The collected data are now being analyzed. Sevayan presented initial results at the CRCR-Armenia in early August and will use the data for her PhD dissertation.

Besides its scientific and policy value, the project is part of CePoD’s involvement in building a Center for Migration and Diaspora Studies in Armenia. More information about the project is available at www.asu.edu/cepod/research.

Danko Sipka, one of 11 nominees singled out for special recognition in the ASU Parents’ Association’s “Professor of the Year” award, has published A Comparative Reference Grammar of Russian/Croatian/Serbian (Dunwoody Press, 2007), and Priziv za grad ekoloških iniciativa pod presrdom Melikiana (http://melikian.asu.edu/events.php). In addition, he was recently named editor-in-chief of the Journal of the National Council of Less Common Taught Languages.

Natalia Anker-Lagos was recently chosen by American Field Service offices to participate in a three-week seminar in Egypt. Natalia left for the Egypt seminar immediately following her return in June. She was an NSEP fellow at Kazan University, where she was an NSEP fellow at Kazan University, in Skopje, and worked as an editor-in-chief of the metaleksikografske bibliografije (Macedonian 2007). Natalia Anker-Lagos, has published "Building Identity in Post-War Yugoslavia," Ph.D. thesis, "Jasenovac and Memory: Reconstruction of a Relic of Nationalism" (Buenos Aires 1973) into Macedonian on a CLI practicum, directly to Macedonia.

Corina Gilchrist (Tatar 2006 and 2007 and academic year 2006-2007) got married last weekend and is now moving to Connecticut to pursue graduate studies in linguistics. Amanda Greber, a graduate student in Slavic languages and literatures at the University of Toronto attended the UKIM-sponsored Macedonian Language, Literature, and Culture Seminar in Ohrid this year. En route to Ohrid she visited Alexander Reusing, a graduate student in Anthropology at the University of Michigan, in Skopje. Greber and Reusing studied Macedonian in the 2006 CLI.

Garret Halbach (Macedonian 2007) will be traveling from Ohrid, where he is studying Macedonian on a CLI practicum, directly to Senegal for the full 2007 semester to study French and Wolof.

Electronicna “Nica” Kolasa was presented the 2007 “Dmitri Kirilov Memo- rial Translation Contest” at the 2007 ASU Languages and Literatures Awards Banquet. Nica won the award with her translation of the preface to Olga Tisoveryeva’s Coon a menu novel (Buenos Aires 1973) into Macedonian.


Eric Palomoa (history and international studies at Trinity University), having just returned from the 2007 CLI Yerevan practicum, has left for a four-and-half-month working holiday in the Yerevan region of Armenia.

Shamilla Tribble, by studing Macedo- nian the CLI in 2005 and 2007, is a senior student at the Gilman International Scholarship to study in Moscow.

Cooperation with Melikian Center programming is a pleasure to note several milestones in the Center’s programming. Special kudos go to CLI Director Arianna Melikian, who in her presentation on Chekhov and teaching English at the International Academy of Business, has left for a four-and-half-month working holiday in the Yerevan region of Armenia. She has recently returned from the 2007 CLI Yerevan practicum. Eric Palomoa (history and international studies at Trinity University), having just returned from the 2007 CLI Yerevan practicum, has left for a four-and-half-month working holiday in the Yerevan region of Armenia.

This newsletter goes to press, the Center is in the final stages of negotiating with the Department of State to conduct a $500,000 citizens’ exchange of religious leaders between Arizona and the culturally diverse regions of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo. The exchange builds on a series of interlock- ing partnerships, including ASU’s Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict and its Religious Studies Department, as well as leaders in the Arizona faith communities. We are especially grateful for the support of Pastor Jan Flaaten of the Arizona Ecumeni- cal Council, Rabbi Barton Lee of Temple Beth Hillel Jewish Student Center, and Imam Sabahudin Cenan of the North Phoenix Islamic Center. Finally, the Melikian Center is pleased to note the arrival of a new partner in the person of Mark von Hagen, the incoming chair of the ASU’s Melikian Center. Mark chaired the Columbia University History Department and served as director of the Hartman Institute for Russian, Eurasion, and East European Studies. It is fitting that our calendar of fall 2007 events should open with a book-signing and welcoming session to honor Mark and his newly published volume, Russian Empire.

We also welcome this year’s Melikian Cen- ter scholars-in-residence, Ferkat Akboboev and Fullbright Language Teaching Associate from Bukhara, Uzbekistan, and Marija Jevanea- Mihajlovka, visiting academic exchangee from the English Department of St. Kaiil and Metodiy University in Skopje, Macedonia. We look forward to seeing you all and to the new year of Melikian Center programming.

Nica won the award with her translation of the preface to Olga Tisoveryeva’s Coon a menu novel (Buenos Aires 1973) into Macedonian on a CLI practicum, directly to Macedonia.
taxation. The translation projects are being conducted by Albanian linguists attached to the Center’s Critical Languages Institute. In addition, Arizona has joined with both the Society of Certified Accountants and Auditors in Kosovo — which functions as the Kosovo Chamber of Business and with the European Agency for Reconstruction to develop new, supplementary materials for trade agreements.

As Charles Christian noted during his initial visit to Pristina, “While we are learning in the process, ASU has the unique opportunity of putting its own institutional stamp upon the long-term development of professional accoutnancy in southeastern Europe.”

BALKANS & CENTRAL ASIA

Foreign Aid and Labor Markets in Transitional Economies

What effect have U.S. government foreign aid programs had on employment in the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia since the collapse of the Soviet Bloc over 15 years ago? There have been numerous studies of the effect of aid programs on the legal, political, and financial structures of the region in the 1990s (formerly transitional economies), the economic impact of foreign assistance programs is less well studied. The effects of foreign aid on labor markets are particularly poorly understood. There have been few systematic attempts, for example, to determine which types of programs create jobs most effectively. There have been few studies of labor market impacts of U.S. government programs.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

MARS Program Advances

With support from a U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs grant, The Melikian Center has been working with the University of Sarajevo to develop a new M.A. program in religious studies (MARS). The MARS program received formal approval from the University of Sarajevo Faculty Senate in 2006 and will add its first group of students for the 2007-08 academic year. ASU colleagues from the Religious Studies Department will travel to Sarajevo to participate in MARS seminars. Located at the University of Sarajevo Center for Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Studies, MARS will also be involved in the Melikian Center’s new exchange of Arizona and Balkan religious leaders. (See “From the Director” on page 1.)

CSRC Supports Pilot Survey

ASU’s Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict awarded a seed grant to Melikian Center faculty affiliates Brian Gratton and Steve Batalo to conduct a pilot attitudinal survey among Bosnian Serbs, Croats, and Muslims in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Arizona. That survey, now under way in Bosnia, is testing the hypothesis that religious conflict such as that arising out of the Bosnian War is more persistent in the emigration than in the homeland. Zilka Spahic-Siljak and Vuk Miljanovic, former scholars-in-residence at ASU, are assisting in the administration of the survey in Bos- nia. Preliminary results of the pilot survey should be available this fall.

MACEDONIA

2007-2008 UKM Scholar

Marija Janeva-Mijajlovskaja, professor of English Phonetics and Phonology in the Faculty of Philology at the University of Skopje, Macedonia, will be conducting research in Tempe this year as part of the 2007/2008 ASU/UKM Institute of Strategic Innovation. During her time in Arizona Janeva-Mijajlovskaja will be researching syntactic differences between British and American speech. She intends to incorporate the results of this research in her upcoming textbook, A Modern English Grammar.

RUSSIA

Labor Migration in Moscow and Arizona

Early next year the Center will join forces with the ASU Morrison Institute for Public Policy to hold a week seminar on “Public Policy Issues Relating to Labor Migration in Arizona and Moscow” for faculty from ASU and faculty from the Moscow State University Faculty of Public Administration.

Seminar attendees will review work performed under the auspices of the partnership and develop a plan for public dissemination of research results.

The seminar and the subsequent dissemination of results represent the final phase of a USAID/Russia grant to the Melikian Center to partner in the development of a new public policy research center, the Center for Strategic Innovation.

CLI NEWS

The 2007 Critical Languages Institute was the largest to date, with 90 students and 13 instructors in 14 courses covering eight languages (three levels of Albanian, two level each of Armenian, Bosnian-Croatian-Ser- bian, Macedonian, and Croatian; and one level each of Polish, Russian, and Uzbek). This is more than 40 percent larger than last year. Highlights of the summer included talks by Ronelle Alexander of Berkeley, Andzrej Tymowski of the American Council of Learned Societies, Debra Neil of the ASU History Department and James Melikian, local collector of rare Armenian books and artifacts; a teleconference with the Middle- burgh Russian program on applying language skills in intelligence and law enforcement by representatives of the Phoenix Office of the FBI; a multilanguage event showcasing student talent (from violin concerts to a Macedonian puppet show); weekly films and videos; and a series of presentations in which instructors shared information on popular culture in their capital cities.

Asgul Fatykhova, the Melikian Center’s Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) for 2006-2007, taught Tajik in the CLI and continued her enthusiastic work promoting Tajik language and culture at ASU. The CLI is pleased to announce the arrival of 2007-08 FLTA Feruz Akobirov. Feruz is from the ancient city of Bukhara in Uzbeki- stan, where he teaches American Literature and English language at Bukhara State University. Feruz will be offering courses in Uzbek to ASU students this year. He will also be hosting a Russian Table once a week in the Memorial Union (see the Melikian Center events page for details), and will be making a presentation on Uzbek culture during ASU’s International Education Week this November. To contact Feruz, call (480) 965-4188 or visit him in the Melikian Center, in Coor Hall 446.
The translation projects are being conducted by Albanian linguists attached to the Center’s Critical Languages Institute. In addition, a history of development work is being conducted by representatives of the Phoenix-based local collector of rare Armenian books and artifacts; a teleconference with the Middlebury Russian School; a presentation on applying language skills in intelligence and law enforcement by representatives of the Phoenix Office of the FBI; and a multiplicity of events showcasing student talent (from violin concerts to a Macedonian puppet show); weekly films and videos; and a series of presentations in which instructors shared information on popular culture in their capital cities.

As Charles Christian noted during his initial visit to Pristina, “While we are learning in the process, ASU has the unique opportunity of putting its own institutional stamp upon the long-term development of professional accountancy in southeastern Europe.”

**BALKANS & CENTRAL ASIA**

**Foreign Aid and Labor Markets in Transitional Economies**

What effect have U.S. Government foreign aid programs had on employment in the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia since the collapse of the Soviet Bloc over 15 years ago? There have been numerous studies of the effect of aid programs on the legal, political, and financial structures within countries (formerly transitional economies), the economic impact of foreign assistance programs is less well studied. The effects of foreign aid on labor markets are particularly poorly understood. There have been few systematic attempts, for example, to determine which types of programs create jobs most efficiently, or how local conditions (wars, levels of corruption, changes in tariff structures or visa regimes) affect employment.

As part of an effort to begin addressing these issues, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID, working through Higher Education for Development, HEED), has commissioned the Melikian Center to undertake a broad, independent investigation of direct and indirect job creation/job destroying effects of USAID programs in the region.

Three countries have been chosen for closer examination and for field studies: Bulgaria, a Balkan country which recently joined the European Union and where USAID has achieved its country goals and is closing its mission; Macedonia, a Balkan country where assistance is expected to be needed for at least another five years; and Kyrgyzstan, a Central Asian country receiving types and levels of assistance similar to those seen the Balkans in the 1990s.

**BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA**

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Marija Janeva-Mihajlovska, professor of English Phonetics and Phonology in the Faculty of Philology at the University of St. Cyril and Methodius (UKM) in Skopje, Macedonia, will be conducting research in Tirme year this purpose of the 2007/2008 ASU/UKM Scholar. During her time in Arizona Janeva-Mihajlovska will be researching significant differences between British and American speech. She intends to incorporate the results of this research in her upcoming textbook, A Modern English Grammar.

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The collected data are now being analyzed. Sevoyan presented initial results at a conference in Ohrid this year. He is also doing some private lessons; among his students is a high-place executive at the Aarat cognate factory.

Garret Halbach (Macdonald 2007) will be traveling from Ohrid, where he is studying Macedonian on a CLI practicum, directly to Senegal for the full 2007 semester to study French and Wolof.

Electronics “Nica” Kolasa was presented the 2007 “Dimitri Krisoukov Memo- rial Traveling Contest” at the 2007 ASU Languages and Literatures Awards Banquet. Nica won the award with her translation of the preface to Olga Tissevskaya’s Coon-a meno nov:coo (Buenos Aires 1973) into Macedonian.


Eric Palomar (history and international studies at Trinity University), having just returned from the 2007 CLI Vrıyem practi- cum, has left for a four-and-a-half-month CEEP program in Ankara, Turkey. There he is studying both history and political science, and language and international relations.

Corina Gilray (Tatar 2006 and 2007 and academic year 2006-2007) got married last weekend and is now moving to Connecticut to pursue graduate studies in linguistics.

Amanda Greber, a graduate student in Slavic languages and literatures at the University of Toronto attended the UKIM-sponsored Macedonian Language, Literature, and Culture Seminar in Ohrid this year. En route to Ohrid she visited Alexander Reussing, a graduate student in Anthropology at the University of Michigan, in Skopje. Greber and Reussing studied Macedonian in the 2006 CLI.

Cybsnogov (CLI Polish 2007) is looking forward to a year in Brno (Czech Republic). He writes; “Masaryk University in Brno [has] a very well developed School of Czech. I will be doing an entire year there. [...] I researched the program myself and applied directly through the school. There were other programs I considered, but several sources, including ASU professor Dr. Emil Volk, spoke very highly of the work being done by the Masaryk school. The application process was entirely in Czech.”

Erin Traeger has been chosen as this year’s ASU Exchangee to the University of Kałisz and Metod in Skopje, Macedonia for 2007/2008. There Erin will study how changes in the tax structure have influenced privatization and economic restructuring in Macedonia.

Shamella Tribble, who studied Macedo- nian the CLI in 2005 and BCS in 2007, has recreation. As this newsletter goes to press, the Center is in the final stages of negotiating with the Department of Grants to conduct a $500,000 citizens’ exchange of religious leaders between Arizóna and the culturally diverse regions of Bosnia-Hercegovina and Kosovo.

The exchange builds on a series of interlock- ing partnerships, including ASU’s Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict and its Religious Studies Department, as well as leaders in the Arizona faith communities. We are especially grateful for the support of Pastor Jan Flaanen of the Arizona Ecumeni- cal Council, Rabbi Barton Lee from the Hillel Jewish Student Center, and Imam Sabahudin Ceman of the North Phoenix Islamic Center. Finally, the Melikian Center is pleased to note the arrival of a new partner in the person of Mark von Hagen, the incoming chair of the Melikian Center.

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