LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is that time of year when we look back at the summer that has just slipped away and reflect on how we should have relaxed more, enjoyed the plethora of outdoor activities more, and perhaps put more time into research and writing uninterrupted by classroom responsibilities. It is also a time when we set our sights on new goals, projects, and objectives for the upcoming semester and academic year. For the CREES staff, working on the next Title VI application will be the primary focus of the Fall semester. In light of the growing importance placed by the Department of Education, other granting agencies, and KU administration on the ability of public fund recipients to demonstrate how they meet public demands, we decided to dedicate this newsletter to the topic of assessment and evaluation in higher education.

But before we get to our feature article…

The pace of CREES activities was decidedly different during the summer. Still, the Center was a hopping place during the sizzling months. We began with a REES faculty retreat in early June, which resulted in a wealth of great ideas for the future of the Center; themes for the next Title VI grant proposal, and constructive solutions to the challenges we are likely to face in the years to come.

Together with other KU NRCs and CGIS, we began preparing for the next Title VI competition through a series of meetings coordinated by the Hall Center: At these meetings, we discussed future joint activities of the area and international studies centers, and coordinated our work on the Title VI budgets, faculty bios, and consolidated lists of the centers’ faculty, lecturers, and staff. We also met with the CLAS leadership to clarify the College’s commitments to international and area studies programs.

With the help of the Hall Center; KU NRCs and CGIS were able to secure support from KU CR in the amount of $25,000 to team up with the KU Center for Public Partnerships and Research (School of Education), which began assisting the Centers with the overview, design, and implementation of the Title VI grant proposal’s evaluation component.

Also during the summer I agreed to a five-year term as CREES Director; and would like to take this opportunity to thank the CREES Community for entrusting me with this role, and I would also like to thank the REES 2012-13 Executive Committee (Bill Comer, Ron Francisco, Geoff Husic, Eve Levin, Stephen Dickey, Alex Diener, Marie-Alice L’Heureux, and Matt Cotton) and Marc Greenberg for handling the CREES Director search.

The third wave of transition to the Shared Service Centers (SSC) that involved area studies, international, and interdisciplinary programs was implemented in the summer as well. Tim Spencer is now our SSC Accounting Specialist, and Cathy Swenson-Tucker, our indispensible former office manager and accountant, has moved to the SSC and been tasked with pre- and post-award grant services. CREES hired a new office manager – Anna Hurst – whom we will share with the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. A KU alumna, Anna shares our enthusiasm for international and area studies, and brings with her remarkable office managerial skills acquired during her work with Alternative Spring Break and Sophia Global.

The CREES office space was spared from too many major changes, although there have been a few new reassignments for CREES lecturers and staff. We tip our hats to CEAS and KASC, who moved their offices around, and most especially to CGIS, who moved from Blake to Bailey Hall. The good news is that now all the international and area studies centers are cohabiting under the same roof.

Stop by the 2nd and 3rd floors of Bailey Hall sometime and check out the new offices and space! CREES cyberspace underwent a drastic overhaul this summer: Check out the new CREES website, which recently transitioned to the University-wide CMS system: crees.ku.edu. CREES staff led the creation of a new FLAS website (flas.ku.edu) and worked with CLAS IT to upgrade the online application using lessons learned from the previous year’s pilot application. Now foreign language students will be able to access information about FLAS and successfully apply for the scholarship using a platform that is user-friendly and easy to navigate. CREES also increased its social media presence by creating a LinkedIn group, which already has well over 75 members in the short time since its creation. The LinkedIn group will be invaluable this fall when we launch our biennial alumni survey, allowing us to reach a wider audience.

We are looking forward to an exciting and eventful fall semester. Four new Masters students will join the REES MA program. We would also like to welcome new REES faculty: Dr. Vitaly Chernetskly, who joined the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, and Esra Predolac (ABD, Cornell University), our new lecturer of Turkish language.

We will begin the semester with our annual Fall Mixer; so mark your calendars for September 6th (5-8pm), and come mingle with faculty and students at the Lawrence visitor Center Train Depot. On September 28th, CREES in collaboration with CGIS, Johnson County Community College, Spencer Museum of Art, and the Lied Center of Kansas, will present the cross-curricular educator workshop “Tactile Turkey” as part of the Lied Center’s Caravanserai project.
In October, CREES will take part in the International Area Studies Film Festival dedicated to this year’s NRC theme of Peace and Conflict. For our annual Palij Lecture, we will host renowned Ukrainian writer Yuri Vynnychuk, and within the same month also host a prominent scholar of identity conflict, Karina Korostelina.

Academic years 2014-18 will mark the 100th anniversary of World War I. As a member of the KU Planning Committee for WWI Centennial Commemoration, CREES has been actively participating in the development of events and programming commemorating this momentous event in REES, US, and world history. KU WWI Centennial Commemoration activities will officially begin in January 2014. Please follow the most recent development on WWI commemoration activities and events on the KU WWI Blog: www.kuwwi.wordpress.com

And, now, I hope you enjoy this edition of the CREES Newsletter and please let us hear your news! Write to us at: crees@ku.edu and don’t forget to send your pictures from the REES region for the CREES photo contest.

Mariya Omelicheva
CREES Director

CONTEST DETAILS
- Photographs must be from Russia, Eastern Europe or Eurasia.
- Each contestant may submit up to 6 photographs.
- Contestants must be current KU students, faculty, staff, visiting scholars or REES alumni.
- Submit photographs to crees@ku.edu, subject line: “Photo Contest.”

DEADLINE
Friday, October 18th, 2013

THE RULES
Photos must be submitted electronically via the crees@ku.edu email address. Prints and paper copies will not be accepted. To be eligible for consideration, captions must accompany all submissions. Captions should include the subject(s) of the image, the location where the image was taken, the approximate date when the image was taken, and the name of the photographer(s) as well as their affiliation to KU.

THE REGS
By submitting a photo, you grant CREES non-exclusive rights to reprint or reproduce the image in support of the CREES mission. Submitted photos may be posted on the internet, used in newsletters, reports, slide shows, displays, and the like. Winning photos may also be resubmitted to other, KU-related photo contests.
Upholding the title of a National Resource Center (NRC) is not an easy task. This prestigious designation given by the US Department of Education (DoE) requires an area studies center to demonstrate the capacity to serve as an incubator for US language and area studies expertise. The allocation of Title VI funds used to support NRCs has been contingent upon the demonstrated ability of the area studies centers to support instruction in academic fields needed to provide a complete understanding of foreign countries and regions, which includes effective training in relevant modern languages. Today’s NRCs also include a strong elementary and secondary K-12 outreach component, and service to professional schools and various local, regional, and national constituencies.

A proud recipient of Title VI NRC status, the KU Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies (CREES) has cultivated a reputation for strong academic programs, diverse and vibrant outreach and event programming, high quality faculty hires, and engaged students and alumni. As many in the CREES community can attest, we embody the spirit of what an NRC is supposed to stand for.

But how do we know it? How can we demonstrate CREES accomplishments to others?

It is no coincidence that in the age of budget shortfalls and funding cuts, an increasing emphasis is being placed on accountability for resources. The recipients of public and private funds must now spend more time collecting, reviewing, and using information to determine the impact of their activities, and to make informed decisions about the allocation of funds to meet the mission, vision, and values of both donors and institutions.

Just as CREES must present the DoE with a proven track record of excellence in order to be considered for Title VI funds, so too must the DoE’s International and Foreign Language Education (IFLE) office demonstrate the value and impact of its projects to Congress to secure public funds for Title VI programs. In general, from both within the university and from external agencies (grant-giving foundations, educational and accreditation boards, federal...
and state legislators, etc.) there has been an increasing demand to account for what we are doing in academia.

Rather than viewing assessment requirements as an additional administrative hurdle, CREES perceives this movement in higher education as an opportunity to develop strategies and methods for improving its programs. For several years now, CREES has been in the development phase and is now implementing a comprehensive framework for assessing its activities. This framework is part of a more ambitious effort at nurturing an organizational environment, which places a high premium on systematic and verifiable documentation of the Center’s performance. This structure encourages activities and services that are designed and delivered in ways that fulfill desired institutional goals, thereby meeting the demands of various stakeholders and maximizing positive outcomes. In this environment, CREES faculty and staff rely on assessment data for continuous improvement of the outcomes of student learning and efficacy of CREES programs.

A comprehensive framework for assessing the Center’s activities utilizes traditional evaluative methods, as well as new tools for measuring CREES academic and outreach outcomes. These tools and methods include: MA portfolios, undergraduate capstone papers, academic program entry and exit questionnaires, pre- and post-event surveys, annual programming polls, and social media metrics.

Each tool attempts to strike a balance between qualitative and quantitative assessment strategies, and move toward the measurement of event impact and content acquisition. In this newsletter, we share selected findings from recent programming and events polls, MA exit surveys, and CREES social media metrics. We also introduce the results of a study carried out with the support of the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTA) that showcases one of our new academic evaluation methods, the REES MA portfolio.

The gathering of meaningful data would not be possible without CREES faculty and student participation in our surveys and inquiries. Your sincere, timely, and constructive feedback is the key to CREES success!

**THE REES MA PORTFOLIO**

**AN ALTERNATIVE TO TRADITIONAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION METHODS IN AREA STUDIES PROGRAMS**

For former REES MA students, the traditional masters exam or “comps” marked a rite of passage. In this grueling test of academic prowess, students had to write informed responses to 3 questions from different disciplinary fields constituting the REES program: political science, history, literature & arts, geography/economics/business, and philosophy & religion. These answers were reviewed and graded by a faculty committee, determining whether or not the student had achieved a mastery of the REES world area.

Other than academic fortitude and the ability to write for 3 hours straight, what did these exams truly assess?

Summative evaluations such as MA theses, and comprehensive exams continue to be among the most frequently used assessment techniques in area studies programs. These assessment methods are cost-effective, easy to integrate into program assessment frameworks, and familiar as traditional evaluative tools.

Recent studies have shown, however, that comprehensive exams, in particular, often fail to adequately show the depth and extent of students’ integrative learning and cultural competency, two qualities that are the hallmark of interdisciplinary area studies programs. These traditional methods tend to shortchange the process of learning in favor of the products of learning, and leave little room for students’ input or self-reflection.

Recognizing the deficiencies of the written MA close-book exams, the REES Executive Committee decided to replace them with MA Portfolios, a collection or sampling of student work produced over the duration of an MA program.

The primary mission of the REES MA academic program is simple: to provide a comprehensive interdisciplinary introduction to Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia with language competency and skills appropriate for an area expert. The REES MA portfolio was designed with the view of allowing the students to showcase their knowledge of the history, cultures, societies and politics of the region and demonstrate their cultural competency and language proficiency. The six elements of the portfolio are:

- three samples of scholarly writing;
- a synthetic essay;
- a professional essay; and
- a capstone paper.

These elements cumulatively represent students’ academic progress related to the primary mission of REES, and provide evidence of their self-evaluation, reflection, and goal-setting. The samples of students’ academic performance and other components of the MA portfolio are read by a committee of three faculty members, and tested through a 90-minute oral examination at the end of the student’s final semester.

To determine whether or not the MA portfolio was indeed a more effective evaluation tool than the traditional exam, three independent raters examined the components...
of the MA Portfolios using AAC&U rubrics on Intercultural Awareness and Integrative Learning. The comparative sample included the first set of five REES MA Portfolios produced in Spring 2012 and five MA exams from the two previous spring semesters.

The findings suggest that, in terms of intercultural awareness, student portfolios demonstrated significantly higher levels of learning in five out of six of the rubric’s elements (See Figure 1). In other words, students demonstrated higher levels of:

1. Knowledge and engagement with multiple cultural frameworks
2. Interpreting cultural experiences from more than one worldview
3. Articulating their understanding
4. Asking complex questions about other cultures
5. Demonstrating interest in knowing more about people from different contexts and cultures.

Moreover, this implies that after changing to the portfolio format, students were more likely to meet the REES goal of demonstrating broad knowledge of the history, cultures, societies, and politics of the region.

Next, the raters compared the average scores in each element of the Integrative Learning rubric (see Figure 2). In this case, results show that the student portfolios demonstrated significantly higher levels of learning in two of five elements: Connection to Discipline and Transfer of Skills, Abilities, Theories, and Methodologies. In other words, results showed that the MA portfolio was more effective in capturing students’ abilities to demonstrate their interdisciplinary approach and make connections across multiple perspectives.

The analysis of scores from three independent raters showed that the MA Portfolio is a more effective method of assessment than the traditional exam. Not only is the portfolio method of assessment better aligned with the primary mission of REES, but it also allows for capturing student learning across the years in their MA program.

Additionally, the portfolio process itself develops certain skills and raises student awareness about the merits of interdisciplinary education, enhances their cultural competency, and provides an opportunity for self-assessment of their accomplishments.

While the rite of passage for REES MA graduates may have changed, the goal of producing qualified area studies experts with demonstrated global competency remains the primary mission of CREES. And with the MA portfolio, there is opportunity for greater engagement of students in their learning and greater flexibility in demonstrating how they accomplish learning goals.

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**Funding sources for recent REES MA students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Year FLAS</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer FLAS</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall or Spring FMSO GRA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer FMSO GRA</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian Review GRA</td>
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<td>Jarosewycz Award</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palij Award</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norman E. Saul Travel Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bramlage Scholarship</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Academic Year FLAS**

- Academic Year FLAS: $20,000
- Summer FLAS: $3,000
- Fall or Spring FMSO GRA: $4,500
- Summer FMSO GRA: $4,000
- Russian Review GRA: $3,500
- Jarosewycz Award: $5,000
- Palij Award: $1,500
- Norman E. Saul Travel Grant: $2,000
- Bramlage Scholarship: $1,000

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**NUMBERS**

461 alumni have graduated with a KU degree in Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies, or its historical equivalent.

33 percent of REES graduates are Foreign Area Officers (FAOs).

73 percent of program costs are covered by CREES funding sources, estimated 2013 REES MA graduates.

597 online users “liked” the CREES Facebook page as of July 2013.

2,318 is the number of times videos have been viewed on the CREES Youtube page since it was created in October 2012.

8,573 unique online visits to the CREES website in one year.

**Top 3 Most Viewed YouTube Videos**

- Brownbag: “Katyn and Smolensk Plane Crash,” Anna Cienciala (4/10/12), 189 views.
- Brownbag: “Ferghana Valley in Imperial Times,” Yulia Uryadova (4/17/12), 104 views.

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**CREES IN NUMBERS**
OPEN ACCESS KU Slavic Librarians support Open Access to scholarly communication through KU ScholarWorks and the 2012 Slavic Librarian’s Summit. Geoff Husic and Jon Giullian help manage communities in KU ScholarWorks (KUSW) for CReES, Middle East, and European Studies. The number of submissions by faculty in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures (318) and CReES (301) place these communities in the top 10 KUSW communities—nos. 7 and 8 respectively.

During the 2012 Slavic Librarians’ Summit, KU Libraries and CReES participants discussed Open Access as an alternative publishing model to address the rising cost of scholarly journals. Led by Michael Biggins (Slavic Librarian at the University of Washington and former KU South Slavic Bibliographer), this discussion provided the impetus for articles in the June issue of the ASEES newsletter, NewsNet, that give four different perspectives on Open Access.

BY THE NUMBERS KU’s Slavic and Eurasian Studies (SES) collection is steadily approaching 500,000 volumes. This is a major milestone for the collection, which was previously categorized as medium-sized collection based on the scale of a 2004 survey: Large = over 500,000, Medium = 150,000-400,000, Small = less than 150,000. As we gear up for the next Title VI grant competition, we will be compiling data including total volumes, volumes by language/region, overall library funding for REES-related collections and services, and outreach to institutions in Kansas and the Great Plains region.

BUDGET The funding situation for KU Libraries is bleak. The book fund for Slavic and Eurasian Studies will undergo a 10% reduction for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. Most other book funds were also cut by 10% or more. These reductions are essential in order to address a projected shortfall of $300,000 over the next three years. Additionally, the Libraries are currently reviewing high-cost/low-use serial subscriptions for cancelation. Four SES-related journals have been recommended for cancelation:

<table>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Usage (3-yr avg)</th>
<th>Cost per use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post-Communist Economies</td>
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<td>$202.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion, State &amp; Society: the Keston Journal</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$90.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolutionary Russia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$189.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scando-slavica</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$90.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DATABASES In Fall 2013, the Libraries’ SES department plans to run trials of several electronic databases or digital archives. Faculty participation in testing these databases provides user feedback that informs the decision about which database(s) to acquire. Information will be forthcoming. If you have preferences based on subject matter, please send feedback to Jon Giullian at giullian@ku.edu. Trials will be conducted for the following:


- Stalin Digital Archive (SDA) - [tentative]: “a collaborative project between the Russian State Archive of Social and Political History (RGASPI) and Yale University Press, the SDA provides access to materials from Stalin’s personal archive and monographs on the history of Soviet and international communism.” Because of the prohibitive cost of SDA (in excess of $20,000) I have held off a request for a trial until the full product becomes available. Additionally, recent testing by Slavic library colleagues has identified certain limitations of the database. A trial of SDA may occur in the near future depending upon whether improvements have been made to the product.

- Labirint: Russian Online Reference Database: This database includes over 40,000 reference articles and 26,000 biographic entries covering political parties, state bodies, public and commercial organizations, mass media; non-governmental and international organizations operating in Russia; state officials at federal and regional levels; data on all main administrative units; chronology of political events; election results and statistical information.

- Iskusstvo Kino Digital Archive captures the complete run (1931-2012) in full-image and fully searchable text. KU’s print holdings go back to 1960 only.

INSTRUCTION In 2013 faculty from French, German, and Slavic language and literature departments will partner with librarians to teach a joint-introduction to graduate study for incoming graduate students in the three departments. Faculty will be assisted by librarians for French, German, Slavic, Spencer Research Library, Instructional Design, and Scholarly Communications.

Malgorzata Stamm has created a new research guide (Libguide) dedicated to Polish Culture and Society. The guide provides an overview of Poland, online cultural resources, and recommended resources made accessible through the Libraries and will be available beginning fall 2013.

CONTACT For assistance with library research or purchase requests, feel free to stop by Watson 519, call, or send us an email: Jon Giullian (giullian@ku.edu)—for Russia, Ukraine, Czech & Slovak Republics, Baltics republics, and the Caucasus; Geoff Husic (husic@ku.edu)—for Linguistics, Balkans, Middle East, and Central Asia; Malgorzata Stamm (mstamm@ku.edu)—for Poland.

ORGANIZATION Beginning May 1, 2013, KU Libraries redesigned its organizational structure. As part of this reorganization, International Area Studies now resides in the Distinctive Collections Division along with the Spencer Research Library’s Special Collections, Kansas Collection, and University Archives; Conservation Services, and Digital Collections.

PERSONNEL Jon Giullian was recently appointed to serve as Head of International Areas Studies (IAS) effective during Fiscal Years 2013-2015. He serves at the pleasure of the Dean of Libraries. Also, please join us in welcoming Betsaida M. Reyes, Librarian for Spanish, Portuguese, Latin American, and Caribbean Studies to the Libraries’ International Area Studies (IAS) department. Her appointment began on June 9, 2013.
CREES OUTREACH

UPCOMING EVENTS

TACTILE TURKEY EDUCATOR WORKSHOP

Perfect for K-16 educators, this free workshop is intended to increase global competency through the study of Turkish current events, history, architecture, design, art, and music.

Join us for morning lectures by experts from the University of Kansas and Johnson County Community College as they discuss current events in Turkey, as well as the historical context of visual language and geometric symbolism in Turkish architecture and textiles. Participate in a Working Group led by a curriculum specialist on how to create cross-curricular, interdisciplinary lesson plans. Be treated to a private tour of the Spencer Museum of Art’s Teaching Gallery, and participate in a curriculum activity.

The workshop will conclude with celebrated Turkish musician and Lied Center Caravanserai artist, Omar Faruk Tekbilek. This world famous musician will introduce traditional Sufi, folk, and contemporary music that celebrates Turkey’s rich cultural and musical heritage. This demonstration and lecture is open to the public, so invite your friends, family & students! Members of the community are welcome to attend – seats on a first come, first served basis; registration for the concluding event is not required.

This workshop is held in association with the Lied Center’s Caravanserai project, an innovative cultural exchange program made possible by a grant from ArtsMidwest. The Caravanserai project creates new pathways for Americans to experience the diversity of contemporary Muslim art by introducing audiences to exciting and dynamic artists from this region. To learn more, go to: www.caravanserai-arts.org

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: creesoutreach@ku.edu

AGENDA
September 28, 2013

KANSAS UNION: MALOTT ROOM

9:00
Breakfast and Registration

9:30-10:15
“Current Events in Turkey: Much Ado About a Turkish Mall,” Mike Wuthrich, KU CGiS

10:15-11:00
“Patterns of Turkey: Form, Structure and Meaning,” Terri Erickson-Harper, JCCC Graphic Design

11:00-11:50
“Designing Cross-Curriculum” Cathryn Monroe, Curriculum Specialist USD 497

12:00-12:50
Lunch

catered by
Mediterranean Market & Café

SPENCER MUSEUM OF ART

1:00-1:50
Teaching Gallery Tour & Activity

2:00-3:00
Omar Faruk Tekbilek Demonstration & Lecture by Lied Center Caravanserai Artist
Open to Public

3:00-3:30
Evaluation & Assessment

FALL 2013
Security Conference: Russia & China in Global Affairs

On Wednesday, April 10, 2013 CREES and CGIS, together with the Foreign Military Studies Office at Ft. Leavenworth, hosted the 4th annual KU-Ft. Leavenworth Security Conference. The topic of the conference was “Russia and China: The Architects of a New Global Order?” and conference presenters from around the world discussed Russian and Chinese interests, strategies and prospects for conflict and cooperation in international relations. China’s military, economic, and political rise and Russia’s comeback in regional and global affairs have become, arguably, the most important geopolitical realignments of the last two decades. Many envision that the strategic orientation, opportunities for cooperation, and possible future tensions between Moscow and Beijing could shift the balance of power in international relations and global problem solving.

Keynote speakers at the event included Dr. Jeffrey Mankoff (Deputy Director and Fellow, CSIS Russia and Eurasia Program, Columbia University) and Dr. Robert Ross (Professor of Political Science, Boston College and Associate, John King Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University). The list of attendees included a wide variety of educators, students, and mix of military personnel. The one-day conference ended with a collaborative roundtable mediated by Dr. Roger Kangas (Academic Dean and Professor of Central Asian Studies at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University in Washington, DC).

Colonel (R) Thomas Wilhelm, director of the Foreign Military Studies Office at Ft. Leavenworth, characterized this year’s conference as “a valuable opportunity to better understand and appreciate this watershed moment in contemporary security history through diverse perspectives at one of the nation’s leading research universities.”
Delegates from the KC International Council Open World Visit, April 22, 2013

Graduation and Awards Ceremony May 18, 2013

Delegates from the KC International Council Open World Visit, April 22, 2013

This year’s Roy D. and Betty Laird Essay Contest winner was Department of Geography PhD student Vincent Artman, for his essay, “Post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan: Between Nationalism and Nation-State.”

Now in its 19th year, the annual essay contest is named after the late Dr. Roy D. Laird, a longtime member of the Russian and East European Studies (REES) and Political Science faculties, and Ms. Betty Laird, whose support makes this prize possible. As a recipient of the award, Artman received $750, a book budget of $75, a certificate, and his name on a plaque bearing the names of all previous winners of the competition, which is displayed outside the main CREES office.

Artman received his BA and MA in Geography, as well as a certificate in Russian & East European Studies and a BA in History, at the University of Oregon. As a graduate student at KU, he was awarded the David Sopher New Scholar Award for his paper “Neglected Geographies: Islam in Soviet Central Asia.” In 2012, he received the Association of American Geographers Graduate Student Paper Award and Honorable Mention, Association of American Geographers Political Geography Specialty Group Student Paper Award for his paper “Geopolitics, Islam, and Terror: Representation and Uzbek-American Relations.” He was also awarded a Summer 2013 CREES-FMSO Graduate Research Assistantship for research on security issues pertaining to Kyrgyzstan.

A committee of three REES faculty read and independently rated the anonymous essays submitted for the Laird Essay Contest and noted clarity, cogency, relevance to contemporary issues, and strong composition of Artman’s entry. According to CREES Director Mariya Omelicheva, Artman’s thought-piece was “immediately engaging” and “a pleasure to read.” The committee was especially impressed by Artman’s almost exclusive use of Russian sources and by his “perceptive analysis.”

Read the award winning essay on the CREES website:

www.crees.ku.edu

VINCENT ARTMAN
ROY D. AND BETTY LAIRD ESSAY COMPETITION 2013 WINNER

Betty Laird, Vincent Artman, and Mariya Omelicheva

CREES Spring Festival March 8, 2013
The Estonian Singing Revolution and Estonian Citizenship Policy

On February 19, 2013, doctoral candidate and AY 2012-13 FLAS recipient, Dave Trimbach (Geography), gave a presentation on Estonia and the country’s citizenship policy. During the presentation Trimbach explained how the Estonian Singing Revolution and post-Soviet Estonian citizenship policy are conceptually entwined. According to the presentation, both emerged during the tumultuous late-Soviet period and were anchored by Estonian restorationist geopolitics. Trimbach’s brownbag presentation elucidated the historical, political, and ideological intersectionality of these two foundational Estonian nationalizing processes.

This lecture was originally presented at Lawrence Nerd Nite (No. 11 Soviet Bloc Party), a monthly community event held at the Pachamama’s Ballroom. For more information, go to: www.nerdnite.com

Championships Have Passed, Achievement Remains: The 2012 Euro Cup’s Impact on Ukraine’s Development

On February 26, 2013, doctoral candidates John Biersack (Geography) and Dezer-ee Hodish (History) explored the 2012 EURO soccer championship’s influence on Ukraine’s political and economic development. Using Ukrainian, Russian, and English language news sources, they recounted the negative press that plagued Ukraine prior to the tournament and then discussed whether or not these stories accurately represented developments in the country. Despite news coverage that detailed foreseeable problems during the EURO championship involving hate crimes, prostitution, and corruption, the EURO championships passed with little to no major problems, leaving a positive impression among tourists who traveled to the country. Biersack and Hodish argued that, although the Ukrainian government did not earn an immediate return on their multi-billion dollar investment in infrastructure necessary to host the EURO, and despite probable incidences of corruption, the government successfully hosted an international event that created an awareness of Ukraine. More importantly, the remodeled or newly built roads, trains, airports, entertainment venues, and tourist attractions creates a more modern infrastructure, mainly in the host cities, which the Ukrainian government hopes will attract investors and tourists in the near future.

The Use and Misuse of History in Contemporary Russia

On March 12, 2013 professor of Volgograd State University (Russia), Ivan Kurilla focused on the increasing political use of history in the Russian Federation. Russian President Vladimir Putin, for example, has linked his personal success to victory in the Great Patriotic War, that often perceived sacred moment in Russian history when Russia fought against the Nazis in WWII. However, Putin has faced multiple challenges to the war’s official narrative by Baltic and Central European countries, Russian peripheral regions, and professional historians. Professor Kurilla described how the professional historical community in Russia is increasingly resistant to the politicization of their field, and are fighting for academic integrity.
For over 30 years, the CREES Brownbag Lecture Series has been an informal forum for KU and the surrounding community to discuss general topics related to Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia.

Rather than address specific themes, each semester the lectures cover a variety of topics and areas, and are presented by academics, students, and professionals – anyone with an interesting specialty to share. From the arts and literature to political science and current events, the CREES Brownbag Lecture Series continues to educate and inform all those interested in this diverse and dynamic area of the world.

CREES Brownbags are free and open to the public. They are held every Tuesday at Noon in 318 Bailey Hall.

Many of our lectures from this series are posted to the KU CREES YouTube page.

If you have a topic you would like to discuss or are interested in presenting, please contact:

Bart Redford
CREES Assistant Director
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**David Besson** (Physics) was named leading scientist on a 90M ruble, 3-year grant. He will work with Misha Danilov of the Institute of Theoretical and Experimental Physics in Moscow on developing new particle detectors based on silicon photomultiplier technology.

**Anna M. Cienciala** (History, Emeritus) has had several publications over the past year: “Tainy Diplomatii tret’ego reikha,” *The Russian Review*, v. 72, no. 2; “A Tribute to Andrzej Przewoznik on the Seventieth Anniversary of the Discovery of the Katyn Crime,” *The Polish Review*, v. 58, no. 1; “A Work that is still the Authoritative Study Half a Century Later,” Piotr S. Wandyucz, *France and her Eastern Allies 1919–1925*; and a review of Krystyna Piorkowska, *English-Speaking Witnesses to Katyn*. On Sept 4, 2012 she gave a talk at the History Institute, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, on “How I Became a Historian of Intervar Polish Foreign Policy and of the Katyn Crime in North America,” [in Polish]. That same year in London, Prof. Cienciala was awarded the Literary Award of the Association of Polish Writers Abroad for her lifetime work and the popularization of modern Polish history in English-speaking countries.

Former CREES Director **Edith Clowes** (SLL, formerly) and Professor **Dietrich Earnhart** (Economics) were among 40 researchers honored with KU Leading Light Awards. This award was given to principal investigators or co-principal investigators on externally funded grants of $1 million or more awarded during the 2012 fiscal year. Recipients were recognized at a luncheon, where each received an inscribed bronze sunflower symbol of Kansas and their leadership in research.

**Alexander C. Diener’s** (Geography) co-authored book titled *Borders: A Very Short Introduction* was published with Oxford University Press. He also co-edited a special issue of *Nationalities Papers* titled “Urban Change in Post-Communist Contexts.” He has two co-authored articles appearing in this volume - one providing a critical survey of urban change in post-socialist contexts and the other analyzing the evolving city-scape of Ulaanbaatar; Mongolia. All should be available by the early autumn of 2013. During the 2012-2013 academic year, Prof. Diener presented papers at conferences in Indiana, New Orleans, Washington DC, Los Angeles and Samara, Russia and delivered invited lectures at the University of Wisconsin and the University of Denver. In April, he was elected to a two-year term on the Board of the Russian, East European and Eurasian Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers.

Marc L. Greenberg (SLL; Chair of Germanic Languages) gave the lecture and demonstration “Why Russians are Different, Reason #7: Seven Strings make a Russian Guitar” at KU’s Mini-College 2013 and the Lawrence Public Library’s “Professors Off Track” lecture series. In March he and Dean Lorraine Haricohe (KU Libraries) gave keynote talks at the Open Conversations on Open Access conference at the University of Oklahoma. Also in March he published an article with colleagues Ada Emmett (KU Libraries) and Town Peterson (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology) “Open Access and the Author-Pays Problem: Assuring Access for Readers and Authors in a Global Community of Scholars,” *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication*, which has been ranked by Altmetric in 98th percentile for downloads and mentions in social media for all articles of similar vintage worldwide. In spring 2013 Prof. Greenberg was appointed Special Advisor to the Dean to head an action committee, which will conduct its work during FY 2013–14, to form a School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures.

**Jacob Kipp** (CREES) reviewed two manuscripts: “Hard Diplomacy and Soft Power: Russia’s Influence Aboard”; and Swedish Defense Establishment’s “Russia’s Strategic Mobility: Supporting ‘Hard Power’ to 2020?” Over the past semester he gave two presentations in Washington DC: one on the “Russian Military” at the Defense Intelligence College’s Russian Culture and Society Program, and the other on “New Defense Leadership in Russia” at a joint State INR-DIA Conference. His essay on “Russia as a Nuclear Power and the Chinese Military Strategy” was published in the National Board of Asian Research’s volume on *Strategic Asia 2013-14*.

**Ani Kokobobo** (Slavic Languages & Literatures) received a Hall Center for the Humanities Research Fellowship for Fall 2013. She will have the semester free from teaching to work on her book *Freakish Outsiders and Monsters Within – Russian Realism and the Grotesque, 1869-1899*. The book analyzes the grotesque style in the span of three decades, and addresses the effects of social reforms (like the 1861 Liberation of the Serfs) on how national identity is conceptualized in Russian realism.

**Mariya Y. Omelicheva** (Pol Sci; CREES Director) had several publications over the past semester: a chapter, “Central Asian Conceptions of Democracy; Ideological Resistance to International Democratization” that appeared in *The International Dimensions of Authoritarian Persistence in the Former Soviet Union* (Lexington Press, 2013); “Democracy and Dictatorship in Central Asia” in *Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science* (2013); and “Failures and Prospects of Regional Organizations: Lessons from the Post-Soviet Space and Beyond” written together with Lidiya Zubytska that appeared in *The Whitehead Journal of Diplomacy and International Affairs*. She took part in the Working Group on Central Asia organized by CENTCOM’s Academic Consortium (December 4-6, 2012, University of South Florida) and participated in a task force meeting on “Iran in Regional and Global Perspectives” (Ca’Foscari University, Venice, Italy, March 2013). She delivered a study “Portfolio Assessment: An Alternative to Traditional Performance Evaluation Methods in the Area Studies Programs’ at 2013 NRC Conference (Columbus, Ohio) and presented several papers at the International Studies Association annual convention (San Francisco, April 2013).

**Renee Perelmutter** (Slavic Languages & Literatures; Jewish Studies) joined the CREES team as the Associate Director in Fall 2012. She continued to work on her book manuscript, *Improper Politeness and Identity Construction: Russian Women’s Discourse Online*, which she plans to finish in Fall 2013. In addition to the book manuscript, she continues to work on her articles on Russian online discourse and Russian-Jewish contacts. Her article “Klassika Zhanka: The Flamewar as a Genre in the Russian Blogosphere,” appeared in the *Journal of Pragmatics* earlier this year and an article on “Shaming, Group Face, and Identity Construction in a Russian Virtual Community for Women” has been accepted for publication in an edited volume forthcoming from John Benjamins.

**Mehrangiz Najafizadeh** (Sociology) was awarded an American Council for International Education Research Scholar Fellowship to conduct research in Azerbaijan, May-July 2013. In addition, she published her article, “Ethnic Conflict and Forced Displacement: Narratives of Azeri IDP and Refugee Women From the Nagorno-Karabakh War,” in the *Journal of International Women’s Studies*, presented a paper; “Issues Related to Prolonged Displacement Among IDP/Refugee Women in Azerbaijan” at the 2013 Midwest Sociological Society Meetings in Chicago in April, and participated in the Third Annual ASCN Conference. “Political Transformation and Social Change in the South Caucasus: Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan in Perspective,” in Tbilisi, Georgia, in June.

**Erik Scott** (History) was a Summer Scholar at the NEH Summer Institute, “America’s Russian-Speaking Immigrants and Refugees: 20th Century Migration and Memory,” held at Columbia University. In July, he traveled to Tbilisi, Georgia to conduct archival research on the Georgian diaspora in the Soviet Union, supported by a grant from the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research.
David Stone, Pickett Professor of Military History at Kansas State and CREES fellow, won a Moncado Prize from the Society for Military History for his article “Misreading Svechin: Attrition, Annihilation and Historicism.” The article appeared in the July 2012 issue of the Journal of Military History.

In March, CREES Assistant Director Bart Redford and CREES Outreach Coordinator Adrienne Landry attended “A Centenary in the Shadow of the Great War,” a conference dedicated to centennial commemoration planning for WWI at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City. They are both active in the KU WWI Commemoration Steering Committee, planning events for 2014-2018. In June, Bart traveled to Monterey, CA to speak with REES interested Foreign Area Officers from the Defense Language Institute. In May, Adrienne, as part of a team with other KU area studies outreach coordinators, was nominated for an Employee Recognition award for the February panel discussion on “LGBT Issues From Around the World.” Adrienne is also now serving in the Unclassified Staff Senate.

Vitaly Chernetsky is joining KU’s Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures this fall. Prof. Chernetsky was born in Odessa, Ukraine. He began his university education at Moscow State University and arrived in the US in 1989 as an exchange student. He received his PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of Pennsylvania in 1996. He is the author of Mopping Postcommunist Cultures: Russia and Ukraine in the Context of Globalization (McGill--Queen’s UP, 2007; Ukrainian-language version, Krytyka, 2013) and of numerous articles on Russian and Ukrainian literature and culture, as well as translations of modern Russian and Ukrainian literature, including two novels by Yuri Andrukhovych, The Moscoviad (2008) and Twelve Circles (2013, forthcoming). He co-edited the anthology Crossing Centuries: The New Generation in Russian Poetry (Talisman House, 2000) and a critical Ukrainian-language edition of Edward Said’s Culture and Imperialism (Krytyka, 2009). Also in 2009, he guest-edited the special issue of the online journal KinoKultura on Ukrainian cinema. His current book project, Displacement, Desire, Identity: Writing and the Diasporic Momentum, examines several writers of Russian and East European background from the late 19th century to the present, focusing on the interactions between their creative practices and the multiple communities with which these authors engage, and the challenges of displacement to identity construction as depicted in their writing. Since 2009, he has been serving as President of the American Association for Ukrainian Studies. Prior to his arrival at KU he served as an Associate Professor of Russian and Director of the Film Studies Program at Miami University (Oxford, OH).

Anna Hurst has joined CREES as the new Office Manager, replacing Cathy Swenson-Tucker who has moved to the Shared Service Center in Strong Hall, yet remains a part of CREES as a Grants Manager. Anna is from Wichita, Kansas. She graduated from the University of Kansas in May 2013 with a degree in Finance. During Anna’s time at KU she developed an interest in social justice and service-learning and began volunteering through KU Alternative Breaks and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Through Alternative Breaks she has travelled to California and Zion National Park to work on environmental sustainability as well as to Colorado to lobby for LGBTQ issues in Denver. In her final year at KU she served as a coordinator for this program. Anna is looking forward to joining the CREES community and getting to know REES faculty, staff and students over the coming months!

Matthew Cotton (REES MA 2013) was accepted into the PhD History program at the University of Washington. He spent the summer working as the Russian Review GTA.

Emily Csinsi (REES MA 2014) has been named REESGO president for AY 2013-14.

In April, Gloria Funcheon (REES MA 2013) attended the “OASIES - Seeing Eurasia Inside and Out: Representation, Authority and Inequity” conference at the NYU’s Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies. At the conference she presented her paper, “Creating a Dam National Space: Rakhmon’s Socialist Realist Promotion of Roghun,” which was also published in the April 2012 SRAS Newsletter. Gloria’s travel to the conference was supported by the Norman E. Saul Travel Fund. Gloria is now working for Association DEA, a non-profit organization in Zugdidi, Georgia.

Sandra King-Savic (REES MA 2013) has been accepted into the PhD program at the University of St. Gallen in Organization Studies and Cultural Theory (DOK). She returned to her home country of Switzerland in May 2013.

On March 22, 2013, Natalie Mauser-Carter (REES MA) presented her paper “Dom Revolucije: Representation and Socialist Liminality,” at the University of Pennsylvania’s conference “Snippets, Splinters, Shreds, Shards: The Fragment in Russian Culture.” Natalie also presented this paper at the 2013 Midwest Slavic Conference in April at Ohio State University. Natalie’s travel to these conferences was supported by the Norman E. Saul Travel Fund.

Amy Murphy (REES MA 2013) has been hired as a Participant Recruiter by American Councils for International Education. She will spend the upcoming fall in Ukraine testing and interviewing high school students for an exchange program to the United States.

After graduation, Jared Warren (REES MA 2013) took part in the Auschwitz Jewish Center Fellows program, “A Bridge to History.” The three-week Holocaust study trip included travel to Poland and Slovakia, and is organized by the Auschwitz Jewish Center in Oświęcim and the Jewish Museum of New York. Incoming REES MA student, Eric Williams will be the Russian Review GTA for AY 2013-14.

On April 27, 2013, CREES MA students were joined by REES students from Univ of Texas-Austin, Univ of Wisconsin, and Univ of Illinois for a Professionalization Workshop. The workshop discussed topics such as networking, writing cover letters, and tips for job searches. The workshop also included lectures by Daniel Burghart, Professor of National Security Studies at the National Defense University, CREES alumna Bethany Bernzen, Foreign Affairs Officer for the US State Dept, SLL alumna Cassandra Payton, US State Dept Foreign Service Officer, and CREES alum Adrian Erlinger, Content Analyst at Hanover Research.
The CREES-AmCham Internship is an opportunity for a REES affiliated graduate student at KU to conduct field research on a topic of strategic importance as well as earn valuable experience interning with the American Chamber of Commerce in the country of Georgia. The Summer 2013 CREES-AmCham Intern was KU LAW student Alexander Melin. Alex conducted research on issues pertaining to judiciary reform and rule of law. He received a summer stipend of $5,000 from the Fort Leavenworth Foreign Military Studies Office (FMSO). Alex was also the recipient of the 2013 Palij Family Award for his dedication to Ukrainian studies.

FMSO-CREES RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

- Summer 2013: Vincent Artman, PhD Geography
- Fall 2013: Dezeree Hodish, PhD History
  Deepak Jayaraj, MA REES
  Michael Rose, MA REES
  Arnold Ressin, MA REES/JD
  Brian Turnbull, PhD Political Science

GEORGE C. JERKOVICH SCHOLARSHIP

- Rebecca Stakun, PhD SLL

BRAMLAGE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

- Brian Turnbull, PhD Political Science

NORMAN E. SAUL TRAVEL AWARDS

- Spring 2013: Gloria Funcheon, MA REES
  Natalie Mauser-Carter, MA REES

FLAS FELLOWSHIP Awardees

The Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship program provides academic year and summer fellowships to undergraduate and graduate students undergoing training in modern foreign languages. Funded by the US Department of Education and administered by CREES, FLAS Fellowships provide up to $7500 awards for summer language study at any program throughout the world. Undergraduate AY FLAS Fellowships provide up to $10,000 for tuition and a $5,000 stipend. Graduate AY FLAS Fellowships offer up to $18,000 for tuition and a $15,000 stipend.

**SUMMER 2013**

- Jason Ackermann, MA History, Polish
- John Biersack, PhD Geography, Ukrainian
- Amelia Davidson, PhD School of Music, Czech
- Robert Jameson, PhD History, Czech
- Michael Lebovitz, BA Linguistics, Yiddish
- Catherine Lees, BA REES/Linguistics, Russian
- Christopher Muenzen, PhD History - Univ of Penn, Ukrainian
- Jacob Ornburn, BA Slavic Languages and Lit, Russian

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2013-14**

- Jason Ackermann, MA History, Polish
- Miriam Brack, PhD School of Music, Russian
- Emily Csinsi, MA REES, Russian
- Luke Franklin, PhD Slavic Languages and Lit, Russian
- Megan Luttrel, PhD Slavic Languages and Lit, BCS
- Robert Jameson, PhD History, Czech
- Alexander Melin, JD Law, Ukrainian
- Maggie Boyles, BA Theatre, Yiddish

Interested in receiving a FLAS Fellowship for Summer 2014 or Academic Year 2014-15? Check out the new KU FLAS website at flas.ku.edu! FLAS Information Sessions will be held from 3:30-4:30 pm in the Kansas Union Alderson Auditorium on Thursday, Oct 24, 2013 and Wednesday, Nov 20, 2013.
Josh DeMoss is from Gilmer, Texas, and attended Baylor University where he received his BA in Russian and Political Science in December 2012. During his time at Baylor, Josh studied abroad with the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economics and Public Administration in Moscow. At this time, he interned at the political think-tank of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Europe, where he was an international security intern. For a few weeks in Moscow, Josh also was a research intern at the Center for Strategic Research. Towards the end of his time in Russia, he was selected to travel to Kazan to attend the Russian Presidential Academy’s Summer Campus where he participated in projects with Russian university students. Josh is joining KU’s joint JD/REES MA program. After graduation, he plans on joining the Foreign Service.

Deepak Jayaraj is from Kerala in Southern Indian. He completed his MA in History from University of Hyderabad and an MPhil from Jawaharlal Nehru University in Central Asian Studies. For his thesis he worked on the “Role of Clans in the Politics of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.” At KU, he will focus on similar interethnic issues from a Eurasian perspective. After completing the CREES program, he plans on pursuing a career in academia.

Eric Williams graduated from Texas A&M in May 2013 with a double major in International Studies and Russian Studies. He focused on the political history as well as the cultural development of Russia during the Soviet period. During summer 2012 he studied in Vladivostok, Russia. At CREES he is interested in furthering his studies in South-East Europe, specifically Serbia. He plans on pursuing a career in either the government or NGOs in Eastern Europe.

Michael Rose is from Seymour, Texas. He earned a double-major BS in Russian language and literature and political science from Oklahoma State University in 2008. During his freshman year at OSU he began to more fully develop an interest in Russian politics and history, and transitioned from a Russian language minor into a more comprehensive major of Russian area studies. He spent the summer of 2010 with students from OSU and OU in Petrozavodsk, Russia. Through CREES, he hopes to improve his professional knowledge of the Russian language and geography of the Commonwealth of Independent States. After completing graduate study, he intends to conduct research for the U.S. Department of State, focusing particularly on issues of international security and human rights within the CIS.

Tamerlan Salaty, 1922-2012

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of CREES friend and colleague, Tamerlan Salaty, who passed away on December 27, 2012. Tamerlan was born February 28, 1922, in Kardzhin, near Vladikavkaz, Republic of North Ossetia, Russia. In 1942 he became a partisan resistance fighter who was captured after the German invasion of the Soviet Union during WW II. He survived the war in captivity and ended up in a refugee camp in Ingolstadt, near Munich, Germany. There he learned a trade as an electrician. Not wanting to return to Communist Russia, he was eventually sponsored by the World Church Organization and immigrated to America in 1949. Tamerlan moved to Lawrence, KS in 1963, and it was while he was finishing his degree in electrical engineering that he was offered a part-time position to teach a Russian language course, and thus began his career at KU in the Slavic Languages and Literature department. He received his Master’s degree in Slavic Languages and Literature in 1968, and taught courses in Russian grammar, composition and translation. In addition to teaching at KU, he taught summers at Cornell University, University of Colorado, Indiana University, and Middlebury College in Vermont. Tamerlan retired from teaching in 1992. He is fondly remembered for his dedication to students and the humor he brought to his classroom.
BECOME A CREES DONOR TODAY!

Many of our activities are enhanced through private donations to the Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies.

Special events, guest lecturers, scholarships and study abroad opportunities are just some of the ways your donation can help us ensure our Center’s vitality.

We hope that you will contribute generously to strengthen the Center’s programs by sending your gift today.

CREES General Fund

The CREES General Fund supports a wide range of educational and outreach activities on campus and in the wider community. Among its dedicated sponsors are the Oswald P. Backus Memorial Fund for visiting lecturers in Polish Studies, the Bramlage Family Foundation Fund, which provides scholarships to KU REES MA students who have strong connections to the state of Kansas, and the Norman E. Saul Fund. Named after KU History Emeritus Professor Norman E. Saul, the Saul fund supports REES students with travel grants to collections or to REES-related conferences for professional development.

Palić Family Fund

The Maria Palić Fund supports visiting lecturers specializing in Ukrainian studies. The fund also supports the Ukrainian Studies Prize for an outstanding student specializing in Ukrainian.

George C. Jerkovich Fund

The mission of the Jerkovich Fund is twofold: 1) to support the development of KU’s South Slavic library collection; 2) to provide awards to outstanding students who have demonstrated an interest in the study of Croatian or Serbian history, literature, folklore, or culture.

Roy & Betty Laird Fund

This fund is named after the late Professor Roy D. Laird, a longtime member of the Russian and East European Studies (REES) and Political Science faculties, and Ms. Betty Laird, whose continued support of CREES activities includes sponsoring the annual Roy & Betty Laird Essay Contest. Monies donated to support this fund will primarily contribute to the advancement of Russian Studies.

Jarosewycz Family Fund

The Jarosewycz Family Fund provides scholarships for graduate students who have shown commitment and scholarly interest in Ukraine and Ukrainian Studies.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

CREES is designated a National Resource Center for the study of Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia by the US Department of Education, and receives Title VI funds for educational and outreach activities. The center is a degree-granting program within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas. For further information about CREES, please contact us at:

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Check out our website: www.crees.ku.edu

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