Russia’s Challenges and Responses to Human Trafficking

by Nadezhda Azhgikhina and Natalya Ivanova

Nadezhda Azhgikhina is Executive Secretary for the Russian Union of Journalists and author/editor of twelve books in Russian and English on women’s issues, culture, and journalism. Natalya Ivanova is a lecturer in the Journalism Faculty at Moscow State University. Both participated in the REEEC Fisher Forum on “Commodity, Consumer, Entrepreneur: Women and the Marketplace” in June 2005. A longer version of this article appeared in the fall 05 issue of Illinois International which can be viewed online: www.illint.uiuc.edu.

against Transnational Organized Crime and its two Protocols on Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling. However, there was a long way to go before the existence of trafficking in women was officially recognized in Russia’s legal documents. Authorities in general turned a blind eye to mounting international pressure and alarmed signals from women’s NGOs. Only in the past 2-3 years have the government and the public started to recognize trafficking as an issue, largely due to the pioneering activities of the NGOs that threw a spotlight on trafficking and spearheaded prevention efforts in Russia. Organizations such as the Moscow Crisis Center “Sisters,” the Center Against Violence and Trafficking in People (Perm), and women’s crisis centers in St. Petersburg, Barnaul and Irkutsk sprang up to render assistance to victims of trafficking and educate at-risk groups when the government was not able to respond to the challenge.

The year 2002 became a landmark for Russia in the recognition of trafficking as sexual and economic slavery. The annual report of the Ombudsman for Human Rights in the Russian Federation for the first time referred to trafficking in women as a violation of human rights.

Continued on page 2

Director’s Corner

“Screens to Nature”: Bioprospecting and Alternative Medicine in Central Asia’s Garden of Eden

Mary Ann Lila is Professor of Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences, jointly appointed in the Division of Nutritional Sciences, as well as Assistant Dean for Research in the College of ACES and Director of its Global Connect program. The Central Asian institutions with which she is working include, in Uzbekistan, Tashkent State Agrarian University, the Institute of Cardiology of the Public Health Ministry (Tashkent), the Institute of Microbiology of the Academy of Sciences (Tashkent), and Samarkand State University; and in Kyrgyzstan, the Kyrgyz Agrarian Academy, the Kyrgyz National Botanical Garden, and the National Academy of Kyrgyz Sciences.

Stepping into Mary Ann Lila’s airy, high-ceilinged office in Mumford Hall on a miserable, rainy day in late October, I was immediately struck by the pungent colors and vivid warmth of the handmade Central Asian felt rugs, wedding hats, and women’s robes beautifully displayed amid the humming high-tech paraphernalia of the otherwise institutional space—gifts and souvenirs of her five groundbreaking research trips to Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan since 2003. Together with colleagues at Rutgers University, Lila was awarded one of five, five-year International Cooperative Biodiversity Groups (ICBG) grants from the National Institutes of Health’s Fogarty International Center, with supplemental funding from the National Science Foundation and USDA Foreign Agriculture Service, to conduct a collaborative investigation with over fifteen Kyrgyz and Uzbek scientists concerning the potential medicinal qualities of indigenous plants. This was, she told me proudly, the first time that such an award had been made to a project situated in a temperate rather than tropical

Continued on page 3
Russia’s Challenges—continued

That year saw the publication of *Trafficking in Human Beings: Social and Criminological Analysis,* based on research conducted by a group of Russian, American, and Ukrainian experts with support from the Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (TraCCC) at the American University, Washington, DC. The inter-disciplinary study focused on various aspects of human trafficking, including its social and economic causes, recruitment of victims, and pitfalls in Russian criminal and administrative law. It was one of the first attempts to generate recommendations to the Russian authorities on establishing prevention policies and streamlining control measures.

In October 2002, a working group for the development of a draft law against human trafficking was set up under the Legislation Council of the State Duma. The draft took into account available international experience and introduced concepts such as trafficking in human beings, victims of trafficking, exploitation, and recruiters, which were lacking in Russian legislation. The very concept of trafficking in persons caused a vigorous debate and led to the acceptance of the UN definition, which describes trafficking as the “… recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons” by improper means and establishes a direct link between trafficking and exploitation of human beings. The draft law marked a ground-breaking development in Russian legislation, as it defined the legal status of trafficking victims and envisioned measures of support and protections to which victims are entitled. It envisioned a remarkable degree of coordination among all levels of government and public associations and provided for the establishment of a high-level coordinating body, the Federal Interagency Commission for Combating Trafficking under the President of the Russian Federation. However, stalled in the corridors of power since its presentation in 2003, the draft law has yet to make its way to the lawmakers.

The situation improved somewhat in late 2003, when President Putin initiated amendments to the Criminal Code with two new articles penalizing trafficking in persons (Article 127.1) and the use of slavery (127.2). The new federal law, dated December 8, 2003, bridged the gap between Russian and international laws by authorizing the use of terms such as trafficking in people, slavery, and exploitation. The new law charged law enforcement agencies with the investigation of trafficking cases and the prosecution of ringleaders. In January 2005, another federal law, “On State Protection of Victims, Witnesses, and Other Participants in Criminal Proceedings,” came into force, guaranteeing protection to witnesses based on the model of international legal practices. However, the enforcement of this law faces considerable difficulties because it does not guarantee the privacy of information. Following the passage of the new criminal laws, the Duma initiated a program to monitor the implementation of anti-trafficking laws. There is, however, a major gulf between important legislative breakthroughs at the macro level of power in recent years and considerable corruption and negligence at the micro level of local agencies charged with enforcement.

It needs to be underscored that the absence of a separate federal law, the lack of judicial expertise and tools, coupled with low coordination and unreliable statistics, obstruct a systemic view of trafficking and impair the enforcement capabilities of new laws while Russia still remains a source, transit, and destination country for trafficking.

An overview of Russian media indicates that trafficking in persons still remains one of the least articulated problems. Despite the urgency of the issue and the alarming statistics provided by Interpol sources and independent experts, the Russian public appears to be largely incognizant of this problem due to the fact that mainstream print media and TV channels shun the issue of human trafficking. Scarcely any publications dealing with trafficking do not attempt a critical examination or in-depth view, which is also true of many other troubling realities in today’s Russia, such as rampant HIV/AIDS spread, flagrant human rights violations and gender discrimination.

Strictly speaking, the term “modern slavery” started to be used by journalists as far back as mid-1980s in reference to economic exploitation in Central Asia. About the same time, democratically minded media, which heralded perestroika, carried unprecedented publications “revealing” the existence of prostitution in Russia. Images of successful, glamorous prostitutes became popular in the yellow press. This contributed to the development of a new mythology essential to the glorification of paid sex and sex services.

The first well-founded publications addressing issues of human trafficking appeared outside of the mainstream media in alternative, NGO-run journals and bulletins, which did not reach mass audiences. In 2002, the Association of Women Journalists, with support from the US Embassy in Moscow, produced a specialized issue of the “WE” journal. This opened a serious discussion of trafficking, exposing Russian audiences to the expertise of NGOs, both Russian and international, in combating trafficking and trafficking prevention. However, while such publications generated a flurry of interest in the mainstream media for awhile, they were not enough to create a widespread public stance against trafficking. Journalists for the most part are not interested in educating the public, and the few publications which have dealt with trafficking run sensationalist stories focusing on the violence. A series of articles which appeared in Komsomolskaya *Pravda* in 2003 can be cited as an example of a sensationalist and ill-advised approach to investigating trafficking. A young female correspondent ventured to follow the trafficking route undercover among a caravan of Russian girls illegally taken by an Arab tribe across the Israeli border. The correspondent went through horrible violence, escaping death by a miracle. Cruel details of rape, humiliation, and physical suffering are abundant in the article, which does not lead to any meaningful discussion of how this was possible or what sanctions the traffickers will be subjected to. Piling up horrors, the article achieves an opposite effect of describing the trafficking situation as something unreal, far from ordinary life, something that could not possibly happen to “good girls.”

A widespread misconception prevailing in the public opinion and shared by both the media and authorities tends to lay the blame on the victims. A common response to the ever-present Russian question, “Who is guilty?” with regard to trafficking situations is, “women themselves because they knew what they were in for and they sold themselves to make big money.” Gender discrimination and stereotypes deeply entrenched in Russian culture transform the negativity of the situation into pejorative attitudes toward women victims and marginalize the problem as a personal moral issue rather than a criminal offence and flagrant violation of basic human rights.
which is a relative of goldenroot and which even in Western medicine is known as an adaptagenic. It is used for reducing fatigue, making you feel better, giving you energy, stamina. So we're looking at Central Asian relatives of these plants—different species of Rhodials that you harvest after the first snowfall. They're very, very potent. Two of the species have never been described outside some Russian-language publications or scientifically screened [before now]."

Lila's approach is rooted in indigenous knowledge. The US scientists first turn to local specialists for assistance in identifying plant materials that may exhibit exceptional promise when put through the scientific screening process. Because Western medicine remains prohibitively expensive for most Kyrgyz and

Uzbek citizens, they continue to rely on natural products, knowledge of which is seemingly passed from generation to generation primarily through the female line. These remedies are readily available in the marketplace. “We had the wonderful good fortune of being out in the national forest and running into a group of about twenty ladies and two older men wildcrafting,” Lila recalled. “They had these big burlap bags in which they were putting things—they knew exactly what they wanted for teas, salves, and tonics. And they had all that knowledge and it just seems to be the kind of thing that the mother passes down to the daughter.”

In a reversal of conventional bioprospecting procedures, Lila’s approach also brings the lab to the field, provides employment opportunities for local scientists, allows the Central Asian states to retain pertinent intellectual property rights, and ensures that most royalties from licensing agreements return to the host countries. “The typical method is to go out, scavenge wild plants in the countryside, bring them back home and test them in the lab, raping the land,” Lila recounted. “However, one of the key promises of our project is ‘screens to nature.’ We bring highly portable screens that as much as possible can do the screening on site, leaving further extraction and development of the plant material in the country so that full intellectual property rights are retained. In many of the huge bioprospecting programs throughout the world, scientists from developing countries come to America or western Europe, learn techniques for screening or how to do pharmaceutical efficacy testing, and then don’t return to their homeland, resulting in a brain drain. Our approach is to bring the expertise to the nations involved and do the training on site. The ICBG grant provides stipends for local scientists that may effectively double their usual salaries, so they’re very motivated to work. Thus far the program has been really successful; the learning experience has been tremendous and we’re making great progress with the project. For the amount of time we’ve had, it’s been amazing.”

“How do you imagine this project might evolve over the next several years?” I asked Lila in conclusion.

“The nice thing about this ICBG grant,” she responded, “is that it does have a very commercial bent to it—commercial for the sake of the host countries, that is, not necessarily for the US, although our partners, the pharmaceutical companies, are international in scope. The majority of the royalties go back to the host nations—that is written into the grant. So I see new pharmaceuticals available in the US as well as in Central Asia that will be effective against human health conditions for which we don’t have remedies at this point. These plant substances are used in the host countries extensively, but as you can imagine, you throw a root in vodka and let it soak for a month—the result is not exactly a standardized product. If we do the rigorous testing in the US, and find out what the active ingredient is, then we can standardize the product and have a compound and a formulation that is effective at every step of the way, one that can compensate for body weight, gender—whatever you need—to make sure that it will be effective in medical settings.”

In July 2007, Lila will host the annual ICBG conference as well as her Kyrgyz and Uzbek colleagues in Chicago. We look forward to making their acquaintance and to hearing more about their extraordinary research in the years ahead.

Donna A. Buchanan, Director, REEEC
Report from the Field:

Moscow

by Erica Fraser (PhD candidate, history)

As I prepared to embark on a fourth tour of duty in Russia in the fall of 2004 to begin my field research, I found myself inexplicably eager to again experience surly waitresses, pink floral wallpaper and cat-infested movie theaters. I did not, on the other hand, welcome the thought of stepping into the world of serious archival research, after hearing so many stories of frustration, woe and general trauma from graduate students and scholars alike who had made earlier attempts. It didn’t help that my topic—masculinities and political culture in the early Cold War, focusing on such open and friendly institutions as the military, nuclear science and the space program—was not exactly going to show up easily in the card catalogue at the Leninka.

As usual in Russia, however, I was pleasantly surprised. Not only were the waitresses remarkably unrobotic and even friendly (in downtown Moscow at least), but the movie theaters were chic, modern and utterly devoid of feline patrons. The wallpaper, alas, is still overwhelmingly pink and floral. More to the point, of course, is that I found almost nothing related to the documents promised in my research proposal, but instead stumbled upon a wealth of material that I never expected.

Acting on invaluable tips from Diane Koenker (“don’t be put off when Galina Mikhailovna takes an immediate dislike to you;” “appease her with tea and cookies;” “beg for Fond 47 and run!”), I was able to spend the next four months at RGASPI (the Komsomol archive) in a warm and friendly research environment, perusing a treasure trove of unexpected secret documents regarding the state’s disappointment with the training of conscription-age young men immediately following World War II. While post-1945 military archives are nearly impossible to access, the Komsomol reading room was among the joys of researching in Moscow. The daily tea parties and constant chit-chat with Galina Mikhailovna about the history of the Komsomol created a wonderful working atmosphere which I looked forward to every day.

On the RGASPI off-days I worked with memoirs and secondary literature at INION, the social sciences library. I knew I would like the place when I walked in on the first day to a downright warm greeting from the security guard. I presented myself to him as a Canadian student seeking a reader’s pass, and he immediately broke into a broad grin. “Welcome, Canadian girl!” he replied, arms outstretched. I glanced around for the cameras, but there were none; he was for real, and he greeted me just as warmly every day.

INION, the social sciences library. I knew I would like the place when I walked in on the first day to a downright warm greeting from the security guard. I presented myself to him as a Canadian student seeking a reader’s pass, and he immediately broke into a broad grin. “Welcome, Canadian girl!” he replied, arms outstretched. I glanced around for the cameras, but there were none; he was for real, and he greeted me just as warmly every day. Considering that only about ten people seemed to visit INION on any given day, I suppose I should not be surprised that he got to know me, but his friendliness was nonetheless appreciated. INION soon became my favorite place to work. It was well lit and stayed a comfortable temperature (two points it won over GARF), and, to top it all off, had what one French acquaintance described as “the best cafeteria in Moscow.” Despite accidentally ordering orders on my desk.

The third site where I worked was RGANTD (the archive for scientific and technical documents, including many pertaining to the space program), and as far as I could tell from their sign-in book, I was the first western researcher—and one of only a handful of any nationality—to work there in about five years. Galina Mikhailovna was instrumental in paving the way for that, and I quickly learned that enlisting one reliable ally such as her in the archive system went a long way towards ensuring a successful research trip.

Here, finally, was the Russian research experience I had been promised—unavailable catalogues and directors who insisted they did not have any documents I would want to see. The two staff members I dealt with most often were very friendly, however; it seemed I only had to prove my loyalty to them and their cause by not giving up after their first dozen or so rejections, and I would eventually get to see a catalogue, order several personal files of scientists who had worked with the first cosmonaunts, and actually receive these orders on my desk.

The entire process of persistence took about three months, but I later learned that this included time during which the director contacted the scientists’ families on my behalf to seek permission for me to use the files. Although the staff constantly refused various requests to my face, it seems they were in fact working behind the scenes to help me out. I am happy with the material I finally got to examine there, and I am very grateful to the staff.

I met several other North American researchers who had various access problems and personality conflicts with staff at the archives, but my experience was very positive. Moscow has changed a great deal since my first trip there in 1999, but at its heart it remains the same—an enigmatic place full of people who work hard, value their work, and are willing to help you if they see that you value yours. Now, if only they could do something about all that pink wallpaper.

Erica Fraser conducted her research in Moscow on a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) dissertation fellowship.
New Faculty Profile

David Cooper

REEEC is pleased to officially welcome David Cooper as a new tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Slavic Department this fall after two years as an adjunct professor. He specializes in Czech, Slovak and Russian languages and literatures. He received his MA in Comparative Literature, with a specialization in Czech and English literatures, from the Pennsylvania State University and his MPhil and PhD in Russian and Czech literatures from Columbia University in 2001 and 2004 respectively.

Cooper’s research examines the intersection of literature and national development in Eastern Europe. His doctoral dissertation, “Inventing a National Literature: Czech and Russian Criticism, 1800–1830,” traces the transformations of the concept of literature in relation to the development of the idea of the “nation” and demonstrates how a new paradigm of “national literature” replaced the more universalist, classicist paradigm in this period. He is currently developing his dissertation into a book, targeted at a broader audience beyond literary studies, which will highlight literary development as part of the nation-building and modernization process. A central question in Cooper’s study addresses why the concept of nation served as an effective tool for rethinking literatures in the early 19th century and what problems this new paradigm solved for those who developed it.

Cooper worked as a Peace Corps volunteer in Slovakia in early 90s and has an abiding interest in Slovak literature. In 2001 he published Traditional Slovak Folktales: Collected by Pavol Dobšinský (ME Sharpe), a selection of 50 Slovak folktales which he translated with commentaries. In addition, he is the translation editor of a forthcoming volume of poetry, And That’s the Truth, by Milan Rúfus, arguably the most prominent contemporary Slovak poet.

In terms of teaching, Cooper has developed a new course this fall on the contemporary East European novel entitled “Fictions of the Transition” and a popular undergraduate course on “Slavic Folklore,” which he has taught the past two years. He also teaches elementary Czech and is the coordinator of the Czech conversation table, an opportunity for students of Czech to develop and maintain oral skills. Before coming to Illinois, he taught Russian language at Columbia and Slovak language and culture at Penn State. In 2004-05, he served as visiting associate editor of the Slavic Review. His spouse, Valeria Sobol, is Assistant Professor of Russian literature and culture and Russian language coordinator in the Slavic Department.

Visiting Scholars, Fall 2005

Olena Betlii, who has a PhD in History from the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Ukraine, is a Fulbright visiting researcher at REEEC examining the discursive creation of historical regions in Europe.

Olga Gurova is a senior lecturer at Tver State University and researcher at the European University in St. Petersburg. She is a Fulbright visiting researcher at REEEC conducting research on the cultural history of underwear in Soviet Russia. She holds a PhD in Cultural Studies from the Russian State University for Humanities in Moscow.

Min-jong Yang, Associate Professor of Russian Literature at Busan National University, South Korea, is visiting REEEC during his sabbatical year to conduct research on Siberian folklore and shamanism. He holds a PhD in Russian Literature from Moscow State University.

Erica Lehrer is an IPRH Postdoctoral Fellow this year. Her research interests include: Holocaust culture, salvage ethnography in a post-Jewish landscape, revival of Jewishness in Poland, and memory and reconciliation. She holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Michigan. She will be teaching an anthropology course, “Managing the Past: Culture, Memory, and Reconciliation after Mass Trauma,” in the spring.

Natalia Yazykova is a Fulbright visiting researcher in the Slavic Department and REEEC. She is Professor of Foreign Languages and Director of the School of Education at Buriat State University in Ulan Ude, Russia. She is currently developing a Russian teaching manual/dictionary on higher education in the US.

Thank you!

REEEC would like to thank the donors who contributed to REEEC, the Summer Research Lab, and the Ukrainian Research Program in 2004-05:

REEEC/SRL
Arthur A. Bartfay
James A. Duran, Jr.
Ralph & Ruth Fisher
Frank Y. Gladney
James F. Goff
Julia Haw
Kenneth D. Hoffman
Jungil Kim
Ann M. Kleimola
Ljubo D. Majhanovich
Alelela M. McCleary
Carol R. Nekhemias
William D. Pederson
Christine A. Rydel
Merrily Shaw
Gary J. Thurston
Mary Fleming Zirin

Ukrainian Research Program
The Heritage Foundation of the First Federal Savings Bank
Faculty/Associates News

Dmitry Bobyshev published “Volnoj prichal”, poems, Novyi mir (4, 2005) and “Poems,” Zvezda (10, 2005). Last summer he gave a poetry reading and presentation on “Paradigms of Freedom” at the Akhmatova Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. He also received a grant from the UIUC Research Board for 2005.

Marianna Tax Choldin received the 2005 John Ames Humphreys/OLC/Forest Press Award, presented by the American Library Association’s International Relations Committee to an individual for significant contributions to international librarianship.

David Cooper presented “Translation, Competition, and Russian National Literature in the 1820s” at the “Translating Eastern Europe: Art, Politics and Identity in Translated Literature” conference this September in Columbus, OH.

Jonathan Fineberg published Christo and Jeanne-Claude: On the Way to the Gates, Central Park, New York City (2004). He has also been working with Russian artists Ilya and Emilia Kabakov on a course about their work he is teaching in Computer Science and Arts and Design. He is also writing a catalogue about Kabakov’s work for the Serpentine Gallery in London this fall. He has also been elected to the Board of Trustees for the Phillips Collection.

Lilya Kaganovsky presented “The End of the Silent Avant-garde” at a conference on the Russian Literary Avant-garde in St. Petersburg, Russia, in September. She received a fellowship from the UIUC Research Board for 2005.


Temira Pachmuss donated Greta Gerd’s 260 letters and a personal diary from Zinaida Hippius to the Swedish Royal Library in Stockholm, in accordance with Ms. Gerd’s wishes. Professor Pachmuss also donated letters, diaries, memoirs and other materials by or related to Hippius to the UIUC Archives and Library.


Anke Pinkert published “Waste Matters: Defilement and Postfascist Discourse in Works by Franz Führmann,” Germanic Review (80:3, 2005). She presented “Spektors of Utopia: Postcommunist Travel to America in German Literature of the 1990s” at the ACLA conference in March and “Can Melodrama Cure?: War Trauma and Crisis of Masculinity in East German Film of the 1940s” in the UIUC Feminist Scholarship Series in September.

John Randolph presented “Seeing the Empire through the Home: Domestic Space and Social Thought in Early Nineteenth-Century Russia” at the AAASS convention in Salt Lake City in November.

Mahir Saúl has an appointment at the Center for Advanced Study this fall.

Valeria Sobol is a Beckman Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study this year for her research on the cultural history of lovesickness in Russia.


Mark Steinberg published “Research and the Object of Research,” Antropologicheskii forum (2, 2005). He will also serve as the next editor of the Slavic Review for a term of five years after Diane Koenker, who served as editor for two consecutive terms, steps down in summer 2006.

Maria Todorova has been appointed the Lynn M. Martin Professorial Scholar for a term of three years in recognition of her scholarly and professional achievements. She presented the 2005 UIUC Humanities lecture entitled “Spacing Europe: What is a Historical Region?” in November.

Regional Faculty Associates News


Kyle Evered (Michigan State U) published with O. Turan, “Jadidism in South-eastern Europe: The Influence of Ismail Bey Gaspirali among the Bulgarian Turks” in Middle Eastern Studies (41:4, 2005).

Joel Ostrow (Benedictine U) was awarded a sabbatical this fall to complete the writing of a book, co-authored with Georgiy Satarov and Irina Khakamada, An Inside View of the Demise of Democracy in Russia.

Nancy Scannell (UI) was one of four recipients of the new IREX US Embassy Policy Specialist (EPS) Program. She will be stationed in Baku, Azerbaijan, this winter and will offer lectures at the US Embassy in Baku as well as conduct research on the country’s financial sector, specifically the banking industry.

Ronald W. Spahr (U of Memphis) recently changed positions from UIS and is now the Chair of the Department of Finance, Insurance and Real Estate at the University of Memphis.

Roshanna Sylvester (DePaul U) received tenure with promotion to Associate Professor. She published Tales of Old Odessa: Crime and Civility in a City of Thieves (2005).

Christine D. Worobec (NIU) presented “The Current Witch Craze in Russia” and “Witches, Sorcerers, and Demons in a Remote Corner of Contemporary Northern Russia” in a workshop, “Who Was a Witch? Russian Witchcraft in Comparative Perspective,” at Michigan in April. She also presented “Witchcraft Trials in Nineteenth Century Russia” at a conference on “Late Witchcraft Trials (Späte Hexenprozesse)” in Weingarten, Germany, this fall.
Andrew Asher (anthropology) published "A Paradise on the Oder? Ethnicity, Europeanization, and the EU Referendum in a Polish-German Border City," City and Society (Summer 2005) and "In the Laboratory of Europe: Governing the 'Europe of Regions' on the Polish-German Frontier" in Polska-Niemcy Pogranicze Kulturowe i Ethnice, eds. M. Buchowski and A. Brenz (2005:42). He received a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship for 2005-06 to conduct research in Poland and Germany.

Randy Dills (history) received a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship for 2005-06 and is conducting his dissertation research in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Angela Glaros (anthropology) was a recipient of the 2005 Beth Wilder Dillingham Award of the Central States Anthropological Society. She also presented "The Whole Church is Female": Gendered Space in Greek Orthodoxy" at the UIUC Feminist Scholarship Series Colloquium in October and "Performing Patriarchy: Gender Antiphanies in Greek Orthodox Liturgical Music" at the AAA convention in Washington, DC, in December.

Natasha Kipp (musicology) received an American Councils Advanced Research Fellowship and a IIE Fulbright Fellowship to conduct research in Azerbaijan this year.

Kate Meehan Pedrotty (history) presented "Visiting the Socialist Capital: Tourism and Cosmopolitan Identity in Belgrade, 1950-1980" at the International Association for Southeast European Anthropology (IASEA) conference in Belgrade in May. She conducted her dissertation research in Dubrovnik and Belgrade last year.

Maria Radeva (REES) presented "On the Road to the Golden West: Women Trafficking in Postsocialist Europe" at the UIUC Transnational Workshop "Transmigration" in April 2005 and "Normativity in Media Representations of Postsocialist Europe" at the UIUC Transnational Workshop "Transmigration" in April 2005 and "In the Laboratory of Europe: Governing the 'Europe of Regions' on the Polish-German Frontier" in Polska-Niemcy Pogranicze Kulturowe i Ethnice, eds. M. Buchowski and A. Brenz (2005:42). He received a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship for 2005-06 to conduct research in Poland and Germany.

Randy Dills (history) received a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship for 2005-06 and is conducting his dissertation research in St. Petersburg, Russia.

2005-06 FLAS Fellowship Recipients

Summer 2005
Margarita Akserlod (comp lit—Yiddish)
Karín Steinbrueck (REES—Turkish)
William Tindler (history—Russian)
James Walker (REES—Serbian-Croatian)
Jennifer Lundquist (history—Serbian-Croatian)
Ryan Haynes (musicology—Serbian-Croatian)
Lenore Puette (REES—Polish)
Katherine Sredl (IC—Serbian-Croatian)
Karín Steinbrueck (REES—Turkish)
James Walker (REES—Turkish)
Jennifer Young (anthropology—Yiddish)

Slavic Review Editorial Assistants 2005-06
Katya Balter
Erica Fraser
Rebecca Mitchell

Slavic Reference Service Assistants 2005-06
Emily Goodhue
Suleymen Sarihan
Tatjana Stefets

Incoming REEES MA Students
Sara Brinegar
Tony Demchak
David May
Andrea Michaelis
Lenore Puette
Angela Walters (Spring 2006)

2004-2005 Graduates
PhDs: Oana Armeanu (political science) Amy Blau (Germanic)
Theodora Dragostinova (history) C. Michael Elavsky (communications) Christine Varga-Harris (history)

REEES MAs:
Maria Galmarini Polina Golovatina Joseph Lenkart Matthew D. Wright

BAs & Minors: Nicholas Hryhorczuk (English/REES) Aleksandra Lukash (Linguistics/REES) Matthew Slabochn (Philosophy/REES) Dmitry Tupart (Russian)

Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center News

Editor: Lynda Park
Editorial Assistants: Colleen Galvin and Maria Radeva

The Center News is published bi-annually. We welcome your comments and suggestions. To be added to our mailing list, contact the Center at the address below.

104 International Studies Building, MC-487
910 South Fifth Street
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-1244 fax (217) 333-1582
reec@uiuc.edu
www.reec.uiuc.edu
## Noontime Scholars Lecture Series

**August 30**
“Land Record Reforms in Russia, Armenia, and Tajikistan”
**Peter Maggs** (Law, UIUC)

**September 20**
“Hagiography, History, and Sexual Violence in Bosnia”
**Judith Pintar** (Sociology, UIUC)

**October 4**
“Lichens Are Not Our National Treasure: the Battle over Science and Sustainable Forestry in Post-Soviet Latvia”
**Katrina Schwartz** (Political Science, University of Florida)

**October 18**
“A Vanishing Act: Communist Prisons and Post-Communist Romanian Discourse”
**Oana Popescu-Sandu** (Comparative Literature, UIUC)

**November 1**
“Russian Film-Media Research’s Substitute for On-Line ‘Britannica’”
**Steven P. Hill** (Slavic Languages and Literatures; Cinema Studies, UIUC)

**November 29**
“Making of the Body: Cultural History of Underwear in Soviet Russia (1917-1980s)”
**Olga Gurova** (History, Tver State University, Russia)

## Directions in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Colloquium Series

**September 22**
“Violence, Exile, and the Imagination, or How the Circassians Became Sex Slaves of the Sultan”
**Charles King** (Ion Ratiu Associate Professor of Government, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University)

**October 7**
“YU are the World: Some Things the Balkans Teach Us about Globalization and Democracy”
**Eric Gordy** (Associate Professor of Sociology, Clark University)

**November 10**
“Stretching Chekhov: Bishops, Buddhism, and Business Practices”
**Cathy Popkin** (Lionel Trilling Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University)

**December 1**
“Azerbaijan: Legacies of the Past and Trials of the Post-Soviet Independence in a Muslim Country”
**Tadeusz Swietochowski** (Professor Emeritus of History, Monmouth University)