

# SLAVIC NEWS

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SUMMER 1999

Slavic Languages and Literature, Box 353580  
University of Washington  
Seattle, WA 98195-3580

## REPORT ON STS. CYRIL & METHODIUS DAY

This year's Saints Cyril & Methodius Day Celebration was held May 22 at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church. When the Association of Alumni and Friends (AAFSD) opened the doors at 6:30 p.m., early arrivals had the chance to look over items at this year's raffle and to grab the best bargains at the sale of Slavic books donated by friends and retired faculty.



At 7:00 p.m. outgoing AAFSD President Pam Hafey welcomed attendees and then introduced Slavic Department lecturer Eloise Boyle, the evening's master of ceremonies. The evening featured a full complement of performing groups. First on stage was Radost, followed by Kisbetyarok, Klapa Doowopella, Saint Sava Dancers, Khorovod, and Dave & the Dalmatians.

An intermission followed, during which the Polish Home Ladies' Auxiliary awarded undergraduate Nathan Krage a check for \$350 as winner of its prize for being the UW's best Polish language student this year. While bands set up for dancing, graduate student and AAFSD board member Amarilis Lugo de Fabritz drew the names of the raffle winners. Proceeds from the raffle will be used for graduate student support.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to dancing to the music of Orkestar RTW, Druzhiba, Cathie Whitesides and Hank Bradley, and Balkanarama.

Many people helped put on the Saints Cyril & Methodius Day celebration -- the Slavic Department and AAFSD owe them a huge thanks. We are immensely grateful to all the wonderful volunteers who worked behind the scenes, our fabulous caterer Cheryl Spasojevic, and the dancers, singers, and musicians who provided such wonderful entertainment. In particular, we want to thank Fred Graves, Jeff Chang, Mike Gordon, and Balkanarama, who so graciously provided and handled the sound system. Of major importance to the graduate students were the companies and individuals that donated items to the raffle.

AAFSD is already at work planning next year's celebration. Your suggestions and help in organizing this event will be gratefully accepted.

## EVENTS

### OCTOBER 29 HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

Plans are already underway for our annual Homecoming celebration, to be held Friday, October 29 at the Center for Urban Horticulture. Washington Secretary of State Ralph Munro will be this year's featured speaker. Keep your eye out this fall for a flyer from the Alumni Association with more details.

### PAST EVENTS

- February 7 It was standing room only at this year's **Maslenitsa** celebration. While waiting for a performance by **Khorovod**, the popular Seattle-based Russian women's choir, attendees had the opportunity to browse through books sold as a fundraiser for AAFSD. Following **Khorovod's** music and antics, attendees gorged themselves on bliny. Be sure not to miss next year's celebration!
- February 26 More than 1000 high school students participated in the 2nd Annual World Languages Day to learn about world language study at the UW. In addition to visiting classes, students attended sessions such as those put on by Slavic Department faculty and grad students: "Polish culture, or what to do when a strange man kisses your hand" by **Professor Katarzyna Dziwirek**; "Puppets of Prague" by grad student **Charles Mills**; "Czech Mini Lessons and Czech Castles" by **Lecturer Jaroslava Soldanova**; Russian and Serbo-Croatian mini lessons by grad students **Emily Fields** and **Tom Bradbury**; and "The Cyrillic Alphabet and Your Home Town" by **Charles Mills**.
- March 4 George Clay, a writer of, and about, fiction, who has been published by *The New Yorker*, *The Best American Short Stories*, *and* numerous literary journals, gave a talk on "A writer's look at Tolstoy's writing." Other works by Clay include his novel *Family Occasions* and his monograph *Tolstoy's Phoenix: From Method to Meaning and Peace*.
- April 5 Judson Rosengrant, known for his translations of works by Lydia Ginzburg, Eduard Limonov, and Fazil Iskander, discussed and read from his new edition of Yury Olesha's memoiristic "No Day Without a Line: From Notebooks," recently published by Northwestern University Press.
- May 27 Students, faculty, and staff had the opportunity to hear what **Professor Galya Diment** would say if it were her last day at the UW, when she spoke on "The Power of Literature in Totalitarian Regimes" as part of the 1999 Spring Quarter Last Lecture Series.





## ACTR OLYMPIADA OF SPOKEN RUSSIAN AND HIGH SCHOOL RUSSIAN STUDENT RETREAT

Over the weekend of April 30-May 2, 1999 students from Foss High School (Tacoma), Kamiak High School (Mukilteo), Hanford High School (Richland), and West Valley High School (Spokane) took part in the UW-organized biannual high school Russian student retreat held at Camp Brotherhood near Mt. Vernon. This year's retreat was combined, for the first time, with the annual ACTR Olympiada of Spoken Russian.

The weekend began with warm-up activities led by lecturer Eloise Boyle, followed by a game of Wheel of Fortune (a la russe) led by undergrad Christina deMille. Students spent the remainder of the evening (and some, the whole night) cramming for the next day's Olympiada competition.

Judging, conducted by Eloise Boyle, administrative assistant David Miles, grad students Jeanne Farrow and Grae Waters, alums Ryan Boe, Emily Fields, Val Karren, and Eric Kinzel, and native speaker Katya Roslova, covered conversational Russian, Russian culture and civilization, and reading/discussion and poetry recitation, and went on most of the morning. Results were announced after lunch. The winners included Mark Mattson, Foss, Level 1; Ashley Ness, West Valley, Level 2; Jeremy Truax, Kamiak, Level 3; Jordan Svien, Kamiak, Level 4; and Svetlana Irmanova, West Valley, Level 5. As top finisher, Jordan won the Nora Holdsworth Scholarship, which provides full tuition to the UW's summer quarter intensive Russian language program, and second-place finisher April Hill of Kamiak won a partial scholarship to the program.



Lecturer Eloise Boyle



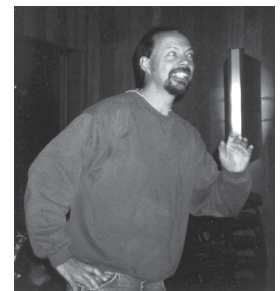
Jeremy Truax, Jordan Svien, Ashley Ness, Svetlana Irmanova, Mark Mattson



Val Karren

Students, teachers, and volunteers then participated in a mock Duma debate (on whether Yeltsin should be impeached) led by alum Val Karren, watched a slide show by undergrad Steve Borgford, and created pisanky under the guidance of West Valley teacher Merrie McIvor and her students. In the evening undergrad Rachel Yucha led students in learning Russian folk songs and creating their own songs. This was followed by skits (including Hanford's hilarious adaptation of Anton Chekhov's "The Bear"), a video, and basketball.

On Sunday grad student Kathryn Smith helped students explore Russian folk tales, and when rainy weather put the kibosh on a planned treasure hunt, Kamiak teacher Steve Watkins led a rollicking game of "Kto ya?"



Hanford teacher Daryl Rachinski tries to figure out his identity

How did students feel about the retreat and Olympiada? Below are just a few comments:

“I loved competing in the Olympiada & making friends. I thought it was really cool to be able to talk to the other people who speak Russian too.”

“I love Camp Brotherhood. That was the best camp. I hope to go back. I also hope that you can do this every year. I would be sure to come. This weekend was a blast. Thank you.”

“There wasn’t anyone I couldn’t talk to. UW staff, teachers & all the students were great. Enjoyed the activities & “playing” w/Russian language.”

Thank you to all our wonderful presenters/counselors and judges who gave of their time to make this retreat a huge success! A big thanks also goes to the very generous companies and individuals who contributed to scholarships for the high school participants and to the Nora Holdsworth Scholarship!

## RUSSIAN HOUSE

At the end of last summer the Russian House closed its doors after more than 35 years. Happily, this past autumn Housing announced it would let the Slavic Department use the Russian House for its summer quarter intensive language program, provided the department ensured a minimum number of residents. The department agreed to pay any difference using the Russian House Fund. We are pleased to report that we were able to meet the quota. Once again students are enjoying the opportunity of living in a Russian-speaking environment.

## SUZZALLO NEWS

The UW Libraries’ Slavic & East European Section and REECAS Program collaborated this spring on a successful proposal for funding under the U.S. Department of Education’s new Title VI Program supporting technological innovation for foreign information access. The funding, which will amount to some \$90,000 per year for three years, will allow UW to develop unique electronic information resources pertaining to the diverse regions of the NIS and Eastern Europe, and to collaborate with four-year and community colleges in the Puget Sound Region to develop classroom applications for these resources.

The multifaceted project, tentatively called the Central Eurasian Information Resource (CEIR), will 1) further develop the highly detailed electronic socioeconomic statistical maps of Russia begun in 1997 by two UW graduate students in Geography, 2) digitize and index thousands of visual images of structures, geographic features and folkways from throughout the region, 3) collect and archive regional online news resources, and 4) digitize other current information specific to the vast regions of Russia and the NIS. As the project evolves, faculty at The Evergreen State College and at South Seattle Community College will collaborate with UW faculty and project staff to incorporate the use of CEIR resources into their Russian area studies curricula. For more information contact Professor James West (jdwest@u.washington.edu) or Michael Biggins (mbiggins@u.washington.edu).

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This summer the Slavic Section of the Libraries welcomes Jake White as our new Slavic & East European Acquisitions Specialist. Jake brings to his new job 12 years’ experience in the UW Libraries’ Serials Division, plus experience as a staff member in Slavic at Indiana University Library and at Northwestern University Library. In addition to strong language skills in Russian, Polish, Czech, Romanian, and German, Jake also brings to the job beginner’s skills in Latvian and Hungarian, which he plans to further develop over time. Among his many other responsibilities, Jake will have oversight of the more than 100 productive exchange relationships with libraries in Russia, the NIS and Eastern Europe that continue to make UW’s one of the most comprehensive research libraries in our field nationally. With a wide range of PC and Web-design skills, Jake will also contribute to the UW’s new Title VI grant project for technology in foreign information access, beginning this fall. Jake White can be contacted by e-mail at jfwhite@u.washington.edu or at (206) 543-5588. *Write-up by Michael Biggins*

## SUMMER 1999

We are pleased to have **Irina Kinyon** teaching Ukrainian for us this summer in our intensive language program. Irina is from Kyiv, Ukraine and received her Ph.D. in philological sciences from Kyiv Shevchenko University in 1993. She has most recently been teaching at Olympic College in Bremerton.

## FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

**Professor Gordana Crnkovic** has been hard at work this past year. Her publications include "Women Writers in Croatian and Serbian Literatures" and "Gender Imagery in Croatian and Serbian Literatures," two articles published in *Gender Politics in the Balkans: Women, Politics and Culture* (Yugoslavia and Yugoslav Successor States) edited by Sabrina Ramet and published by Pennsylvania State University Press, 1998; "George Orwell: 1999, Croatia," an article published in the Croatian cultural magazine *Zarez*, 1999; and "An Interview with Agnieszka Holland," published in *Film Quarterly*, Berkeley, University of California Press, 1999.

**Professor Katarzyna Dziwirek**, who served as editor-in-chief, is happy to report that the proceedings of last year's conference have been published as *Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics VI: The Seattle Meeting* (Michigan Slavic Publications, 1999).

**Professor Jack Haney's** article, "Mr. Afanasiev's Naughty Little Secrets: Russkie Zavetnye Skazki," was published in *SEFA Journal*, Vol. III, no. 2, Fall 1998. His book, *An Introduction to the Russian Folktale*, was published in May 1999. It is volume one of the five-volume *The Complete Russian Folktale*.

**Professor James West's** articles on Anton Del'vig, Ivan Kozlov, Kondratii Ryleev and Vasilii Zhukovsky were published in the *Dictionary of Literary Biography 205: Russian Literature Again* (The Pushkin and Gogol: Poetry and Drama), 1999.

## FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

While in Zagreb **Professor Gordana Crnkovic** has given two presentations at the University of Zagreb Comparative Literature Department. The first talk, in December 1998, was on "The Future of Comparative Literature," and the second, in May 1999, was on "Postmodernism and Beyond: The History of the Term."

## FACULTY NEWS

We are pleased to report that on June 15 at 6:31 a.m. **Lecturer Eloise Boyle** gave birth to Nathaniel. Mother and baby are well. Nathaniel was 7 lbs. 6 oz., and 19" long. While Eloise is on leave during the 1999-2000 academic year, alumna **Galina Samoukova** (Ph.D. 1997) will teach as a lecturer for the department.

**Professor Gordana Crnkovic** received an IREX Individual Research Grant for research in Croatia, Bosnia, and Herzegovina for October 1998-July 1999.

**Professor Galya Diment** has been promoted to full professor effective September 16, 1999.

In April **Professor Katarzyna Dziwirek** received a Junior Faculty Development Award from the University of Washington's College of Arts and Sciences.

## NEW GRADUATES

Tony Allison, General Manager of Marine Resources Co. International, delivered the keynote address, "Reflections of a Former Russian Student," at June's convocation ceremony honoring recent graduates. Tony encouraged students to get lucky, stay lucky and, using the words of Nora Holdsworth, continue their efforts to "break the back" of the Russian language. Undergraduates earning their B.A.'s in 1998-9 included Steve Borgford, Derek Denton, Eric



Dornberger, Janell Farnsworth, Lisa Glenney, Maria Jett, Jennifer Jochums, Kelley Kilanski, Kathy Papcun, Monica Penn, Izabela Ronnie, and Irena Zeithamel. Also honored were Thomas W. Bradbury, who earned his M.A., and Timothy G. Riley, who received his Ph.D. The title of Tim's dissertation was "It's Alive! Grammatical Animacy in Russian, Polish, and Czech." Congratulations and best wishes to all!



## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

**Nathan Krage** not only won the Polish Home Ladies' Auxiliary's award for this year's best Polish student, but he will be attending Jagiellonian University in Krakow on a full scholarship paid by the Kosciuszko Foundation. Congratulations, Nathan!

**Alida Purves** is back from two years in The Russia Samara Mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The mission included the cities of Samara, Penza, Kazan, Saratov and Toglatti. She will be getting married to Zachary Abbott, also a UW student, in August and returning to Seattle complete her B.A. She writes that her future plans are to be a fantastic wife and mother and that she has developed a love of languages and wants to tackle Spanish and German next.

## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

In March **Amarilis Lugo de Fabritz** attended the Women in Filmmaking, Revision conference in Vancouver, B.C., where she presented her paper, "The Artistic Vision of Agnieszka Holland." In April she attended the Western Social Sciences Association's Rocky Mountain Association for Slavic Studies Annual Conference in Dallas and presented her paper, "Aesthetics of Identity in the Anti-Identity State: Representations of Femininity in Holland and Petrushevskaja."

In December **Charles Mills** gave a paper entitled "Exceptional Case Marking in Czech" at the National AATSEEL meeting in San Francisco. Charles has been hired to teach Russian and Russian Culture at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois for the coming year. He will lead a group of Knox College students to Moscow and St. Petersburg in December and plans to organize a Slavic film series for February. During August 1999 he and other members of his "Arm & a Leg Theater" will perform the play "Trees and Cows and Sometimes People" for children of all ages Saturday mornings at The Pearl in the U District. Performances will be conducted with classic, reproduction turn-of-the-century Czech marionettes. Call the cafe for show times.

The two-volume anthology *Russian Women Writers*, edited by Christine Tomei, contains translations by **Brian Oles** and **Linda Tapp**. Brian translated a piece from Marina Palei's "Kabiria of the Obvodny Canal," and Linda translated Natal'ia Il'ina's "My Unknown Homeland."

In May **Lynne Walker** chaired the Nabokov Society Panel at the American Literature Association conference in Baltimore.

**Grae Waters** will be spending the 1999-2000 academic year teaching English in the city of Dul'durga, Aginsk Buryat Autonomous District (within Chita Oblast'). He plans to return to the UW in autumn 2000 to continue working on his M.A.

**Sofiya Yuzefpolskaya** wrote the entry on Fedor Glinka for *Dictionary of Literary Biography* 205: *Russian Literature*. **Agne Pushkin and Gogol: Poetry and Drama**, 1999.

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Michele Anciaux** (M.A. 1975, Ph.D. 1991) was recently invited to serve as a parent representative on the steering committee for the National Assessment of Educational Progress's Foreign Language Assessment Framework Project, the purpose of which is to build consensus for the development of a NAEP assessment for foreign languages. The steering committee will meet twice between now and January 2000 to guide the process of creating an assessment framework and specifications. Michele is also a member of the advisory group for the new John Stanford International School in Seattle, focusing on public outreach and community involvement. Her daughter, Natalya Aoki, has been studying Russian with Galina Zakashanskaya since September 1998 and is making rapid progress.

New grad **Thomas Bradbury** plans to teach Russian at local community colleges and/or perhaps Russian or English at a local language academy. He will apply for the geography department for fall 2000 and do GIS and former Soviet geography studies.

**Daniel Brooks** (B.A. 1976) is now based in Moscow, where he runs the Russian market for Tchibo, Germany's largest coffee company. He and his wife have a new baby, Alisa.

**Zheng-min Dong** (Ph.D. 1990) reports that he spent the last semester on professional leave doing research in Russia and China on Russian sentence structures. His paper in Russian on "Elliptical Sentences" has been accepted for publication in the journal *Russkij jazyk za rubezhem* at the Pushkin Institute of Russian Language.

**Yelena Furman** (M.A. 1996) writes that she got married last September, is still in the Slavic Ph.D. program at UCLA, has one more year of coursework before she takes her Ph.D. exams next spring quarter, and that if she survives, her dissertation will follow.

Happy news from Rochester -- **John Givens** (Ph.D. 1993) just heard that he has been tenured. It was expected and definitely well deserved but it's still nice to have it final. If you want to congratulate him -- John's e-mail address is [givn@uhura.cc.rochester.edu](mailto:givn@uhura.cc.rochester.edu)

After graduating with an M.B.A., **Sonia Ghayem** (B.A. 1984) worked in Khabarovsk with the U.S. Department of Commerce CABNIS program. Since 1996 she has been a program manager for the American Business Centers in Khabarovsk and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk.

**David Graber** (Ph.D. 1996) covers legal and business news from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union for the Bureau of National Affairs, Inc., in Washington, D.C. In April he was guest lecturer at Texas Tech, in Lubbock, where he spoke on business and job prospects in Russia and Eastern Europe. Other recent trips include Australia and South America. David continues to write travel stories and is taking a playwriting class this summer.

**Jan Kielpinski** (B.A. 1965) is a lawyer with a general practice in Stevenson, WA. He is active in the Coast Guard Reserve, serving as Reserve Command Master Chief for the Pacific Area.

**Bruce Kochis** (B.A. 1971) is a senior lecturer in the interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences program at the University of Washington-Bothell, where he regularly teaches a 20th century Russia course and has just added a 20th century Eastern Europe course to the curriculum. In the works is a study-abroad course to Eastern Europe for the summer of 2000 or 2001. Bruce is also director of the UW Human Rights Education & Research Network, a three-campus project that integrates the human rights research, teaching, and policy outreach activities of the faculty, students, and staff of the University.

On March 5 **Alison Price-Rom** (B.A. 1985, M.A. REECAS ) gave a special presentation at the UW on "Russian Kindergarten Teachers' Understanding and Implementation of Child Development Theory." Alison has recently finished an Ed.D. at Columbia University. Before working on her doctorate, she worked for the Soros Foundation textbook project in Belarus.

**Dana Sherry** (M.A. 1996) is working in the East European/Slavic division of the U.C. Berkeley library.

In 1991 **Lynn Stafford-Yilmaz** (B.A. 1986) received a master's degree in ESL from the Monterey Institute of International Studies. She's been teaching for eleven years, including three in Japan and one in Turkey. She writes textbooks (the most recent is *A to Zany Community Activities*, published by University of Michigan Press, 1998), teachers' books, standardized test questions, and supplemental teaching materials. She currently teaches ESL and Turkish at Bellevue Community College and lives in Bellevue with her husband, Mustafa Yilmaz, and son, Tanner John.

**Maria Urbaniak** (former UW librarian) notes that she's retired and still alive at 88!

## GIFTS

We would like to take this opportunity to recognize the generosity of individuals and companies who have made donations to the department in the past six months. In addition, we would like to let you know that in mid-September you should receive a letter from Carol J. Batchelder, UW Annual Fund Chair, asking for your support for UW programs. Please consider a gift to Slavic Languages and Literatures in response to her appeal.

•The *Friends of Slavic Languages and Literatures* fund is made up of gifts to be expended at the discretion of the Department Chair. Gifts to this fund are invaluable, allowing the department to allocate funds wherever the need is greatest. A special subset of this fund is used for outreach efforts to the public schools and the community at large.

Gray Carpenter  
Victor Erlich

Elsa Kopta

Laura McCormick

•Each summer since 1989 the *Vadim Pahn Scholarship* has been used to pay tuition for one student to attend the intensive Russian Language program. This year's recipient is **Daniel Soler**, who plans to follow up his third-year study this summer with a year in St. Petersburg.

Anonymous

Douglas A. Johnson

Mark Kiken

•The *Lew R. Micklesen Graduate Award* was established to support graduate student programs in the Slavic Department. In recent years it has been used to support graduate student travel to present papers at conferences.

Jaroslava Soldanova

Galya Diment

•Special thanks go to the individuals and companies that supported this year's combined Russian retreat and ACTR Olympiada of High School Russian.

Anonymous  
Nora Holdsworth  
Maria Kozhevnikova  
Marine Resources Co. Int'l.

MIR Corporation  
David and Melinda Olson  
Ann Romeo

Tacoma North Rotary Club  
Heather Thorne  
Susanna J. Westen

•Other funds include the *Harold Swayze Graduate Fellowship* and the *Russian House Fund*

All gifts are appreciated. If you wish to make a contribution, give us a call at 206-543-6848 or mail your check made out to University of Washington, specifying the fund you wish to support.



# NEWS ABOUT YOU

We would like to keep in touch with you, as we hope to share news of our alumni in next January's newsletter. Please fill out the form below, clip and send to us: Slavic Department, Box 353580, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195-3580. At the same time, please make any needed changes on your label below. Thank you. \*\*\*You can also reach us by email at [slavicll@u.washington.edu](mailto:slavicll@u.washington.edu).\*\*\*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree/Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Current occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Publications, conferences: \_\_\_\_\_

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Personal news: \_\_\_\_\_

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"Slavic News" is published by the University of Washington Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.

We welcome your comments.

Editor: Shosh Westen

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