



STANFORD UNIVERSITY

## Center for Russian & East European Studies

Encina Hall, Room 200, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-6055

### NEWSLETTER

#### Spring- Summer 1992

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### Letter from the Director

The end of the academic year finds everyone associated with CREES breathless from the blistering pace of conferences, seminars and visitors. During the spring quarter alone, at least a dozen major events focused our efforts on understanding the sea of changes in the East European, Russian and Eurasian areas. Robert Conquest and Alec Nove debated the extent of the human losses of Stalinism. Lazar Fleishman and Grisha Freidin organized a fascinating conference on the work of our Kendall Visiting Professor, Andrei Sinyavsky. The Stanford-Berkeley Conference, which was attended this year by some 350 people, looked at the consequences of the collapse of the Soviet Union, both for the region itself and for the future development of scholarship. Wayne Vucinich organized a by now traditional symposium updating alumni and students on the contemporary situation in Eastern Europe. Gorbachev visited, as did Latvian President Gorbunovs and Ukrainian Parliament Member Ivan Drach. CREES students got a chance to lunch with visiting IIS Advisory Council dignitaries, including Rozanne Ridgeway and Geoffrey Howe. To conclude a remarkable year of seminars and lectures, Arnold Horelick gave the annual Donald M. Kendall Lecture, on the foreign policies of the successor states of the Soviet Union.

At the end of the academic year it is appropriate to say goodbye to many good friends and colleagues who have enriched our programs: Heinrich Bortfeldt, who will return to Germany after having studied East German - U.S. relations as a CREES Visiting Scholar; Tatiana Krylova, the Raisa Gorbacheva Fellow,

who will return to Moscow to teach business and economics; Ivana Bozdechova, a Fulbright fellow, who has invigorated our Czech language-teaching program with her great enthusiasm, knowledge and warmth; Andrei Sinyavsky, Kendall Visiting Professor in the Slavic Department, whose brilliance and utterly humane views of the Soviet past and Russian future will remain with us long after he leaves; Elemer Hankiss, who returns to the battles of Hungarian Television after two quarters of teaching East European politics; and Gail Kligman, who taught East European anthropology, and who has accepted a position at Georgetown University. We are all grateful to Bert Patenaude and his contributions to the History and CREES programs. Special thanks to Jehanne Gheith of Stanford's Slavic Department (and next year of Duke's), who, as Resident Fellow in Slavianskii Dom, has played a central role in linking CREES programs to undergraduate concerns.

We are fortunate to have enlisted Frank Sysyn of Edmonton University as next year's Kendall Visiting Professor for Winter and Spring quarters. Sysyn is one of the world's leading experts on the past and present of Ukraine, surely an area of critical importance in the years to come. We are also pleased that John Dunlop, Jack Kollmann, Semion Lyandres, Waldemar Martyniuk, and Wayne Vucinich will all be part of our

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teaching program during the 1992-1993 academic year.

I will be on sabbatical next year. I am thrilled to announce that Alex Dallin has agreed to return as Director of CREES. I am also glad to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to Irina Barnes and Rosemary Schnoor for having been such supportive partners during my three years as Director. I am beholden to Jack Kollmann for his splendid stewardship of the CREES Masters Program, which has prospered and grown into one of the leading Russian Area Studies programs in the country. Thanks to Nancy Okimoto

and Gitta Carnochan of IIS for their consistent support, and to the CREES Steering Committee of Terry Emmons, John Litwack and Lazar Fleishman for their ongoing support and wise counsel.

Finally, I thank our donors and friends without whom our programs in the past and initiatives of the future would be much diminished.

Norman Naimark  
Director, CREES

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## Students 'Interning' in Eastern Europe

by Kathleen O'Toole, reprinted with permission from the June 10, 1992 *Stanford University Campus Report*

Many university students who have studied Russia and Eastern Europe would like to help those countries during their chaotic transitions to democracy and capitalism. Now, Stanford University students have that opportunity through a trial internship program that has been created by the Center for Russian and East European Studies.

Funded by a local businessman, three June graduates – Ed Stevens of Coral Springs, Fla.; Jonathan Nighswander of Gilmanston, N.H.; and Daniel Trubow of Stanford – will go to Russia in late summer or early fall to apply their skills in businesses or agencies that have requested hands-on help.

Nighswander will work at *Kommersant*, the Russian version of the *Wall Street Journal*. Stevens will work at a former military aviation electronics factory that is partially retooling for consumer production. Trubow's assignment still is being finalized by staff of the Center for Russian and East European Studies, which administers the new program, known as the CREES Enterprise Fellowships.

"Many students were eager to help but they needed a mechanism to do it," said Norman Naimark, director of the center and a professor of history.

Meanwhile, academic, business and government visitors to campus from countries in the former Soviet bloc were pleading for such help, Naimark said. They convinced him that "hands-on, practical day-to-day help is as important, if not more important, than the abstract notion of foreign aid and capital transfers."

When Tom Sege of Varian Associates offered to fund a trial project, the center agreed to take on the task of organizing a matching program for Stanford students and recent graduates.

"I was born in Yugoslavia of Hungarian parents, so I had a natural interest in helping these countries," said Sege of Woodside, Calif.

Sege has made many trips to Eastern Europe and Russia to provide hands-on help himself because "this is the best

opportunity we've had in decades to make a significant difference in those countries."

The Enterprise Fellows are likely to have more direct involvement in businesses, local governments and public service institutions than Peace Corps volunteers, who generally serve as trainers to people in the country they are assigned.

"I visualize this program as training by doing," Sege said.

The largest task is matching student talents with needs, said Irina Barnes, assistant director of the center. For now, assignments are being made only in Russia because the center, its faculty and U.S. business contacts have better contacts there than in the rest of the former Soviet bloc, she said.

"We want each student to have a mentor in the United States who is involved in the field that the student will be working in," she said. "The host side is to provide living accommodations – a private room with a family – a useful assignment and a mentor there who can assist the student with any problems that may arise."

Students from throughout the university may apply for assignments, she said. Language skills are important but so are technical skills. In some cases, the host may be able to provide the fellow with an interpreter, she said.

The first three fellows speak Russian but only two are Russian studies majors. Trubow, who this month is receiving a master's degree in engineering management, began studying Russian in 1988 "because I felt Russia was going to convert to capitalism and I wanted to be part of its conversion."

"The main reason I'm going is that I love the language and I love the literature," said Stevens, who has worked in his father's business and has majored in Russian studies here. "I want to be fluent and able to read Russian for the rest of my life without a dictionary."

Nighswander, a June master's graduate in Russian and East European studies, has served as translation editor for *Montage* magazine, the Stanford- and Moscow-based bilingual Russian-American student journal. He speaks eight languages and worked last summer in Moscow giving seminars on Japanese business practices to Russian managers. Eventually, he said, he hopes to get a full-time job in Russia.

# INNOVATIVE PROGRAM FOR STANFORD GRADUATES

## CREES ENTERPRISE FELLOWSHIP

**PURPOSE:** to encourage recent Stanford graduates to volunteer for work in the former Soviet Union to aid in the current transitional period. This kind of hands-on approach will allow volunteers to play a role of genuine consequence in shaping Russia's emerging social-economic structure. The seemingly small contribution made by any single individual will have much larger consequences as the effect of that experience ripples out and is transferred to an increasingly wider circle of participants.

**WHERE ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES?** Volunteers will work in three areas:

**Business**—all aspects of modern business practices (accounting, marketing, staff development, and finance)

**Government**—local, regional, and national organizations, including selected ministries (e.g., the new Ministry of the Environment)

**Humanitarian**—hospitals and clinics, orphanages, homes for the aged, health education

**WHAT IS THE PROCESS?** Volunteers will be matched with institutions requesting help. Close communications will be maintained with mentors in the U.S. to help and advise the volunteers.

**WHO IS IN CHARGE?** The Center for Russian and East European Studies (CREES) will be the clearing house: advertise the program, take applications, help arrange for visas and tickets, and do what administration is necessary. CREES will also help in making the match between volunteer and U.S. mentor.

We are very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sege for their gift which initiated this program. Please contact the CREES office if you would like more information, or wish to make a gift to the CREES Enterprise Fund.

On the return of the participants, we plan a reception so that volunteers can have the opportunity to thank donors and share the experiences their gifts made possible.

*For further information, please call Irina Barnes: (415) 725-6852*

## Congratulations to CREES Graduates

Everyone at CREES sends congratulations and best wishes to the 8 graduates who recently received their M.A. degrees in Russian and East European Studies: Hilary Appel, Mei Fen Chen, Amy Gillett, Emily Locker, Jonathan Nighswander, Louis O'Neill, Amy Robison, and David Stewart.

## Recollections on CREES's Early Days

*Wayne Vucinich, Professor Emeritus of History at Stanford University, served as Director of the Center for Russian and East European Studies from 1972 to 1985.*

The decision to specialize in history came late to me. It was one of the "cheaper" majors at the university, as no extra fees for laboratory and field work were required. I studied French and German but specialized in Russian, and took it as my second major. After obtaining my A.B. (1936) and M.A. (1937) at the University of California, Berkeley, I studied at the Charles University in Prague, Czechoslovakia, specializing in the history of the Slavic peoples and in the Russian and Czech languages. In 1941 I received a Ph.D. from UCB in modern European history.

In my youth I lived in eastern Hercegovina, a community in which Serbs and Muslim Slavs co-existed and influenced one another since the fifteenth century. In this environment I developed a strong interest in the history of Islam and the Ottoman Empire. Eastern Hercegovina was under the rule of Austria-Hungary from 1878 to 1918, the period of local history which has always fascinated me. My background no doubt explains the diversity of my scholarly interests: Eastern Europe, the Balkans, the Ottoman Empire, Islamic civilization, Eastern Christianity, Byzantine civilization, the Habsburg Empire, Russia, modern Europe, and Western civilization. I taught in and published on all these fields.

Throughout my life, I have also had a particular interest in the problems of nationality and peasantry, especially in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Because of my academic specialization and interests, I was offered a job in Washington in September of 1941 and served with the Office of the Coordinator of Information (COI), precursor of the Office of Strategic Service (OSS); the United States Navy and Department of State, and held a variety of assignments in Washington, London, Bari (Italy), and Sofia (Bulgaria). I accepted a teaching position in the Department of History at Stanford in September 1946 as instructor in Western civilization, climbed the ranks, and retired in 1978, although I have continued to teach on a part-time basis. Between 1960 and 1971 I taught three times at each of Stanford's Overseas Campuses in Florence, Beutelsbach and Vienna. During forty-five years of teaching at Stanford, more than 5,000 students attended my classes. I directed and co-directed thirty Ph.D.'s and a large number of M.A. students.

In 1972 I was appointed director of Stanford's Center for Russian and East European Studies (CREES), which was under the Committee on International Studies (CIS), headed by Robert E. Ward, Professor of Political Science. The CREES staff consisted of a director, paid by the Department of History, and a half-time secretary, paid by CIS. From the very beginning of CREES, Elise Johnson served as secretary and administrator. CREES had no special funds of its own; however, it received occasional small funds from CIS, the federal government, and private endowments.

The purpose of CREES was to help initiate research projects and to help find funds to sustain them. Other purposes of CREES were to provide a modest financial assistance to students and faculty for special studies, travel and typing, to aid libraries in procuring materials on Eastern Europe and Russia, and to sponsor guest lectures, seminars and conferences. As we succeeded in obtaining some funds from private sources, endowments and the government, CREES was able to expand its activity. It began to give prizes for top papers in Slavic studies.

Other important objectives of CREES were to promote Slavic studies on the Stanford campus and to coordinate the fields already offered. It sought to persuade the university and the Department of Economics to add a position in Soviet or East European economics and worked with the Department of Slavic Languages to add instructors in Polish or some other Slavic language and literature. A teaching position in economics was eventually established but not the language position, except on a provisional basis. CREES sought to develop a program abroad in East European studies, and a program was established in Kraków, Poland. Due to lack of funds the program in Poland was abandoned, but was re-instated several years later.

Although CREES's faculty was small, it was suggested that CREES could generate student interest in and draw national attention to Stanford's East European and Russian programs by organizing annual conferences at Stanford. Such conferences won considerable prominence, and because most papers read at the conferences were of high scholarly quality, they were published individually or collectively. About ten volumes of conference proceedings were published during my directorship.

With the cooperation of Professor Reginald Zelnik at UC Berkeley, a former student of mine, the annual Stanford-Berkeley Conference was initiated, to be hosted alternately at Stanford and Berkeley. These conferences have also been successful, both in terms of scholarship and attendance.

M.A. and A.B./M.A. degrees in Russian and East European studies were introduced during my tenure, but the program did not reach its efflorescence until later.

From the very beginning, members of CREES were active in professional circles. They worked closely with IUCTG, an exchange program with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. I served on the committee for the selection of applicants for study and research abroad. CREES continued this cooperation after the organization changed its name to IREX and moved to New York. A number of Stanford students had the opportunity to study and do research abroad; they now hold prominent academic positions.

During my tenure CREES initiated a course in Slavic civilization, in which most of the colleagues on campus participated. Only an occasional outsider was invited to give lectures in a specialized field. This course has been continued, but in recent years its scope and focus have been shifted from Slavic to Russian Civilization.

CREES has been strongly interested in Soviet nationalities. I offered a colloquium on Soviet nationalities in the Department of History, and at least two conferences on nationalities have been organized and their proceedings published. Under the auspices of the Hoover Institution, I was invited to serve as editor of the series on Soviet nationalities, which has recently been expanded to include the East European nationalities. Seven volumes have appeared in this series.

For three years I also served as curator of the Russian and East European collections in the Hoover Institution. This enabled CREES to establish close cooperation with Hoover.

CREES also established close cooperation with the Stanford Alumni Association and the Development Office. A number of CREES members participated in the travel-study programs sponsored by the Alumni Association. Such study programs included the Baltic and Black Sea regions, the Volga River, Russia, Siberia, Central Asia, the Caucasus, Yugoslavia, Poland and Czechoslovakia. The most popular of the travel studies has

been the Danube College, initiated in 1971. This year the Alumni Association will be sponsoring its 27th Danube College. Out of this cooperation with the Alumni Association has emerged the annual Round Table Discussion, jointly sponsored by the Alumni Travel Study Program and CREES, and held in the spring every year. The Round Table is open to students, members of the Alumni Association, scholars, and the general public.

A very significant event during my directorship of CREES was the transfer to Stanford of the national headquarters of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies and the appointment of Dorothy Atkinson as its Executive Director. The presence of the AAASS on the Stanford campus has given the university world-wide attention as a center for Russian and East European studies. Stanford's CREES has worked closely with the AAASS; Professor Atkinson served on the Stanford faculty prior to assuming her position at AAASS.

At one point, for economic reasons, the university considered abolishing the position in East European history; however, Mr. Robert McDonnell and his wife Florence, well-known university benefactors, decided to establish a chair in the field of East European history, and thereby assured the teaching of East European history on the Stanford campus. I was named the first holder of the Robert and Florence McDonnell Professorship in Eastern European Studies.

The university matched the McDonnell contribution with a modest grant and named it the Wayne S. Vucinich Fund for Russian and East European Studies. Many Stanford alumni and friends have contributed and continue to contribute to this fund,

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## St. Petersburg Impressions (Part 2)

*This is the second installment of the article written by CREES MA Program Coordinator Jack Kollmann upon his return from leading a nine-day art and architecture tour of St. Petersburg in February 1992.*

### Sodom and Gomorrah Revisited

Intourist hotels have been declining in recent years. Pick-pocketing and thefts from hotel rooms, once unheard of, are increasingly common. Black marketeers operate openly in the lobby, elevators, and hallways; they even rent hotel rooms which serve as little shops for lacquer boxes (frequently fake) and caviar (frequently stale). Prostitutes work the lobby and the bar; their pimps joke with the doormen and the policemen on guard, slipping them money to cooperate. Fortunately, staying (at our request) in the modest Hotel Moskva, we escape the more flagrant activities now characteristic of the relatively posher, Swedish-built Pribaltiiskaia, which has the added disadvantage of being closer to Helsinki than to the Hermitage Museum.

I am itching to get to the recently renovated Astoriia and Evropeiskaia, the two most elegant pre-Revolutionary hotels of the imperial capital. The Astoriia was built, and the Evropeiskaia remodeled, by Lidval, each in a variant of Style Moderne, the Astoriia interior being largely plain, clean and white, the Evropeiskaia in a more florid, Art Nouveau style.

In the past, I have witnessed some of the liveliest nightlife in town in the dining rooms of these two hotels: loud saxophone bands, unnecessarily augmented by Yamaha amplifiers and speakers; boisterous drunken birthday and other celebrations, the tables groaning with food and bottles (vodka, *shampanskoe*, Georgian wine, Armenian *kon'ialk*, mineral water); prostitutes working the crowd, particularly the foreigners (a recent poll showed that being a prostitute for foreign currency was high on the list of a typical teenage

girl's ambitions); in sum, these were noisy, cigarette smoke-filled rooms, full of action, where Russians and foreigners joined in an all-out party atmosphere. Brimming with nostalgia, I'm anxious to revisit Sodom and Gomorrah.

Late one evening, I'm headed for the Astoriia, down Morskaia (formerly Herzen, formerly Morskaia) Street. A Finnish firm recently renovated the Astoriia and rebuilt the adjoining Angleterre; after a delay caused by squabbles over final payment between the Finns and the Russians, the re-openings took place last year. In the pristine Astoriia lobby, someone approaches and inquires if she can help us (this is a first for me in a Russian hotel!). I ask if my party can peek into the main, glass-ceiling dining room, and she says of course, right this way. We walk on spotless floors past a sitting area of brand new plush furniture and carpets. No one is around; the only sound is our footsteps on the polished stone floor. The dining room is "in principle" closed, but a friendly and helpful waiter (another first!) offers to bring us whatever he can from the kitchen, for *valiuta* (hard currency), of course. We order *shampanskoe* and *zakuski* (hors d'oeuvres). Experience warns me that this guy may try to overload us with expensive servings, but he is scrupulously fair. What he brings is just right for our snack, and the bill is positively modest.

My friends are disappointed in the plain, white decor of the room, and they want to know where is the vaunted action I had promised them. "The decor represents a good restoration of Lidval's design," I say; "as for the fact that we are nearly the only customers in the entire dining room, I guess it's because the room is closing, and this is a weeknight." (When you're the study leader for a tour, the participants expect you to have answers; I try to oblige.)

"You've lost track of the days, Jack: it's Saturday night, and it's

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# Lectures and Seminars, 1991-92

Sorin Antohi, *The Communist Experience and Educational Reform in Romania*. 4/15/92  
Ivo Banac, *The War in Yugoslavia*. 4/23/92  
Sergei Bobylev, *The Economy, the Environment and Agriculture*. 2/10/92  
Dusko Bogunovic, *Bosnia's Involvement in the Yugoslav War*. 3/10/92  
Bernd Bonwetsch, *The Leningrad Affair*. 9/27/91  
Victor Buganov, *The Nobility in Russian History*. 10/11/91  
William Brumfield, *Russian Modernism*. 11/15/91  
Feodor Burlatski, *Problems of the Union and Democracy in the Post-Coup Era*. 11/14/91  
Robert Conquest and Alec Nove, *Stalin: The Death Toll*. 4/2/92  
Gregory Freidin, *Being There: Moscow - August 19 and After*. 10/23/91  
Alla Gerber, *The Dangers of Fascism in the USSR*. 12/3/91  
Anatoly Glinkin, *Soviet Strategy in Latin America and the Caribbean*. 11/13/91  
Paul Goble, *It is Time to Forget the Soviet Union*. 2/3/92  
Mikhail Guboglo, *Politics of Language: Bilingual Education*. 11/26/91  
Peter Hanak, *The Revival of Nationalism in Eastern Europe*. 2/12/92  
Elemer Hankiss, *The Shock of Freedom: The Post-Revolutionary Crisis in East Central Europe*, 10/17/91, and *The Struggle for the Control of the Media in East Central Europe*, 10/24/91  
Zdenek Hlavsa, *Czechs and Slovaks - The Politics of Language and Nationality*. 4/2/92  
William Keller and Ann Cooper, *Portraits from a Dying Empire*. 2/5/92  
Jack Kollmann, *An Introduction to Early Russian Art And Architecture: A Slide Illustrated Lecture Series*. 4/15, 4/29, 5/4, and 6/2/92  
Sergei Krasil'nikov, *Kulak Settlements and Forced Labor in Siberia in the 1930's*. 2/13/92  
Roman Laba, *The Ukrainian Drive to Independence*. 1/10/92  
Sergei Mironenko, *Reformi v Rossii 19-go veka i v Nastoyashcheye Vremya*. 10/31/91  
Roger Pethybridge, *Soviet Treatment of the Minority Nationalities in the 1920's and the Early Gorbachev Period - a Comparison*. 4/13/92  
Natalia Pirumova, *The Historical Profession in the Soviet Union*, 12/5/91, and *Reflections on Russian Liberalism*, 12/11/91  
Andrei Saharov, *Perspectives on Russian History*. 5/29/92  
Konstantin Sarkisov, *Is There a Future Role for Russia in Asia?* 5/4/92  
Viktor Sheinis, *The Socio-Political Relations in the Commonwealth*. 1/30/92  
Lilia Shevtsova, *Yeltsin's Government: The Role of Academic Advisors*. 4/29/92

Renata Siemienska-Zochowska, *Women and Politics in Poland's Transition*. 3/5/92  
Jasminka Sohinger, *Economic Reform in Eastern Europe and Challenger for the European Community*. 1/14/92  
Anatoly Sungurov, *Democratization in Russia*. 2/28/92  
Jochen Thies, *Germany and Eastern Europe*. 4/30/92  
Mikk Titma, *Emigration from the Territories of the Former Soviet Union*. 1/22/92  
Anton V. Vassiliev, *Future Directions in Russian Policy Toward East Asia*. 5/7/92  
Georgii Vlasenko, *Memories of the Caucasus* (film). 4/8/92  
Nikolai Zlobin, *Emerging Political Parties in Russia*. 2/21/92

## Round Table/Panel Discussions

*East Germans and the New Federal Republic*. 3/13/92  
*The Russian Revolution of August 1991*. 10/2/91  
*The War in Yugoslavia*. 10/28/91

## Annual Donald M. Kendall Lecture on Soviet Affairs

Dr. Arnold Horelick, *The New International Relations of the Soviet Successor States*. 5/18/92

## Conference

XVI Annual Stanford-Berkeley Conference, *The Consequences of the Collapse of the Soviet Union*. 4/10/92

## Symposium

*Abram Terts: Goodnight, Soviet Civilization!* 5/4/92

We wish to acknowledge the cooperation and co-sponsorship of many Stanford organizations which have helped bring a rich and varied program to our campus. Among them were:

Berkeley-Stanford Program in Soviet Studies  
Center for East Asian Studies  
Center for European Studies  
Center for International Security and Arms Control  
Department of Art  
Department of Economics  
Department of History  
Department of Political Science  
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures  
Graduate School of Business  
Hoover Institution  
Institute of International Studies  
International Relations Program  
Latin American Studies Program  
Overseas Studies Program

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only 10:00 p.m.," my friends retort, none too gently. So much for Sodom.

On the way out through the lobby, we ask at the desk if we can see a room. An immaculately dressed attendant meets us on the fifth floor and shows us three rooms, costing, as I recall, between \$300 and \$450 a night. No wonder the place is empty! I ask her who owns and runs the hotel, now that the Finns are paid off. "Intourist," she replies. "But," I say, "I thought St. Petersburg Intourist collapsed in December." "That's true," she admits; "I guess it's the city that now runs the hotel."

One of the rooms reminds me that I have stayed previously in one like it. In the hands of the Finnish renovators, unfortunately, everything is too new and well lit; the twin beds are Scandinavian modern; the new bathroom fixtures are Finnish (Arabia). Gone are the dim, old-fashioned, glass-shade lamps in the sitting area, the tattered red velvet curtains across the alcove where the bed used to hide, the faded and fraying oriental rugs.

There is one hope that Gomorrah will come to life for my group. Our final banquet is to be in the Evropeiskaia, recently renovated by a Swedish firm and now dubbed The Grand Hotel Europe — nicknamed, it emerges, "The Grand." Our reservation puts us in the famous Art Nouveau dining hall on the mezzanine (stained-glass panels and ceiling, sensuous wood balcony carvings, elegant moderne chandeliers). I have regaled my group with stories of past orgies I have witnessed in this room, dining and dancing into the wee hours in a choking cigarette fog, seated by the maitre d' at tables with Russians who insist that we all swear eternal friendship and get stinking drunk together, fending off the attentions of prostitutes, signalling in vain for surly waiters who disappear for 45 minutes at a time.

We arrive and are seated by polite, young, handsome, multi-lingual waiters (The Grand remains a Swedish/St. Petersburg joint venture, and the foreign influence shows; if any hotel in town ever sells out its rooms for hundreds of dollars a night, the Grand will be the first to do so). Only about five other tables are occupied, all by foreigners. One mixed party, I learn, is composed of Western diplomats and businessmen, together with a couple of St. Petersburg artists whose long hair advertises

their counter-cultural credentials.

The food is good and, as we would say in California, well presented, on handsome dishes made in Norway. Two pleasant wines — an Australian chardonnay, then a cabernet — are served in Swedish crystal glasses.

My group members are probably enjoying the quiet elegance, but I miss the atmosphere of old. On the small stage, from which the saxophones and drums used to blare unrelentingly, a lady pianist in an evening gown plays Chopin and Schubert rather well on a concert grand piano, the lid of the piano discreetly down so that the music does not disturb soft dinner conversation. Every other piece or so, a male flute player joins her for renderings of Bach, Poulenc and Debussy. Swedish potted ferns (the greenhouse labels are still on the containers) almost sway to the music, but the air is too still. No Russian cigarette smoke fills the air; the ferns glisten in the clean air from the light of the Art Nouveau chandeliers. The waiters are polite, even formal; at our table for eight, four waiters place our covered main course plates before us, and then, standing between us and crossing their arms in front of them like pianists crossing hands in a Beethoven sonata, they deftly and simultaneously lift the covers to reveal our filet mignon.

Not much later, we get up to leave; it's still early in the evening. The lobby of The Grand, like the dining hall, is as quiet and about as exciting as a funeral parlor. In the *valiutnyi* bar, a lone foreign couple relaxes, enjoying the soft classical music from another grand piano with its lid down. The doorman, dressed in tails, tips his top hat to us and wishes us good evening in English. Outside, maroon *valiutnye* Mercedes taxis stand idle; no customers are in sight.

I reflect on the dividing line that separates the world within The Grand from the world without. In the past, a hotel for foreigners was off-limits to most citizens, who, lest they disturb or rob the guests, were shooed away by guards at the door. Now, at the Astoria and The Grand, the doormen seem less intimidating, more welcoming. If a St. Petersburgian has *valiuta*, he is as welcome as I am. But few Russians would throw away scarce dollars for a bottle of Australian chardonnay. The barrier keeping Russians out, once physical, is now monetary.

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Donald M. Kendall Fund for Soviet Exchanges

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Endowment for Russian and East European Studies

Steven P. Rados Fund for East European Studies

Konstanty and Antonina Stys Fund

Mara Tomashevich Karabas Fund

Sara Stys Vucinich Fund

Wayne S. Vucinich Fund for Russian and East European Studies

Gifts to these funds or to the "unrestricted gifts fund" are essential to maintaining CREES programs. We appreciate the continuing support of our friends and donors.

Would you like to be on our mailing list and participate in CREES activities? Please fill in your name and address, and return to the CREES office, Room 200, Encina Hall, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-6055.

\_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation:  Student  Faculty/Staff  
Name  Alumni  Community

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# Slavic Department News

The Slavic Department bids farewell and sends best wishes to Andrei Sinyavsky (pseudonym Abram Terts), the distinguished Soviet writer and former dissident who has been this year's Kendall Visiting Professor in Soviet Studies. The department also thanks everyone who organized and attended the May 4 symposium devoted to his work, "Abram Terts: Goodnight, Soviet Civilization."

The Slavic Department congratulates and wishes the best of luck to this year's Slavic Languages and Literatures degree recipients. The following are graduates who received degrees at the June Commencement or will receive their degrees at the end of the summer: A.B.: Lisa Folickman, Marilyn Gray, Carolina Katz, Susan McKean, Beth Schroeder, Edward Stevens, and Larisa Thompson; M.A.: John Ogden, Eugene Ostashevsky, Eden Quainton, Andrea Smith, and Andrei Ustinov; Ph.D.: Jehanne Gheith, April Gifford, Thomas Hodge, and Natasha Sankovitch. The Slavic Department sends fond regards and best wishes to three of the new Ph.D. recipients who will begin teaching courses in Russian literature this fall in their new tenure-track assistant professorships: Jehanne Gheith at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina; Thomas Hodge at Wellesley College, Massachusetts; and Natasha Sankovitch at Ohio Wesleyan University.

Congratulations also to Joseph Frank, Professor Emeritus of Slavic Languages and Literatures and of comparative literature, who received an honorary doctorate from the University of Chicago on June 13 at its centennial convocation.

This fall we will welcome Steven Moeller-Sally, our new Assistant Professor of Russian Literature who comes to us from Harvard University. He will replace Jehanne Gheith as Resident Fellow at Slavianskii Dom. He will teach a course on Gogol' this fall and will teach several other courses on 19th century Russian literature during the coming academic year.

The Slavic Department also welcomes Visiting Professor Mikhail Gasparov, who will teach two courses during fall quarter: Russian Versification, and Tradition of the Classics in Russian Poetry of the Early 20th Century. Two of the several positions and credentials he holds are Professor of Stylistics and Literary Language at the Institute of Russian Language in Moscow, and Professor in the Department of the History and Theory of Culture at Moscow University.

We are also eager to welcome three new graduate students to the Slavic Department this fall: M.A. student Mathew Brandt and Ph.D. students Irina Shevelenko and Mariana Landa.

The Slavic Department is pleased to announce the special achievements of two of our professors. A huge number of copies of Professor Gregory Freidin's Russian translation of the American Federalists will be distributed in Russia. In addition, Professor Lazar Fleishman, Slavic Department Chair, has recently received a grant from the German-American Commission on Collaborative Research in support of his project entitled "From Philosophy to Poetry," which focuses on the influence of German philosophy and the Marburg School on the great 20th century Russian poet Boris Pasternak. Fleishman is working on this project with his partners in Germany, H. B. Harder and Sergei Dorzweiler, both of the University of Marburg. The grant is being administered by the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and the DAAD, the German counterpart of the ACLS.

The Slavic Department also announces the publication of Volume IV of *Stanford Slavic Studies*. This volume is an international collection of articles in honor of Professor Emeritus Joseph Frank. The next two volumes of *Stanford Slavic Studies* are currently in preparation; Professor Fleishman is working on a collection of Hoover Institution archival materials on Russian and Soviet culture, and Gregory Freidin and Katarina Clark are editing a collection of papers on contemporary Soviet mass culture.

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