

CREES Courier

KU Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies

Dear CREES Community,

This spring's CREES Courier arrives a little later than usual, since the CREES Team has been hard at work completing the center's application for Title VI NRC and FLAS funding from the US Department of Education. We expect to learn the results of the competition by the end of April; whatever the outcome, I am grateful for all the effort CREES' staff, Executive Committee, and broader community have contributed to the application process. I sincerely believe we have given it our best effort, and I continue to be impressed with all the great work my KU colleagues are doing to advance Russian, East European, and Eurasian studies.



We have a diverse and exciting lineup of events planned this semester, including lectures on Russian geographic thought, the Polish borderlands in a global context, Armenians and other national minorities in the Russian Empire, Russian-Ukrainian relations, Black Americans in inter-war Moscow, and two screenings of Ukrainian and Eastern European films, the first with the film's director and the second with colleagues from Wichita State University and Hungary. We are also planning a major conference on cybersecurity threats emanating from Russia and Eurasia, which will be cohosted by Graduate Military Programs and feature a truly interdisciplinary group of experts: specialists in history and culture, computer scientists, policymakers, and intelligence officials. We look forward to seeing you online and in-person. As always, we appreciate any suggestions you might have for future programming.

This issue of the Courier features a touching memorial to our late colleague, Jacob Kipp, written by Dr. Lester Grau of Fort Leavenworth's Foreign Military Studies Office. We also highlight some of the achievements of our recent alumni and detail Title VI-funded grants now available to faculty at KU and Minority Serving Institutions and Community Colleges across the Great Plains.

Finally, this issue, created by CREES Outreach Coordinator Lisa Giullian, marks Lisa's farewell from CREES. After years of leading excellent outreach programs in our community, Lisa has accepted a new position as Mental Health Liaison with Topeka Public Schools. While the new job will allow Lisa to put her training as a social worker to good use, we will miss having her on the CREES team and want to recognize the outstanding work she has done in holding teacher trainings, bringing Russian and East European languages and cultures to schools and community centers, developing educational resources, organizing the annual Spring Festival, and publishing this newsletter. We plan to launch a search to hire a new Outreach Coordinator this spring, and Lisa tells me we can still expect to see her as a guest at future CREES gatherings.

Yours,
Erik R. Scott
CREES Director

SPRING 2022 EVENTS

JANUARY	TUE 25	The Concept and Practice of Territory in Russian Political and Geographic Thought — 12-1PM Vera Smirnova (Kansas State University) Venue: Jayhawk Room (Kansas Memorial Union)
FEBRUARY	THU 10	Backus/Cienciala Lecture: Civilization's Edge: A Polish Borderland in the Interwar World — 4-5PM Kathryn Ciancia (University of Wisconsin-Madison) Virtual Talk. Register ahead: https://tinyurl.com/5n8mfddu
	THU 24	Russia's Entangled Embrace: The Tsarist Empire and the Armenians, 1801-1914 — 4-5PM Stephen B. Riegg (Texas A&M University) Venue: Forum A (Burge Union)
MARCH	THU 03	Maria Palij Memorial Lecture — 4-5PM Markian Dobczansky (Central Eurasian Studies Society) Venue: Kansas Room (Kansas Memorial Union)
	TUE 22	Black Anticolonialism in Interwar Moscow: A Recovery — 4-5PM Ani Mukherji (Hobart and William Smith Colleges) Venue: Forum A (Burge Union)
	THU 31	Screening of "The Earth Is Blue as an Orange" (Ukraine, 2020) — 12PM Presented by Vitaly Chernetsky (KU, SELL), followed by a Q&A with director Iryna Tsilyk. Venue: Kansas Room (KU Memorial Union)
APRIL	WED 06	Cybersecurity Conference (Co-organized with KU Graduate Military Programs) Welcome Remarks and Q&A Venue: Forum D (Burge Union)
	THU 07	Cybersecurity Conference (Co-organized with KU Graduate Military Programs) Keynote Speech, Panels & Presentations Venue: Forum AB (Burge Union)
	THU 28	Experimental Cinemas in State-Socialist Eastern Europe: Book Launch and Screening — 3:30-5PM Ksenya Gurshtein (Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University) & Sonja Simonyi (Independent Scholar). *Virtual Talk

**Virtual meeting links will be released via CREES social media and the CREES weekly update.*

Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies



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In Memory of Dr. Jacob W. Kipp, 1942-2021, Scholar, Teacher, Linguist, Mentor, Humanist, and Long-time Friend of CREES

By Dr. Lester Grau



Dr. Jacob Walter Kipp, 79, died peacefully in his home in Lawrence, Kansas on 27 October 2021. He was an internationally recognized scholar and analyst of Russian and Soviet military and naval history. His wife of over 50 years, Maia; his sons Alex and Mick; and his four grandchildren Oskar, Darius, Meile, and Niklas survive him.

The son of Samuel Harmon Kipp and Helen Campbell Kipp, Jacob was born in Harrisburg, PA, on 6 March 1942. He received his BS in Secondary Education from Shippensburg State College in 1964. He played on the College football team. He received his MA in History in 1967 and his PhD. in Russian History in 1970 from the Pennsylvania State University. In the late 60's and 70's, Jacob conducted academic research in Eastern Europe, receiving a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship to study at the University of Warsaw in Poland in 1968-69, and an IREX Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Leningrad State University in the Soviet Union in 1970.

Jacob met Dr. Maia A. Kipp (née Glikman), on a blind date in Leningrad. They were married eight months later at the Leningrad "Palace of Weddings" on 11 June 1971. Jacob interviewed for his first professorship at the Kansas State University while still in Leningrad, as he overcame numerous Soviet bureaucratic hurdles to marry a Russian national. By the fall of 1971, Jacob and Maia had their home in Manhattan, Kansas. Their son, Alex, was born the following year.

From 1971 to 1985, Jake taught Russian Military and Naval History at the Kansas State University and Miami University of Ohio, and conducted research for the Center for Strategic Technology of Texas A&M University. In January 1986, he joined the just-established Soviet Army Studies Office (SASO) at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, as a senior analyst. SASO conducted open-source research on the Soviet military and was involved in improving military relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. Jacob and FMSO spent a lot of time in the Soviet Union developing lasting personal relations and conducting research. In 1991, SASO became the Foreign Military Studies Office (FMSO) and added other regions and scholars to its efforts.

In that same year, Jacob and Maia sponsored an exchange student from Lithuania, Mikas (Mick) Kalinauskas. Mick became like a second son to them and a brother to Alex, as well as godfather to Alex's first son (Jacob and Maia's grandson), Oskar. In 2003, Dr. Kipp became Director of FMSO and served in that capacity until October 2006.

In 2006, he joined the US Army's School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS) at Fort Leavenworth as Deputy Director. Jacob retired from federal service in September 2009 and afterward served as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Kansas, a contributor to the Eurasia Daily Monitor of the Jamestown Foundation, and a consultant for the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center.

Dr. Kipp published extensively on Russian and Soviet naval and military history. Topics included Russian 19th century naval reform, Soviet naval history, operational art, foresight and forecasting in Russian and Soviet military affairs and growth of anti-Western ideologies in Russia. From 1992 to 2001, he served as the US editor of the journal *European Security*. He was also on the editorial board of the *Modern War Studies Series* of the University Press of Kansas.

...to be continued on page 4

Alumni Spotlight: Paul Aldaya

I spent 2017-19 working at the U.S. Embassy in Tashkent, Uzbekistan as the chief of the office of military cooperation. While there, I witnessed a drastic increase in bilateral relations between our two countries. Following that assignment, I spent 26 months at U.S. European Command (USEUCOM) in Stuttgart, Germany, where I was primarily the country desk officer for the Southern Caucasus. In October of this year, I started working at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) as an instructor in the Department of Joint, Interagency, and Multinational Operations. Also, thanks in part to Randy Masten, my family and I were honored at an October Sporting KC game as part of their “military spotlight.”

Getting my MA through the CREES program at KU allowed me to further develop my cultural awareness of Eurasia, which was extremely beneficial as I worked in various countries throughout the region. Additionally, the connection between KU and CGSC offers an incredible network of military and civilian experts, many of whom have ties to CREES.

Paul Aldaya graduated with his REES MA in 2017.



Paul Aldaya shakes hands with former USCENTCOM Commander, General (Ret) Joe Votel in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

In Memory of Dr. Jacob W. Kipp continued...

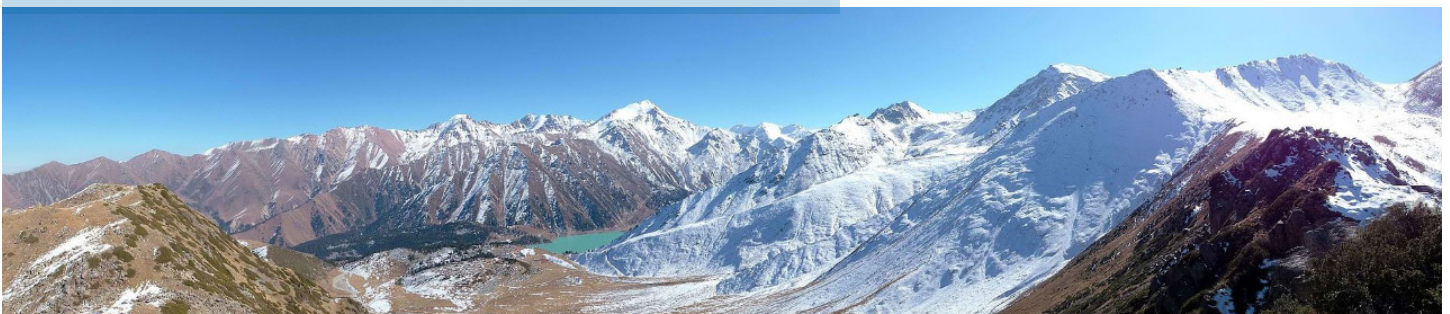
Over his scholarly career he published 9 books, 47 articles in refereed journals, and more than 50 book chapters. He was elected a member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences and the International Academy of “Informatization.”

He contributed to the growth of military and security studies, mentored and inspired numerous students, and collaborated with prominent academics, policy makers, and institutions across the globe. Jake was a long-time friend and supporter of CREES. He was a mentor to many US Army officers who attended the University of Kansas as part of their education to become Russian Foreign Area Officers.

Jake is buried in Lawrence. A celebration of his life will be held in Spring or Summer of 2022.



Paul Aldaya (middle) with colleagues from the U.S. Embassy in Tashkent, Uzbekistan



News from our Faculty

Vitaly Chernetsky (Slavic and Eurasian Languages and Literatures) delivered online lectures at the Ukrainian Institute London and at the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute and presented online at the conference on Victor Pelevin at the University of Michigan and at a workshop on Ukraine's post-imperial legacies co-organized by the Universities of Giessen and Greifswald in Germany. He was glad to return to in-person conference participation at ASEEEES. He was especially happy to host the acclaimed Ukrainian artist Alevtina Kakhidze as a CEC ArtsLink fellow-in-residence at KU this fall.

Alex Diener (Geography) co-edited special issues of the journals *Asian Geographer* (titled Northeast Asia in Geographical Perspective 2021) and *Geographical Review* (titled Geographies of Place Attachment 2022) to which he also contributed articles. Alex co-wrote "Borders, Boundaries, and Identity in Central Asia" in *The Routledge Handbook on Central Asia* (2021) and "U.S. Soft Power in Central Asia" with Vincent Artman in *Central Asia in Context* (2021). His article "Territorial Belonging and Homeland Disjuncture: Uneven Territorializations in Kazakhstan" was also co-authored with Kristopher Rees & Nora Webb-Williams for the journal *Europe Asia Studies* (2021).

Arienne Dwyer (Anthropology) was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant in August 2021 (for work in 2022): Co-Investigator, Research workshop in Kyrgyzstan, Early Modern Kyrgyz Oral-derived Narrative Sources (EMKONS). Prior, Daniel (lead PI); Jipar Duishembieva and Arienne M. Dwyer (co-Is).

Erik Scott (History) took part in an online ASEEEES roundtable on clientelism and nationality in the South Caucasus and is completing his second book, *World Without Exit: Soviet Cold War Defectors and the Borders of Globalization* (forthcoming from Oxford University Press). As Editor of *The Russian Review*, he helped mark two important anniversaries: the thirtieth anniversary of the collapse of the USSR (with a special October 2021 issue of the journal dedicated to the history and legacies of Soviet internationalism) and the eightieth anniversary of the founding of *The Russian Review* (with a retrospective online collection entitled "Rereading Soviet Cultures: The Russian Review at 80").

Jon Giullian (International Collections) recently translated a brief memoir about a Russian/Soviet soldier who remembered a visit to the Soviet Union by Avril Harriman during World War II. He deposited the translation into KU ScholarWorks.

Semina, Maya. "My Grandfather Saw Harriman." Translated by Jon Giullian. *KU ScholarWorks*. November 10, 2021. <https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/handle/1808/32192>.



Oleksandra Wallo (Slavic and Eurasian Languages and Literatures) was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 2021. Her first book, *Ukrainian Women Writers and the National Imaginary: From the Collapse of the USSR to the Euromaidan* (University of Toronto Press, 2020), received Honorable Mention for the 2021 Omeljan Pritsak Book Prize in Ukrainian Studies. This summer and fall she finished work on her open-education web-based resource of basic Ukrainian grammar, *Dobra Forma* (<https://dobraforma.ku.edu/>), which was published by the Open Language Resource Center at the University of Kansas. She was named KU Spring 2021 Textbook Hero for this project (<https://lib.ku.edu/textbook-heroes>).

News from our Alumni and Students

Aylar Atadurdyeva (Global and International Studies, Microbiology, Political Science) is an intern at American Councils for International Education. She creates content for social media for Education USA in Central Asia.

Jakob Johnson (Slavic and Eurasian Languages and Literatures) had a book review published in *Slavia Centralis*, <https://journals.um.si/index.php/slaviacentralis/article/view/1279>. The book was *Turkisms in South Slavonic Literature: Turkish Loanwords in Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Bosnian and Bulgarian Franciscan Sources* by Florence Lydia Graham.

Joe McConnell (REES & Film and Media Studies BA 2018) and his wife Annie met while studying at KU. Annie studied Architectural Engineering and Joe dual majored in Film and Media Studies and Russian, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies. After graduation he was commissioned into the US Army as an Infantry Lieutenant. They were married in 2018 and shortly after completing Infantry Basic Officer Leadership Course, Ranger School, and Airborne School, he was stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii on the Island of Oahu. In Hawaii he served as a Rifle Platoon Leader and Executive Officer for a Rifle Company and Weapons Company.



MSI/CC Professional Development Fellowships

KU's Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (CREES) is excited to announce a new fellowship program for faculty and instructors at Minority Serving Institutions and Community Colleges in the Great Plains region and beyond. Aimed at promoting professional partnerships and expanding knowledge of a diverse and dynamic world region, the fellowship offers funding for a wide range of professional development activities related to Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia. Fellowship funds can be used to support many different types of domestic and international professional development opportunities that advance understanding of the region, including: conducting research; accessing the library, archival, and faculty resources at KU CREES or another institute specializing in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies; attending a training, workshop, or conference; enrolling in a class or seminar; participating in a study abroad program; or developing a new course.

Awards range from \$500 to \$3,000 and are funded by a Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center grant administered by KU's Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. Preference will be given to Minority-Serving Institutions and Community Colleges in Kansas and neighboring states, but MSIs and CCs from across the country are eligible to apply and will be given full consideration.

Deadline: Applications will be accepted and awarded on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted. To fill out an online application, go to: crees.ku.edu/funding-opportunities
CREES staff are happy to discuss possible work plans before you submit an application. We also encourage cross-institutional collaborations if you are interested in collaborating with KU faculty on a project, and we can help connect partners for faculty collaborative projects. If you have any questions about the fellowship program, please contact CREES at crees@ku.edu.

CREES Faculty Research and Outreach Grants

The Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies welcomes applications for a new program supporting faculty research and outreach related to Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia. These awards are offered to help faculty continue their research and outreach activities even as international travel remains difficult due to the pandemic. Larger awards support student research assistants, enhancing faculty research and outreach efforts and providing a professional experience to CREES students.

Awards of up to \$750 are available to support domestic travel for professional meetings and outreach related to Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia. These funds can also be used toward domestic or international virtual conference or workshop participation.

To apply: Send an abstract of no more than 250 words to crees@ku.edu explaining the purpose of your travel or virtual meeting, the nature of your participation, and how the trip will enrich your professional goals as well as help promote Russian, East European, and Eurasian studies at KU. Include a budget detailing your anticipated costs, and indicate what other funding sources you have or will apply for. Please provide documentation or a weblink if you will be attending a conference, meeting, or other event.

Awards of up to \$2,500 are available to fund the hiring of KU graduate or undergraduate student hourlies to assist you with research related to Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia.

To apply: Submit an abstract of no more than 500 words to crees@ku.edu explaining how the graduate or undergraduate student will enhance your research project, what they will learn from working on it, and how the project will advance your professional goals and promote Russian, East European, and Eurasian studies at KU. Grant funds must be given in the form of student salary; rates should be set at \$10/hour for undergraduate students and \$15/hour for graduate students. Include a timeline and budget for the proposed project, a 2-page version of your CV, and, if available, provide a short biographical statement about your proposed student assistant and their qualifications.

Eligibility: All KU faculty members, lecturers, and post-doctoral instructors are eligible to apply.

Deadline: Applications will be accepted and awarded on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted. Completed applications must be submitted electronically to crees@ku.edu.

Terms of Awards: Travelers must adhere to KU travel policies and coordinate their travel plans with the university's Shared Services Center. All recipients must submit a 250-word report explaining how the award helped advance their professional goals and promoted Russian, East European, and Eurasian studies at KU. Final reports are due one month after travel and/or research is completed.

Questions? Please contact crees@ku.edu.



Giving to KU CREES

The Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies has been a national leader for the study of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe since 1959. The Center is a degree-granting program within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas.

Many of our activities are enhanced through private donations to the Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies. Special events, renowned lecturers, scholarships and study abroad opportunities are just some of the ways your donations can help us to maintain our Center's vitality. We hope that you will contribute generously to strengthen the Center's programs by sending your gift today. Your gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law. Thank you for your support!

FOR ONLINE DONATIONS

A secure online donation can be made to CREES via the KU Endowment website at: crees.ku.edu/give-crees

FOR DONATIONS BY MAIL

If you would like to make a donation by check or money order, please make your check payable to **KU CREES** and mail your donation to:

Center for Russian, East European &
Eurasian Studies
Bailey Hall, 1440 Jayhawk Blvd., Room 320
Lawrence, KS 66045-7574

CREES General Fund

Supports a wide range of educational and outreach activities. Among its dedicated sponsors are the **Oswald P. Backus/Anna Cienciala Memorial Fund** for visiting lecturers in Polish Studies, the **Bramlage/Willcoxon 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.

Palij Family Fund

Supports visiting lecturers in Ukrainian studies, and the Ukrainian Studies Prize for an outstanding student specializing in Ukrainian.

George C. Jerkovich Fund

Supports the development of KU's South Slavic library collection; and provides awards to outstanding students with a demonstrated 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 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 students who have shown commitment and scholarly interest in Ukraine and Ukrainian Studies.

Alexander Tsiovkh Memorial Fund

This fund is named after the late Alexander Tsiovkh, a longtime professor of Ukrainian Studies at KU. Monies donated to this fund are used to support students of Ukrainian Area Studies at KU.

SPASIBO Fund

The Gerald E. Mikkelson Fund supports and sustains the Siberia and St. Petersburg components of KU's instructional profile.

