



# CREECA News

October 2001

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Vol. 10 No. 1

## From the Director

*Professor Robert Kaiser, Geography*

As the incoming director of CREECA, I want to take this opportunity to welcome all our members back to campus after what I hope was a productive summer. I also want to use this space to thank **Kathie Hendley**, the outgoing director, for an outstanding three years at the helm of CREECA. Kathie devoted significant time and energy toward strengthening the program, and I am grateful to her for her leadership.

I also want to draw your attention to the fact that we have three new PAs working in the CREECA office. **Brady Potts** will serve as our website developer and coordinator of web-related activities at the Center. **Marty Richards** has agreed to serve as our PA in charge of the newsletter and coordinator of our speaker series. **David Weber** will serve as our PA in charge of Outreach. We will all be counting on your understanding and support as we all learn the ropes in the coming months. In particular, I would like to encourage all of you who have not done so to send in names of speakers that you would like to invite to campus this year.

Thanks to the efforts of **Pete Rottier** last semester, CREECA was successful in receiving an IDEAL grant to place our course materials and syllabi on the internet. However, to date he has received only a handful of materials from CREECA faculty. This project will succeed only with your cooperation, and I encourage you to send your materials in as soon as possible.

Thanks also to **Margaret Beissinger**, who coordinated and led this past summer's teacher training workshop on *Folklore of Homelands and Diasporas: The Slavic and East European World*. We are currently beginning discussions of the summer 2002 workshop, and encourage any of you with ideas on general themes and topics to get in touch with me or Steven Duke.

I also want to use this opportunity to remind you that the CREECA MA Program began this semester, and that we have seven new graduate students in the program. I'm sure you join me in welcoming the incoming class to Madison. Thanks to those of you who have agreed to give presentations to the group during the course of the Fall semester. The students have also organized an informal get together on Friday afternoons at 3:30 at the Memorial Union. I encourage you all to participate in this community-building effort whenever possible.

Finally, I feel the need to say something about September 11 and recent events in the region that we study. In the weeks and months ahead, our area expertise will become especially important in clarifying cultural, socioeconomic and geopolitical conditions and contexts in a region of the world that for most students and Americans remains fairly murky. Thanks to **David Morgan**, **Michael Chamberlain**, **Joseph Elder**, and **Uli Schamiloglu** for giving of their time in the recent teach-in on Islam. And thanks to the rest of you who in and out of the classroom are working to dispel misunderstanding and create a more informed student population and American public, which are always important parts of our academic lives, but during times of crisis such as these they become vital services. If there are ways in which you believe that CREECA can and should become more directly engaged in this effort, please let me know.

## CREECA Staff

### Director

Robert Kaiser  
Geography  
rjkaise1@facstaff.wisc.edu

### Associate Director

Steven Duke  
History  
stduke@facstaff.wisc.edu

### Outreach Coordinator

David Weber  
Anthropology  
creeca3@intl-institute.wisc.edu

### Newsletter Editor

Marty Richards  
Slavic Languages and Literatures  
creeca2@intl-institute.wisc.edu

### Website/Technology Specialist

Brady Potts  
Sociology  
cpotts@ssc.wisc.edu

### Financial Specialist

Bob Duessler  
rlduessler@facstaff.wisc.edu

### Office Assistants

Kaitlin Bellerose  
John Riordan

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## Fall Calendar

### October

#### Lecture in conjunction with the AATSEEL Conference:

October 12, Friday  
4:30 p.m.  
Room 313, Pyle Center  
"Word and Icon in Gogol and Babel"

#### Robert Maguire

Bakhmeteff Professor of Russian Studies  
Columbia University

#### Three lectures in conjunction with the Central Eurasian Conference:

October 12, Friday  
11:00 a.m.  
Room B1-B, Lowell Center  
"Democracy in Central Asia and the Caucasus"

#### Ambassador Nelson Ledsky

National Democratic Institute

#### Lecture

October 12, Friday  
3:30 p.m.  
2650 Humanities Building  
"Center-Periphery Relations in Uzbekistan"

#### Alisher Ikhamov

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

#### Lecture

October 13, Saturday  
11:00 a.m.  
Room B1-B, Lowell Center  
"Central Asia: Ten Years After the Collapse of the USSR"

#### Anatoly Khazanov

Professor of Anthropology  
UW-Madison

#### Lecture

October 24, Wednesday  
7:00 p.m.  
MATC Truax Campus  
Mitby Theater  
Keynote Address for the Annual Conference of The Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies

#### Lech Walesa

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and former president of Poland

#### Lecture

October 29, Monday  
12:00 p.m.  
206 Ingraham Hall

#### Elin Suleymanov

Azerbaijan Embassy

### November

#### Music

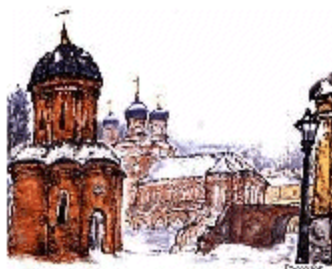
November 11, Sunday  
7:30 p.m.  
Great Hall, Memorial Union

#### Birol Topaloglu

Turkish Laz performance

#### Music

November 13, Tuesday  
Time and place TBA  
**Julgi Stalte**  
Livonian performer from Latvia



*For the latest schedule and information for CREECA events, visit our on-line calendar at:  
<http://www.wisc.edu/creeca>*

## Language Tables

Practice your Russian, Polish, Czech, Serbo-Croatian, Turkish or Kazakh right here on campus. Language tables are held weekly. Please feel free to drop by and participate in the Table(s) of your choice, to hone your skills and make new friends! For further information, contact names for each table can be found below.

**Russian Table:** Tuesdays, 5:00 p.m., Cafe Asissi (State & Gilman Streets).  
Contact: Adam Goodberg  
(agoodberg@students.wisc.edu)

**Polish Table:** Every other Thursday beginning Sept. 20 (except Thanksgiving), 8-9 p.m., Rathskeller (or the Terrace if weather permits).  
Contact: Katarzyna Modzelewska  
(kmodzelewska@students.wisc.edu)

**Czech Table:** Mondays, 5-6 p.m., Rathskeller (or, weather permitting, the Terrace).  
Contact: David Danaher  
(dsdanaher@facstaff.wisc.edu)

**Serbo-Croatian Table:** Mondays, 3:45-4:45 p.m., Rathskeller.  
Contact: Margaret Beissinger  
(mhbeissi@facstaff.wisc.edu)

**Kazakh Table:** TBA  
Contact: Uli Schamiloglu  
(uschamil@facstaff.wisc.edu) or Talant Mawkanuli  
(tmawkanuli@facstaff.wisc.edu)

**Turkish Table:** Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m., Espresso Cafe (next to Einsteins Bagels on State Street).  
Contact: Zekeriya Baskal  
(zbaskal@students.wisc.edu)



## Conferences

### AATSEEL

The Wisconsin chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages will hold its annual conference on October 12-13 in Madison. On Friday, October 12, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 313 of the Pyle Center, Robert Maguire, Bakhmeteff Professor of Russian Studies, Columbia University, will give a keynote lecture entitled:

#### *“Word and Icon in Gogol and Babel”*

The conference will resume on October 13, at 1:00 p.m., in the Pyle Center. Speakers from Georgetown University and UW-Madison will present papers on Slavic poetry and song and 19th- and 20th- century Russian prose.

The conference is open to the public. No registration is necessary. For further information, please contact David Danaher or Halina Filipowicz, 262-3498, dsdanaher@facstaff.wisc.edu, hfilipow@facstaff.wisc.edu.

### The 17th Annual Conference of The Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies

The Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies and Madison Area Technical College will present a conference entitled “International Peacekeeping and Peacemaking: A Time of Crisis, A Time of Hope” on October 24-26, 2001. The conference begins at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 24 with a keynote address by former president of Poland and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate **Lech Walesa** in the Mitby Theater on the MATC Truax campus. The following two days will include speakers and presenters addressing issues such as UN ready force peacekeeping, nonviolent peacekeeping missions, proactive peace, community building initiatives, and more. In addition, the conference will host a screening and discussion with the creators of the PBS documentary on nonviolent conflict “A Force More Powerful.”

Registration is required for attendance. The registration fee for Lech Walesa’s lecture is \$15 for UW-Madison students. For more information, contact Dr. Geoff Bradshaw at MATC (gbradshaw@madison.tec.wi.us) or stop by the CREECA office, 210 Ingraham, for a conference program..

### CREECA Grad Group

The CREECA Grad Group is a student group sponsored by CREECA to help bring together students of various disciplines. The goal of the group is for individuals to become acquainted with other students interested in the region and plan events aimed toward developing professional skills. Students interested in participating should contact David Weber at creeca3@intl-institute.wisc.edu.

## Funding from the National Securities Education Program

There are graduate fellowships for area studies available through NSEP. For more information, see <http://www.aed.org/nsep>

Areas targeted for the NSEP include:

Albania; Armenia; Azerbaijan; Belarus; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Czech Republic; Georgia; Hungary; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Macedonia; Moldova; Poland; Romania; Russia; Serbia and Montenegro; Slovakia; Slovenia; Tajikistan; Turkey; Ukraine; Uzbekistan



## Central Eurasian Conference

### SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL EURASIAN STUDIES SOCIETY

October 12-14, 2001

The Lowell Center

University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Central Asian Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is pleased to announce the second annual conference of the Central Eurasian Studies Society (which continues the earlier Workshop on Central Asian Studies begun in 1996).

The featured speakers are: Ambassador Nelson Ledsky, who will give a lecture entitled “Democracy in Central Asia and the Caucasus”; Anatoly Khazanov of UW-Madison whose lecture is entitled “Central Asia: Ten Years After the Collapse of the USSR”; and Alisher Ilkhamov of Tashkent, Uzbekistan who will give a lecture on “Center-Periphery Relations in Uzbekistan.”

The Central Eurasian Studies Society promotes the study of the history, languages, cultures, and modern states and societies of the Turkic, Mongolian, Iranian, Caucasian, Tibetan and other peoples of the Black Sea region, the Crimea, the Caucasus, the Middle Volga region, Central and Inner Asia and Siberia.

## Visiting Scholars

CREECA would like to extend a warm welcome to the following visiting scholars to UW-Madison: *Dr. Igor Kakolewski in History; Dr. Aleksandr Kobrinski in Slavic Languages and Literature; Dr. Larysa Tryhubava in Education; Natalia Vlasova in Forestry; and Dr. Galina Zuckerman in the Wisconsin Center for Educational Research. In this issue, we are introducing two of these scholars, and we will spotlight the others in the future.*

**Dr. Larysa Tryhubava** possesses a Ph.D. in Pedagogy and has traveled or studied for short periods in the U.K., Austria, Germany, and the USA before receiving her Fulbright Grant to the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Tryhubava's home is in Minsk where she is the Department Head for Adult Education at Minsk State Linguistics University. She is accompanied by her husband, Leanid, an electrician, and her 8-year old daughter, Dasha, who is attending Shorewood School in Madison. Her Fulbright research will focus on the administration of adult education particularly in areas of ESL, staff development, program assessment, marketing, and learning strategies. Larysa is a member of the Belarusian Association of Teachers of English and the Belarusian Union of Women. Her office is located in Educational Sciences 1261 (tryhubava@education.wisc.edu). Dr. Tryhubava will be in Madison until January 4.

**Natalia Vlasova** is spending the academic year 2001-02 in Forest Ecology and Management on a Junior Faculty Development Program fellowship, funded through the U.S. State Department. The principle purpose of the fellowship is to improve her ability to teach courses in her home institution. Natalia hopes to accomplish this by taking relevant courses that use a variety of approaches to teaching. She will also be continuing work on her dissertation. Her departmental mentor is Peter Bloch, and she is also supported logistically by Steven Duke of CREECA. She is a post-graduate student at Mari State Technical University in Yoshkar-Ola, the capital of the Republic of Mari El in the Volga region of Russia. She teaches courses on Forest Park Management, Methods of Mathematical Modelling in Biology and Forestry. Her Ph.D. research work concerns Global Climate Change.

## Faculty News

*Laboratorium form nieczystych: Dramaturgia Tadeusza Rozewicza* by **Halina Filipowicz** (Slavic Languages and Literatures) was published in June by Wydawnictwo Literackie in Cracow, Poland. This book was translated into Polish by Tomasz Kunz. Filipowicz's co-edited volume, *The Great Tradition and Its Legacy: The Evolution of Dramatic and Musical Theater in Austria and Central Europe* (with Michael Cherlin and Richard Rudolph), is due from Berghahn Books in 2002.

**Tomislav Longinovic** and **Benjamin Rifkin**, both in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, were promoted to full professor.

**Zigurds L. Zile**, Emeritus Professor of Law, spoke on "Language and the Law" at the WisConference on Translation and Interpretation in Madison, on April 21, 2001 and, on June 7, 2001, conducted a two-hour discussion concerning the limits of judicial power, at the new Riga Graduate School of Law in Latvia.

A new publication based on the 1999 summer course sponsored by CREECA and the Wisconsin Teacher Education Program and FOCCUS (Friends of Chernobyl Centers U.S.) has just been released. The course for middle and high-school science and social science teachers won an international award for innovative summer programming. *Chernobyl: The Event and the Aftermath*, has 290 pages and is co-edited by **Norma Berkowitz**, MSSW, national chairperson of FOCCUS and Michael H. Patrick, Ph.D. who is currently in the Department of Genetics and Co-Director of the Wisconsin Teacher Education program. The publication includes a multidisciplinary collection of up-dated papers from the course faculty plus additional papers from researchers in Russia, Ukraine and formerly of Belarus. The book is spiral bound with hard plastic covers front and back. The cost is \$30 per copy plus \$2 shipping and handling. Books may be ordered from Norma Berkowitz, FOCCUS, 5818 Anchorage Ave. Madison, WI 53705; telephone 608-231-3198; email njberkow@facstaff.wisc.edu. Supply is limited.

*Nomads in the Sedentary World* (London, 2001), edited by **Anatoly M. Khazanov** and **Andre Wink**, has just been published.

## Friends of CREECA

We invite faculty members to make a voluntary contribution toward the food purchases for our annual activities by making a donation to the Friends of CREECA. Donations to this fund will be used only for the food-related activities that CREECA's federal and state funds will not cover. The suggested contribution is \$20 per year. Please make checks payable to "Friends of CREECA." We appreciate your continued support of our activities.

## New Faculty Profile

*This piece is the first in a series of profiles which seeks to better acquaint the CREECA community with some of the new faculty at UW-Madison.*

In Fall 2000, **Jason Wittenberg** was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at UW-Madison. A political scientist specializing in comparative and East European politics, Professor Wittenberg teaches courses in the statistical analysis of social science data, the politics of contemporary Eastern Europe, and the concept and practice of political authoritarianism. Fluent in Hungarian, Wittenberg is adamant about one thing: students should be able to learn Hungarian at UW. "I rue the fact that Hungarian is not offered at this university, and although it's officially on the books, that isn't quite satisfying."

Wittenberg received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1999. His dissertation, entitled *Did Communism Matter? Explaining Political Continuity and Discontinuity*, looks at the impact communism had on political attitudes in Eastern Europe. Wittenberg notes that while it's obvious that communism *did* matter, "it didn't matter as much as we think it did." He finds important determinants of post-communist political behavior at the sub-national level, representing "subtle continuities" from the pre-communist period.

"I'm perhaps something of a renegade in that most political scientists who study Eastern Europe focus on the post-1989 period. Although many of the political outcomes I examine take place after 1989, I locate their causes in the communist and pre-communist periods. That's why the bulk of my research is concerned with what happened before the fall of communism. I see post-communist politics as a mixture of the "new" with communist and pre-communist legacies. The key question for me is, if you can identify pre-communist legacies in post-communist politics, how did they get there?"

In the book manuscript based on his dissertation, Wittenberg examines local church institutions under state-socialism in Hungary, and in particular the activities of the local parish priests. "The basic argument is that where the priest was active in maintaining the local church community, pre-communist political loyalties were more likely to survive. For a priest, this meant doing everything he could within the limits of the law— and maybe even stretching the rules a bit—to ensure that the faithful preserved a sense of community. In places where the priests realized they were fighting a losing battle against the communists— and this is most places—they retreated into solitude and didn't really make an effort to preserve parish life. Those settlements were successfully penetrated by socialist ideology." In a talk entitled *Hooray for Hierarchy! Catholic-Communist Struggle and Political Identity in Hungary*, which Wittenberg gave last March at the

Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame, he argued that the hierarchical nature of the Catholic Church, a feature of the Church typically criticized, actually proved to be of benefit under state-socialism. It provided the Church with the means to resist the depredations of socialist rule that the more egalitarian Protestant Churches lacked.

Professor Wittenberg's upcoming project, to be conducted with Professor Jeffrey Kopstein of the University of Colorado-Boulder, will employ statistical and historical analysis to examine the voting behavior of national minorities in interwar Eastern Europe.

## Student News

**Michael Baumann**, UW-Madison sophomore in 3rd year Russian this semester, studied Russian at Middlebury, and won an award for greatest progress in writing at the 2nd year level.

**Kevin Murphy**, UW-Madison sophomore in 3rd year Russian this semester, studied Russian at Middlebury, and won an award for greatest progress in listening comprehension at the 2nd year level.

**George Jungbluth**, UW-Madison junior, currently on the ACTR study abroad program in Moscow, studied Russian at Middlebury, and won an award for greatest progress in listening comprehension at the 2nd year level.



## Russian Folk Orchestra

The Russian Folk Orchestra still has a few openings. Instruments and instruction are provided free of charge. No experience necessary, but ability to read music is always helpful. If you're interested in playing Russian folk music on authentic Russian instruments, please contact Victor Gorodinsky at [vfgorodi@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:vfgorodi@facstaff.wisc.edu) or 259-9440. The orchestra meets once a week, on Thursdays, 7-9 pm, in room 1418 Van Hise.



## Surfer's Corner

Current News from the Central Asia Region  
*News and Analysis from Central Asia and the  
Caucasus*  
<http://www.eurasianet.org>

*Central Asia News: news, finance, etc.*  
<http://www.centralasianews.net>

Current News from Kazakhstan  
*Kazakhstan News*  
<http://www.kazakhstan.com>

*About Kazakhstan*  
<http://www.site.kz/index.phtml>

Current News from Kyrgyzstan  
*Kyrgyz National News Agency*  
<http://www.kabar.gov.kg>

*The Kyrgyzstan Review*  
<http://www.kind.net.kg>

Current News from Tajikistan  
*Radio Free Europe's Tajik Service*  
<http://www.ozodi.org>

*Current information about all things Tajik*  
<http://www.angelfire.com/sd/tajikistanupdate>

Current News from Turkmenistan  
*Turkmen International Home Page*  
<http://www.turkmens.com>

Current News from Uzbekistan  
*Uzbekistan Daily News*  
<http://www.uzbekdaily.com>

*UzbekWorld.com*  
<http://www.angelfire.com/ak/uzbekistan>

## Please Recycle

### Center for Russia, East Europe and Central Asia

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
210 Ingraham Hall  
1155 Observatory Drive  
Madison, WI 53706-1397  
email: [creeca@intl-institute.wisc.edu](mailto:creeca@intl-institute.wisc.edu)  
<http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/creeca/>  
Telephone: (608) 262-3379  
Fax: (608) 265-3062

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