

Newsletter May, 2000

From the Coordinator

Permit me to highlight two of the items in this issue of the newsletter. First, in the case of this year's Critical Languages Institute (CLI), the Consortium has received \$22,000 of external support from the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Sciences Research Council to fund its annual summer programming in Macedonian and Tatar. The CLI now ranks with comparable summer language institutes conducted at the state universities of Washington, Indiana, and Pittsburgh. Part of the excitement of this year's CLI is the range of faculty that will be joining us--Danko Šipka from Poznan, Eleni Bučarovska and Ljupčo Spasovski from Skopje, and Göljihan Kashaeva from St. Petersburg. Please encourage your students to take advantage of this unique opportunity!

Second, as you will note below, we were very pleased to learn that all five of the ASU Slavic-area candidates put forward for National Security Education Program (NSEP) fellowships at the graduate and undergraduate level have been notified of the success of their applications. This is a new record, not just for the number of awards in the Slavic area, but for the 100% rate of success in NSEP applications. We need to build upon that record of success, and encourage able undergraduate and graduate students in the Slavic area to field applications to this significant and highly competitive national program. I look forward to joining you in congratulating these worthy students at our April 25 Consortium meeting.

SKB

Critical Languages Institute

REESC will again sponsor the Critical Languages Institute from June 5 through July 28. Intensive elementary Serbian-Croatian and Tatar will be offered as well as intensive elementary and intermediate Macedonian. Tuition has been waived for CLI courses, offering a tremendous

opportunity for students to study these less commonly taught languages. Fellowships will be available for Tatar students.

Funding was approved by the American Council of Learned Societies to provide support for Macedonian language instruction at the elementary and intermediate levels. The Social Sciences Research Council has recommended funding of elementary Tatar, subject to confirmation of State Department funding.

Instruction for the Macedonian will be provided by Eleni Bučarovska, Ph.D., UKIM, and Ljupčo Spasovski, M.A., ASU. Göljihan Kashaeva, Ph.D. candidate in Romance Languages at St. Petersburg State University, will be the Tatar instructor. Danko Šipka, currently working with MRM Language Research Center in Hyattsville Maryland, with a Ph.D. in Psychology from the Institute of Psychology of the Polish Academy of Sciences and a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Belgrade, will teach the Serbian-Croatian class.

World Learning

REESC was awarded a contract by World Learning/TRANSIT Inc. and USAID to host two delegations from Bosnia and Hercegovina in March/April 2000. The participants studied local tax issues. They met with budget and finance officials from Tempe, Phoenix, Maricopa County, the state of Arizona, and faculty from ASU's School of Public Affairs. The groups' action plans included recommendations to decentralize taxing authority, implement property taxes and user fees, and develop professional associations to share information. Jean Tesche, a technical advisor with the U.S. Treasury Department who has been working in BiH for several years, accompanied the first group.

Another proposal is being submitted to World Learning that could bring delegates from Bosnia and Hercegovina in June 2000 to study

construction and project management techniques. Private construction firms in BiH need to respond more quickly when delays occur in order to increase the pace of infrastructure reconstruction. Ten to twelve participants will meet with faculty from the Del Webb School of Construction and local construction company executives and employees to study scheduling, estimating, personnel management, financial management, and use of technology in project management.

ASU Visitors:

Liljana Markovska and Vera Meshko, faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, UKIM, presented a lecture in January in the Department of Chemical Engineering. The topic was "Modeling, Simulation and Control of an Adsorption Plant for Purification of Wastewater from Textile Fibres Colouring."

Kosimboy Mamurov is currently serving as project coordinator and interpreter for the American Bar Association/CEELI office in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. He will present a lecture, "Migration and Immigration in Central Asia (NIS)" on May 2nd, SS 318 at 12:40 p.m.

Classroom Resources:

Indiana University, as a National Resource Center, lends videos from its collection to institutions for classroom and curriculum development use. There is no charge; the user is responsible for postage and insurance. To view the list of their collection please visit their web site:

<<http://www.indiana.edu/%7Ereeiweb/index.html>>.

Russian Presidential Management & Entrepreneurs Team – Eric Thor

The Russian Privatization continues as the London Club agreement has been signed and scholars, business people and government officials are seeing a new beginning. ASU has been a leader in these changes. With the London Club agreement, Russian private sector can resume normalizing trade and financial transactions. This will allow management, entrepreneurs, and Western capital to connect with the Russian private sector. The AMFT unit, at the ASU East campus, had 10 private business owners on campus to learn about E-commerce, western business and banking practices and small business, as well as information technology and community linkages. These executives were mostly from the resource-rich Russian Far East.

In May, Eric Thor will host the Agribusiness Attaché from the Russian Embassy in Washington. The Attaché, Professor Sorokin, is also a member of the Russian Academy.

UKIM Exchange:

As part of the 2000-2001 ASU-UKIM academic exchange program, ASU will host two graduate students from Macedonia for one semester each.

Dragoslav Kocevski will work with Eric Thor in Fall 2000 on topics related to agribusiness management, production systems, and the transition to a market economy.

Jana Andreevska will work with Richard Haefer, School of Music, this spring. She is particularly interested in electronic music and music education.

Debra Neill, ASU graduate student in Justice Studies, will travel to Skopje to work with Todor Cepreganov at the Institute for National History.

Faculty News

Tetiana Balabushevych was invited to present two papers at the University of Kansas: "Education in Ukraine on the Eve of the Twenty-First Century" and "Ukrainian Question in Polish Politics After the Riga Peace." Dr. Balabushevych will be returning to Kiev at the end of the semester.

Stephen Batalden presented a paper, "Orthodox Attitudes Toward Minorities," as part of a panel on *Religious Minorities in Russia: Help or Hindrance to Development of Civil Society?* The session was a joint meeting of The American Society of Church History and The American Catholic Historical Association.

Visiting Fulbright faculty, Tetiana Balabushevych and **Dimitrije and Eleni Bu)arovski**, attended the Fulbright conference in Washington DC in April.

Tamarra Kaida received a Teaching Enrichment grant and a grant from the College of Fine Arts. She will be traveling to Moscow this summer to curate a Russian photography exhibition for Northlight Gallery, scheduled for November 6-December 6, 2000. She will again travel to Moscow in August to attend an Important Interphoto Conference for the purpose of starting a photography exchange with ASU.

Emil Volek has edited a Spanish selection and translation, with a substantive introduction, of the Czech Prague School

theoretician Jan Mukarovsky, *Signo, function y valor: Estetica y semiotica del arte* (Plaza & Janes, Bogota, Colombia).

NSEP Awards

The Russian and East European Studies area again produced the largest number of NSEP recipients from ASU. The following students were awarded NSEP fellowships for their research:

Debra Neill will conduct her research on interwar Vardar Macedonia at UKIM in Skopje.

Wendy Gerster, an ASU baccalaureate student in Russian, will be participating in the "Study Abroad at UKIM" program.

Bethanne Altringer, economics and psychology major, will conduct her language studies and research on transitional economics at Charles University.

Sean Smith, a political science major, was awarded a fellowship to participate in the "Study Abroad at UKIM" program.

Todd Katzner was awarded an NSEP Graduate International Fellowship to continue his zoological field research in Kazakhstan.

Congratulations!

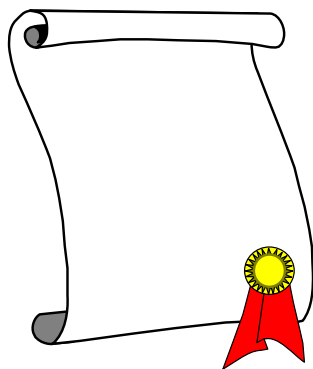
Student News

REESC Certificate Spring Graduates:

Allison Bryce, Agribusiness

Kameron Kerger, History and Russian

Anda Scafaru, English



Melissa Jones successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, "Augustine in Russia." She is the recipient of the Michael Steiner Memorial Award for the best doctoral dissertation in History.

Lydia Pyne, a history undergraduate, has been awarded a Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer Memorial Fund Scholarship in Jewish Studies. Her project title is "The Shtetl and Modernity."

Todd Katzner left for his fourth field season, studying a unique community of eagles at Naurzum Azpovednik, Kazakhstan. He is in the final year of his EPA STAR Fellowship. He has also received research grants from The Wildlife Conservation Society (International Programs; the Bronx Zoo) and the Wilson Ornithological Society.

Graduate College Research Conference

The ASU Graduate College approved funding for the conference, "Rediscovering Religious Identity: Christianity and Islam in Modern Eurasia." The conference, organized by Stephen Batalden and **Eugene Clay** and cosponsored by REESC, History, and Religious Studies, will be held in Spring 2001. Additional details will be available in the Fall newsletter.

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