



Mike Dando/CREECA

Studying Baltic Languages at UW-Madison

Sixteen students from around the U.S. spent summer 2010 on the UW-Madison campus intensively studying the languages and cultures of the Baltic nations: Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. The Baltic Studies Summer Institute, BALSSI, sponsored by a consortium of U.S. universities, has a home at UW-Madison for three consecutive years, from 2009 through 2011. In 2010, elementary Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian, and intermediate Latvian and Lithuanian were offered. In 2011, pending sufficient enrollment, intermediate Estonian will be added to the list.

Students were in class

BALSSI - Continued on page 3

What's Inside

- 2 Letter from the director
- 4 A Trip to Kazakhstan
- 5 Biofuels and the Nelson Institute for Sustainability and Global Environment
- 9 CREECA faculty and students updates
- 11 Events calendar

Make a Contribution to CREECA

What your gift can do

Every gift enables CREECA to do something we could not otherwise have accomplished, whether it's support for undergraduate and graduate students, an additional lecture, or a course development grant.

Make a Donation to CREECA

By Mail - If you would prefer to make a tax-deductible donation by standard mail, fill out and mail in this page. Please make checks payable to "**UW Foundation**" and include "**12544273 CREECA**" on the memo line of the check.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Enclosed is my contribution of: \$ _____

Send to:

University of Wisconsin Foundation
 Gift Processing Department
 U. S. Bank Lockbox
 P.O. Box 78807
 Milwaukee, WI 53278-0807

Online - To make a secure gift online using your credit card, please visit www.creeca.wisc.edu

For more information about making a gift to CREECA, please contact Ann Dingman at UW Foundation at (608) 265-9954, or via E-mail at ann.dingman@uwfoundation.wisc.edu.

CREECA Staff

Director

Ted Gerber
director@creeca.wisc.edu

Associate Director

Jennifer Tishler
assocdir@creeca.wisc.edu

Outreach Coordinator

Nancy Heingartner
outreach@creeca.wisc.edu

Financial Specialist

Maki Raymo
finance@creeca.wisc.edu

Events Coordinator

Julia Vasylenko
events@creeca.wisc.edu

Office Coordinator

Naira Ovsepyan
info@creeca.wisc.edu

Web & Publications Assistant

Michael Dando
webmaster@creeca.wisc.edu

Our Dinner with Andrei Codrescu

Esteemed essayist, poet and commentator visits University of Wisconsin

by Nancy Heingartner / OUTREACH
 COORDINATOR

On an unseasonably beautiful Monday in early October, 2010 I had the pleasure of escorting Andrei Codrescu, prolific writer and social commentator, to various gatherings around the UW-Madison campus. Codrescu had come to Madison for a full day of media appearances and guest lectures, and I was glad that the weather did not disappoint. Codrescu flew into Madison on Sunday, October 3 and gave a lecture at local bookstore Room of One's Own that evening. Monday, October 4, began with an interview by Matthew Rothschild on "Progressive Radio." The next stop was an appearance in History/Jewish Studies 219 "The American Jewish Experience" with professor Tony Michels. The format of the class was a lively and informal exchange between Mr. Codrescu, a former professor, and the students. Codrescu told stories about his youth in

Romania, about some of the anti-Semitism he has faced in his life, about his decision to become a poet, and about his life in the U.S. When asked for his comments about the class session, Michels said, "I've never seen a class respond to a guest speaker with so much curiosity and enthusiasm." From there, we went to the Madison studios of Wisconsin Public Radio, on the seventh floor of Vilas Hall, where Jean Feraca featured Codrescu on her show, "Here on Earth." Feraca summarized her experience that day by saying, "He's such a worldly guy and it was so much fun to just have a real conversation without having in mind beforehand what the plot would be, you know, how it would be shaped, and just flying by the seat of my pants and practicing the real art of conversation with somebody who's quite the master."

Following "Here on Earth," we crossed

CODRESCU - Continued on page 7

Letter from the director



By Ted Gerber
CREECA DIRECTOR

Greetings to the CREECA community! As the Wisconsin autumn sadly but inevitably gives way to winter, I have plenty of good news that will hopefully cheer you up. First and foremost, CREECA was successful in securing funding from the US Department of Education's National Resource Center (NRC) competition for the 2010-14 grant cycle. In fact, the reviewers' positive comments and the robust budget for our NRC programming testifies to the vibrancy of our center's activities. Moreover, we also received funding for 9 graduate-level and 2 undergraduate-level year-long Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships, effectively increasing the number of year-long FLAS fellowships we can award by 4, while maintaining the number of summer awards at our disposal at the prior level of 5. I want to thank and congratulate Jennifer Tishler, Nancy Heingartner, and Andy Spencer for their contributions to our NRC/FLAS proposal. Also, all the CREECA staff members are grateful for the input of our Administrative Council and for the energetic participation of CREECA's faculty, student, and community affiliates in our activities: your engagement in and support for our programs is vital to our continuing success.

The start of a new academic year often brings staff departures and arrivals, and this year is no exception.

We wish the best to Alec Luhn, who did outstanding work as our Web and publications assistant last year. Alec graduated in May 2010 with majors in Russian, journalism, and history, and took an exciting new job as a reporter for the Moscow Times. Be sure to read his work when you are Moscow (or see the online version of the newspaper.)

We are fortunate to have Mike Dando, a graduate student in Curriculum and Instruction, as our new webmaster and publications assistant. Mike comes to us with both significant experience in Web design and print layout, but also a sharp talent in photography, which you will find evident in this edition

CREECA has played a key role in launching a new Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute (CESSI), a consortium of nine member institutions and several additional contributors, which will begin offering instruction in the languages of Central Asia and the Caucasus in summer 2011.

of the newsletter.

As usual, we have a flurry of regular and new events underway this fall. In addition to our regular Thursday lecture series, which continues to feature a diverse group of both local and external speakers, we were delighted to host the well-known poet and commentator Andrei Codrescu, with help from several campus partners, including the Distinguished Lectures Committee of the Wisconsin Union Directorate, the Kemper Knapp Bequest Committee, and the Anonymous Fund of the College of Letters & Science. As you can read elsewhere in this issue, Codrescu's classic wit and insightful commentary were on display at

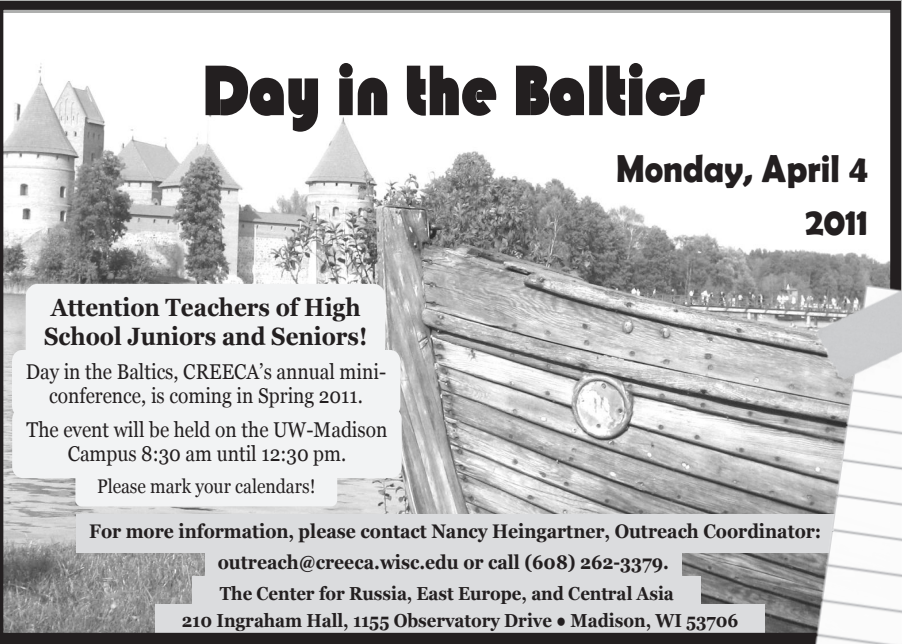
his public lecture on October 4, about the value of language and the complicated nature of translation, and during his appearance on the Wisconsin Public Radio show "Here on Earth." We have enhanced our lecture series in cooperation with the Russian Language Flagship by having speakers like Alexander Martynov and Artemy Troitsky give presentations in Russian to the Flagship students during their visits. CREECA has also helped launch distance-learning Kazakh language instruction featuring Marzhan Arenova, whose UW courses are being taken simultaneously by students at Indiana University and the University of Michigan. We appreciate Marzhan's willingness to learn the ropes of distance-learning technology. Although there are skeptics about the effectiveness of distance-learning for language instruction, we believe that it offers a promising, cost-effective opportunity to maintain the viability of instruction in languages for which student demand has tended to be weak and scattered across institutions.

Speaking of language instruction, we are happy to confirm that CREECA will be hosting the Baltic Studies Summer Institute (BALSSI) for a third consecutive year in summer 2011. Last summer we were encouraged that enrollments were sufficient to offer five courses: first-year instruction in all three Baltic languages and second-year Latvian and Lithuanian. We hope to build on the momentum from this year and that enrollments will expand still further. Help us spread the word to anyone who might be interested in learning a Baltic language in summer 2011. Finally, CREECA has played a key role in launching a new Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute (CESSI), a consortium of nine member institutions and several additional contributors, which will begin offering instruction in the languages of Central Asia and the Caucasus in summer 2011. Stay tuned for more details!

EVENTS SCHEDULE WINTER 2010

DECEMBER EVENTS

SPEAKER	TIME & LOCATION
"Same Rules, New Dimensions for Mongolia's National Security: Adapting to the New Geo-Economic Environment" - <i>Munkh-Ochir Dorjugder, Visiting Fellow, Brookings Institute</i>	Wednesday, December 1, 4:00-5:30 p.m. 336 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive
"The Politics of Smallest Things: How the 'Lazy, Cowardly, and Selfish' Changed the Soviet Union" - <i>Anna Paretskaya, Ph.D. candidate in Sociology, New School for Social Research</i>	Thursday, December 2, 4:00 p.m. 206 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive
"Does Ethnicity Matter?: Conflict Resolution and Ethnic Pluralism" - <i>Katja Favretto, Assistant Professor of Political Science, UW-Madison</i>	Thursday, December 9, 4:00 p.m. 206 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive



Day in the Baltics

Monday, April 4 2011

Attention Teachers of High School Juniors and Seniors!

Day in the Baltics, CREECA's annual mini-conference, is coming in Spring 2011. The event will be held on the UW-Madison Campus 8:30 am until 12:30 pm. Please mark your calendars!

For more information, please contact Nancy Heingartner, Outreach Coordinator:
outreach@creeca.wisc.edu or call (608) 262-3379.
The Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia
210 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive • Madison, WI 53706

June 13-17, 2011, Teacher Workshop: "Afghanistan"
Madison Concourse Hotel
co-sponsored by CREECA and the Center for South Asia

Save the Date!
From March 12 - June 5, 2011 the Chazen Museum will feature an exhibition of icons, "Holy Image, Sacred Presence: Russian Icons 1500-1900."

areas of potential cooperation in Russian digital library projects. Spencer gave a presentation on UW-Madison's Russian Satirical Journal digitization project as an example of a project that could be further developed jointly with Russian partners. The Yeltsin Library, which also has regional branches in the cities of Petrozavodsk, Cheboksary, Kazan, Tiumen, Omsk and Ulan-Ude, will be digitizing materials found in repositories in these regions as well as materials from St. Petersburg. Examples of digitized items from these regional branches were shown at the meeting, including a rare book on Russian geography published in 1776 and held by a repository in Tiumen. As plans for cooperative projects move forward, further meetings of this group will take place, with the next meeting likely to be held in Russia.

In March 2010 **Manon van de Water** (theatre and drama) went on a research trip to Moscow and the Northern Caucasus (Vladikavkaz and Beslan) to conduct on-site research for a book chapter: "Theatre as Therapy in Volatile Regions." In August the on-line journal of AATE (the American Alliance for Theatre and Education) *Incite/Insight* Vol. 2:3, published a report on this trip, titled "Theatre, War and Terrorism in the Northern Caucasus." In December 2010 van de Water will give a lecture on the same topic at the Janasanskriti Theatre of the Oppressed Festival in Kolkata, India. This research trip followed on a series of teacher workshops which van de Water conducted in Beslan in April 2009; the report from these workshops has been published in the 2009

JAMBUL *Continued from page 3*

endorsed by the Russian administration.

Finally, the sole reading of the documents was a great exercise to develop my reading skills (I am sure many scholars working in the archives know the challenge of reading Cyrillic and Arabic in cursive). Thanks to the modern technology and the policies on archival work in Kazakhstan, I was able to photograph numerous *dela* (archival files) and bring them with me to continue my work on pre-Soviet Kazakh literature.

To summarize, my trip to Almaty proved productive and extremely useful. Introducing myself to archival work in Central Asia, getting acquainted with the archival and library holdings unavailable elsewhere, obtaining materials for my research, and meeting with the most active Kazakh scholars - these were the most conspicuous results of my endeavor, thanks to the Graduate Student International Field Research Award I had received through CREECA and the Division of International Studies.

Similarly, I would like to thank my academic supervisor Professor Uli Schamiloglu for his leadership of the Central

News from Faculty Associates and Off-Campus Affiliates.

yearbook of the Russian Theatre Federation.

On October 24, 2010, the Dane County chapter of the United Nations Association of the United States of America presented emeritus professor **Norma Berkowitz** (UW-Madison, social work) with the Global Citizen Award for her many years of effective work at the international level, recognizing in particular her work in founding the Friends of Chernobyl Centers U.S. Inc. (FOCCUS).

Michael J. Mikoś (Slavic languages, UW-Milwaukee) gave an invited lecture on "Religious Freedom in 17th Century Poland: Historical, Architectural, and Literary Depictions" at the Fourth Annual Converse-Yates-Cate International Lectureship in the Humanities, Society, and Religion at the Oklahoma State University on August 30, 2010.

Ekaterina Levintova (public and environmental affairs, UW-Green Bay) published her article "Good Neighbors? Dominant Narratives about the 'Other' in Russian and Polish Newspapers" in *Europe-Asia Studies* 62:8 (October 2010), 1339-1361.

Congratulations to **Neal Pease** (history, UW-Milwaukee), whose book *Rome's Most Faithful Daughter: The Catholic Church and Independent Poland* was awarded a 2010 ASEEES/Orbis Book Prize for Polish Studies, for the best book in any discipline, on any aspect of Polish affairs.

Asian Studies program at UW-Madison, which enables UW-Madison students to pursue research on Central Asia and also opens up opportunities for Central Asian scholars to come and share their experience at UW-Madison. I would also like to thank Dr. Virginia Martin, a member of my academic committee and an Honorary Fellow at UW-Madison, for her suggestions about my research and her invaluable insight on archival work in Kazakhstan.

Residents of Almaty believe that their city changes the life of anyone who visits, even once in a lifetime. My stay in Almaty definitely changed and enhanced my perspective on my research and helped me become a better oriented student of Central Asian literature and history.

Editor's note: Each year, the Division of International Studies sponsors a competition for Graduate Student International Field Research Awards. These awards enable doctoral students to conduct exploratory summer field research abroad in order to develop their dissertation topics and to be more competitive for extramural fellowships. Jambul Akkaziev, a graduate student in the Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia, is the fourth CREECA-affiliated student to win this competitive award since the program's inception in 2008.

In the classroom

Artemy Troitsky



Well-known Russian journalist, musicologist and historian, Artemy Troitsky, who teaches at Moscow State University and the Russian State University of Management, gave an informal lecture titled "Conversations Artemy Troitsky" sponsored by the Russian Flagship Center.



BALSSI *Continued from page 1*



2010 BALSSI students, faculty, and staff

days a week from 8:30 until 1:00. In addition, they attended field trips, lectures, and other cultural events related to the Baltic countries. Students in the intermediate Lithuanian class even created their own Lithuanian language blog, featuring reflections on language study, poems, and recipes. Some highlights of the cultural program included a traditional midsummer celebration, a recital by accordionist Martynas Levickis, a 2009 semi-finalist on "Lithuania's Got Talent," a Baltic film series that was co-sponsored by the UW-Madison Cinematheque, a day-long trip to a Lithuanian museum and

restaurant in the Chicago area, and a lecture by award-winning Latvian-American writer Agate Nesaule.

"Not only did I learn the language, but I also connected with the culture through the movies, lectures, and outings. I found myself able to understand people when they spoke in Lithuanian," said one student.

"I really enjoyed learning the language from someone who was from the country. It not only helped me speak better, but I learned...so much about the culture. It made the class that much more exciting."

CREECA is grateful to UW-Madison's Department of Scandinavian Studies, the BALSSI consortium partners, Madison-Vilnius Sister Cities, the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies (AABS), the American Council of Learned Societies, and the Lithuanian Foundation for their strong support of BALSSI 2010. In summer 2011 UW-Madison will host BALSSI for a third and final time, before the program moves to the University of Pittsburgh for a three-year rotation. For more information on BALSSI at UW-Madison, including an application for the summer 2011 program, please visit: www.creeca.wisc.edu/balssi.

A Trip of a Lifetime: Kazakhstan

By Jambul Akkaziev

GRADUATE STUDENT - LANGUAGES & CULTURES OF ASIA



photo courtesy of Jambul Akkaziev

At first the lifeless desert of western Kazakhstan appeared inhospitable and distant from the window of the Air Astana aircraft I was on. However, once the plane landed in Almaty, the scenery changed dramatically. The snowy peaks of the Alatau mountain range, part of the Tien Shan mountains, the city drowning in vegetation, and my good friend Professor Gulnara Dadabayeva greeted and welcomed me to Almaty, where I spent the next eight weeks working in the libraries and the Central State Archive of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Tsentrally Gosudarstvennyi Arkhiv Respubliki Kazakhstan, or TsGARK).

My primary goals were to get acquainted with archival work in Kazakhstan, to explore collections pertaining to the 19th century literature and history of Kazakhstan, and to meet with leading Kazakh historians and literary scholars. All of these were intended to help me craft a dissertation topic that I would pursue once I returned to UW-Madison and to help me further develop my research on Central Asia.

After having met and spoken with scholars at the Institute of Literature and Arts and the Institute of Oriental Studies of Kazakhstan's Academy

of Sciences, I ventured into both the library of this Academy and the National Library of Kazakhstan. As I found out, over the past decades the Kazakhstan government has been funding a special *Medeni Mura* (Cultural Legacy) project designed to bring to light existing written works and documents about Kazakhstan that were obscured or otherwise dismissed during the Soviet era. These newly published works proved exceptionally useful for my next foray into the State Archive (TsGARK). First, some of them presented an overview of the pre-revolutionary literature of Kazakhstan, which gave me a better

“My primary goals were to get acquainted with archival work in Kazakhstan, to explore collections pertaining to the 19th century literature and history of Kazakhstan”

picture of which authors and regions I should focus on in the future.

Second, several works were collections of archival documents, which saved me a fair amount of time, time otherwise spent rummaging through the archival holdings they were obtained from. Last but not least, some of the *Medeni Mura* works referred me to the Rare Books Collection of the National Library, where I spent two weeks researching the 19th century bibliographies and newspapers germane to the literature of Kazakhstan.

In the meantime, during the evenings I would meet with leading scholars of Kazakhstan who advised me on how to work in the TsGARK, which I started during the fourth week of my stay in Almaty. Spending morning and afternoon hours in the archive proved invaluable to my exploratory research for many reasons.

First, I have obtained hands-on experience in working in Kazakhstan's archives, which in many ways are similar, if not identical, to other archives in the post-Soviet space; thus, I have acquired the necessary tools to pursue research at archives in the Russian Federation and in the nations of Central Asia. Second, working through most of the *fondy* (archival holdings) and *opisi* (registers) relating to the 19th - early 20th century literature and book-publishing in the Kazakh steppe gave me a broad picture of what is available and potentially indispensable to my future dissertation.

The unpublished literary works by Kazakhs collected both by the Kazakh intellectuals and Russian officials and explorers were of major significance to my endeavor.

Further, the documents pertaining to the works banned by Russian censorship during the colonial era provided me with a picture of the historical circumstances and the official rhetoric in which Kazakhs were creating their literary works. In addition, the documented reports by Russian officials on the Jadidist (new-method) schools in the Kazakh steppe “undermining” the Russian educational policies, while widely known to researchers, have also shed light on some of the literary trends

Jambul *Continued on page 10*

News & Updates

Undergraduate students

Andrew Bossler, majoring in economics and international relations, has a fall 2010 internship in Odessa, Ukraine, which he arranged through AIESEC. Reports Bossler, “I’m having a wonderful time teaching English to teenagers and adults and getting a chance to travel, interact with local people, and experience a different culture while I’m here. Though I don’t speak Russian, living within the culture definitely helps as I study it on my own.”

Dean Pohlman, a major in LCA, received a Critical Languages Scholarship for advanced Turkish and studied in Ankara, Turkey for two months in summer 2010.

Graduate students

Congratulations to **Molly Thomasy Blasing** (Slavic), whose article “Second Language in Second Life: Exploring Interaction, Identity and Pedagogical Practice in a Virtual World” was published in the spring issue of the *Slavic and East European Journal* (54.1).

In August 2010 **Justin Krawitz** (music), a DMA candidate in piano performance and pedagogy, was invited to the Prague studios of Czech Radio to record Czech-American composer Karel Husa’s Piano Sonata no. 1. Later that month Krawitz presented a lecture recital “Tales from Apex: Karel Husa’s Piano Sonata no. 1” at the Second World Piano Conference in Novi Sad, Serbia. In October he presented “Another Slav in Paris: Karel Husa’s Piano Sonata no. 1” at the 32nd International Conference of the European Piano Teachers Association in Ljubljana, Slovenia.”

Colleen Lucey (Slavic) has received a HEX award from the UW-Madison Center for the Humanities for the Oakhill Prison Russian Literature Reading Group. Continuing a project begun by fellow Slavic graduate

student **Naomi Olson** in 2009 with a focus on 19th and 20th century Russian short stories, Lucey, together with former UW-Madison Writing Fellow **Chris Mohar**, will expand the reading materials to include Russian and Eastern European drama. The class aims to enhance inmates’ critical communication and comprehension skills through reading and discussing literary works. Each meeting also includes a reading session that gives students the chance to share their own work and hear the work of other writers in the class.

Alumni

Former CREECA Web and publications assistant **Alec Luhn**, who graduated in May 2010 with majors in Russian, history, and journalism, is a reporter and deputy editor for the *Moscow Times Business Review*.

Jacob Mays, a former FLAS fellow for advanced Russian, received his master’s of engineering in May 2010. In September 2010 May started a consulting job in the Chicago office of Oliver Wyman, where he will focus primarily on manufacturing, transportation, and energy.

CREECA faculty and academic staff

In summer 2011, **David Danaher** (Slavic) will be teaching an intensive course in intermediate Czech at UCLA along with his California colleague, **Susan Kresin**, who will be doing a simultaneous course in introductory Czech. The program is funded by ACLS. More information is available on the Web site <http://web.me.com/pes/IntensiveCzechSummer2011>. Danaher has been invited to give two lectures at Charles University in Prague in November 2010. Both are devoted to questions of cultural translation surrounding key words in Václav Havel’s essays and speeches, such as “home,” “conscience,” “human(e),” and “spirituality.”

Halina Filipowicz (Slavic) is thrilled to have had her comparative article “School for Patriots? The Foundational Dramas of the American and Polish Revolutions Revisited” published in *Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue canadienne des slavistes* 52 (March-June 2010): 19-45, just in time for the 30th anniversary of the rise of the Solidarity movement.

Scott Gehlbach (political science) has published his paper on “Businessman Candidates,” jointly with Konstantin Sonin and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya, in the *American Journal of Political Science*.

In September 2010, **Yoshiko Herrera** (political science) presented a paper co-written with **Nicole Kraus** (graduate student in sociology) on “Xenophobia and Nationalism in Russia: A Multilevel Analysis of Xenophobia and its Relationship to Nationalism” at the annual American Political Science Association meeting in Washington, D.C. In November 2010, Herrera published her new book, *Mirrors of the Economy: National Accounts and International Norms in Russia and Beyond* (Cornell Univ. Press, 2010). Herrera’s book explores the variance in implementation of international institutions through an examination of the international System of National Accounts (SNA) and, in particular, the success of post-Soviet Russia and other formerly communist countries in implementing the SNA.

Judith Deutsch Kornblatt (Slavic) is enjoying a long-delayed sabbatical this year, but is preparing to take on new duties nationally as President-Elect of ASEES (Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies; formerly AAASS).

George Andrew (Andy) Spencer, the bibliographer for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies, was invited by the Library of Congress to participate in a meeting with a delegation from the Yeltsin Presidential Library in St. Petersburg. At the meeting, which took place in Washington, D.C. on October 22, 2010, the select group of librarians from the US and Russia discussed

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) 2010 - 2011 Academic Year

CREECA would like to congratulate the following recipients of the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships for summer 2010 intensive language study and for foreign language and area studies during the 2010-2011 academic year. FLAS fellowships are awarded on the basis of a competitive application process to students who are enrolled in a program that combines modern foreign language training with area or international studies.

Summer 2010 Intensive Language Study

- **Barbara Bird** (second language acquisition) – intermediate Lithuanian, BALSSI
- **Roberto Carmack** (history) – intermediate Kazak, Indiana University
- **Derek Drake** (German) – elementary Estonian, BALSSI
- **Charitie Hyman** (anthropology) – advanced Ukrainian, University of Kansas Program in Lviv
- **Benjamin Jens** (Slavic languages and literature) – ACTR Summer Language Program for Russian Teachers, Moscow
- **Sarah Kapp** (Slavic languages and literature) – advanced Russian, School of Russian and Asian Studies
- **Jessica Mason** (anthropology) – ACTR Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program, Moscow
- **Peter Orte** (Comparative Literature) – ACTR Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program, Moscow
- **Katherine Wirka** (geography) – advanced-intermediate Czech, Summer School in Slavonic Studies, Masaryk University, Brno
- **Lisa Woodson** (Slavic languages and literature) – ACTR Summer Language Program for Russian Teachers, Moscow

Thanks to contributions from other FLAS-granting campuses, CREECA made several awards to visiting graduate students at the 2010 Baltic Studies Summer Institute (BALSSI).

- **Zachary Kelly** (Russian and East European Studies, Indiana University) – elementary Lithuanian
- **Michael Kemezis** (Library and Information Science, Long Island University) – elementary Lithuanian
- **Jordan Kuck** (history, University of Tennessee-Knoxville) – intermediate Latvian
- **Debra Raver** (ethnomusicology, Indiana University) – intermediate Lithuanian

FLAS Fellows for the 2010-11 Academic Year

- **Athan Biss** (history) – third-year Russian
- **Ryan Goodwin** (REECAS) – third-year Kazak
- **Anna Grelson** (comparative literature) – third-year Russian
- **Jordan Hussey-Andersen** (REECAS) – second-year Serbo-Croatian
- **Malavika Jagannathan** (REECAS) – first-year Kazak
- **Nicole Kraus** (sociology) – fourth-year Russian
- **Karolina May-Chu** (German) – fourth-year Polish
- **Omar Mohamad** (LCA) – first-year Kazak
- **Steven Wilson** (political science) – third-year Russian

During the 2010-2011 academic year CREECA awarded undergraduate FLAS fellowships for the first time to two exceptional seniors:

- **Ryan Prinz** (majoring in international studies and Russian)
- **Matthew Regner** (majoring in chemistry and Russian).

Applications for summer 2011 and the 2011-2012 academic year FLAS will be available at flas.wisc.edu starting in December 2010; the next application deadline will be **February 15, 2011**. Please visit flas.wisc.edu for a list of eligible languages, fellowship details, and an application.

NewsFILES

Out and About with Alexander Prishchepov

We heard from Alexander Prishchepov, a recipient of the international field research award in 2008 and who received his doctorate from the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology in August 2010.

“I just recently defended this summer and, as you remember, I was working on the topic of post-socialist land use change and agricultural land abandonment in Eastern Europe (including Belarus, the Baltic nations, Poland, and central Russia), integrating remote sensing data and socioeconomics. My field experience in summer 2008 experience was one of the key components of my PhD work.

On November 1st, I am starting a visiting scientist position at the Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe (IAMO), in Halle, Germany, where I will be working on a large project researching the potential producing biofuel on abandoned agricultural lands in Central and Eastern Europe.

I am also involved in another interesting project conducted by UW graduate student Rachel Licker from the Nelson Institute for Sustainability and Global Environment (SAGE).

Rachel and I are in the breadbasket of Russia (Rostov oblast) exploring the potential of increasing grain yield increase.

Our current study aims to investigate the range of land management practices (i.e. fertilizer application rates, tillage systems, mechanization, etc.) used on wheat fields in the Southern Federal District of Russia and in northern France and to highlight the characteristics of those enterprises that have higher productivity levels.

After Southern Russia, Rachel will head to Northern France to interview farmers and experts on wheat production there. She is writing a blog about her experiences of this visit:

<http://exploringbreadbaskets.blogspot.com>



Alex and Rachel at the meeting point of two rivers- Don and Manych at the southern geographical border between Europe and Asia



Rachel in the front of the never ending steppes and fields in the central part of Rostov oblast.



Rachel with the Dean of the Agronomy Department of Don State University of Agriculture (on the left) and director of private farm (right)

photos courtesy Alexander Prishchepov

(608) 262-3379

"We don't belong to one language in particular but we translate many languages to be parts of our everyday lives." - Andrei Codrescu

ANDREI CODRESCU



Full House: On October 4, 2010, as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series, Andrei Codrescu spoke to an enthusiastic audience at the Wisconsin Union Theater on the topic "Swimming between Languages: Learning English by Osmosis & Other Adventures."

Photos: Mike Dando/CREECA

www.creeca.wisc.edu



Photos: Mike Dando/CREECA

Class Act

Andrei Codrescu lectures at UW, moderates discussion on campus.

<< Codrescu made a appearances in History/Jewish Studies 219 "The American Jewish Experience" and at Chadbourne Residential College.

CODRESCU Continued from page 1

Park Street to Chadbourne Hall, site of Chadbourne Residential College (CRC), a joint program of the College of Letters & Science and University Housing "committed to interdisciplinary learning and civic engagement for the purpose of developing responsible, invested citizens in our local and global communities."

During the fall semester, CRC participants had been reading and discussing several of Codrescu's works, including essays collected in *New Orleans, Mon Amour* as well as radio essays featured on NPR, such as "Bombing Moon Gives New Meaning to Lunatics" and "Looking to a Post-Human Future." The students were eager to meet the author in person and another informal give-and-take ensued.

According to Caton Roberts, faculty director of CRC, "[Codrescu's] inimitably penetrating, discerning, and hilarious manner dazzled an otherwise intimidated group of largely first-year students." After a quick dinner hosted by the Distinguished Lecture Series at the Memorial Union, all that remained was the main event at the Wisconsin Union Theater, a public lecture titled "Swimming Between Languages: Learning English by

Osmosis & Other Adventures." Following an introduction by Tomislav Longinovic, chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, Codrescu took the stage and opened a wide-ranging, funny, and unusually intimate conversation with the audience, setting aside his prepared text and instead improvising on the theme of swimming between languages.

Codrescu recalled an early visit to Madison, when he was newly arrived in the United States, and also being mentored by a professor of literature at the University of Chicago. Recalling his multi-lingual childhood and youth, in which Hungarian, German, and Romanian coexisted, as well as his later exposure to French, Italian, and English, Codrescu urged his audience to learn world languages: "We live in a world of translations," he stated. "We don't belong to one language in particular but we translate many languages to be parts of our everyday lives."

This mini-residency was sponsored by CREECA with co-sponsorship from Global Studies, the Language Institute, the Center for Jewish Studies, "From Romania!" (a UW-Madison Registered Student Organization), the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, the European Union Center of Excellence, the Center for the Humanities, and the Distinguished Lectures Committee of the Wisconsin Union Directorate. Generous financial support from the Kemper Knapp Bequest Committee and from the Anonymous Fund of the College of Letters & Science made this visit possible.

(608) 262-3379