurie Stoff, Faculty Affiliate, Melikian Center: Russian, Eurasian, and East European Studies at Arizona State University and Shontell Di Nello Lege’, Project Coordinator, AZ Common Ground will join us after the screening to discuss themes explored in each episode.

Monday, January 23, 2017, 12:00 PM, Location TBA

“The Languages of Space Exploration” Symposium

Jonathon Hill, ASU, Mars Space Flight Facility, Anthony J. Vanchu, TechTrans Intl., Inc. and Johnson Space Center (JSC) Language Education Center.

In cooperation with the ASU School of Earth and Space Exploration (SESE) and Aerospace Engineering in ASU School for Engineering of Matter, Transport & Energy.
CRITICAL LANGUAGES INSTITUTE

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES...

2016 was an exciting but challenging year for CLI. Student outcomes continued to improve even as the program expanded, adding a program in Bali and a high-school Russian program in Arizona. In fact, the best student progress in CLI this summer came from its youngest program, in Indonesian. It was also a year of challenges, however, particularly overseas, with a large number of CLI students affected by the unrest in Turkey this summer.

CLI Overseas Programs Deliver Strong Results

Last summer, CLI opened summer-long programs for Albanian in Tirana, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian in Sarajevo, Intermediate levels of Russian in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, and advanced levels of Russian in St. Petersburg, Russia. This year it added a program for Indonesian in Denpasar, Bali. Based on feedback from 2015, ASU expanded its use of local ‘activity guides,’ updated administrative structures to improve the articulation between classroom activities and extramural program activities abroad, and expanded its residential oversight program. These changes contributed to even greater proficiency score improvements than in 2015, previously CLI’s best summer.

CLI continues to offer its hallmark 2-months-in-Arizona-plus-1-month-abroad programs for beginning students. Students who completed the entire sequence in 2016 made significant progress in their language proficiency. CLI’s academic partners in Bali, for example, expressed surprise at how advanced ASU’s first-year students already were upon arrival. They scrambled to update their syllabi on day two of the class.

Indonesia Program Launched

CLI added Indonesian to its palette of courses this year, inviting Dr. Nyoman Riasa, the director of APBIPA Bali, the national Association of Teachers of Indonesian as a Foreign Language, to Arizona to teach. Dr. Riasa’s students progressed rapidly and were among the most active participants in CLI extra-curricular activities, preparing weekly cultural events for the rest of CLI and organizing and performing an extensive evening of Indonesian and Balinese culture, including presentations by guests flown in from Indonesia to help with the event. CLI highly recommends that friends of the Center who are in Tempe next summer attend the open meetings of Klub Indonesia.

Dr. Riasa’s classes were as effective as they were popular. At the end of the summer most of his students...
scored 1+ on their final proficiency assessments, with some scoring as high as 2, a score typically achieved in the third or fourth year of college study.

At the same time, Dr. Peter Suwarno of ASU traveled to Indonesia to oversee CLI’s new study-abroad program in Denpasar, Bali. Dr. Suwarno provided an extremely intensive program, including – at student request – regular training in Balinese martial arts.

CLI is pleased with the outcomes of both programs and looks forward to tweaking them to provide a student experience that is even more exciting and effective in 2017.

Trouble in Turkey

CLI’s Turkish program in Izmir was expanding rapidly and was preparing to move to a larger facility and to expand programming when events in the Middle East made it impossible to send study-abroad students to Turkey. CLI was forced to replace its Izmir programs with expanded instructional and cultural programming on the ASU campus. Despite the last-minute changes and the inevitable disappointment of participants, the expanded program proved successful, with student exit scores on par with the scores of students returning from study abroad last summer.

The Izmir program remains suspended through 2017, but CLI looks forward to re-launching the program in 2018, circumstances permitting.

Ukraine Continues to Affect Russian Programs

Events in Ukraine since 2014 and the subsequent restrictions on spending inside Russia forced CLI to move its intermediate Russian programs to Bishkek last year. The restrictions continue, and CLI intermediate Russian was once again in Bishkek this summer.

As in 2015, the highlight of CLI-Bishkek remains the one-on-one activity-guide program, in which participants explore the city and perform class-related activities in small, Russian-only groups. Participants also noted, as in 2015, that studying in Kyrgyzstan gave them first-hand experience of life on the perimeter of the Russian Empire and gave them a new appreciation for relations between Russia and the former states of the Soviet Union. 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 in CLI-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.

In 2016, CLI provided $746,696 in tuition waivers and $377,793 in scholarships and fellowships. Twenty-four ROTC students studied with CLI under
the auspices of Project Global Officer (Project GO), a nationwide effort to ensure that new second lieutenants and ensigns enter military service with the linguistic and cultural sensitivity skills that come only through living abroad. Since 2008, CLI has trained 240 young men and women preparing to enter the armed forces.

Nineteen graduate students studied with CLI on Department of State Title VIII Funding, 1 in Albanian in CLI-Tirana, 3 in Armenian in CLI-Yerevan, 2 in BCS in CLI-Sarajevo, and 13 in Advanced Russian in CLI-Petersburg.

Twenty-one awards were given to students to study with CLI with assistance from the Melikian Center Awards program. Funded by the Melikian Center Endowment and other private donations to the Center, the Melikian Center 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. The Melikian Center Awards program includes: the Melikian Center Advisory Board Scholarships (including the Ron Birks Fellowship for Polish and the Sarra and Emmanuil Senderov Award), the Dr. Elaine H. Berkowitz Albanian Awards, the Charles Case and Pamela Culwell Award, the CLI Friends Scholarships, the Michael Crow Global Engagement Award, the Doris Hastings International Distinguished Engagement Award (IDEA), and the Melikian Scholar Awards.

Three students studied Modern Hebrew at CLI with assistance from the Arizona State University Jewish Studies Center.

Advisory Board Scholarships

Elizabeth Blackburn is an MA student in the ASU Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She studied First-year Russian in CLI 2014 in Tempe and Second-year Russian in CLI 2016 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Blackburn is teaching English in Kazakhstan as a Fulbright ETA in 2016-17.

James Elliott received a BA in Psychology from Wheaton College in Massachusetts and was a volunteer in Armenia from August 2015 to April 2016 with the Homeland Development Initiative Foundation and Armenian Redwood Project through the Birthright Armenia program. He studied First-year Armenian in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Elliott is considering continued work in Armenia, possibly as a Peace Corps volunteer, or in a Foreign Service position.
Jennifer Farquhar is a doctoral student in Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh. She studied Second-year Russian in CLI 2016 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Farquhar plans to use her Russian-language skills to review the archaeological literature on Mongolia written in Russian for work on her dissertation examining the development of nomadic pastoralism in Northern Eurasia during the early Bronze Age.

Alexandra Feldhausen received a BA in Politics and International Relations from Scripps College and now is a development associate at WFUV, “the noncommercial, listener-supported public media service of Fordham University,” and a grant administrator for the Knisely Family Foundation. She studied First-year Turkish in CLI 2016 in Tempe. She plans to use her Turkish to gain a better understanding of feminism and the types of work being done for women’s equality in Turkey, something that can help better inform her research and work with non-profits in the United States.

Megan Hinton received a BA in History and International Affairs from James Madison University and served as an intern in the U.S. Embassy in Zagreb, Croatia. She studied First-year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Hinton is a publications/project assistant at the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery in Harrisonburg, Virginia, who is teaching English as a Fulbright ETA in 2016-17 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Emma Kellman received a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies in Culture from Scripps College. She studied Fourth-year Russian in CLI 2016 in St. Petersburg, Russia. In the U.S. Navy, Kellman plans to pursue opportunities to use her Russian-language skills and interests in foreign affairs.

Margaret Lindrooth received a BA in Russian and History from Temple University. She studied First-year Persian in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Lindrooth is now serving in Chicago as an AmeriCorps VISTA Shriver Development Fellow with LIFT, Inc., “a national nonprofit dedicated to helping families break the cycle of poverty.”

Isabelle Penta is a student in the Pensacola High School International Baccalaureate Program. She studied First-Year Persian in CLI 2016 in Tempe having participated in the National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) Tajik-language program in Dushanbe, Tajikistan in the summer of 2015. Penta plans to study political science and international affairs in college focusing on Central Asia.

Hannah Spencer is an undergraduate student studying Business (Global Politics) in the W. P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. She studied Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian in CLI 2016 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Spencer plans to pursue a career in the U.S. Department of State as a Foreign Service Officer.

Advisory Board Scholarship - Birks fellowship for Polish

Marie Davis is an undergraduate student majoring in English Literature and History at Arizona State University. She studied Polish in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Davis plans on teaching for the U.S. Department of Defense Educational Activity (DoDEA), that is at a school for the children of U.S. service men and women stationed in Europe and the Pacific.
2016 CLI STUDENT SUPPORT

2016 RTIC PROJECT GO STUDENTS

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<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
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<td>Kenssler Polytechnic Institute</td>
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Advisory Board Scholarship - Senderov Award

Emma Kellman received a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies from Scripps College. She studied Fourth-year Russian in CLI 2016 in St. Petersburg, Russia. In the U.S. Navy, Kellman plans to pursue opportunities to use her Russian-language skills and interests in foreign affairs.

Dr. Elaine H. Berkowitz Award for Albanian

Tatum James an in-coming freshman majoring in Spanish and Political Science at Arizona State University. He studied First-year Albanian in CLI 2016 in Tempe. James plans to pursue a career as a Civil Rights attorney.

Eri Koroli is a student at Fountain Hills High School. He studied First-year Albanian in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Koroli came as a child from Albania and is looking to recapture his Albanian language skills.

Gerron Syvertson is an undergraduate student majoring in Global Security and Intelligence Studies at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Prescott, AZ). He studied First-year Albanian in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Syvertson plans to pursue a career in the U.S. Air Force as a pilot, but also to work in intelligence.

Charles Case & Pamela Culwell Award

Elizabeth Blackburn is an MA student in the ASU Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She studied First-year Russian in CLI 2014 in Tempe and Second-year Russian in CLI 2016 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Blackburn is teaching English in Kazakhstan as a Fulbright ETA in 2016-17.

CLI Friends Scholarship

Jennifer Farquhar is a doctoral student in Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh. She studied Second-year Russian in CLI 2016 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Farquhar plans to use her Russian-language skills to review the archeological literature on Mongolia written in Russian for work on her dissertation examining the development of nomadic pastoralism in Northern Eurasia during the early Bronze Age.

Michael Crow Global Engagement Award

Hannah Spencer is an undergraduate student studying Business (Global Politics) in the W. P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. She
studied Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian in CLI 2016 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Spencer plans to pursue a career in the U.S. Department of State as a Foreign Service Officer.

**Doris Hastings International Distinguished Engagement Award**

Anastasiya Berdinskikh is a doctoral student in Slavic Languages and Literatures at Yale University. She studied First-year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Berdinskikh plans to examine how the breakup of Yugoslavia is reflected in the literature of the region and how this compares to the breakup of the Soviet Union and the resulting literary output there.

**Melikian Scholar Award**

James Elliott received a BA in Psychology from Wheaton College in Massachusetts and was a volunteer in Armenia from August 2015 to April 2016 with the Homeland Development Initiative Foundation and Armenian Redwood Project through the Birthright Armenia program. He studied First-year Armenian in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Elliott is considering continued work in Armenia, possibly as a Peace Corps volunteer, or in a Foreign Service position.

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**Jewish Studies Center Scholarship**

Tamara Allen received a BA in Chinese Language and Literature from Smith College and works as a tutor specializing in test preparations. Allen’s plans include applying to rabbinical school.

Mary Nelson is a high-school student receiving a homeschool education while concurrently enrolled in Chandler-Gilbert Community College. She studied First-year Hebrew in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Mary was born in Israel and plans to use her language skills to be more involved with her country of birth.

Noah Nelson is a high-school student receiving a homeschool education while concurrently enrolled in Chandler-Gilbert Community College. She studied First-year Hebrew in CLI 2016 in Tempe. Noah was born in Israel and is studying Hebrew at the CLI while still in high-school to give her a head start on future pursuits requiring Hebrew language skills.

**Albanian Alumni Update**

While serving in the U.S. Army Reserve, dentist Dr. Elaine H. Berkowitz was deployed to Camp Bondsteel in Kosovo three times where she spent a total of 20 months and fell in love with the people, culture, and countryside. She spent her time in country giving lectures at the dental school and in medical and dental offices. Dr. Berkowitz also taught about personal dental hygiene in elementary and high schools. She did not think anyone really noticed, and so was very pleasantly surprised when she was awarded a Doctor of Honoris Causa by the Ukshin Hoti University in Prizren, Kosovo, in April 2015.

Dr. Berkowitz studied Albanian in CLI in 2013. She enjoyed the experience and learning from Prof. Linda Meniku, as she had her time in Kosovo. She has parlayed some of these experiences into the Dr. Elaine H. Berkowitz Albanian Fund, which began helping students to study Albanian in the CLI in the summer of 2015.
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 2016-2017 academic year:

Elizabeth Blackburn (Fulbright English Teaching Assistant [ETA] 2016-2017 teaching English in Kazakhstan) is an MA student in the ASU Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She studied First-year Russian in CLI 2014 in Tempe and Second-year Russian in CLI 2016 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, receiving the Charles Case and Pamela Culwell Award and a Melikian Center Advisory Board Scholarship to help fund her 2016 summer study abroad.

Tyler Kirk (Graduate Student, Fulbright Fellow) is a doctoral student and graduate teaching associate in history in the School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies at ASU. He received the Fulbright Fellowship to conduct dissertation research at Syktyvkar State University (Komi Republic, Russia) exploring the history and memory of Gulag returnees and former exiles, who lived in the Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic.

Thomas Lepke (Fulbright English Teaching Assistant), who completed his Master’s degree in the ASU Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College in May 2016, is teaching English in the Czech Republic.

Sabrina Papazian (Graduate Student Boren Fellow) is a doctoral student in Anthropology at Stanford University. In Armenia, she is researching her topic, “Analyzing Armenian Heritage as a Tool of Diplomacy.” Papazian studied First-year Eastern Armenian in CLI 2014 in Tempe and Advanced Mastery Eastern Armenian in CLI 2015 in Yerevan.

Courtney Silver (Graduate Student Boren Fellow) is in the B.A./M.A. program in Russian Studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She is conducting research in Kazakhstan on her topic, “Russian Language Study in Almaty, Kazakhstan.” Silver studied Third-year Russian in CLI 2015 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan with funding from a ROTC Project Global Officer (PGO) scholarship.

Joseph Suszczynski (Graduate Student Boren Fellow) is in a joint J.D./LL.M. program at Ohio Northern University (Ada, Ohio). He is researching his topic, “Border Security in Kosovo and the Balkans,” while in Kosovo. Suszczynski studied First-year Albanian in CLI 2016 in Tempe.

CLI 2016 Title VIII Fellowship Recipients

1. Sean Blink (Yale U/Fifth-year Russian),
2. Rachel Branson (U of Oregon/Fourth-year Russian)
3. Graham Copenhagen (Higher School of Economics, Moscow/Fifth-year Russian)
4. Valery Dzutsati (Arizona State U/First-year Armenian)
5. Brad Gordon (U of Wisconsin-Madison/Fifth-year Russian)
6. Zachary Hicks (U of Oregon/Fifth-year Russian),
7. Megan Kennedy (U of Wisconsin-Madison/Fifth-year Russian)
8. Adam King (U of Arizona/First-year Armenian)
9. Ashley McDermott (U of N. Carolina at Chapel Hill/Fourth-year Russian)
10. Thornton Miller (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign/Third-year Russian),
11. Serenity Orenko (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign/Fourth-year Russian),
12. Andrew Romanov (Arizona State U/Forth-year Russian),
13. Joseph Suszczynski (Ohio Northern U/First-year Albanian),
14. Slaven Svetinovic (U of Washington/Fifth-year Russian),
15. Anastasia Tkach (Columbia U/First-year BCS),
16. Kristin Torres (U of Missouri/Fourth-year Russian),
17. Christopher Tushaj (Ludwig Maximillian U/Second-year Albanian),
18. Yeree Woo (U of Buckingham and Sarajevo School of Science and Technology/Second-year BCS),
In 2016-17, the Melikian Center marks the fifteenth anniversary of its Albanian language programming in the Critical Languages Institute, the longest continuously operating university training program in Albanian in the United States.

The origins of the Albanian program date to 2001. One year after the traumatic NATO 1999 bombing campaign in Kosovo and the exodus of Serbian paramilitary forces from the region, the Melikian Center launched a program of collaboration with the University of Prishtina funded by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). The initial ECA funding was for the purpose of building capacity at the University of Prishtina in the fields of business management and public administration. As part of that effort, the Melikian Center pledged in exchange to launch Albanian language instruction in its Critical Languages Institute.

Following an open competitive search, the CLI in 2003 engaged Linda Meniku as its primary Albanian instructor. A University of Tirana Philology Faculty member, Linda had earlier taught Albanian for a year at the University of Kansas as a visiting Fulbright Fellow. The choice of Linda Meniku from the outset energized the ASU Albanian program. Affectionately referred to by her students as a “drill sergeant,” Meniku has had the capacity to empower her students with remarkably advanced Albanian speaking skills following an initial intensive year of summer language training. Within two years the program grew to include second-year Albanian, and CLI students regularly began to participate in follow-on CLI study abroad in Tirana at the conclusion of each summer’s Albanian instruction.

One measure of the program’s success has been the number of Fulbright and Boren awards (15) garnered by graduates of the CLI Albanian program. No program in the United States has generated such a record of student fellowship support for study in Albania and Kosovo. One such Fulbright Fellow, Professor Lori Amy of Georgia Southern University, has established her own non-governmental organization in Albania, “OTTOonomy,” a cultural preservation agency funded through the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Others have gone on to teach in the region or have assumed positions in U.S. government service.

Students continue to come to Tempe each summer from throughout the United States and abroad to participate in summer Albanian instruction, with more advanced CLI students spending full summers expanding their language skills in Albania. Linda Meniku, now the instructor with the longest unbroken record of CLI instruction, has published her own Albanian language text—a text first piloted with her CLI students—and is widely recognized as the face of Albanian language instruction throughout the United States.

Meanwhile, the original linkage of the CLI Albanian program with Melikian Center programming in the Balkans has not been forgotten. The Melikian Center’s original capacity building program at the University of Prishtina has grown to include State Department and USAID project funding of more than $3 million over the past fifteen years.
Kosovo Transformational Leadership Project

The Center is finishing the first two years of a four-year commitment to the Kosovo Transformational Leadership Project (Kosovo TLP) sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development and administered by World Learning, Inc. In June 2016, the Center in cooperation with faculty and staff from the ASU School of Sustainability organized a certificate seminar in Prizren, Kosovo, for University of Prishtina (UP) faculty on “Renewable Energy and Sustainability” (RES), which resulted in action plans calling for a certificate program, redesigned and new course syllabi, roundtable discussions, and cooperation across faculties of the University of Prishtina, and also among a cluster of Kosovo’s universities. Following this seminar, a two-day grant-writing seminar was given by Prof. Stephen Batalden, project PI, in cooperation with the UP Center for Teaching Excellence to share best practices in successful research grant proposal writing. In October 2016, the Center held the seminar, “Measuring Your Carbon Footprint: The Greenhouse Effect,” presented by Prof. 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. A follow-up to the May 2016 grant-writing seminar was also held in Prishtina in October 2016, along with a seminar introducing open source course management software for use in University of Prishtina classrooms. For further information on the ASU-UP partnership under terms of the Kosovo TLP, readers are encouraged to consult the Melikian Center website.

Melikian Center Language Training Center (LTC)

With generous grant support from the Institute of International Education (IIE), the ASU Language Training Center for three years (October 2013 through September 2016) offered advanced language sustainment and enhancement training to national security and Department of Defense clients in Arabic, Persian/Farsi, Turkish, and Russian. In the third year of the project, the Language Training Center added online synchronous language instruction tailored to connect trainees at multiple sites achieving the same high proficiency increase rates as in the in-class setting. The Center thanks the hardworking instructors and staff for their generous contribution of time and expertise to the success of this program. The Center at the same time applauds a high level of student achievement.

Melikian Center Hosts Luncheon Seminar with Ukrainian Energy Regulators

On November 10, Greg Melikian and Center Interim Director Mark von Hagen hosted a luncheon seminar with three members of Ukraine’s National Commission for State Energy and Public Utilities Regulation at the Hotel San Carlos in downtown Phoenix. Our co-host for the event was Tom Broderick, Utilities Division Director in the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC), who has worked with his Ukrainian counterparts as part of a USAID project. The Ukrainians, who spoke with the assistance of two outstanding translators, including Katrin Stukov, a water and wastewater engineer at the ACC, and Igor Chevtchenko, were: Vladimir Evdokimov, Kostiantyn Sushko, and Iryyna Osovyk. Before spending the week in Phoenix, they had visited San Francisco for meetings with energy regulating officials there. Taking part in a lively discussion about the political, legal, technological and even international challenges to the energy industries in our two countries, particularly the struggle between traditional and alternative energy sources were:

Continued on pg. 21
Melikian Center Hosts National Training for Fulbright Foreign Language Teachers

For the seventh 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.

FULBRIGHT TEACHING ASSISTANTS at ASU

2016–2017 Fulbright Language Teaching Assistants at ASU

The Melikian Center’s Critical Languages Institute (CLI) is pleased to announce that ASU is hosting two visiting Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTAs) this year—Yulia Babkina of Russia and Gaye Bayri of Turkey. They are teaching their native languages and studying at ASU in the fall and spring semesters. The scholars are jointly hosted through the ASU School of International Letters and Cultures (SILC) and the Melikian Center. While Ms. Babkina is working with Russian professor Dr. Donald Livingston of SILC to offer language instruction support in elementary and intermediate Russian such as Russian table and tutoring, Ms. Bayri is working with Dr. Kathleen Evans-Romaine, CLI Director, to offer Turkish language courses.

Both FLTAs are available to make presentations on their native countries and cultures, as well as upon topics in their fields. Contact the Dr. Donald Livingston for details about the Russian FLTA and Dr. Evans-Romaine for details about the Turkish FLTA.

Yulia Babkina and Gaye Bayri
The Melikian Center is proud to announce a new program called STARTALK, which is funded by the National Security Agency (NSA). STARTALK’s mission is to increase the number of U.S. citizens that are learning, speaking, and teaching critical languages. The Center’s program teaches Russian to middle and high school students (grades 8-12), in a three-week intensive immersion course. Sixteen local students participated this summer, and we expect that number to grow to 24 next summer, as more school districts become eligible.

A rigorous program at any age, our STARTALK participants engage in Russian language and culture training from 8:30 AM to 2:15 PM, Monday through Friday. A typical day consists of three 50-minute language-focused classes, a break for lunch at our Russian-speaking table, and an afternoon class which includes cultural activities. Adhering to the principles of STARTALK, classes are taught completely in Russian beginning from the first day. A critical component of our STARTALK program is the synchronous virtual connection to the CLI’s study-abroad program in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Students participating in STARTALK are able to learn from, and communicate face-to-face with, our instructors and students in Bishkek. This offers a unique, real-world scenario for our STARTALK students to engage with actual people living in a Russian-speaking community. Furthermore, STARTALK students are able to witness first-hand a whole world of opportunities available to them by studying languages.

This year’s program participants exceeded language proficiency assessments, testing around the novice-mid level. Starting the program with absolutely no Russian training, they are now able to hold basic conversations about themselves, their families, where they live and flora and fauna in Arizona.

We have created a conduit for Arizona students to study Russian, starting grade 8, which will ultimately lead them to be superior speakers of Russian by the end of their BA degree program. We call this the “Central Arizona Russian Pipeline” or CARP. Students would start with beginning Russian in STARTALK, then continue on with the many options available to them throughout their high school and BA programs, including: NSLI-Y, CLS, CLI, ASU, Boren, and Fulbright.

An added benefit of having a STARTALK program at the Melikian Center is the cutting-edge training that our instructors receive.
**Stephen Batalden** (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) retired as director of the Melikian Center and as Professor of History in SHPRS on June 30, 2016. He continues as the Principal Investigator (PI) on the Center’s USAID/World Learning Kosovo Transformational Leadership Program–Scholarship and Partnerships (TLP) grant project, and gave a two-day seminar, “Writing Competitive Research Grant Proposals,” in Pristina, Kosovo, in June 2016 and similar seminar in October 2016.


**Benjamin Beresford** (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) received an ASU Graduate Completion Fellowship from Graduate Education for the Fall 2016 semester.

**Shahin Berisha** (Adjunct Professor, ASU Melikian Center; Faculty, Math and Science, Gateway Community College), serving as the Project Facilitator, assisted with the planning and implementation of the May/June 2016 “Renewable Energy and Sustainability” certificate seminar held in Prizren, Kosovo as part of the Center’s USAID/World Learning Kosovo Transformational Leadership Program–Scholarship and Partnerships (TLP) grant project. In October 2016 Berisha led two half-day sessions in “Measuring your carbon footprint: The Greenhouse Effect” at the University of Prishtina Faculty of Electrical & Computer Engineering.


**Ellon Carpenter** (School of Music) retired as Associate Professor of Music in the School of Music of the ASU Herberger Institute of Design and the Arts at the end of the 2015-16 academic year. She came to ASU in 1988 and has been teaching courses such as: Music Theory of the 19th Century, Analytical Techniques, Late 19th-Early 20th Century Music, Scriabin and Prokofiev, 20th Century Tonality and Modality, Analytical Studies: Brahms; Music of Sondheim, and others. Her research interests include the history of Russian and Soviet music theory, and the life and music of Alexander N. Scriabin.

**Anna Cichopek-Gajraj** (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) currently serves on the Center’s Director Search Committee. She received a Center Fellowship from the Advisory Board fund to conduct research on her project on “Polish Jewish Refugees in the United States (1940s-1960s).”

**Eugene Clay** (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) currently serves on the Center’s Director Search Committee. In November 2015, Clay was elected to serve a three-year term as

Rolfs Ekmanis (School of International Letters and Cultures, Emeritus) is the proud father of a Fulbright Scholar, for his daughter, Indra, an ASU alumna of the School of Politics and Global studies and now a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Washington, was awarded a 2016-2017 Fulbright to research how minority groups engage with Latvian cultural events.

Dan Fellner (Interdisciplinary Humanities & Communication, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts), Fulbright Scholar (Bulgaria, Latvia, and Moldova) and Fulbright Senior Specialist (Latvia and Lithuania), gave a lecture, “Witnessing a Jewish Revival in Eastern Europe,” on September 25, 2016, at the East Valley Jewish Community Center (EVJCC) as part of “Jewish Life & Living” lecture series at the EVJCC. His lecture was made possible by the Arizona Humanities AZ Speaks program.

Alexandra Gruzinska (School of International Letters and Cultures [SILC]) retired as Assistant Professor of French Literature in SILC at the end of the 2015-16 academic year. She came to ASU in 1973 and has been teaching courses such as: French Literature (19th and 20th Centuries), [French] Theater of the 19th Century, French Poetry of the 19th Century, French Women in Arts and Society, and others. Among others, her research interests include: 19th Century French Literature, Octave Mirbeau, E. M. Cioran, George Sand, Nobel Prize Polish poet Wisława Szymborska, and Polish writer Witold Gombrowicz. In 2014, Prof. Gruzinska was inducted as a Chevalier in The Ordre des Palmes Académiques by the Government of France for her contributions to the French language and culture.


Paul Hirt (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) acted as the faculty liaison for the visit to ASU in September 2016 of the scholar Prof. Dr. Matjaž Klemenčič, Professor of History, University of Maribor (Slovenia), whose visit was sponsored in part by the Erasmus+ Programme.

Anna Holian (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) currently serves on the Center’s Director Search Committee.

Hilde Hoogenboom (School of International Letters and Cultures) was promoted with tenure to associate professor of Russian. ASU’s Institute for Humanities Research awarded her a subvention grant for Noble Sentiments and the Rise of Russian Novels (University of Toronto Press, forthcoming) and a seed grant to organize a symposium on corruption and civil society in connection with her new book project, Noble Rot: Corruption, Civil Society, and Literary Elites in Russia. Hoogenboom published “Sentimental Novels and Pushkin: European Literary Markets and Russian Readers,” Slavic Review, 74.3 (Fall, 2015): 553-74. At the 2015 ASEES Conference in Philadelphia, she presented “Madame Genlis in Russia” for a panel she organized on the Digital Eighteenth Century. She was reelected to the board of the Association for Women in Slavic Studies and now manages the website for the Eighteenth-Century Russian Studies Association. Hoogenboom was also invited to give talks locally on “Tolstoy’s Anna Karenina and the Russian Nobility” and “Catherine the Great and her Memoirs” at the Salon of Spirit of the Senses and at ASU’s Osher Life-
MELIKIAN CENTER AFFILIATE NEWS

long Learning Institute. Her translation *Catherine the Great’s Memoirs* (Modern Library Classics, Penguin-Random House, 2005) is currently featured at the exhibition Catherine the Greatest at Hermitage Amsterdam.

**Marcie Hutchinson** (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) has published with Lauren Harris (ASU SPHRS), “Listening for History: Using Jazz Music as a Primary Source,” *Social Education*, May 2016. Hutchinson continues for the 2016-2017 season to serve as the project coordinator, curriculum designer, and presenter for *Jazz from A to Z*, a program of the Mesa Arts Center and Arizona State University’s School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies in Partnership with Jazz at Lincoln Center. This year’s theme is “Keeping Time and Place: Jazz Cities in History.”

**David Kader** (Sandra Day O’Connor School of Law) retired as Professor of Law at the end of the academic year in 2016 having joined the faculty 1979. He taught courses in the areas, among others, of criminal procedure, criminal law, torts, state constitutional law, and religion and the U.S. Constitution. In September 2015, Kader published “Sticks and Stones: The Role of Law in the Dynamics of Hate,” *CrossCurrents*, 65: 297–301, doi:10.1111/cros.12139.

**Mehmet Kasikci** (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) is conducting dissertation research at KIMEP University in Almaty, Kazakhstan, during the 2016-17 academic year.

**Agnes Kefeli** (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) published “A Baptized Sufi on the Volga River: Sufi Networks among Eastern Orthodox Apostates in the Nineteenth Century,” *Kriashenskoe Istoricheskoe Obozrenie*, Kazan, vol. 1, 2015 [Крышенское Историческое Обозрение, Институт истории Академии наук Республики Татарстан], vol. 1, 2015: 64-82.

**Tyler Kirk** (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) received a 2016-2017 Fulbright Scholarship to conduct dissertation research at Syktyvkar State University (Komi Republic, Russia) exploring the history and memory of Gulag returnees and former exiles, who lived in the Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic.


**Donald Livingston** (School of International Letters and Cultures) served as the Resident Director/Program Director of the Summer 2016 Critical Languages Institute’s Russian program in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

**Laurie Manchester** (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) published “How statelessness can force refugees to redefine their ethnicity: what can be learned from Russian émigrés dispersed to six continents in the inter-war period?” *Immigrants and Minorities*, 34(1), 2016, 70-91. DOI: 10.1080/02619288.2015.1065738. She also co-organized the international conference, “The Sacral and the Secular in Autobiographical Practices of the Modern Period (Eighteenth to Early Twentieth Centuries),” held at the German Historical Institute in Moscow on June 3-4, 2016.

MELIKIAN CENTER AFFILIATE NEWS

Saule Moldabekova (School of International Letters and Cultures) served as the Resident Director/Program Director of the Summer 2016 Critical Languages Institute’s Russian program in St. Petersburg, Russia. Since September 2016, Moldabekova has also served as a consultant for IREX in Washington D.C. and oversees development and translation of the Supplemental Learning Guide for Corporate Sustainability Leadership Education Program (CSLEP) class modules in Russia and promotes the CSLEP class among Russian universities.


Ileana Orlich (School of International Letters and Cultures) has published: “Dadaism as Political Installation and Language for Revolutionary Imagination: The Importance of Being Tzara and Lenin,” Studia Universitatis Babes-Bolyai-Dramatica 61.1 (2016): 69-82; and “Conditia post-umana in spatiul Kafka: Domnul K eliberat, Incotro” Literature, Theater, Movie and Matei Vișniec, eds. Marina Cap-Bun and Florentina Nicolae, Constanța: Ovidius University Press, 2015. In 2015, Orlich was a Fulbright Scholar lecturing as a specialist on drama and dramatics/theatre arts at the National University of Theatre and Film I.L. Caragiale (UNATC) in Bucharest, Romania.


John Romero (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) was awarded a Stephen F. Cohen–Robert C. Tucker Dissertation Research Fellowship by the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) for 2016-2017 to work in Russia on his project, “Socialist in Form, National in Context”: Soviet High Culture and National Identity in the Tatar Autonomous Republic, 1953-1994.”


Iveta Silova (Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College) joined ASU in January 2016 as Director of the Center for Advanced Studies in Global Education and Professor of Education. She published: with Faith Aktas, Kate Pitts,

**Danko Sipka** (School of International Letters and Cultures) published: *Od naših Rusa do komšijine krave*, Novi Sad: Prometej, 2015 (a book about Serbian conversational commonplaces). He edited two volumes of the *Journal of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages* (NCOLCTL) and co-edited two volumes of Lingvističke aktualnosti, which is published by Serbian Academy of Sciences. Sipka served as the director of the Center’s STARTARLK 2016 summer Russian program and as the acting director of the Center’s Language Training Center (LTC) project since June 30, 2016.


**Laurie Stoff** (Barrett, The Honors College) has been given for her book, *Russia’s Sister of Mercy and the Great War* (University Press of Kansas, 2015), the Smith Award by the European Section of the Southern Historical Association. The award is given for the best book published in European history by a member of the Section or a faculty member of a Southern college or university, or by a Southern press. She also published, “The Sounds, Odors, and Textures of Russian Wartime Nursing,” *Russian History through the Senses: From 1700 to the Present*, eds. Matthew P. Romaniello and Tricia Sparks, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2016, 117-140.

MELIKIAN CENTER AFFILIATE SUPPORT 2016-2017

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. Thirteen awards were chosen competitively for funding in 2016-2017.

Volker Benkert (School of Politics & Global Studies) was awarded funding for a partial publication subvention of his book, *Biographien im Umschlag. Sozialisation und Transformationserfahrung der letzten DDR Jugend*, which is based on his dissertation.

Lenka Bustikova (School of Politics and Global Studies) was awarded funding to conduct the joint research project, “Populism in Eastern Europe,” with Dr. Petra Guasti of the Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences. The project fits with Bustikova’s interests in radical mobilization and the sources of radical-right support in Eastern Europe.

Eugene Clay (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) was awarded funding to conduct archival research in Russia on his project, “The Prosecution of Heresy and Popular Religion in Russia, 1800-1916.” The research is a part of Professor Clay’s wider monographic study of Russian Spiritual Christianity.

Hilde Hoogenboom (School of International Letters and 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.”

Agnes Kefeli (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) was awarded funding to conduct research for her Tatar-language reader and dictionary in both Arabic script and Cyrillic alphabets entitled, *Reinventing Childhood: A Graded Reader of Tatar Texts in Arabic and Cyrillic Alphabets (1890-1917)*. Kefeli plans to search the important collection of pre-revolutionary microfilms from Turkey and Helsinki gathered by the deceased Alexander Bennigsen at the L’École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), as well as holdings of the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris.

Pauline Komnenich (College of Nursing and Health Innovation) was awarded funding to support a visit and guest lecture by Dr. Savo Kentera, President of the Atlantic Council in Montenegro on “International Security Challenges to the Western Balkans”. As of this printing, the visit has been temporarily postponed.

Laurie Manchester (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) was awarded funding to support research at Museum of Russian Culture (MRC) in San Francisco on her project, “The Real Russians Return: Repatriates from China to the Soviet Union.” The MRC recently received a donation from the children of emigres from China a large collection of post-war Russian émigré newspapers from Harbin, Tientsin, and Shanghai.


Aaron Moore (School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies) was awarded funding for support to launch a collaborative research project with Charles Armstrong, Korea Foundation Professor of Korean Studies in the Social Sciences at Columbia University, on the formation of the socialist regional economic order in Northeast Asia linking the Soviet Far East, North Korea, and Northeast China after 1945.

Ana Hedberg Olenina (Film and Media Studies, Department of English) was awarded funding for
obtaining document scans of archival materials from the Russian State Archive of Literature and Art (RGALI) and for travel to present her research at the Conference of the European Network for Cinema and Media Studies in Germany. The research is part of her forthcoming book, *Psychomotor Aesthetics: Conceptions of Gesture and Affect in Russian and American Modernity, 1910s-1920s*, the last chapter of which focuses on Sergei Eisenstein’s theories of performance and spectator response.

**Victor Peskin** (School of Politics and Global Studies) was awarded funding to conduct research in Belgrade related to the politics of establishing a special court to prosecute alleged Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) crimes committed during and after the 1998-99 war with Serbia. The main aim of his research project is to explain the complex politics that have led to the establishment of this special court created just as the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia sets to complete its work in The Hague.

**David Siroky** (School of Politics and Global Studies) was awarded funding for research travel to the Czech Republic to collaborate on a book project with Prof. Emil Souleimanov of the Department of Russian and East European Studies at Charles University in Prague. The book is tentatively entitled, *Violence and Vengeance: The Dynamics of Irregular War in Chechnya*, and will be submitted to Cambridge University Press.

**Mark von Hagen** (School of International Letters and Cultures & School of Politics and Global Studies), prior to being named Interim Director of the Center, was awarded funding for research travel to the Czech Republic to collaborate on a book project with Prof. Emil Souleimanov of the Department of Russian and East European Studies at Charles University in Prague. The book is tentatively entitled, *Violence and Vengeance: The Dynamics of Irregular War in Chechnya*, and will be submitted to Cambridge University Press.

**Paul Hirt**, Professor of History and Sustainability, School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Melikian Center faculty affiliate, and a leading expert on the history of energy regulation; **Stephen Batalden**, founding director of the Melikian Center, Advisory Board Member, and historian emeritus of Russian and East European history; **Kris Mayes**, senior sustainability scholar and professor of practice at the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability and the School for the Future of Innovation in Society and former Arizona Corporation Commissioner; **David Jankofsky**, Melikian Center Advisory Board Member and also former Arizona Corporation Utilities Division Director and now a consultant for developing countries on regulatory matters; and **Casey Ball**, law student at Sandra Day O’Connor Law School.

While we may think that Arizona is “ground zero” for the solar wars, we found from our Ukrainian guests that they are facing the same issues. Those issues include the fundamental tension between using renewable sources of “fuel” (such as wind and solar) to generate electricity in order to help mitigate the impacts of climate change, and continuing to use traditional sources of fuel such as natural gas and coal that pollute more, but are cheaper. This tension is all the more acute in developing countries where the cost of electricity is simply unaffordable for some. The Ukrainians had a good grip on the economics – and the politics – of the problem. They recognize that the answer usually lies somewhere between the two extremes. The Ukrainian philosophy appears to be one of gradually “winding down” their use of traditional energy generating sources while “winding up” the use of renewable sources. Old coal fired and nuclear plants will be used for the balance of their useful lives because it is just not economic for them to be mothballed immediately. That will allow for electric reliability to continue, while the costs of renewables continues to decline and these decommissioned plants can be replaced by those producing electricity using wind or solar. The Melikian Center has been playing an active role in promoting renewable energy studies in Kosovo as a part of its Transformational Leadership Project. (see story on page 12)
# Fellowships and Grant Application Deadlines

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<td>KI Billington Fellowship</td>
<td>May 2017</td>
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<td>KI Galina Starovoitova Fellowship on Human Rights and Conflict Resolution</td>
<td>May 2017</td>
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<td><strong>National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Awards</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dissertation Fellowships</td>
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<td>Postdoctoral Fellowships</td>
<td>Nov. 3, 2016</td>
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<td><strong>National Endowment for Humanities (NEH)</strong></td>
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<td>NEH Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections</td>
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<td>Dec. 3, 2016</td>
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<td>NEH Collaborative Research Grants</td>
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<td>Dec. 7, 2016</td>
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<td>NEH Digital Humanities Advancement Grants</td>
<td>Jan. 11, 2017</td>
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<td>NEH Fellowships</td>
<td>Apr. 26, 2017</td>
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<td>NEH Summer Stipends</td>
<td>Sep. 2017</td>
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<td><strong>Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship Program/ U.S. Dept. of State</strong></td>
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<td>Graduate Fellowship</td>
<td>Jan. 13, 2017</td>
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<td>Undergraduate Fellowship</td>
<td>Jan. 13, 2017</td>
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<td><strong>U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP)</strong></td>
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<td>Jennings Randolph Peace Scholarship Dissertation Program</td>
<td>Nov. 22, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>South and Central Asia Grant</td>
<td>Rolling basis</td>
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*ASU maintains earlier internal deadlines for this scholarship program.*
Your support for deserving students, world-class language instruction in the Melikian Center’s Critical Languages Institute, timely public programs and research conferences, and distinguished international scholars-in-residence has helped to make ASU a premier national research and training center for East European and Eurasian studies.

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