Changing the Guard
Carlson’s Legacy Now in D’Anieri’s Hands

After more than 11 years service as Director for the Center for Russian and East European Studies, Dr. Maria Carlson has turned over control of the center to Dr. Paul D’Anieri. Dr. Carlson won’t be travelling far, though, returning to full-time teaching duties for both the Slavic Department and REES.

The center is also adjusting to the loss of the Asst. Director, Dr. Bruce Berglund, who left Lawrence in mid-July after taking a tenure-track position in History at Calvin College in Michigan. For five years Dr. Berglund has helped in guiding the academic careers of hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students, being instrumental in developing the REES curriculum. Dr. Berglund is replaced by Ray Finch (1992 REES, MA) who will struggle mightily to fill the shoes and the legacy left behind by Bruce.

Letter From the Editor

Welcome to the Center for Russian and East European Studies first electronic newsletter! This project has been in the works for the past couple of years, but due to time and personnel constraints never made it on to the CREEES webpage. The changing of the guard and the beginning of a new semester provided a good opportunity to launch this venture.

The objective of the CREEES e-letter is twofold: one, to inform students, faculty and alumni; and two, to put a human face on the events occurring within the center. We will try to publish an updated newsletter every other month. As such, please feel free to send in relevant information, make suggestions for future articles, or should the spirit move you, submit an article for publication.

Any successful undertaking often builds on the blood, sweat and tears of those who have preceded us, and this is certainly true of this newsletter. The planning and format for this newsletter was hammered out by Dr. Carlson and Dr. Berglund. The actual construction and the person responsible for actually getting this newsletter published on the CREEES webpage is our very own webmaster and senior Program Assistant, Andrew Moulton. Without Andrew’s expertise, creativity and unending patience this newsletter would have never graduated from the planning phase.

As the new editor and chief compiler for this newsletter, I’m looking forward to your comments and feedback. Please direct your responses either to me (rayfin3@ku.edu) or to Andrew (cam@ku.edu).
Due to a number of factors, KU has recently changed the Graduate School application process. Effective 1 August 2003, instead of each department individually handling its grad school applications, all application materials will be consolidated in the Graduate School in 300 Strong. During a conversation with Dean Diana Carlin, she explained that while post 9-11 reporting requirements sparked this change, it had been long apparent that the University needed to maintain greater control over the graduate school application process. So if you are interested in pursuing an MA Degree in Russian and East European Studies, apply on-line at:

www.applyweb.com/apply/ukgrees/menu.html

or send your paper application to:

University of Kansas Graduate School
Graduate Applications
1450 Jayhawk Blvd. Room 300
Lawrence, Kansas  66045-7535

In honor of the 300th anniversary of the founding of St. Petersburg, KU’s Spencer Research Library created an exhibit highlighting western perceptions of the city over the last 300 years, including these and many other images. While the physical exhibit is now closed, web users may still view the beautiful, digital exhibition:

www.keenwebs.com/
KSRL_FrostedWindows/
or get your copy of the beautiful gallery guide by contacting REES
1. Tell us a little bit about yourself

My family lives in Wisconsin. I went to Valparaiso University for my undergraduate work and majored in history. I like to go on road trips with my friends. I like to travel and I’m just starting to do relief wood carving. I’d also like to put together my own web page.

2. What’s your favorite book and why?

The Brothers Karamazov. I don’t think I really have to explain why it’s one of the greatest books ever written; it speaks for itself.

3. What’s the last book you read, and did you enjoy it?

The Blessed Surgeon: the Life of St. Luke, Archbishop of Simferopol, by Archdeacon Vasily Marushchak. I enjoyed it very much. It’s about a Russian bishop who, before and during his career as a bishop was one of the most famous surgeons and professors in the Russian Empire and Soviet Union. He was also persecuted and exiled by the communists. He truly loved each patient as well as his parishioners and the poor whom he fed and clothed while he himself went hungry and wore very old, patched clothing.

4. Why did you decide to pursue an MA in Russian and East European Studies?

I don’t know exactly. I’ve wanted to go to graduate school since graduation from VU. There’s so much I want to study. I’d like to gain the competency necessary to continue my study of all the topics I love.

5. What are your plans after you graduate?

I hope to go on and get my Ph.D., probably in history. I plan to visit Alaska and study abroad in Russia. I’d also like to visit Greece and see the Holy Land again.

6. Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?

A professor at a university or seminary. I’d like to teach, research, and write some books.

7. What is one thing that a stranger would find surprising about you?

I tell a lot of stories from the lives of people I’ve read about.

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**Book Recommendation**

*from Professor John T. Alexander*

**Lindsey Hughes**

**Peter the Great: A Biography**

New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2002

Lindsey Hughes is the leading international authority on Peter the Great and the Petrine era, and this is an excellent, up to date popularization that supersedes all other concise treatments in the field. It is especially interesting on Peter's portraits and psyche and relationships. Crisply written and fun to read.

*Professor Alexander is a KU Professor of History. He is author of *Catherine the Great, Life and Legend* and other publications.*
Opportunities

Ambassador James Collins

13 October 2003, 7-9 PM: Ambassador James Collins on Contemporary Issues of American-Russian Relations at the KU Memorial Union, Centennial Room

Ambassador Collins served from 1997 to 2001 as the U.S. ambassador to the Russian Federation. Prior to his appointment as ambassador, Collins enjoyed a broad and distinguished State Department career. As a member of the Senior Foreign Service, he served as a presidential appointee both overseas and in Washington. He was ambassador-at-large and special advisor to the secretary of state for the New Independent States and deputy chief of mission and charge d’affaires with Ambassador Robert S. Strauss at the American Embassy in Moscow during the events surrounding the collapse of the USSR. Before joining the State Department, Ambassador Collins taught Russian and European history, government and economics at the U.S. Naval Academy. He received his B.A. cum laude from Harvard University in 1961 and his M.A. from Indiana University.
A Very Successful St. Petersburg Semester

The Center for Russian and East European Studies (CREES) at the University of Kansas celebrated a successful “St. Petersburg Semester,” in Spring 2003 with over 8,000 participants attending public lectures, cultural events, exhibitions, and fine arts performances. CREES joined forces with the Lied Center of Kansas to bring Trio Voronezh, Olga Kern, and the other Russian groups to perform in Kansas. “Frosted Windows: Saint Petersburg through Western Eyes,” an exhibit (see p. 2) that focuses on historic writings of international visitors to Saint Petersburg, was displayed at the Spencer Research Library.

“Czars: 400 years of Imperial Grandeur,” an exhibition at the Kansas International Museum, displayed luxurious artifacts owned by the Russian Czars. A cross-curricular unit, “Treasures of St. Petersburg,” was created for middle and high school students.

Upcoming 2003 Brown Bags

Brown Bags meet from noon to 1 in 318 Bailey.

16 Sept - Eugenia Amditis, Kevin Bobbett, Matt McGarry: FLAS participants, 2003, KU; St. Petersburg Tercentenary: Eyewitness

23 Sept - Stephen Dickey, Slavic Languages & Literatures, KU, Tuzla: A Microcosm of Post-War Bosnia

30 Sept - Eve Levin, KU, Endless Red Tape: Government Medicine in 17th Century Russia

7 Oct - Alex Tsiovkh, KU, Ukraine: The Long Hot Summer of 2003

14 October - Don Wright, Ft. Leav., Remaking Political Identity: Official Efforts to Cultivate Values in the Last Decade of the Tsarist Regime

To Help You Teach About REES

Who are the Russian people? How have they expressed their character and inner conflicts in their art and culture? And, as Russia’s long-awaited democracy develops, how will the Russian people redefine themselves culturally, spiritually, and politically?

www.pbs.org/weta/faceofrussia/intro.html

This classroom guide accompanies the Treasures of the Czars Exhibit which took place last fall in Topeka. Although the exhibit is over students and teachers can make a virtual visit with internet help – the guide offers a number of wonderful activities to teach about Russia.

www.wonders.org/current/pdf/school.pdf

Search for Lesson Plans on a number of search engines by entering Marco Polo.

www.marcopolo-education.org

Integrate Cultural Reading into your lesson with Folk Tales from Russia and Ukraine.

www.russian-crafts.com/tales.html

To find resources and links that specifically address the needs of Kansas teachers teaching about Russia and Eastern Europe. Includes curriculum on The Cold War and the Korean War.

www.ku.edu/~crees/outreach/teachers.shtml
The Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Kansas continues on the cutting edge of prompting spirited and timely debate on the issues that affect our nation. For instance, during the September, 1999 Conference “NATO Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow,” jointly sponsored by CREES, Kansas Senator and Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, U.S. Senator Pat Roberts shared his views on this important subject.