

SLAVIC NEWS

SUMMER 1994

Slavic Languages and Literature, DP-32
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

I am pleased to report that, in spite of some rather difficult fiscal conditions, the Slavic Department is doing quite well. We hope to improve our contact with friends and former students via this biannual newsletter. Please continue to write us about your concerns and accomplishments so we can share them with all of you.

In the past year we have put at least two of our language areas on firmer ground through the addition of two new faculty. Katarzyna Dziwirek in Polish, and Gordana Crnkovic in Croatian and Serbian, have completed a very successful year as Assistant Professors in the Department.

Although we still feel ourselves somewhat short-handed and are waiting anxiously for word that we may begin a search for another tenure-track position in Russian literature, the Department is still carrying out its mission with style and aplomb. While many schools are reporting fairly serious retrenchment because of declining enrollments and many more competing programs available, we continue to have high demand right up through this year. You will also notice from this newsletter that both the undergraduate and graduate programs are producing impressive graduates in impressive numbers. We have been aided greatly by contributions to the various funds set up by contributors in the past and we thank you all for the help. Our goal is to establish an endowment fund. This would go a long way toward ensuring our continued success.

Karl Kramer, who has been working away while on sabbatical, asked me to wish you well. He will resume the Chair in January, 1995. We all look forward to seeing you at any of the functions planned for this year and to hearing from you at any time.

James Augerot, Acting Chair

SUMMER PROGRAM 1994

To increase our summer intensive language program students' knowledge of Russian language and culture we have planned the following: Russian Table meets Monday through Thursday at noon in the northeast corner of the HUB. Discussion is led by Russian instructors. A Russian TV news show is shown every Tuesday and Thursday at 1:10 p.m. in Denny 123. Tea and conversation in Russian takes place in a warm, informal atmosphere every other Sunday evening at 8:30 p.m. at Russian House. On alternating Sundays at 7 p.m. students watch Russian films. The next film will be on July 17.

On Wednesdays at 7 p.m. students play chess "in Russian", learning the names of the pieces and moves, as taught by Charles Mills. Folkdancing, directed by Lusja Kuimova, provides an opportunity to kick up one's heels, while still vicariously learning verbs of motion! Dancers of all levels gather every Thursday during the summer at 7:30 p.m. in Russian House.

The weekend bike rides and mountain hike, led by Professor West, the midterm picnic and end-of-summer awards ceremony and farewell party further enhance our summer program.

SUMMER 1994 EVENTS

Local alums are invited to join in the fun of our special summer events. as long as there is still space for our summer students! All events will take place at Russian House, 2104 NE 45th Street, Seattle.

- July 12, 7:30 p.m. **Folk Art of Yakutia**, Three Yakut artists present their work.
Still tentative, check with Slavic Department, 543-6848.
- July 15, 7 p.m. **Polish Songs and Games**
- July 18, 25, 7 p.m. **Evgenii Onegin**, Geoff Schwartz presents the opera on audio cassette.
- July 19, Aug 2, 7 p.m. **Polish films** *Call Department for further information.*
- July 26, 7:30 p.m. "The Russian Icon," a lecture with slides, by Professor Jack Haney
- Aug 9, 7:30 p.m. "Evgenii Onegin", presented by RUSS 450 students of Zoya Polack.
- Aug 18, 8 p.m. Skits, performed by Summer Quarter students, directed by Lora Bratoff.

AUTUMN 1994 EVENTS Please mark your calendars!

October 28 1994 HOMECOMING Reception at Russian House
5:30-7:30 p.m.

October 29-30 SLAVIC GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

THE FIRST ANNUAL UW SLAVIC DEPARTMENT STUDENT CONFERENCE will be held October 29-30 in HUB 309. Graduate students will "try out" the papers they plan to present at the subsequent AAASS (Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies) and AATSEEL (American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages) conferences in November and December. Faculty may participate as panel chairs or discussants at the UW conference. A detailed schedule of panels will be available after the deadline for submission of papers, October 10. Alumni are welcome.

NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS: 1994-95

We welcome the following incoming graduate students:

Regina Berry from Vanderbilt University plans to work with Russian and Czech languages.

Bridget Dahill-Baue from Wesleyan University and Middlebury College will specialize in Slavic linguistics.

Yelena Furman from Stanford University was awarded a full fellowship for her first year of graduate study to work towards a degree in Russian literature. She has a special interest in Russian women writers.

Carmen Votaw from the Defense Language Institute and Principia College will work towards a degree in Russian literature.

Dawn Yerkes from Pomona College is interested in modern Russian literature.

Sofiya Yuzefpolskaya from UW-Tacoma (and before that Kuybyshev State University and Leningrad Pedagogical Institute) will also specialize in Russian literature.

FACULTY NEWS

Professor Galya Diment published two articles, "English as Sanctuary: Nabokov's and Brodsky's Autobiographical Writings," in *Slavic and East European Journal*, vol. 3 (Fall 1993), and "Andrei Platonov: The Ethical Engagement of the Writer and His Readers," in *Commitment in Reflection: Essays in Literature and Moral Philosophy*, ed. by Leona Toker, Garland Press, 1993.

Professor Katarzyna Dziwirek has two recent publications. The first is with Steven Franks, "Negated Adjunct Phrases are Really Partitive," in the *Journal of Slavic Linguistics*, vol. 1, 1993. The second is *Polish Subjects*, in *Outstanding Dissertations in Linguistics Series*, New York, Garland Publishing, 1994. In addition to all these accomplishments, James Colin Pabiniak was born to Professor Dziwirek and her husband, Chester Pabiniak on May 26. Congratulations!

Professor Emeritus Pavel Viktorovich Gribanovsky passed away on February 22, 1994, in Santa Rosa, California.

Professor James West wrote the opening chapter, "The Romantic Landscape in Early Nineteenth-Century Russian Art and Literature," in the recently published book, *Russian Narrative and Visual Art: Varieties of Seeing*, by Roger Anderson and Paul Debreczeny, University Press of Florida, 1994. As Chair of the Council on International Educational Exchange's Russian Language Consortium, he travels at least twice a year to St. Petersburg or Novosibirsk.

LIBRARY NEWS

Michael Biggins has been appointed Assistant Slavic and East European Librarian for the Slavic Section of Suzzallo Library. Dr. Biggins received his Ph.D. in Slavic Linguistics from the University of Kansas in 1985, and an M.L.S from the University of Illinois in 1988. He has fluent knowledge of Croatian/Serbian, and near native knowledge of Russian, Slovenian and German. He also knows Czech, Polish, French, and Norwegian. Dr. Biggins will join the staff of the Slavic Section in early October.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

At our June Convocation fifteen graduate students were honored for receiving their Ph.D., advancing to Ph.C., or receiving their M.A. degrees during the 1993-94 academic year: Ph.D.: Irina Kominz and Michael Seraphinoff; Ph.C.: Erin Collopy, Lisa Frumkes, Joseph Kautz, Hyung-goo Lee, Anthony Qualin, Linda Tapp; M.A.: Thomas Cunningham, Mica Hall, Laurie Hartgrave, Andrew Inmiss, Elena Mihailova, Sunny Otake, Geoffrey Schwartz. Our heartiest congratulations to all!

Thomas Cunningham received a five-year scholarship to work on his Ph.D. at Princeton University.

Mica Hall was elected GPSS Vice President for 1994-95, so we should have good representation on the Graduate and Professional Student Senate.

Joseph Kautz was awarded a nine-month Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship for study and research in Russia and a six-month IREX (International Research and Exchanges) Fellowship to do research at the Institute of Theoretical Research at the Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg and the Institute of Balkan and Slavic Studies at the Academy of Sciences in Moscow.

Sergei Mihailov will portray a Russian captain of the guard in the opening episode this fall of the popular nationally broadcast TV series, "Northern Exposure." Lora Bratoff served as a cultural and historical consultant on the set of this episode entitled, "Anastasia Comes to Italy."

Brian Oles received a five-year scholarship to work on his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin.

Anthony Qualin has accepted a one year position with possibility of renewal as Assistant Professor at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas.

Timothy Riley won the award of the Women's Circle of the Polish Home, "Best First Year Student of Polish." The award included a check for \$250. Gratuluje, Tim!

Zulfiya Tokhchukova has extended her stay in Almaty with IREX for another year. She is now the Senior Program Officer and oversees the administration of all IREX programs (including scholarly exchanges, graduate student fellowships, etc.) throughout the Central Asian region.

Five of our graduate students served as judges at the April 30 high school Olimpiada, held at the UW: **Jeanne Farrow, David Graber, Marilyn Hoogen, Timothy Riley, and Galina Samoukova.** Special thanks to each of them.

Galya Diment, Graduate Program Coordinator
James Augerot, Acting Chair

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Our undergraduate major enrollment continues to hold at around 65 majors in Russian and East European languages. 24 undergraduate students were honored at the June convocation for receiving B.A.'s in Slavic Languages and Literature during the 1993-94 academic year. Alumna **Stewart Parker**, CEO for Targeted Genetics Corporation, gave a lively keynote talk on how one may use skills learned in our Russian language program in the business world. **Mary Christensen** was awarded the Degree with Distinction, having successfully presented her thesis, "Vladimir Propp's Agrarian Festivals" to a faculty committee.

We expect to have news of our recent graduates in the next alumni newsletter.

-Charlotte Wallace, Undergraduate Adviser

Any alums interested in being resources for undergraduates seeking work in the Slavic field, please contact Charlotte, 543-6848. Thanks to all of you who have already agreed to do so! We will be working with Professor Daniel Waugh, Chair of Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies, to prepare a data base to assist students in finding employment.

RUSSIAN HOUSE

Each year Russian House students plan a Slavic Film Festival. This event is intended for on-campus students, faculty, staff, and their guests. Led by President, Betsy Lauppe, and resident Denise Goforth, this year's film festival was a smashing success! These two busy organizers worked diligently, choosing popular films, after consultation with faculty, encouraging their fellow Russian House students to solicit funding from student organizations, and then publicizing the seven films chosen. 14 campus organizations agreed to co-sponsor the festival. Russian House residents placed their well-designed fliers in offices, prepared announcements for newsletters and *The Daily*, student newspaper, and with great enthusiasm and persistence spread the news by word of mouth. As a special added touch, an individual faculty member introduced each film.

The result? The average nightly attendance this year was 78, compared to last year's 40, with a record attendance of 120 on the last night for "The Twelve Chairs." The other Russian films presented were, "Adam's Rib," "Chapaev," and "Andrei Rublev," as well as "Close to Eden" (Russian Far East), "The Oak," (Romanian) and "Joan of the Angels" (Polish). Congratulations to Betsy and Denise and all the Russian House students for a splendid job on this annual tradition!

NEWS ABOUT YOU

As promised here is news about our illustrious alums.

Betsy Lauppe, B.A., 1994, is going to St. Petersburg to work in Archives with the ASSIST program.

Dana Weintraub, M.A., 1992, is Program Officer, Faculty Exchanges, for the American Council of Teachers of Russian. She oversees three bilateral teacher exchange programs for study abroad, for college teaching, and for secondary school social science teaching.

Michele Anciaux, Ph.D., 1991, is working as a systems analyst at SAFECO where she manages a major systems development project. She is also Chair of the state PTA Program Action Committee on Education Reform. In Spring 1995 Michele will teach History of the South Slavic Languages for our department.

Larissa Rudova, Ph.D., 1989, is an Assistant Professor of Russian at Pomona College. Her book, *Pasternak's Short Fiction and the Cultural Vanguard* is currently at press with Peter Lang Publishing. Her second book, *Understanding Pasternak* is forthcoming by the University of South Carolina Press in 1995.

Kevin Smith, B.A., 1989, is currently teaching English to 5th through 11th graders at a *gymnasia* in Moscow. He is also the head of the Department of International Relations at the Institute of Human Self-Regulation.

Valerie Ekberg, B.A., 1986, is a Russian Teacher and Instructor at Chugiuk High School and the University of Alaska-Eagle River Campus. She also runs her own tutoring/translating business called Uniquely Speaking.

Edward Vajda, Ph.D., 1986, received tenure at Western Washington University in 1992. The same year he was awarded WWU's Excellence in Teaching Award. In March 1994 he published an article, "Kazakh Phonology" in *Opuscula Altaica*, Western Washington University. He has written a *Guide to Russian Punctuation*, which is scheduled for publication next spring. Ed received a research grant for summer 1994 to compile a bibliography on the Paleosiberian languages, and a grant to purchase materials for studying native American languages. He taught Cherokee at WWU in 1993-94. To enhance all these achievements, on June 5, 1994, Derek Richard Vajda was born to Ed and his wife Amy. Congratulations!

Kevin Haibeck, B.A., 1984, is leaving the Army after 9 years and will perhaps be seeking employment in which he can use his Russian.

Michele Whaley (nee Smit), B.A., 1980, is a Russian teacher at East Anchorage High School. Her husband is a Renaissance house-husband who is a creative cook, musician and teacher to their two daughters, ages 4 and 1.

Steve Watkins, B.A., 1973, is teaching Russian levels I-IV at Kamiak and Mariner High Schools in Mukilteo School District #6. The two schools hosted students from St. Petersburg School #52 in February. Then in April, students from Mukilteo went to St. Petersburg to live and study with these same Russian students.

Burton E. "Bud" Bard, Jr., M.A., 1966, is president of the American Cultural Exchange. He studied Russian under professors Gershevsky, Pahn, and others in the early 1950's. In 1973, he founded the American Cultural Exchange (ACE). ACE is a non-profit international education organization which administers 7 intensive English language institutes, a foreign language program for adults and children, technical training programs, a travel agency, and a translation center.

Stuart W. Seltzer has retired from the Army and is currently living in Laurelhurst.

GIFTS

Gifts to the Department are always welcome. For your information here is a list of some of the more important funds.

•The *Friends of Slavic Languages and Literature Fund* is made up of gifts to be expended at the discretion of the Department Chair. Gifts to this fund are invaluable. The flexibility of this support enables us to allocate funds wherever the need is greatest. This fund has been used, for instance, to bring visiting lecturers and performers to campus, for publishing the *Slavic Occasional Papers*, and for extra-curricular activities, such as the events in our Summer Program and the annual Homecoming reception. It has also been used to cover the expenses of a new tradition, a convocation for our graduating students. Convocation allows our students to be recognized individually by their peers, family, and the faculty members with whom they have worked most closely, and gives them an important opportunity to speak for themselves upon their graduation.

•Each summer since 1989 the *Vadim Pahn Scholarship Fund* has been used to pay tuition for one student to attend the intensive Russian Language program. Julie Hansen was subsequently awarded a full five-year Regents Scholarship to complete her Ph.D. in Russian Literature at the University of Michigan. Another recent recipient, **Thomas Campbell**, is one of three students chosen from the University of Washington to be awarded the American Collegiate Consortium Fellowship for a year in Russia to pursue the study of a specialized topic. This year's award winner, **Amy Canon**, returned to us after studying Russian on the East Coast, because of her preference for the UW's Russian language program.

The fund has grown steadily since it was founded in 1986, but so has the cost of tuition. Now at \$967 per quarter, summer tuition has more than doubled since the fund was first used, while interest rates are half as high as they were then. Summer 1992 was the first year that interest on the fund was insufficient to cover the cost of tuition. The fund has still not caught up to inflation, despite generous donations over the years.

Two relatively new funds are the *Lew R. Micklesen Graduate Fund* and the *E. Harold Swayze Graduate Fellowship Fund*. We are grateful for these funds which have been set up to offer support to our graduate students, something our faculty is eager to see, since two of our best students are leaving this year for institutions which will offer them significantly more financial support (See "Graduate Student News"). Our dream is to be able to endow them so that the department will have a permanent source of supplementary support for graduate students as well as a permanent reminder of the work and dedication of two of our most distinguished faculty.

Non cash gifts, such as the subscription to *Sovietskii Sport*, which was actively used during the Goodwill Games, the computer modem to help Russian House students "get connected," as well as books and maps which provide a wealth of resources for the Department, are also greatly appreciated. If you wish to discuss such a contribution, please give us a call at 543-6848.

-David Miles, Administrative Assistant

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Editor: Charlotte Wallace
Your comments are welcome.

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

We would like to keep in touch with you, as we plan to share news of our alumni in our next newsletter. Please fill out the information below, and return to: Slavic Department, DP-32; University of Washington; Seattle WA 98195. Thank you.

Name _____

Business name _____

Address _____

Business address _____

Phone _____

Business phone _____

Occupation _____

Personal or professional news _____

I would ____ /would not ____ be willing to be a reference for Slavic Department students seeking employment.

You can count on my support of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature. My check, made payable to the University of Washington Foundation, is enclosed. Please direct my tax deductible gift as follows:

<u>Funds Supported</u>	<u>Amount Enclosed</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Friends of Slavic Languages & Literature Fund	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Vadim Pahn Scholarship Fund	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Lew R. Micklesen Fund	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Harold Swayze Fund	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Purpose _____	_____

_____ (company) will match my gift. The company's form is enclosed.

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