FROM THE DIRECTOR

September 8, 2009

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Fall 2009 issue of the CREES Newsletter! In 2009 KU CREES programming has been focusing on the theme of “Protest and Revolution.” This newsletter covers an event-filled Spring semester and previews events scheduled for Fall, 2009, the “Fall of the Wall.”

During the spring semester CREES’ extensive lineup of events addressed the broad theme of “Changing the World: The Meanings of Revolution.” The highlight of the semester was the February residency of Moscow Conceptualist Vitaly Komar, whose interview with Olena Chervonik you will find in this issue. In April Professor Padraic Kenney (Indiana University) delivered the Backus Lecture on “Transition or Revolution in 1989?”


In this issue, you will find pictures and articles covering the spring semester’s Brown Bag talks, invited lectures, the CREES Professionalization Workshop, and the Teachers’ Workshop as well as other campus events centered on last spring’s theme of “Changing the World: The Meanings of Revolution.” As always, the CREES Newsletter brings you the latest news on our students, faculty, and alumni.

We welcome several people to CREES this summer and fall. In July Lisa Giullian joined the CREES team as program assistant. She has already been doing heroic work updating faculty biographies for the next Title VI grant application. We also welcome student assistant Wayne Keeton, who is majoring in accounting and has impressed us greatly with his hard work and dedication.

We also welcome to KU several Fulbright scholars – both degree-seeking and faculty researchers – from our part of the world. David Skalicky joins the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures as a Fulbright Lecturer from the University of South Bohemia. He is teaching beginning and advanced Czech language and “Totalitarianism and Literature in Central Europe.” Fulbright scholars Zannur Aliyev (Azerbaijan) and Anastasia Mishustina (Russia) will be working toward graduate degrees in Economics. Elena Dezea (Moldova) is a student researcher who will work with Manuela Gonzalez-Bueno (School of Education) on Curriculum and Teaching (TSEL). Denys Dorofey (Ukraine) will be mentored by Ted Wilson (History). Maksym Palamarenko (Ukraine) will be working with Erik Herron (Political Science) and ExxonMobil Russian Scholar Mikhail Tsypin will be working in Geology.

Two new professors are joining the CREES community this fall. Robert Rohrschneider comes to KU as Sir Robert Worchester Distinguished Professor of Political Science, and Rebecca Rovit is joining the Department of Theatre as a specialist in Yiddish theater. Professor Joseph Bradley, a modern Russian historian, will be a visiting professor in the History Department during the fall semester.

To commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the end of Soviet rule in Central Europe, October 16-17 CREES will host a conference on “Central Europe 1989: Lessons and Legacies.” Featured speakers include Central European film specialist Ve-
OCh: In different historical periods artists and poets have spoken about their artistic calling metaphorically. In the age of Romanticism poets saw themselves as prophets who mediated between the high and the low. Russian Symbolists saw the artist as a link between the mundane world and higher reality. And of course one can recall here a Socialist Realist formula of the artist as the engineer of human souls. Is there a metaphor that captures your understanding of the artist?

VK: I can use an old allegory from painting: the allegory of a monkey who is holding a mirror. My function as an artist is to conjure up such a mirror. But that mirror is actually distorted. It deforms to produce the grotesque. Some features that we normally do not see become obvious. I compare myself to the monkey who makes people look at themselves in a new way. This mirror creates distance and gives people the chance to see themselves in another light.

O: In many interviews you describe yourself as an outsider, an observer who does not participate in mainstream culture but watches it from the margins. Do you think that this outsider position gives you a better chance to see and expose cultural stereotypes?

V: Well, that is actually a continuation of the same mirror allegory: I have that distance that allows me to see better.

O: Why do you have that distance? Do you feel like the Other in American culture?

V: Being the Other and being distant are not the same things. If you create distance it does not mean that you automatically become an outsider. And if you don’t feel the distance it does not mean that you are the same as everyone else. I do not feel that I am the Other in American culture. On the contrary, I feel that I am a part of a larger family, which we call human history. I’ve always liked people who are interested in history, people who perceive somebody else’s history as their own. I feel at home with people who know and love history.

O: What kinds of myth and cultural stereotype do you detect in American culture?

V: When I first came to the West I quickly realized that freedom strongly associated with Western values is actually a mythical category. Of course, there is no absolute freedom. A lot of things that we do are predetermined. This is almost a theosophical problem – how much are we responsible for our own choices? The dimensions of freedom are also determined by the length of the rope that binds you. There are countries where the rope is very short. And there are countries like the USA where the rope is sufficiently long so that many people manage to live their lives never pulling the rope too tight.
Freedom is relative. But the rope is always there. It just can be very short or very long.

O: Judging by your own life and artwork, especially during the 1960s and 1970s when you were still living in the Soviet Union, you pulled that rope very tight.

V: That’s because the rope was extremely short. And it didn’t take much to make it tight. Every government is characterized by the degree of its irritability. In Russia the government has always been extremely irritable. Here in the US one needs to commit a real crime to get punished. In Russia it’s often sufficient to simply make a painting or write a novel to get punished. It’s always been a nervous government. Till nowadays. And even now it gets nervous over all sorts of trifles.

O: At the same time, many people in Russia, then and now, never wrote novels or painted or pulled the rope tight in any other way. You, however, have been doing it your entire life. Why?

V: In the 1960s and 1970s in the Soviet Union I was just doing something that seemed to be right. It was just a chain of small choices that eventually led to something larger. It’s hard to reconstruct now how it all happened. And another thing I want to add: do not think that it is very important to be in conflict with the system. There were various people against the Soviet system: fascists, for example, Islamic fundamentalists, Christians, and avant-garde artists – all of them were against the Soviet system. After it collapsed, they started fighting with each other. To be against the system does not mean that you were either bad or good.

O: It seems that the idea of a “common enemy” also applies to non-conformist Soviet art. Looking through the work of underground Soviet artists of the time one quickly realizes that often they have nothing in common except the fact that they were not officially recognized by the regime.

V: Yes, there were many disparate groups, ideologically or esthetically disparate. It’s like the Yalta conference – the same metaphor, and a bit like saying that the enemy of my enemy is my friend.

O: There were many modernists mostly exploiting the tenets of abstract painting. And there were people like you or Ilya Kabakov who created the Soviet postmodern. Were you able to relate to each other in spite of these differences?

V: We opposed our ‘common enemy’ and that was a uniting factor. Of course, we argued. But it was a pleasant atmosphere. We were not enemies to each other.

O: After the collapse, after losing your ‘common enemy’ have you remained friends?

V: Yes, we still get together. We have our shared experience, something to reminisce about. Often conflict is something imaginary because some people intentionally create imaginary enemies.

O: How do you spend your time when you aren’t creating art?

V: It depends on what you mean by ‘creating art’. I often think about it. Or I make small sketches. It’s not really work but it’s a sort of preparation. I love to visit museums and especially their cafes. I even thought of writing a tour guide of museum cafes and restaurants. For example, in Frankfurt’s Kunsthalle they serve excellent sausages. And Berlin’s art museum has wonderful meatloaf. I love to sit outside, on a cafe’s patio and watch the street. In such moments I feel like a hermit watching a river. Even if there are a lot of people around I still feel like a hermit. The best place to meditate is in a crowd. I once argued with a journalist who was trying to persuade me that it was not possible to live meditatively in the contemporary world because we are bombarded with information. I don’t think that is true – one can view this information as a waterfall, like water that is constantly flowing away. And I also like to have conversations.

Olena Chervonik, February 28, 2009
LAURA DEAN WINS 2009 ROY D. AND BETTY LAIRD ESSAY AWARD

Political Science Ph.D. Candidate Laura Dean won the 2009 Roy D. and Betty Laird Essay Award for her composition on sex tourism, titled “Implications of East European Sex Tourism in a Neocolonial Context.” Now in its 15th year, the annual essay competition is named after the late Roy D. Laird, a longtime member of the Russian and East European Studies and Political Science faculties, and Betty Laird, who established the award through KU Endowment. As a recipient of the award, Dean received $500, a book of her choice, a certificate and her name on a plaque outside the Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies office that bears the names of all previous winners of the competition. Fluent in Latvian, Dean is taking Russian courses to add knowledge of another language to her research tool kit. Her research interests include institutional analysis, women's studies, and post-Soviet politics.

Laird Essay Contest Winner Laura Dean (right), with Betty Laird (left), and CREES Associate Director Eve Levin (center).

Edith Clowes introduces speakers at the Professionalization Workshop, held on April 25, 2009.

REES Alumni shared their experience in finding jobs in several sectors. Pictured are, from left to right, Adrian Erlinger (The PBN Company), Darrell Kendall (International Research and Exchanges Board, or IREX), Randy Masten (Command & General Staff College), and Andrew Spencer (University of Wisconsin-Madison).
As I reflect on living in Central Asia, there are many different things that come to mind—the sight of the mountains from my apartment in Almaty, the heat and sunlight of Shymkent, the sometimes interminable taxi and train rides, and the sounds and smells of the local bazaars. I lived in Kazakhstan for over a year as a Fulbright student, studying Russian and doing fieldwork for my dissertation on regional variation in economic, social, and political change. The KU name certainly opened many doors during this time, as I encountered quite a few scholars who had been to KU on US-government sponsored programs. I even met up with several people from KU while in Almaty—Bart Redford, Erik Herron, as well as several students.

One of the first things that I observed after arriving in Kazakhstan was that the country is clearly benefiting from the burgeoning hydrocarbon industry. Luxury vehicles crowd the center of the former capital of Almaty, and the downtown is lined with high-end stores such as Armani and even a J. Lo boutique. Shopping at the Zelyoni (Green) Bazaar, it is not uncommon to hear English spoken as wealthy ex-patriots shop for their produce in this increasingly trendy locale. As Kazakhstan nears taking over the chair of the OSCE in 2010, there is an ever-present push by the government to be seen as a western and developed state.

But, when I stop and reflect on my experiences in Central Asia, these are not the things that first come to mind. Instead, what I can see before me are the many wonderful people who welcomed me into their life. Early on in the experience, a friend advised me to remember that I was not there to tell my story, but was privileged to enter into the stories of others. These stories are sometimes disturbing, sometimes funny, sometimes uncomfortable, and always remarkable.

My favorite moments in Central Asia were the spontaneous teas and dancing. Meeting up with a group of Turkmen schoolchildren in ancient Merv, Turkmenistan, a friend and I used our broken Kazakh to have a conversation of sorts. We were then invited to a traditional Turkmen tea with their teachers (who fortunately spoke Russian). We sat and talked for several hours, while the children came and sat next to us and laughed the entire time. On another occasion, my friend and I stopped for tea in the Pamir region of Tajikistan. We were soon invited to join a group of women celebrating the end of the work day at the bazaar, and were swept along to dance with them among the empty bazaar stalls. It was a laughing, joyous moment as these women just rejoiced in the music and the company.

Life in Central Asia is often not easy. Yet there remains an enjoyment of friends and family, and a warm welcome to guests. During my time living in the region, I was fortunate enough to develop several close friendships. These friendships allowed me greater insight into everyday life—not just those moments of celebration. I developed a tremendous respect for how people conduct their everyday life with a smile—no matter how trying the circumstances. One friend, a well-educated and highly respected university professor from Tashkent, Uzbekistan, crosses the border to Kazakhstan each week to teach in Shymkent so that he can make more than $200 per month. The border crossing is often arduous, with guards who try to collect bribes and who are often unfriendly to Uzbek citizen, yet he does this each week without complaint. After all, he says, he has a good job. This attitude is not uncommon and is always humbling.

This spring, I traveled back to Kazakhstan as part of a research team. We were greeted by my friends with tremendous warmth and hospitality, exposing those who had not been to Central Asia before to a taste of the traditional celebrations that mark everyday life. It was a joyful experience, as once again these remarkable people invited us to share in their lives and their stories (and their vodka). Sometimes it is a surprise to appreciate that twenty years ago we were on opposite sides of the Cold War. But, as an Iranian archeologist that I met in Turkmenistan said, “We are not our governments. We are simply people.”
SPRING 2009 EVENTS

REES graduation:
Professor A. Tsioukh, J. Biersack (MA), A. York (MA), Professor E. Levin, I. Yakhnis (BA), Professor E. Clowes.

John and Terri Van Orman play old Ukrainian instruments at the CREES Spring Festival.

Padraic Kenney (History, Indiana University) gives a brown bag lecture on the political prisoner in the modern world.

Edith Clowes welcomes the assembled to "Georgia and Russia: Dateline," a panel discussion by Professor Shannon O’Lear (Geography), Georgian Deputy Minister of Defense Vladimer Chachibai, and Professor Mariya Omelicheva (Political Science).

Natalie Bazan (Slavic) demonstrates to students how to decorate pysanky (Ukrainian Easter Eggs).
STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

STUDENT NEWS

Brett Chloupek, doctoral student in Geography and master’s student in REES, received a Boren Graduate Fellowship to conduct a comparative study for his dissertation of the geographic changes in Roman Catholic adherence in three western Slavic countries: Slovakia, Poland and the Czech Republic. Chloupek will concentrate on identifying the major periods of secular and sacral change, as well as the political, social, and cultural forces behind these changes in Slovakia. As part of the fellowship, he will also be engaged in an intensive study of Slovak.

Sidney Dement, doctoral student in Slavic Languages and Literatures, received both a U.S. Student Fulbright Program grant and a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation grant to travel to Russia. He will be in Moscow for nine months, beginning September 2009, to research author Mikhail Bulgakov’s notebooks and manuscripts for the novel “Master and Margarita” at the Russian State Library’s Manuscript Division in Moscow and to meet with leading Bulgakov scholars.

Alphild Dick, MA student in the Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures, received a highly competitive Title VIII Southeastern Europe Research Grant from the American Council for International Education. She will spend four months (August - December 2009) in Zagreb, Sarajevo, and Belgrade, researching biography as a literary genre in the post-war literature of former Yugoslavia.

Dezeree Hodish received a State Department Critical Language Scholarship for Russian language study. She spent the summer taking courses at Kazan State University in Kazan, Tatarstan.

Christopher Krampe, currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition and Organ, took part in the 2009 College Music Society International Conference in Zagreb, Split, and Dubrovnik, Croatia, held June 30-July 7, 2009. Krampe, whose main research interest is Croatian 20th century organ composers, delivered a paper entitled “Franjo Dugan: Croatian Composer, Organist, and Teacher.”

Theatre and film student Sandra Ristovska, who screened clips from her film “Kaleidoscope,” at a brownbag lecture on March 3rd, reports that the documentary was a finalist in the category of best documentary at the Region II competition for the Student Academy Awards. Ristovska’s ethnographic debut is a 43-minute video about changes in Macedonian folk culture as the country adapts to today’s global world. It premiered at the Skopje Summer Festival at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Macedonia in July 2008. It was then screened at the 41st International Conference of Macedonian Language, Literature, and Culture in Ohrid and the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Dortmund, Germany.

Shay Wood translated “Vilinus,” a short story by Slovene writer Klemen Pisk. His translation will be published in the Fall 2009 online issue of Fiction Fix, the literary journal of the University of North Florida.

ALUMNI NEWS

Let us know what you have been up to! Send your updates to Bart Redford, bredford@ku.edu

1987
Howard Solomon has, since April. 2009, served as Director for Russia at the National Security Council. As a Foreign Service Officer, Solomon earlier was posted in Austria, Moscow, and South Korea.

1990
Lyne Tumlinson is now Director of Career Services for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. In fall 2009 she was awarded her CAE (Certified Association Executive) by the American Society of Association Executives. Last year she was able to visit a Nicklaus-design golf course near Moscow.

1992
Melinda Farris now serves as Executive Vice President at the International Association of Operative Millers (IAOM), based in Overland Park, Kansas. IAOM was recently recognized by the American Society of Association Executives for its work in promoting flour fortification around the world.

1994
Major Scott McIntosh, USAF, recently returned to KU to deliver a brownbag lecture and speak to a class on geopolitics about his experiences while acting as Senior U.S. Military Advisor for the UN Observer Mission in Georgia in 2008.

2004
Jeb and Kristina Adams, both REES alumni, opened a language school in Kicevo, Macedonia. You can read about their experiences and their school at www.adams-education.com.
David Besson (Physics) conducted Collaborative research with Moscow Institute of Nuclear Research on the RADICAL neutrino detection proposal based at Vostok Station, Antarctica, in May 2009.


Maria Carlson (Slavic Languages and Literatures) was inducted into the KU Women’s Hall of Fame in April, 2009.


Edith W. Clowes (Slavic Languages & Literatures, Director, CREES) delivered a keynote address entitled, “Eurasia on Their Minds: Russianness in the 21st Century,” at a conference on “Constructing Nation: From Modernity to the New Millennium” at the University of Colorado, March 14, 2009.

William Comer (Slavic Languages & Literatures) was awarded a $5,000 Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence in fall 2009. The award recognizes his efforts to augment KU’s capacity to teach less commonly taught languages, his expertise in language-area curriculum development, and his work in the development of the Ermal Garinger Academic Resource Center. Comer will also be the 2009 recipient of the Distinguished Service to AATSEEL Award at the December meetings in Philadelphia.


Ronald Francisco (Political Science) reports the publication of his book Dynamics of Conflict, by Springer Verlag, 2009.

Jon Giulian (Slavic and Eurasian Studies, Watson Library), conducted research at the National Library of the Czech Republic on a KU New Faculty General Research Fund grant. He was also nominated for the 2009 Rosenbloom Teaching Award.


Erik Herron (Political Science) published Elections and Democracy after Communism? (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009). He recently participated as a researcher on a multi-institution project funded by the National Science Foundation addressing political party personnel issues. Herron also assisted the Open Society Institute in its recruitment and training of scholars from the South Caucasus and Central Asia.


Eve Levin (History) published “Tobacco and Health in Early Modern Russia,” Tobacco in Russian History and Culture: From the Seventeenth Century to the Present, eds. Mat-
threw P. Romaniello and Tricia Starks (New York: Routledge, 2009), and also received a Graduate Teaching Achievement Award, announced by the KU Center for Teaching Excellence in Spring 2009.

**Marie Alice L’Heureux** (Architecture) received a CREES course development grant to develop a course called “The Socialist City: Its Development, Form, and Future Prospects.”

**Mehrangiz Najafizadeh** (Sociology) received a U.S. Department of State Fellowship through American Councils for International Education to conduct research in Azerbaijan in Fall 2009.


**Mariya Omelicheva** (Political Science) published “Reference Group Perspective on State Behavior: A Case Study of Estonia’s Counterterrorism Policies,” *Europe Asia Studies*, 61.3 (2009), as well as “Global Civil Society and Democratization of World Politics: A Bona Fide Relationship or Illusory Liaison?” *International Studies Review*, 11.1 (2009). She also traveled to Astana, Kazakhstan, to conduct research for an upcoming book on counterterrorism policies in Central Asia, funded by a grant from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.


**Norman Saul** (Professor Emeritus, History) was a keynote speaker for the NEH Institute for College Teachers on “America Engages Russia,” sponsored by the New York Public Library in June, 2009.

**Irina Six** (Slavic Languages and Literatures) received a KU CREES Course Development Grant in order to develop new business case studies for use in her course “Russian For the Professions.”

**Alex Tsiovkh** (Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies) received a Graduate Teaching Achievement Award, announced by the KU Center for Teaching Excellence in Spring 2009.

**Svetlana Vassileva-Karagyozova** (Slavic Languages and Literatures), received a Hall Center for the Humanities Research Fellowship for Spring 2010 to work on her book project, “Communism through the Eyes of a Child.” The fellowship provides for one semester salary as well as $1000 for research.

**Nathan Wood** (History) received a $2500 ACLS East European Studies Conference Travel grant to present his paper “Sex Scandals, Sexual Violence, and the Word on the Street: The Kolasówna Lustmord in Cracow’s Popular Press, 1905-06,” at the international conference, “Sex in the Cities: Prostitution, White Slaving, and Sexual Minorities in Eastern and Central Europe.” The conference was held in Lviv, Ukraine, June 12-13, 2009.

**2009-10 FOREIGN LANGUAGE AREA STUDIES (FLAS) FELLOWSHIPS**

CREES congratulates the following 2009-10 FLAS Fellowship Recipients

**Summer 2009**
Vanessa Aldrich – Ukrainian – REES
John Biersack – Russian – REES
Cody Brown – BCS – Political Science
Alphide Dick – BCS – Slavic Languages & Literatures
Brett Chloupek – Polish – REES and Geography
Chris Krampe – BCS – Music
John Van Orman – Ukrainian – REES

**AY 2009-10**
Vanessa Aldrich – Ukrainian – REES
John Biersack – Ukrainian – Geography
Cody Brown – BCS – Political Science
Laura Dean – Russian – Political Science
Mylisa Jones – BCS – Slavic Languages and Literatures
Anne Kercsmar – Russian – Slavic Languages & Literatures
Mark Lanfranca – Turkish – Linguistics
Dezeree Hodish – Russian – History
John Korba – BCS – Slavic Languages & Literatures
OUTREACH UPDATE: TEACHING MODERN PERSPECTIVES ON THE MEANING OF REVOLUTION


SMA Curatorial Assistant Kate Meyer introduced teachers to revolutionary art from different parts of the world that are part of the Spencer’s print collection. After the gallery tour and a discussion, Moscow conceptualist artist Vitaly Komar, KU artist-in-residence, gave an impassioned lecture on his artistic and spiritual journey, entitled “Iconoclasm and Spirituality: My Experience as an Artist in Russia and the West.” Komar was followed by artist Hong Zhang, a Chinese native who now lives in Kansas. Her lecture, “Gender and the Three Generations,” gave a vivid overview of her artistic career. Zhang related her artistic view of the past, present, and future of Chinese women in both their native country and in the United States. Workshop participants had a chance to get to know each other better over lunch provided by the Kansas Consortium for Teaching about Asia (KCTA) and the Kansas African Studies Center in the beautiful museum lobby.

The second part of the workshop opened with the presentation, “African Art Today: A Window into African Expressions of Human Values,” by Professor Reinhild Janzen (Art History, Washburn). Janzen told educators and students a beautiful but poignant story about African art and its creators. She explained how a simple household object in Africa becomes a work of art and how a work of art that portrays everyday life calls for revolutionary change.

Powerful lyrical strains filled the auditorium during Professor Ketty Wong’s (Music, KU) presentation, “Protest Songs in Latin America.” Wong not only gave an impressive overview of Latin American protest songs from the 1960s and 1970s and their songwriters, but also displayed numerous Andean musical instruments that are used by local performers.

The workshop concluded with an open dialogue between educators and workshop participants about lesson plans. As a result of this productive and engaging event, five teachers chose to become teacher-scholars and wrote lesson plans for educational use. To see their “Art, Music, and Revolution” lesson plans, visit www.crees.ku.edu/revolution/lesson_plans_workshop.shtml.

BILL LONDON RECOGNIZED AS STAFF EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

In April KU CREES Office Manager Bill London was recognized as Staff Employee of the Month at a special ceremony held in Bailey 318. Bill has worked at CREES since May 2005, and is widely acknowledged as an island of stability in what is often a lively environment. As the office manager, he hires, trains, and supervises the student assistants and oversees much of the Center’s administration. Bill is popular with students and faculty alike, and not only because of the fact that, whenever they receive scholarships, payments, travel reimbursements, or awards from CREES, Bill is the one handing over the check! CREES Director Edith Clowes, in nominating Bill for the award, noted that he has worked with several different directors in the last few years and has been the day-to-day leader on the ground during the transitions. “He has provided a firm sense of continuity, initiative, and good cheer, working with and educating each ensuing director in the details of center management.”

KU CREES IS ON FACEBOOK!

You can find us by searching KU Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies. Become a KU CREES Facebook fan, receive updates on upcoming events, news items of interest, and network with other folks interested in REES activities.

Alumni have also created a KU CREES Alumni Facebook Group, which anyone can join. If you are a CREES alum, then join up and find out about reunions or alumni gatherings in your city. Or you can organize your own event and invite group members. Just search KU CREES Alumni on Facebook, and then join the group!
PREVIEW OF EVENTS

FALL OF THE WALL: CONSTRUCTING CENTRAL EUROPE

Friday, Sept. 25  Fall Mixer, 6:30-9:30pm, Train Depot.

Tuesday, Sept. 29  Brownbag: “Defending the Periphery: Tsarist Management of Buddhism,” Helen Hundley, History, Wichita State University, 12-1pm, Bailey 318.

Friday, Oct. 2  Film: “The Lives of Others” (Germany), 7pm, Bailey 318.

Tuesday, Oct. 6  Brownbag: “Aging and Community Development in Eastern Europe,” Laszlo Kulcsar, Sociology, Kansas State University, 12-1pm, Bailey 318.


Tuesday, Oct. 27  Brownbag: “America as Seen by Russian Writers,” Gerald Mikkelsen, REES, 12-1pm, Bailey 318.

Friday, Oct. 30  Film: “Man of Marble” (Poland), 7pm, Bailey 318.


Monday, Nov. 2  Velvet Revolution Week, Celebration of Czech and Slovak Culture.

Tuesday, Nov. 3  Brownbag: “Polish-Jewish Relations in Warsaw during the First World War,” Robert Blobaum, History, West Virginia University, 12-1pm, Bailey 318.

Tuesday, Nov. 10  Brownbag: “Campaigns Against Human Trafficking in Contemporary Russia and Ukraine,” Nadia Shapkina, Sociology, KSU, 12-1pm, Bailey 318.


Tuesday, Dec. 8  Holiday Party, 4-8pm, Clowes residence.

Friday, Dec. 11  CREES Stop Day meeting, 10-11:30am, Bailey 318.
After a serious illness, Professor Walter Kolonosky passed away on August 18, 2009, in Superior, Colorado. Walter was Professor of Russian Language and Literature at Kansas State University, where he had taught since 1973. Born in Shamokin, Pennsylvania, on January 16, 1938, he joined the Navy after high school and served for four years before attending Lycoming College. Walter received his MA from the University of Pennsylvania and his doctorate from the University of Kansas. In 1972 he completed his dissertation, *Andrej Sinjavskij as a Literary Critic*, under the leadership of Professor Joseph Conrad. Walter’s scholarship focused on modern Soviet writers, and in 2003 his book, *Literary Insinuations: Sorting Out Sinyavsky’s Irreverence*, was published by Rowman and Littlefield Publishers of Oxford. Walt was a member of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages. Walt also provided leadership to the Office of Study Abroad at Kansas State University, encouraging students to see foreign study as a valuable part of a liberal education.

Walter is survived by his wife, Patricia, his son, Jon, his daughter Julie, and his grandson Nicholas.

The University of Kansas
Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies
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*REES 110 Russian partners from Arkhangelsk show how they dressed up for “Kansas Day.”*