

CENTER FOR
RUSSIAN,
EAST
EUROPEAN &
EURASIAN
STUDIES

CHRONICLE

2012-13



Twenty years after the collapse of the USSR, scholars of the region face exciting new challenges. Demand for expertise in the varied regions of this space continues to grow. The Caucasus and Central Asia are increasingly tied to American energy and geopolitical interests, while their Muslim populations have intensified their connections with a wider Islamic world. Russia's Pacific region is being transformed by the ascendance of China. Eastern Europe faces the wider debt crisis and confronts its own illiberal demons in countries such as Hungary. Meanwhile, the Baltic region, led by its savvy tech entrepreneurs, is rapidly remaking itself as a northern outpost of Europe. In Moscow, the once-invincible Putin system now confronts an unexpected wave of political unrest.

Opportunities for students and faculty at Stanford to explore this increasingly complex regional mosaic have grown in recent years, but CREEES has identified

three crucial areas of focus

to reorient and deepen our understanding of the region. Each of them seeks to address an enduring impediment inherited from the Cold War: exchanges with thinkers from the region are still too infrequent, and this lack of substantive contact between students and faculty in the US and the region has reinforced parochial thinking on both sides. At the same time, formidable political and economic obstacles persist in many countries of the region, leaving scholars isolated from the global circulation of knowledge.

Robert Crews, CREEES Director

three crucial areas of focus

1 THE GLOBALIZING EURASIA FUND

CREEES recognizes that our inherited model of area studies teaching and research must accommodate a rapidly globalizing world. The rise of China, the expansion of transnational Muslim networks, the political economy of oil and gas, and increasingly mobile people, commodities, and ideas are among just a few of the pressing issues that demand closer investigation.

The Globalizing Eurasia Fund targets three areas: 1) our curriculum, 2) student research and travel, and 3) faculty initiatives, including courses, guest speakers, and conferences. The Fund seeks to develop undergraduate and graduate courses that place our area more squarely in a global framework. It seeks to provide students with resources to conduct research and pursue language study in more than one world area or country (An undergraduate might, for example, combine work in Russia and China, or in Turkey and Georgia, in Tajikistan and India, etc.). This initiative links CREEES to other centers and academic units on campus, offering students a far broader and richer foundation of knowledge that prepares them for dynamic global careers after Stanford.



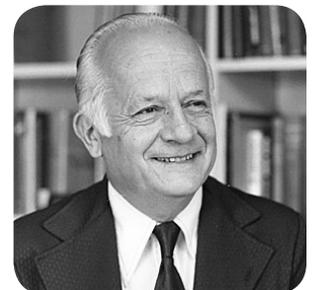
2 THE STANFORD POST-SOVIET POST

In February 2012, visiting scholar Natalia Koulinka and CREEES program and publication coordinator Jeff Carr launched a trial version of a website meant as a tool to connect prominent scholars of Russia, East Europe, and Eurasia with journalists, policymakers, businesspeople, and the broader public.

After receiving positive feedback, CREEES assembled a distinguished faculty editorial board to oversee the development of the website on a more permanent basis. The Stanford Post-Soviet Post, which fully launches in autumn 2012, includes the following sections: 1) faculty and other expert reactions to current events in a blog format, 2) interviews with prominent visitors to campus, 3) reviews of Eurasian media reports on selected topics, and 4) items of historical note, including highlights of holdings from the Hoover Archives and oral interviews with CPSU apparatchiks. The site can be viewed at <http://postsovietpost.stanford.edu>.

3 THE WAYNE VUCINICH VISITING SCHOLAR

In recognition of the extraordinary contributions that visiting scholars from the region can make in the intellectual development of students and faculty, we have recently established the Wayne Vucinich Visiting Scholar Fellowship. Named in honor of one of the founders of Russian Studies at Stanford, the fellowship will bring one scholar from the region to campus for one or more quarters, depending upon funding. At Stanford, the scholar will engage with students and faculty and pursue his or her own research agenda. In some cases, the visitor may also be invited to teach a course. We seek to broaden this initiative and expand opportunities for scholars beyond the internationalized academic institutions of places such as Moscow and St. Petersburg. Target areas include provincial Russian universities, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, including Afghanistan.



featured

RECENT FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Shahzad Bashir and Robert Crews (eds.)

Under the Drones: Modern Lives in the Afghanistan-Pakistan Borderlands

Harvard Univ. Press, 2012

Nancy Kollmann

Crime and Punishment in Early Modern Russia

Cambridge Univ. Press, 2012

Pavle Levi

Cinema by Other Means

Oxford Univ. Press, 2012

Nariman Skakov

The Cinema of Tarkovsky: Labyrinths of Space and Time

I.B. Tauris, 2012

FLAS FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

Shane Morrison, Stanford Medical School
for the advanced study of Albanian

Morrison's study of Albanian in 2012-13 with a CREEES-funded private tutor has been integral in his research on attitudes and knowledge of HIV/AIDS in Albania and barriers to treatment. Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships are funded by the US Department of Education and administered by CREEES.

SUMMER OUTREACH ACTIVITY

CREEES Director Robert Crews contributed his time and talents to Stanford College Prep, a direct-service tutoring program that provides 60 first-generation, low-income students with the resources and support to succeed academically in high school and go on to college. Crews taught courses on international relations. See photo at right.

For more information on grant recipients, visitors, alumni, and more, visit our new and improved website: creees.stanford.edu.

YOUNG ALUMNI

Andrew Roth, MA '10

Reporter, Moscow Bureau, *New York Times*

Ioanna Zyga, MA '11

Intern, NATO (Brussels)

Andrew Bogrand, MA '11

Public Relations and Development Associate, Refugee Transitions (San Francisco)

VISITORS

Tamara Martsenyuk

2012 Chopivsky Post-Doctoral Fellow in Ukrainian Studies

Martsenyuk is an Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. Her research focuses on the social structure of society, and particularly, on gender relations.

Boris Kuznetsov

CREEES Visiting Faculty

Kuznetsov is a professor at the University - Higher School of Economics (Moscow) and a Lead Researcher at the Institute for Industrial and Market Studies at the same university. He will be teaching ECON 119: The Russian Economy during winter quarter, 2013.

