Chairman's Corner

The Lawrencian Chronicle has been out of print for three years, and reappears now in cyberspace due to the energy of its new editor, Katarzyna Zechenter. Designed as a new feature of the Department's web page (created and maintained by Marc Greenberg) it will be regularly updated with news of the Department, its faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

Some brief highlights of the last three years: As with the rest of the profession, we too experienced a slide in enrollments which bottomed out two years ago, stabilized, and now are increasing. Russian enrollments and undergraduate majors are up; Polish enrollments are solid; Croatian and Serbian are modest on-campus but high in the off-campus course (33 students). Our array of introductory courses to the study of Slavic literature, language, culture, and folklore draw substantial enrollments. Joe Conrad's highly popular "Introduction to Slavic Folklore," for instance, closed out this spring with 53 students. The Department continues to offer its full curriculum for BA, MA, and Ph.D. degrees in literature, linguistics, and culture with emphases in Russian, Polish, Croatian and Serbian, and Intensive Ukrainian.

Joining our faculty this year are Professor Edith Clowes and Assistant Professor Katarzyna Zechenter. Check the web page faculty link to learn about them. Bill Comer was recently appointed Director of the College's Academic Resources Center, and Maria Carlson continues to serve as Director of the Russian and East European Studies Program. The Department is ably managed by Charlene Tilford, and I am particularly pleased to pass along Zhenya Felton's warmest regards to her many friends.

Graduated enrollments have followed the same approximate curve as undergraduate enrollments. At their highest point in the number was in the mid-thirties. Now the number has stabilized in the mid-twenties. In the past three years we have awarded six PhDs -- Gary Roy (Thornton Academy, Saco Maine); Yelena Khripkov (University of Oregon), Howard Solomon (US Foreign Service), Tatyana Spektor (Iowa State University), Jason Merrill (Drew University), and Viktor Leier (Schweinfurt, Germany). We expect to award two or three doctorates at the end of this academic year.
Now that we are back on line, as it were, I urge all of our graduates/alums to regularly check the Department's web page for information about your programs and your friends, and I ask you to assist us by providing the editor your addresses (street and email) and any personal and/or professional news you would like to pass along.

Stephen Parker

30th Anniversary of Slavic Ph.D. Program

During the academic year 1998-99 we mark the passage of three decades since the inception of our Ph.D. program. Having undergone rigorous scrutiny by all appropriate university committees, and with the endorsement of the American Council of Learned Societies, it was approved by the Kansas Board of Regents in the spring of 1969. We became the only university granting the Ph.D. in Slavic languages and literatures in the enormous geographical area from the Mississippi River to the West Coast (now there are two). Our first Ph.D. was granted in 1970, to George Jerkovich, now deceased, who worked for more than 30 years as curator of the Slavic collection at Watson Library.

Since then a total of 33 persons have earned the Ph.D. degree in Slavic languages and literatures at the University of Kansas. Twenty eight of them had Ph.D. concentrations in literature (27 Russian, 1 Polish), five in linguistics. They wrote dissertations on subjects as diverse as "The Igor'Tale," St. Nicholas in Old Russian literature and iconography, the correspondence between Ivan the Terrible and Prince Kurbsky, Optyna Pustyn' in Russian literature, the literary criticism of Apollon Grigor'ev, of Andrey Bely, of Andrey Sinyavsky, Russian poetic translation, the poetry of Vladislav Khodasevich, the Russian ballad, the Russian fable, the Faust theme in Soviet Russian literature, the Soviet literary journal Yunost', the Soviet satirical short story, Russian surrealism, Russian post-Structuralism, the dramaturgy of Russian modernism, of Tadeusz Rozewicz, of Eduard Radzinsky, the prose of Fyodor Sologub, of Vsevolod Ivanov, of Mikhail Bulgakov, of Sergey Zalygin, of Yury Trifonov, of Valentyn Rasputyn, of Andrey Bitov, of Evgeny Popov, the "religious" novels of Yury Dombrowski, Vladimir Tendryakov, and Chingiz Aitmatov, the literary and/or spoken languages of the Czech, Slovak, and Russian Old Believer peoples, and the intermediate-personal expressions in modern Russian. During the first 20 years we averaged about one Ph.D. per year. During the past decade this average has been slightly higher. Currently we have 10 ABDs working on Ph.D. dissertations.

Our Ph.D.s are always able to compete on a par with those of our Slavic peers even in the toughest employment times. More than two-thirds of them have pursued successful careers in universities, colleges, and high schools across the United States and abroad. The list of academic institutions where they work includes Kansas State, Georgetown, Middlebury, Wisconsin-Madison (2), Bucknell, Rollins, Louisiana State, Florida, Bowling Green (2), Grinnell, Washington-Seattle, Kansas, Nebraska, Seoul National, Wake Forest, Korean-Seoul, Thornton Academy-Maine, Oregon, Iowa State, and Drew.
Some have chosen careers in government service, including diplomacy and intelligence, and other relevant occupations.

The scholarly and teaching attainments of our Ph.D.s are indeed impressive. Among them are some of the profession's leading experts in Slavic languages and literatures, often including the craft of literary translation (from Slavic languages into English, Korean, and other languages). While the numbers of our Ph.D. students have declined in recent years, reflecting temporary national trends, our Slavic graduate faculty, library and other academic resources, and opportunities for comprehensive research and pedagogical education, including study abroad in Slavic countries, have never been greater. Our Ph.D. candidates receive support in the form of graduate teaching assistantships, NDFL Title VI and University of Kansas fellowships, and summer institute group leader positions. In cooperation with the K.U. Endowment Association, we are exploring ways of raising additional funds for graduate fellowships. We expect continued success as one of the leading centers in North America for the training of younger specialists in Slavic languages and literatures.

Ten years ago we celebrated the 20th anniversary of our Ph.D. program with a one-day Slavic conference on the K.U. campus. The scholarly papers were given by several of our Ph.D.s who came back to their Alma Mater for this purpose and for the banquet which ensued. We are now contemplating a 30th-anniversary conference and celebration in Lawrence during academic year 2000-01. By then the number of Ph.D.s earned in our department will be approaching forty. If you are one of them, please tell us whether you would be interested in attending and/or reading a paper at this 30th-anniversary conference. Please e-mail either Prof. Greenberg (m-greenberg@ukans.edu) or Prof. Mikkelson (gemikk@eagle.cc.ukans.edu).

We appreciate your loyalty and support of our department's Ph.D. program as it soon enters its fourth illustrious decade.

Gerald Mikkelson

Faculty News

Professor Edith Clowes, who joined the Department in December 1998, went with her family in fall 1998 on a DAAD grant (and her husband's Fulbright and Max Planck fellowships) to live and do research in Germany. She lived in Bonn but traveled widely to meet German colleagues in the Slavic area and to give talks. Prof. Clowes publications include: Merchant Moscow: Images of Russia's Vanished Bourgeoisie. Edited by James L. West and Yuri Petrov. With editorial collaboration of E. Clowes and T. Owen. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1998); "Vocabularies of Identity: Some Brief Thoughts about Cultural Discourse Analysis and its Uses in Literary Criticism," Dialogues on Discourse (Winter, 1997,1-3); "Merchants on Stage and in Life: Theatricality and Public Consciousness," Merchant Moscow: Images of Russia's

and Olga Kagan; forthcoming Slavica 1999); "What Every Russian Knows about Russian History," (The Russian Context, ed. by Genevra Gerhart and Eloise Boyle; forthcoming Slavica 1999).

His papers include "Russian Language and Russian History: An Experiment in Languages Across the Curriculum" (AATSEEL, San Francisco, 1998); "Rethinking Pedagogical Paradigms in the Development of Multimedia," (AATSEEL, Toronto, 1997); "Gоворит Россия: Making the Loop between Technology, Classroom Teaching and Research," (CALICO Conference, West Point, June 1997); "Measuring Student Proficiency in the Less Commonly Taught Slavic Languages," (AATSEEL, Washington, DC, December, 1996); "Maintaining Language Functions in Subject-Based Courses," (AAASS, Boston 1996); "Symbolist Populism: The Merezhkovskii's Trip to Svetloe ozero." (Herzen Readings of the Pedagogical University, Saint Petersburg, Russia, May 28, 1996) and "Alexander Prugavin and the Publishing House 'Zadruga' which he presented in Russian at the (International Conference on the Problems of Bibliography, Moscow, Russia, April 23, 1996). In 1996 Professor William Comer received the IREX Advanced Individual Research Grant for the project "The Religious Quests of the Russian Symbolist Writers," February-July 1996) and in December of 1996 was a Principal Investigator for "A Virtual Library for Teaching Russian Culture," at ASTUTE Center "Quest for the Best."


In February 1996 Professor Marc L. Greenberg received an IREX grant to attend the First International Symposium on Slovene Dialectology at the University of Maribor, where he gave the paper in the plenary session (televised on RTV Slovenija) "Razlicni vzroki za siritev in povratni razvoj glasoslovne spremembe: rotacizem v južnoslovanskih jezikih" [Multiple causation in the spread and reversal of a sound change: rhotacism in South Slavic].

In summer 1997 Prof. Greenberg gave an invited lecture at the Slovene Academy of Arts and Sciences on "Problems in the Historical Phonology of Slovene" in Slovene, (On problems connected with preparation of current book ms. Historical Phonology of the Slovene Language).


Prof. Hacking's conference papers include: "Conditionals in Action: Macedonian and English," (Central Slavic Conference. University of Kansas, April 1997); "A Typological Discourse Analysis of Post-posed if-clauses in Russian, Macedonian and English Conditionals" (AATSEEL, Toronto 1997); "The Particle by and the Coding of Speaker's Point of View in Russian," Invited talk, (University of Toronto, October 1996); "The Particle bi/by and Grammaticalization Theory," (The Tenth Conference on Balkan and South Slavic Linguistics, Literature, and Folklore, University of Chicago, May 1996); "Grammaticalization Theory and the Conditional Mood in Slavic," (Linguistics Colloquium, University of Kansas, April 1996).

In 1997 Professor Maia Kipp published her article "A Subject for a Short Story, or in Defense of Trigorin" in Antoon Chekhov: Philosophische und religioese Dimensionen im Leben und Werk. (Verlag Otto Sagner; Muenche, 1997). 1997 was a busy year for Prof.

In 1998 Prof. Kipp staged and directed A. Chekhov's "The Seagull" staged by Kansas University Theater and a in spring 1997 she was a producer of E. Shvarts' "The Dragon" at William Kuhlke Benefit Performance. Currently she is working on organizing a semester-long visit by a prominent Russian director Veniamin Smekhov who will direct a play at UT in the Fall of 1999. Prof. Kipp is also organizing a visit of Dr. Aksenova to teach a course on Post-Soviet Russian Cinema in the Department of Theater and Film in the Fall of 1999. She is also participating in The Outreach Program of the Center for Russian and East European Studies as UK. The Program requires putting together introductory culture sessions for 4th-6th graders which are offered at two primary-schools in Lawrence: Prairie Park and Sunflower.

Professor Jadwiga Maurer spent several days in Chile in December 1998 where she was a guest of the Polish Ambassy and two universities: University of Chile in Santiago and the University de La Serena in La Serena and where she gave two lectures: "Adam Mickiewicz. The Poet of Poland" which were simultaniously translated into Spanish. In early December 1998 Prof. Maurer was also a discussant at the conference *Home/Less. The Polish Experience* at the University of Indiana in Bloomington. Her latest short story "Q i pensjonarka" ("Q and a Schoolgirl") was published in a Krakow weekly Tygodnik Powszechny (1998:21) and one of 1999 AAASS session which will be held in St.Louis this fall will be devoted to Prof. Maurer prose. In January 1999 Prof. Maurer's story about her home town Kielce entitled "Pensja pani Zimnowodziny" appeared in a journal "Ik" published in Kielce. In 1997 her short story "The Beggar" was translated into English by Daniel Sargent and published in *Periphery: Journal of Polish Affairs* (3:1/2). In 1997 Prof. Maurer published two articles on Adam Mickiewicz's Jewish Legion and other literary essays in a Polish journal Lithuania, in a Polish-language journal published in Tel-Aviv Kontury and in a volume Archiwum Emigracji w Toruniu. And in 1996 she was interviewed by Andrzej Zulawski for the inaugural episode of Po co nam...?, "Conversations with Prominetn Poles Abroad. Currently Prof. Maurer is working on a book concerning Adam Mickiewicz's last year of life (1855) and his effortst to create Jewish Legion.

In 1997 Anna Zacharska of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow wrote her M.A. thesis "Literackie swiadectwa 'Ocalencow'" (The Literary Witness of "Survivals") about Prof. Maurer's, Ida Fink's and Henryk Grynberg's prose.

Professor **Stephen J. Parker** has been heavily engaged in activities surrounding the Vladimir Nabokov Centennial. In September 1998 he participated in the Nabokov Centenary Festival at Cornell University where, as a past student of Nabokov's at Cornell, he was interviewed by reporters from Russia, Europe, and the USA and assisted in the dedication of a memorial plaque. He also gave a paper, "Nabokov Studies: The State of the Art Revisited," which will be published by Cornell University Press in the Festival Proceedings. Among other upcoming activities, he will participate in the PEN America evening devoted to Nabokov in New York City's Town Hall on April 15. The fall issue of Prof. Parker's journal, *The Nabokovian*, features a detailed schedule of the upcoming worldwide centenary celebrations. The special journal issues which will appear during the centenary will feature a Nabokov write-alike contest and new works by Nabokov.

In 1996 Professor **Yaroslava Tsiovkh** published *Ukrainian Through History, Culture, Society* (Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute. Harvard University, 1996) and a paper "Cultural and Stylistic Aspects in Translation of the Dissident Ukrainian Literature" in the proceedings of 1st National Tesol Ukraina Conference. As a part of The Outreach Program of the Center for Russian and East European Studies at UK Prof. Tsiovkh is teaching introductory culture sessions about Ukraine at two primary-schools in Lawrence: Prairie Park and Sunflower. *Journal-World* (Jan. 28, 1998) devoted the article "Program widens students' cultural perspective" to the Outreach Program and Prof. Tsiovkh's work.


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**Graduate Students News**

Congratulations to **Michael D. Johnson**, who in December 1998 defended his M.A. thesis "Independent Readings: Intertextuality and Itratextuality in Aleksander Blok's "Pesnia Sud'by" and "Na Pole Kulikovom".

**Galina Griffiths** completed a translation "Making Medical Practice and Education More Relevant for the Family Doctors" for the World Health Organization and the World Organization of Family Doctors.

**Meghan Murphy-Lee** gave paper "Letter-Sound Correspondence Acquisition in First Semester Russian" at the 1998 AATSEEL in San Francisco.

**Jonathan Perkins** received U.S. Department of State (Title VIII) Advanced Research Fellowship which is allowing him to do his research in St. Petersburg under the auspices of ACTR/ACCELS Research Scholar Program. In 1998 he participated at the Certificate Program for Technology and Language Instruction, Center for Educational Technology in Middlebury College, Middlebury VT where he was one of only fourteen graduate students selected from foreign language departments for a three-week, all expense paid training seminar. From Oct. 1997 to May 1998, Jonathan Perkins was an Assistant to the Editor, Nabokovian [Journal of the Vladimir Nabokov Society] edited by Prof. Stephen J. Parker. In 1998 he read his paper "Platonov's 'Tretij syn' as Socialist Realist Tragedy" at Central Slavic Conference of AAASS, Shawnee, OK.

**Eugenia Walton** presented her paper: "The Belarusian Prose Tristan: A Slavic Orthodox Revision of the Western European Chivalric Ideal" at The Central Slavic Conference (Spring 1998).

If you have an item for the Graduate Student News, please send it to Prof. [Zechenter](mailto:zechenter@uark.edu).

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**Personal News**
In June 1997 Prof. Clowes participated with 9000 other riders in a 200-mile bicycleride from Seattle, WA, to Portland, OR, known as the STP Classic.

Best wishes and congratulations to Professor Conrad and Galina Samsonova on their wedding which took place on July 22, 1997.

Prof. Hacking gave birth to a son, Samuel, born July 22, 1996. He is now a happy three-year-old attending pre-school.

Prof. Maurer is the happy grandmother of William, her first grandchild, who was born in 1998.

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Alumni News

Heather Dickerson (M.A. 1997, with Honors) is currently working on a Masters of Library Science at Indiana University in Bloomington.


In 1998 Prof. Tim Pogacar (Ph.D. 1985) became the chairman of the Department of German, Russian and East Asian Languages at the Bowling Green University. He is also the editor of *Slovene Studies: Journal of the Society for Slovene Studies*. Prof. Pogacar latest publications include "Poezija in proza v Ameriskem druzinskem koledarju"

If you have an item for the Alumni News, please send it to Prof. Zechenter.

Chronicle of Events

On Dec. 4, 1998 a Departmental Party organized by the Slavic Department and REES took place. The Lawrence Folk Dance Group performed Slavic and Balkan folk dances and the Slavic Choir sang folk songs. The party was very well attended and the ethnic food prepared by students and professors was simply delicious. Prof. Greenberg played the Polonez Oginskiiego on a genuine 19th century Russian 7-string guitar. David Hennessy, student of Polish and linguistics, played polkas on the accordion. A good time was had by all.

Limerick Contest

For the next issue we will have a contest for the limerick with the most interesting Slavic subtext. Send your entries to Prof. Zechenter. Winners will receive honor and respect during their lifetime and posterity. No deadlines: entries accepted on a continuous basis.
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