REEEC would like to welcome Dr. Zsuzsa Gille who will be the interim director during Dr. Cooper's sabbatical. Dr. Gille received her PhD from the University of California- Santa Cruz and is currently an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Illinois. She is not only affiliated with REEEC, but also the department of Geography, Global Studies Center, and the European Union Center.

Dr. Gille has been evaluated as an excellent teacher in most of her courses at the University of Illinois and received a Davis Prize honorable mention in 2008 for her book, *From the Cult of Waste to the Trash Heap of History: The Politics of Waste in Socialist and Postsocialist Hungary*. She is responsible for an extensive body of work spanning materiality, sociology of consumption and waste, and environmental sociology. Her ethnographic work on Hungary strives to tie everyday experiences to larger global transformations. She has also co-edited a book with Illinois’ Dr. Maria Todorova on the post-communist nostalgia. Her next book, entitled *Of Paprika, Foie Gras, and Red Mud: The Politics of Materiality in the European Union* is forthcoming in Indiana University Press’ “Framing the Global” Series.

The REEEC community is pleased and honored to welcome her this spring semester.