CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

This year we welcome three visiting professors and one new instructor to the Department. From the Gornyj Institute in St. Petersburg, teaching advanced Russian and surveys of 19th and 20th century Russian literature, are Professor Natalia Ozerova (fall semester), and Professor Natalia Volchek (spring semester). They are participants in a faculty exchange program with Professor Gerald Mikkelsen, who is spending the academic year in St. Petersburg.

Also joining us is Professor Volodymyr Piletskyi of the Ivan Franko University of L'viv, who is teaching Ukrainian language and literature. He is one of three visiting faculty from Ukraine who are participating in the newly created, widely publicized Russian and East European Studies interdisciplinary program in Ukrainian studies here at the University. Our new Russian instructor is Ms. Holly Stephens, who is teaching intermediate Russian composition and conversation.

Complementing the infusion of faculty are fourteen undergraduate students from Russia and five from Ukraine who will be studying at the University throughout the academic year on the President's 1000/1000 program. We also welcome six new students into our graduate program, along with twenty-two declared senior undergraduate majors.

Thus far the University of Kansas has been spared the draconian budget cutbacks which have occurred at a majority of U.S. public institutions. Nonetheless, all universities in the Kansas Regents system have undergone intensive evaluations of degree programs for the purpose of possible restructuring and eventual reallocation of resources. In this regard, I am pleased to report that the College and University evaluations of this Department have determined that our B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degree programs are each of very high quality and that all are essential to the mission of the University of Kansas. With considerable pleasure and pride, I note that among the clearest, recognized indications of our program's quality are the exceptional and often spectacular accomplishments of our graduates over the past two decades. Closing on an additional note of pride, I would mention the recently published 1992 edition of Barron's Best Buys in College Education which cites nine majors in the various schools and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas for their particular excellence. Among those nine are "East European and Russian and Slavic studies."

Stephen J. Parker, Chair

FACULTY NEWS

Professor Maria Carlson was tenured and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in the spring '92. She also received the H. Bernard Fink Award for Outstanding Classroom Teaching, one of the major teaching awards given by the University of Kansas. During the months of May and June, she traveled with Dean George Woodyard (International Studies and Programs) to St. Petersburg, Moscow, L'viv, and Warsaw to meet with Russian and East European institutions participating in various KU programs. Beginning with the fall semester, Professor Carlson began her new duties as Associate Director of Russian and East European Studies at the University. Her new book, 'No Religion Higher than Truth: A History of the Theosophical Movement in Russia 1875-1922,' will be published by Princeton University Press in early 1993.

Professor William Comer has been busy organizing the first-year Russian program, adapting the current textbook and writing a supplement to it. In August, before the start of class, he held orientations for new GTAs and those involved in teaching Slavic 104. Starting with this fall semester, Professor Comer has become the coordinator of the CIEE Study Abroad Program and one of the Department's undergraduate advisors. In September Professor Comer helped organize a lively one-day workshop on Foreign Language Teaching Techniques that was sponsored jointly by the Slavic and Spanish Departments.

Professor Comer made a presentation in the Department's Colloquium series on Dostoevskii's references to the sects of the skopyi in The Idiot, a paper drawn from his dissertation. He will participate in a workshop to become a certified Oral Proficiency Tester in Russian and will present a paper at the 1992 AATSEEL Conference on initiating systematic oral testing in first- and second-year Russian classes.

Professor Joseph Conrad is scheduled to publish an article "Chekhov's Volodia: Transformation of Turgenyev's 'First Love'" in a volume of essays on Chekhov edited by Robert L. Jackson and published by Northwestern University Press. An article on "Charmes and Conjuring" will appear in the Modern Encyclopedia of Religion in Russia and the Soviet Union, vol. 5, published by Academic International Press. Two reviews have been
published, one on Janez Bogataj’s *Domace obrti na Slovenskem in Slovene Studies* 12, the other on Frank Miller’s *Folklore for Stalin: Russian Folklore and Pseudofolklore of the Stalin Era in Canadian-American Slavic Studies*.

Professor Marc L. Greenberg recently published two reviews articles: “Nov pregled sosednjega hrvaškega narcaja” (Mijo Lončarić, *Kaj jezeri danas-ogledi o hrvatskoj kazjavštini*) and “Enciklopedijsko o slovenskem jeziku” (Jože Toporišič, *Enciklopedija slovenskega jezika*), both in the journal *Slavistična revija*. An article, “The Prosodic Possibilities of Modern Standard Slovene and the Slovene Dialects” appeared in vol. 14 of *California Slavic Studies*. He presented the papers “Chronologizing Prekmurje Accentuation” at the 8th Biennial Conference on Balkan and South Slavic Literature, Linguistics and Folklore (U. of Chicago, April 1992) and “The Relationship between Prekmurje Slovene and Kajkavian” at the annual AAASS meeting (Phoenix, November 1992). In April he gave an invited talk on “Prosodic Systems in Slovene” in the Linguistics Colloquy series of the KU Linguistics Department. He served as consultant on Slovene to Professor Joshua Fishman (Stanford U./Yeshiva U.) in connection with his project on Nationalism and Minority Languages. In the summer of 1992 he was awarded a scroll from the government of the Republic of Slovenia, hand signed by the President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Republic, for his efforts in the campaign to gain international recognition for the newly independent state. Plans for ’93-’94 are to work on a monograph with the working title *A Historical Phonology of the Slovene Dialects* under the auspices of a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Professor Maia Kipp published an article entitled “Професор объявяет ВАМПИЛОВА” in *Театральная жизнь* (Moscow), which offers a new interpretation of A. Vampilov’s most famous play, *Duck Hunting*. Professor Kipp also presented the paper “A Garden without Soil: Russian New Drama in the Time of Gorbachev and Yeltsin” at the American Theatre in Higher Education Conference in Atlanta, August ’92. She also appeared in a KU production of Volodin’s play *The Blonde* in February ’92.

Professor William March gave a talk in the Russian East European Brown Bag series on November 24, entitled “The Demise of Yugoslavia: A Croatian View.”

The rave reviews of Professor Jadwiga Maurer’s book on Mickiewicz, *Z matki obi...* [Of an Alien Mother] (London: Polska Fundacja Kultury, 1990), continue to pour in. K. Koźmiński in *Polityka* writes that her book is an “invaluable and solid piece of scholarship.” A review of several recent books on Polish-Jewish themes by Jerzy Tomaszewski (*Słowo Żydowskie*, Warsaw) remarks on the surprising fact that the theme of Professor Maurer’s book (Mickiewicz’s Jewish mother and his connections to Jewish culture) had remained virtually unknown in the biography of Poland’s otherwise most famous Romantic writer.

During the 1992-1993 academic year Professor Gerald E. Mikkelsen is participating in a faculty exchange between the University of Kansas and the St. Petersburg (Russia) Institute of Mining, which is providing one of its Russian language and literature instructors each semester to teach in our Department at the advanced level. Meanwhile, Professor Mikkelsen is pursuing a research program on the writers Aleksandr Pushkin and Valentin Rasputin at the Russian Academy of Sciences Institute of Russian Literature (Pushkin House) in St. Petersburg. He simultaneously serves as Academic Resident Director of the Council for International Educational Exchange’s Advanced Russian Language Programs for American students in St. Petersburg. In October he gave a guest lecture at the Department of Russian Literature of St. Petersburg University, entitled “Валентин Распутин после «Пожара».” In spring 1993, he will teach a спецкурс on “Религия в жизни и творчестве Пушкина.” The title of the спецкурс is also the title of a monograph that he is writing. In the fall semester he attended conferences at the Pushkin House and St. Petersburg University: “Russia and the French Enlightenment,” “Марина Тсветаева, 1882-1922,” and “Russians Living Abroad.” In late May 1993, he will deliver a paper on Pushkin at the Second International Pushkin Conference in Tver. Professor Mikkelsen’s stay in Russia has allowed him to maintain informal contacts with Russian writers (Aleksandr Kushner, Daniil Granin, Sergey Zalygin, Valentin Rasputin) and scholars (Aleksandr Korolkov, Sergey Podboletov, Vadim Vatsuro, Raisa Izutova, Sergey Fominich and others).

publication of several Nabokov works, and the Fall '92 issue will feature the 1991 Nabokov bibliography, a detailed report of the recent international conference, and additional information concerning the Nabokov archives.

**EMERITUS NEWS**

Professor Heinrich A. Stammler recently published an article “Friedrich Nietzsche and Teodor Trajanov: Pen and Poesy” in Letopisi 3, 1992 (Organ of the Bulgarian Writers’ Association, published by Sv. Kliment University Press). He also delivered the paper “Stanislaw Przybyszewski’s reception in the Literary Russia of the Silver Age” at the AAASS Central Slavic Conference in St. Charles, Missouri, October 24.

**ALUMNI NEWS**

Peter Aikman (M.A. '77) has recently retired from the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, after serving in various positions from Russian instructor, to chairperson, to academic coordinator, a post he had held since 1986. A retrospective of his career of 28 years in military service is featured in the November issue of Globe, the newsletter of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center.

David Bethea (Ph.D. '77), Vilas Research Professor at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, has recently completed a book entitled *Joseph Brodsky and the Creative Exile*. The book is under contract at Princeton University Press and will appear sometime in 1993. He currently serves as chair of the Slavic Department at the University of Wisconsin.

Professor Thomas Beyer (Ph.D. '74), C. V. Starr Professor and Chair of the Russian Department at Middlebury College, has recently published *501 Russian Verbs* (Barrons, 1992). His previous publications include *Getting by in Russian*; he is currently working on *Russian the Fast and Fun Way*.

Michael Biggins (Ph.D. '85) will have his translation of Boris Pahor's *Nekropola (Pilgrim Among the Shadows)* published by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich in early 1993. The book is an account of the Slovene writer's experiences during World War II. He contributed English translations for three of four poets in the collection *Double Vision: Four Slovene Poets*, a joint publication by Aleph Publishers (Ljubljana) and Poetry Miscellany (Chattanooga, Tenn.), which is scheduled to appear in the U.S. in late 1992. A book-length collection of poems by leading Slovene poet Tomaz Salamun, selected and translated by Dr. Biggins, will be published in 1994 by Peregrine Smith Books in Salt Lake City. He also contributed the section for Slovenia in *Shifting Borders: East European Poetry of the Eighties* (Fairleigh Dickinson U. Press), due out in early '93. In September '92 he attended Vilenica, a conference of Central European writers held in Sežana, Slovenia and Trieste, Italy and presented a paper on the reception of East European literatures in America. The paper was published in *Delo*, the main Ljubljana daily newspaper. The paper will also appear in the journal *Literatura* (Ljubljana) and in Lithuanian translation in the journal *Regnum* (Vilnius). Dr. Biggins' poetry translations (Edvard Kochek, Tomaz Šalamun, Jure Potokar and others) have appeared in several literary journals, including *Grand Street*, *Agni*, *New Letters*, and others.

Professor Halina Filipowicz (Ph.D. '79) of the U. of Wisconsin at Madison has been awarded a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the project *Poetics of Insurrection*. Her book will examine the textual and performance strategies of transforming ancient topoi in nineteenth-century plays about the Polish uprisings of 1830 and 1863 against Russia. A book, *A Laboratory of Impure Forms: The Plays of Tadeusz Rózewicz* (*Contributions in Drama and Theatre Studies*, No. 35), was published in 1991 by Greenwood Press. Her recent articles include “From Comedy to Melodrama: The Transposition of a Polish Theme,” in *Themes in Drama* (ed. by James Redmond, publ. by Cambridge U. Press) and “Polish Theater after Solidarity: A Challenging Test” in *The Drama Review* 36. She was invited to give a paper at an international conference on Polish émigré theater and drama held Nov. 1992 at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznañ, Poland.

Professor Hyun-Taek Kim (Ph.D. '90) of Chung-Ang University, attended the Slavic Library Workshop at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, in July '92. He is currently teaching at the newly-formed Russian Department of the College of Foreign Languages at his University, where he reports that there is a great deal of formative work to be done, particularly in teaching Russian. He has been put in charge of a radio program that is designed for Koreans who wish to learn Russian; the program runs six days a week, fifteen minutes per program. Last year his department invited the Russian writer of Korean descent, Anatoli Kim, to teach Russian language and literature courses.

Leonard Stanton (Ph.D. '84) received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at Louisiana State University last spring.

Professor Anatoly Vishevsky (Ph.D. '85) of Washington U., St. Louis, Missouri, published two articles: "Demonic Games, or the Hidden Plot of Mikhail Lermontov's 'Kniazha Mery'" in *Wiener slawistischer Almanach 27* and "О поэтическом мире Евгения Попова" in *Russian Language Journal* 45.

Gisela Zimmerman (Ph.D. '92), whose dissertation, *The Revolutionary
and the Superfluous Man: Soviet Russian Images of Faust, was defended with honors, has recently accepted a position in Russian language and literature at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

William Griffeths spoke on "Voice and Indeterminate-Personal Sentence in Russian" and Mark Lauersdorf spoke on "The Concept 'Cultural Language' and 16th Century Slovak" at the Central Slavic Conference in St. Charles, Missouri, in November. A former KU grad, now of Indiana U., Stephen Dickey, spoke on "Iterativity and Perfectivity in East and South Slavic.

In February '92 Howard Solomon (M.A. '90) led seminars on Soviet Health Care and Soviet Crime at the Global Issue Seminar at Hesston College, Kansas. In April he was nominated by the students of Intermediate Russian Conversation and Composition for Outstanding GTA. He presented the paper "Speculations on the future in Chekhov's Dramaturgy" at the National Conference of the Association for Theater in Higher Education in Atlanta, Georgia, August '92.

Laura Wilhelm (M.A. '91) presented the paper "The Modern Russian Fable: Bridging the Genre Generation Gap" at the Great Lakes Area Graduate Student Conference on Slavic Linguistics and Literatures (GLAGOL) at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, March 1992. In July she attended the Fifth International Congress of the Beast Fable Society in Glasgow, Scotland, where she presented the paper "Form in Action: Functions of the Fable in Russian Literary Culture" [which, no doubt, provoked animated discussion, op. ed.]. The paper is being prepared for refereed publication in the BFS organ, Bestia, published by John Benjamins (Amsterdam). In October she read "Neologisms and New Meanings in the Russian Fable" at the Central Slavic Conference in St. Charles, Missouri.

HONORS RECEPTION

On April 15, 1992 the Department held its annual Honors Reception, recognizing outstanding achievement in Slavic languages and literatures at all levels.

For excellence in Russian, Elementary Level, the recipients were: Jocelyn Brown, Todd Davidson, Michelle Deily, Bruce Gavin, Thomas Kirk, Esther Kromhout, Derron Mayer, Lam Nguyen, Brenda Randolph, Amanda Traxler, and Natalia Vukshich. Honorees for excellence in Russian, Intermediate Level were: Brian Anderson, Brian Armstrong, Suzanne Busic, Jennifer Hobson, Gregory Isernhagen, William Katz, Kyong Sug Kim, Robin Lace, Kathleen Paules, Karen Stoumbaugh, Carrie Wilson, and Valerie Workman. Those who did excellent work in Russian on the Advanced Level were: Deborah Briggs, Amy Dudeck, Kevin Faherty, Raymond Finch, William Hanley, Heather Laughlin, Emily Leonard, Daniel Palmer, and Mark Shepard.


Joseph Barich was honored as outstanding student of Elementary Croatian/Serbian. Intermediate Croatian/Serbian went to Rozalija Kozul and awards for excellence in advanced Croatian/Serbian went to Gary Roy and Harley Wagler.

The Harley Nelson Scholarship was awarded to the Outstanding Junior Major in Slavic Languages and Literatures, Dana Engel.

The Outstanding Graduating Major in Slavic Languages and Literatures was Barbara Breitung. Two Outstanding M.A. Students, Joachim Faust and Viktor Leier, were named.

CHRONICLE OF EVENTS

Two Department Colloquia were held this year: in October visiting Professor Natalia Ozerova made a presentation on "Analytical Reading of Russian Literary Texts" and in November Professor William Comer gave a talk on the the play in Dostoevskij's The Idiot. The talks were hosted by Professors Maurer and Carlson, in their homes, respectively.

In October Professor Parker hosted the Department Gala in his home.

The Slavic Club held a Winter Fesitvity and Potluck on December 3.

On December 10 the Department hosted Professor Brian Boyd of the University of Auckland, New Zealand, who gave the talk "Tolstoy and Nabokov." Professor Boyd is the world's leading authority on Vladimir Nabokov, whose two-volume opus, Vladimir Nabokov: The Russian Years (1990) and Vladimir Nabokov: The American Years (1991), has been acclaimed as the definitive life and works of Nabokov.

FRIENDS OF THE DEPT.

Our former Slavic linguist, Professor George Fowler, now of Indiana U., Bloomington, reports that he will give a paper entitled "A Syntactic Account of Derivational -sja in Russian" at the 1993 International Congress of Slavists in Bratislava. Work on this paper was supported by a summer new faculty grant at KU. Prof. Fowler is co-founder and co-editor (with Steve Franks) of the new Journal of Slavic Linguistics, slated to begin appearing at the end of 1992. This journal aims to fill a major gap in Slavic scholarly periodicals in the U.S.
Do you have something to contribute to The Lawrencian Chronicle? News about activities and accomplishments in the field of Slavic studies, as well as family matters, are always welcome from current and emeritus faculty, graduate students, alumni and friends of the KU Slavic Department. If so, contact the editor:

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If you are an alumnus or alumna, please include the following information with your news item: (1) major field while at KU and the highest degree earned, (2) date the degree was awarded, (3) graduate degrees from other universities, (4) present occupation, (5) current address, phone and e-mail address (if available).

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**Doubtland**

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**Doonesgorod**

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**CONSTANTINE INVENTS GLAGOLITIC**

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**SUBIC BAY IS WHAT? 200 MILES FROM BOSNIA? WE'LL SEND OUR BETS THERE AND CLINTON'LL BE IN DEEP QUAGMIRE**

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**GIVE IT A REST, DANNY. IT'S ALL OVER NOW...**

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**I'LL SERVE HUMANITY BY BECOMING A SLAVIC PROFESSOR!!**

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**WELL, YOU GOT THE VOLUNTEERISM PART RIGHT!**