NEWSLETTER

Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

The University of Kansas

Volume III, Number 1

September, 1976

We are pleased to open this issue by noting the substantial growth in the academic programs of the department. In the past year the number of graduate students enrolled has increased by 125% and the enrollment of students in elementary Russian courses has increased nearly 80%; the highest enrollment ever obtained has been recorded in advanced Russian courses and elementary Polish, and the second highest in elementary Serbo-Croatian; eight new native speakers of Slavic languages have been added to the part-time teaching staff; the new program at the Linwood Center, Kansas City, has been a rousing success and the new undergraduate concentration in "Russian for the professions" has been enthusiastically received. Indeed, the department's programs are expanding and flourishing.

Russian Table meets daily, 11:30 - 1:30, in the Cottonwood Room, Kansas Union.

Polish Table meets Thursdays, 11:30 - 1:00, in the Cottonwood Room, Kansas Union.

Serbo-Croatian Table meets Monday and Wednesday, 12:30 - 1:30 in the Cottonwood Room, Kansas Union.

Deadline for applications for the CIEE Spring, 1977 program in Leningrad is October 11.

Department meetings are scheduled for the Governor's Room, Kansas Union, at 2:30 on October 5, November 2, and December 7.

Radio news broadcasts in the Russian language from Voice of America and Radio Moscow are again available throughout the day by dialing 864-3241.

Reminder - AAASS National Convention in St. Louis, October 6 - 9. All interested faculty and students can obtain free transportation to and from the Convention. Inquire in the department office.

A library exhibit on St. Petersburg - Petrograd - Leningrad is now on display on the ground floor lobby of Watson Library.
A substantial and interesting program of films incorporated into the course, "Biography of a City: St. Petersburg - Leningrad," is open, free of charge, to all interested persons. See attached program.

The department has added to its collection of books, journals, and newspapers. All items are available for perusal and use in the department. Newly received: Ozhogov, Mueller, Oxford, Smirnitsky dictionaries; subscriptions to Russian Language Journal, Russkaia mysl', Russkii iazyk na rubezhom, Literaturnaia gazeta; a collection of recent Soviet language textbooks and audio-visual materials; and desk copies of various books being used in courses.

The department's "Soviet Writer-in-Residence" program continues this year with the visit of Vitaly Korotich to campus for three weeks in late September and early October. Mr. Korotich is a prominent Ukrainian poet and essayist, author of some fifteen books. While at K.U., Mr. Korotich will give a public poetry reading and a public lecture on "The Soviet Writer Today". He will also conduct two series of lectures, in English, on (1) the history of Ukrainian literature and (2) contemporary non-Russian literatures of the Soviet Union.

Student and Alumni News

Welcome to the new graduate students in the department:

Kathryn Anderson - B.S., Purdue University

Maia Kipp - Leningrad State University, M.A. in German, Kansas State University

John Patzel - B.A., Immaculate Conception Seminary, Graduate Work at University of Wisconsin (Madison)

Monica Rodgers - B.A., University of Oregon

Miluše Šaškova - Licenses and Aggregation, University of Brussels, Belgium

Slavic Club officers for AY 76-77 are: President - Tom Grushnys; Vice-President - Geri Ružičić Secretary - Kathryn Anderson.
Tentatively planned events of the Slavic Club for this semester include: pot-luck picnic, reception for Vitaly Korotich, Formal dance, Christmas dinner party. Details will be forthcoming.

Student representatives to the department are: Nina Malyshev (undergraduate), Slava Yashemsky (M.A.), and Len Stanton (Ph.D.)

Student representatives to the Graduate Assembly are: Halina Filipowicz-Findlay and Len Stanton.

Len Stanton has also been elected student representative to Area Group I of the Graduate School and has been elected student member of the Graduate Council.

Student representative to the Slavic and East European Studies Executive Committee is Geri Mufich.

Peter Aikman was appointed Group Leader for the 1976 Summer Russian Language Program held in Leningrad. Miss Rhonda Blair was selected Assistant Group Leader. There were 31 participants, including Gretchen Rothrock, Jeff Millikan, and Nina Malyshev.

Six graduate students hold appointments this semester as TA/AI's:

Peter Aikman - A.I., Russian
Kathryn Anderson - T.A., Russian
Vera Franc-Firak - T.A., Serbo-Croatian
Marina Levine - A.I., Russian
Gail Lickteig - A.I., Russian
Slava Yashemsky - T.A., Slavic and East European Studies

Congratulations to David Bethea who passed his Ph.D. comprehensive examinations in Russian Literature, minor in English Literature, with Honors on August 26.

Six graduate students have won fellowship support for the present academic year:

David Bethea - Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship
Maia Kipp - Graduate School Honors Fellowship
Halina Filipowicz-Findlay - NDFL Title VI Fellowship
Miluse Saskova - Graduate school Honors Fellowship
Len Stanton - NDEFL Title VI Fellowship

Mary Stuart - Fellowship for the Academic Year Exchange Program, University of Warsaw, Poland

Three students read papers at the American Theatre Association National Convention in Los Angeles in August: Spencer Golub on the director, Anatoli Efros; Len Stanton on Yuri Liubimov and the Moscow Taganka Theatre; and, Slava Yashemsky on Oleg Efremov and his work at the Moscow Art Theatre.

Larry Lonard (M.A. 1972), now teaching in Topeka, will be working with Prof. Fletcher this year in association with the Mid-American Curriculum Consortium, creating and field testing an array of one-week units on Russia for use in high schools.

Ten Polish students from the University of Warsaw, participants in the K.U. - Warsaw Exchange Program, will be in residence this academic year at the University.

NOTE: The editor would greatly appreciate hearing from all our student alumni. Please do send in all news of note.

Staff News

Welcome to our new part-time faculty members:

-Romana Boniecka, Lecturer in Polish. M.A. equivalent in Pedagogy, University of Warsaw, Poland; M.A., Teaching English as a Second Language, K.U.

-Galina Bismuth, Lecturer in Russian. Moscow Institute of Foreign Languages; Director of Russian Technical Documentation, Occidental Petroleum Corporation.

-Lev Mak, Instructor in Russian. Moscow Film Academy; author of numerous published poems and film scenarios both in and out of the USSR.

Welcome also to the new student staff member in the department office, Ms. Karen Schlotthauer.

Prof. Conrad edited and contributed to A Status Report commissioned by the Center for Applied Linguistics (Arlington, VA.) and published by CAL and the Modern Language Association as the CAL:ERIC/CLL Series on Languages and Linguistics, no. 29 (April 1976). The report surveys Russian enrollments in American schools and colleges, textbooks in use, and a variety
of programs of instruction, e.g. typical freshman-sophomore coursework, major programs for the B.A., M.A., and Ph.D., intensive programs, computer assisted instruction, and programs for American students held in the Soviet Union.


Prof. Salaty gave a special invited lecture to an officer group from the General Army Command Staff in Leavenworth last spring on the topic "Psychological, Social, and Economic Conditions in pre-1943 USSR."

Prof. Parker has two reviews appearing in Books Abroad: of Jean Cau's Les enfants and of Vladimir Nabokov's Details of a Sunset.

Prof. Conrad's paper, "Chekhov's Literary Landscapes," will be published in a collection arising out of the International Chekhov Symposium held at the University of North Carolina in April 1975.

Prof. Galton gave three papers this summer: (1) "The Space-Time Picture of Macedonian Declension and Conjugation" at the Macedonian Seminar held at Ohrid, Yugoslavia; (2) "A Different View of Economy in Phonological Change" at the Third Phonological Meeting in Vienna, Austria; and (3) "Still and already in German and Russian" at the annual meeting of the Societias Linguistica Europaea in Salzburg, Austria.

Prof. Stammler attended the Xth International Conference held jointly by the Conference of European Problems and the Studiengesellschaft für Fragen Mittel-und Öst-europäischer Partnerschaft, May 25-29 at Wildbad Kreuth, Bavaria, West Germany. The theme of the conference was "Between Detente and Crisis: New Strategies in East and West."

In October Prof. Conrad will conduct negotiations in Moscow and Leningrad for the KU/CIEE Leningrad programs with Irving Becker of the CIEE.