Heinrich A. Stammler
1912-2006
In memoriam

Heinrich A. Stammler was born December 15, 1912, in Jena, Germany. He passed away November 29, 2006, in Lawrence, Kansas, surrounded by his family, his wife Ursula Hofmann Stammler, his daughter Andrea Lewis and her husband Patrick, his son Christopher Stammler and his wife Kathren, and three grandchildren, Annika and Aidan Lewis and Elijah Stammler.

Having received a classical education at gymnasium in Hanover and Greifswald, Professor Stammler studied Slavic languages and literatures at the Universities of Greifswald (while still at gymnasium), Munich, and Prague. While in Prague he met the famous Eurasianist thinker, Petr Savitsky, who urged the young student to dedicate himself wholly to Russian. During the academic year 1934-1935 he worked at the German Embassy in Moscow. In 1937 he completed his Ph.D. in Slavic on Russian folk poetry (“Die russische geistliche Volksdichtung”) at the University of Munich. The same year Professor Stammler moved to Bulgaria where he taught at the Svistov Business College until 1940. During these happy three years he perfected his Bulgarian language skills and became friends with a number of Bulgarian poets like Teodor Trajanov. Between 1940 and 1942, when he was drafted into the army, he worked briefly in the German Embassy in Sofia. In 1945 he became a prisoner of war under the Americans.

After the war Professor Stammler returned to Munich and taught English and Russian to future interpreters at the Dolmetscher Institut. In 1953 he came to the United States where he taught at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He and his wife moved to the University of Kansas in 1960, and in 1962 he became the first chair of the new Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. A Slavic scholar with deep knowledge of continental philosophy and Eastern Orthodox thought, Professor Stammler made the Department famous for its offerings in Russian and Slavic intellectual history, a tradition that continues even today.

Professor Stammler was the epitome of the philologist and humanist: he studied, interpreted, and passed on to later generations the broad picture of the achievements of centuries of human culture. Anyone who conversed for more than a few minutes with him rapidly appreciated his encyclopedic knowledge of languages (he knew at least eight), linguistics, literature, philosophy, and history.

As a Slavist, Professor Stammler published articles in all three branches of the Slavic language family—South, West, and East Slavic. In addition, he translated Bulgarian and Russian poetry into exquisite German. Most recently, in 2000, his outstanding translations of Baratynskii were republished in a second edition. He may have enjoyed one of the longer publication track records in memory, extending over sixty years from 1939 to 2006. In May of last year he re-issued a small but rich booklet of haiku that he had composed.

With his usual modesty Professor Stammler once said that he felt he lacked the “langer Atem” (the stamina) to write monographs and books. This assessment had little to do with reality. His book-length translation of the Russian philosopher and critic, Vasilii Rozanov, his monograph on Rozanov, his lengthy work on the poet Nikolai Kliuev, and his articles on Merezhkovsky and Solovyov broke new ground. Professor Stammler addressed issues in literature and culture that might not have been very popular at the moment, but which later attracted a great deal of attention and stimulated further work. Such was his work with the older generation of Russian symbolists, Russian philosophy, and his work with the Bulgarian symbolist, Teodor Trajanov.

Professor Stammler represented an essential link in the chain of generations through which the Russian cultural renaissance extending from 1890 to 1930 has been kept alive. He studied in Munich with the well-known philosopher and cultural historian, Fedor Stepun, who himself played a part in that flowering of Russian philosophical and religious culture. Professor Stammler brought those intellectual riches with him when he moved to the United States in the early 1950s and to Kansas in the early 1960s. That there are currently three faculty in the Slavic Department and one in the Philosophy Department who write and teach on philosophical and intellectual-historical themes, and
The 2006–07 academic year has been a busy and eventful one for the Slavic Department. First and foremost we are very glad to have had a new colleague member join our ranks, Prof. Svetlana Petkova Vassileva-Karagyozova, who earned her Ph.D. in Slavic literatures at the Kliment Ohridski University in Sofia, Bulgaria, and also holds an M.A. in TESL from Southern Illinois University. In addition to holding a record for having the longest name in the Slavic Department’s history (perhaps even KU’s!), Prof. Vassileva-Karagyozova brings with her a long list of accomplishments and talents, including near-native fluency in Polish, Czech, and Russian, alongside her native Bulgarian. She has several lines of research under way, including capping off her research on the Baroque in Slavic literature as she prepares her Ph.D. dissertation for publication, as well as a new project on the theme of “surviving communism” as reflected in West Slavic literature. Recently she traveled to Warsaw as an invited guest of the Warsaw University Institute of Polish Language and Culture for Foreigners “Polonicum,” during which time she began negotiations for a new summer Polish-language program for KU Study Abroad.

Our other new faculty member Prof. Kerry Sabbag (Ph.D., Brown University), who joined the Slavic Dept. in 2005, completed her second year in the tenure track. Her course on Russian Romanticism has already become a hit among the graduate students in Russian literature. She, too, is busy writing articles from her dissertation on the theme of “fame” in Russian nineteenth-century literature. She has begun a second project on Russian book culture in the Romantic period.

Two of our colleagues are working on the important problem of Russian identity in the post-Soviet period. Prof. Edith W. Clowes received a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies to undertake research on her project “The Center at the Periphery: Symbolic Geographies and the Debate about Identity in Post-Soviet Russian Writing Culture.” Prof. Maria Carlson’s research deals with several aspects of Russian identity, both broadly as reflected in her Hall Center Lecture Series talk on April 10, 2007, “Culture and History Matter: Russia’s Search for Identity after the Fall” and more specifically in her investigation into neo-paganism in Russia. The work of these two scholars demonstrates the engagement of our faculty in topical aspects of Russian intellectual history, one of the main strengths of our Department.

The spring semester highlighted the South Slavic strengths of the Slavic Department with the CREEES “Balkan Semester.” Guests sponsored by the Department and CREEES included poet and culturologist Prof. Aleš Debeljak (University of Ljubljana), who spoke about popular culture in the Balkans. Prof. Andrew Wachtel (Northwestern University), who spoke on the “End of the Balkans,” with commentary by Prof. Nathan Wood, Prof. Stephen M. Dickey, and Prof. Marc L. Greenberg. Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia Samuel Žbogar gave a talk about “Slovenia in the EU and NATO”.

In addition to helping organize these many activities, Profs. Dickey and Greenberg have been collaborating on a project on verbs of motion in Slavic, for which they have given a conference paper and published a joint article.

We are proud of the recent successes of our PhDs, including Eugenia K. Amditis (2006), who is currently teaching at Dickinson College and Matthew Feeney (2003), who is teaching at Corpus Christi College. Grant Lundberg (1999) has been promoted to Associate Professor and tenured at Brigham Young University, as has Mark Lauersdorf (1995) at the University of Kentucky. Jonathan Perkins (2006) has been named director of KU’s Ermal Garinger media center.
Spring Balkan Semester Showcases Unique KU South Slavic Strengths

Under the aegis of and with co-sponsorship of CREEES, the Slavic Department organized several events to highlight its unique strengths in the western South Slavic languages, Slovene and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian (BCS). Professors Stephen M. Dickey and Marc L. Greenberg were the principal organizers as well as participants from the Slavic Department. Prof. Dickey participated in a roundtable “Conflict Resolution in the Balkans—Lessons Learned” on March 8, 2007, along with Major Robert Verlič (Slovenian Army and graduate student, CGSC), and faculty from the Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth; and gave a presentation “...More than they Could Consume Locally: History in the Balkans” (March 27). Prof. Greenberg spoke on “Language and Identity in the Balkans” at Workshop “Conflict and Creativity in the Balkans” on Saturday, April 14. Guests of the Slavic Department included Prof. Aleš Debeljak (University of Ljubljana), who spoke at the Hall Center on January 30 on “Representing the Balkans: Varieties of Ex-Yugoslav Pop Cultures,” and Prof. Andrew Wachtel (Northwestern University), who spoke on “The End of the Balkans” on April 16. On March 29 the Ambassador Samuel Žbogar of the Republic of Slovenia visited KU as a guest of the Department and the Chancellor. In addition to informing himself about KU’s unique offerings in Slovene, which prompted his visit, Ambassador Žbogar gave a public talk on “Slovenia in the EU and NATO.” Finally, Croatian-language student and M.A. Candidate in Music Chris Krampe gave a special performance of contemporary Croatian organ music at the Bales Recital Hall on May 1, 2007.
A Gift from Pančevo, Serbia

The Slavic Department gratefully accepted the gift of an original piece of artwork by academic painter Vlastimir Madić of Pančevo, Serbia, a vibrant stylized landscape scene depicting fields of grass—a fitting homage to the Kansas prairie. In addition, Mr. Madić also donated a restored seascape and a collection of stamps dating to the time of the First Yugoslavia. The gifts were donated in commemoration of the artist’s son’s acceptance to the Slavic Department several years earlier, an acceptance that was declined in favor of the lure of the prairie. In addition, Mr. Madić also donated a restored seascape and a collection of stamps dating to the time of the First Yugoslavia. The gifts were donated in commemoration of the artist’s son’s acceptance to the Slavic Department several years earlier, an acceptance that was declined in favor of the lure of the business world. Mr. Madić has participated in over 200 group exhibitions in former Yugoslavia and elsewhere. His artwork is in private and institutional collections in Yugoslavia, Macedonia, Greece, France, the United States, Germany and Austria. The Slavic Department is honored to display his work in the new Parker Library. The artist’s website demonstrates the full range of Mr. Madić’s painterly gifts: http://www.vlastimir-madic.com/

10th Anniversary of the journal Slovenski jezik/Slovene Linguistic Studies

With its first issue appearing in 1997, Prof. Greenberg co-founded the journal Slovenski jezik/Slovene Linguistic Studies with Dr. Marko Snoj of the Slovenian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the early years following the collapse of Yugoslavia. Since then, the journal has grown and fostered a solid international following for Slovene linguistics, with authors contributing from Italy, Austria, the Netherlands, Russia, Estonia, Bulgaria, Canada, Britain, and Israel, as well as the United States and Slovenia. An indication of the success of Slovenski jezik/Slovene Linguistic Studies in reaching a wide international audience of both Slavic and general linguists with consistently high-quality research is reflected, for example, in the fact that the recent publication of Sussex and Cuberley’s The Slavic Languages in the prestigious “green” Cambridge Language Surveys series notes Slovenski jezik/Slovene Linguistic Studies as an “authoritative national language journal.”

KU Slavic Department Celebrates Outstanding Senior

Among this year’s graduating seniors in Slavic Languages and Literatures is Michelle Tran, an unusually gifted and energetic leader for the future, whose accomplishments deserve special commendation. As Michelle starts the next step of her career, at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government, we take a moment to celebrate her many successes.

Even as a school student in Derby, KS, and then Philips Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire, Michelle was bringing people together for important causes. From 1994 to the present she has logged over 500 hours as a volunteer for the Department of Veterans Affairs, which helped her to win a VA service scholarship. In the summer of 2001 she taught English and entrepreneurship to at-risk students in the Los Angeles area through the Summerbridge Los Angeles program. Perhaps Michelle’s greatest passion was and remains the appreciation of cultural diversity. As a high school student she worked for Kansas Public Television, hosting a show about cultural diversity called “Zygo.” At Exeter she started the Pen Pal Exchange, a community service program to mentor elementary school students about cultural diversity. In 2002 Michelle was chosen to participate in the U.S.-Russia Youth Leadership Summit in Moscow, organized by the Library of Congress. This event took her to Russia for the first time.

Michelle has contributed in innumerable ways to student life at KU and has won seemingly every award and recognition in sight. One of her projects is to promote fair trade. She has worked on campus for Oxfam America as a CHANGE Initiatives Leader and a participant in Youth Exchange for Trade Justice. She has served for the last two years as the coordinator for Lawrence Fair Trade, organizing events such as the Hunger Banquet and the Fair Trade Holiday Sale to promote awareness of fair trade issues. In Student Union Activities she served on the Social Issues Committee and coordinated Cultural Arts events, such as art gallery exhibits, the Poetry Slam, and Tea Time. During her junior year Michelle was president of Dennis E. Rieger Scholarship Hall. Another of the projects to which Michelle made an important contribution on campus is the greening of the KU environment. In 2005 she founded KU Carpool. She developed a website to help commuting students conserve gas by coordinating carpools. In addition, she volunteered at the KU Campus Garden, helping to build a garden and grow produce for local soup kitchens feeding those in need. Her first and second years at KU she was a member of ENVIRONS for which she wrote and published a green consumer guide about recycling and environmental issues in Lawrence. Finally, Michelle was active on the Slavic scene at KU, serving for one year as vice president of Russian Club, facilitating weekly Russian language table discussions and club events such as the Bliny Bash.
When asked whether any experience in particular gave her such a strong desire to give back to her community, Michelle answers that she has always felt a sense of commitment and dedication to public service because the community in which she lived was supportive of her parents and family when they first immigrated to the U.S. from Vietnam. She writes, that “thanks to the community around us [my parents] were able to start a new life here in the U.S. The sacrifices my parents made to ensure a good life for my brothers, sisters and me has definitely inspired my own dedication to make a difference through public service.”

As a freshman at KU Michelle received a Freshman Scholars Development Program Scholarship and a University Women’s Club Scholarship. For her sophomore year she won scholarships from the Department of African and African-American Studies and the William Allen White School of Journalism. In 2005 she was named University Scholar, one of twenty outstanding sophomores selected. The same year she became a Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellow, through the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. In 2006 she became a Harry S. Truman Scholar and was honored through the Emily Taylor Women’s Resource Center as a KU Woman of Distinction. Spring 2007 saw Michelle win several awards—the Roy and Betty Laird Essay Contest in Russian, East-European, and Eurasian Studies for her essay, “Beyond Disney: The Poetry and Magic of Soviet Animation, 1962-1990,” the Alexis F. Dillard Student Involvement Award, and membership in the National Slavic Honor Society, Dobro Slovo.

During her years at KU Michelle has held an intriguingly broad array of jobs—from rock climbing instructor at the Student Recreational Gym to office assistant at the Center for Russian, East-European, and Eurasian Studies to tech crew at the Lied Center to media lab instructor and student assistant at the Dole Institute of Politics, helping to coordinate visits by such dignitaries as Madeleine Albright.

As a Russian major, a REEES co-major, and Arabic minor at KU, Michelle has taken advantage of every opportunity to travel abroad—to the Czech Republic, China, Costa Rica, and Turkey. She hopes eventually to enter the foreign service.

We wish Michelle the very best at Harvard Fletcher School and in her life and career beyond academia!

Your dedication to your Slavic alma mater makes the difference between getting by and realizing the full excellence of Slavic at KU. Please consider a generous gift to one of these funds:

- Slavic Unrestricted Fund
- The Conrad Memorial Fund (undergraduate and graduate grants)
- The Czech Opportunity Fund
- Library Fund

particularly the era of the Russian Renaissance, is a sign that the tradition he brought to the United States and founded at the University of Kansas is alive and well.

On the lighter side, Professor Stammler collected and loved to read and reread P. G. Wodehouse books. In a way, he lived that era: to the end of his days he was always the impeccably dressed gentleman, coming to even the most informal gathering in a jacket and tie. He had a superior memory, and even to his last days he could quote long passages of German and Russian poetry and loved to sing songs and tell jokes. In his later years he would reread Augustine in Latin just to keep that wonderful memory in shape.

In a very real sense Professor Stammler represented what the “globalized” world could be—not the domination of one language and culture over all others but the capacity to function in many cultures and languages, supported with intimate knowledge and deep respect for their peoples and traditions.
Award for Excellence in Polish

Erin Moulton, Olena Chervonik-Bearden, Prof. Svetlana Petkova Vassileva-Karagyozova
(absent: Stefan Bergstrom)

Award for Excellence in Czech

Jerry Koukol, Prof. Svetlana Petkova Vassileva-Karagyozova

Award for Excellence in Bosnian, Croatian, Servian

Christina Ray, Ms. Marta Pirnat-Greenberg, Yuki Onogi, Alphilde Rees, Prof. Stephen Dickey
Award for Excellence in Elementary Slovene

Mark Lanfranca, Ms. Marta Pirnat-Greenberg

Award for Excellence in Elementary Turkish

Safiye Manguoglu, Lynne Yengulalp, Dr. Mubeccel Taneri

Award for Excellence in Ukrainian

Dr. Yaroslava Tsiovkh, Brian D. Frank

Award for Excellence in Russian, Elementary Level

Jessica White, Emma Rothbrust, Regis Lucia, Hally Crangle, Rebecca Blackburn, Ms. Eva Hruska, Mr. Conor Klamann, Prof. William J. Comer (absent: Cody Pate)
Award for Excellence in Russian, Advanced Level

Prof. Kerry Sabbag, Erica Goodoff

Conor Klamann, Laura Gerth, Prof. William J. Comer
(absent: Nathan Gerth, Denise Kunze)

2007 Chancellor’s Alexis F. Dillard Award
for Student Involvement

Michelle Tran, Prof. Marc L. Greenberg

2007-2008 Harley Nelson Scholarship, awarded to
Kathryn Zickuhr, absent on study-abroad semester in
Vladimir, Russia.

Dobro Slovo Induction

Michelle Tran, Adrienne Harris-Boggess, Prof. Kerry Sabbag
Conrad Memorial Fund Award

Ms. Galina Conrad, Sidney Dement, Prof. Marc L. Greenberg, Olena Chervonik-Bearden, Ms. Belinda Conrad-Schuman

Graduate Student Outstanding Service Award

Prof. Stephen J. Parker, Adrienne Harris-Boggess
The Chekhov Players

At this year’s honor’s reception we were regaled with three short plays entitled “Three Sketches by a Chekhov Class” by students in Prof. Sabbag’s Chekhov seminar. The narrator for these one-acts was Kelly Knickmeyer-Cummings. We would like to share with our readers some amusing pictures:

“The Teacher”—Olena Chervonik-Bearden, The Student—Sarah Bumpus


“Before the Eclipse”: The Sun—Zhulieta Kaludova, The Moon—Eva Hruska
Congratulations to our KU Slavic majors who graduated this year: Brian Alfers, Mark Lanfranca, Terri Pohl, Mary Rutan, Jeffrey Shouse, Jack Stejskal, David Stevens, and Michelle Tran.

Marina Havach has completed her first year of study in philosophy at St. Petersburg University.

Congratulations to Laura Price who received an MA in Slavic in May! Congratulations also to Sidney Dement and Kelly Knickmeyer-Cummings for successfully completing the comprehensive exams for the PhD.

In fall 2006 Erin Moulton returned to her Slavic PhD studies after a one-year leave of absence. She began the year by presenting a paper at the first conference of the Slavic Linguistics Society in Bloomington, IN in September 2006. The title of her paper was “Verbs of Communication in Russian and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian: A Comparative Study of Verbal Aspect and Pragmatic Contract.” In addition to continuing study of BCS, this year she also began study of Polish. In 2007-08 she will continue her studies through the support of a Third-Year FLAS and plans to take her PhD Comprehensive exams in Slavic Linguistics in Spring 2008.

Adrienne Harris-Boggess won a summer FLAS, a Truman Award, and a KU Graduate School Summer Research Award for summer study in St. Petersburg and to finish her research for her dissertation on “The Myth of the Woman Warrior and World War II in Soviet Culture.”

Eugenia Amditis (PhD, Slavic, 2006) reports that she was nominated for the Student Senate Faculty of the Year Award at Dickinson College, where she taught during the 2006-2007. Zhenya also received a research grant from Dickinson for her research project, “‘The Poisonous Trade’: Women’s Reading, Immoral Behavior, and the Female Psyche in Mid-Nineteenth Century Russian Thought.” The grant provided her with a budget for a research assistant. Zhenya also won a year’s membership to AAASS for the graduate student essay she submitted during spring, 2006, entitled “Mamma the Martinet: The Mature Woman’s Power as Guardian of Social Mores in The Idiot and Madame Bovary.” For summer 2007 she received a grant to attend the Inter-Institutional Russian Language Pedagogy Workshop at Middlebury.

Craig Barto (BA, Slavic, 1976; MA, Applied Linguistics, 1980) reports that he is chairing a national committee, the English/ESL SPIN of the National Association of Developmental Educators. He is also doing some research and getting to the cusp of publication. He is working both in developmental English (his main job) and in linguistics (the school is too small to have a separate department) and juggling research projects in both fields. His comment is: “The former I must do; the latter I love (to paraphrase and launder something Pushkin said).”

Lindsey Collier (BA, Slavic 2004) writes that she is getting her MA from Middlebury this August (“knock on wood”) and trying to plan a short trip to Uganda next year.

Kara (Smith) Gerwin (BA, Slavic, 2003) writes that she graduated from KU Law School in May, 2006, and was admitted to the bar in the state of Kansas last September. She works as a telecommunications tax attorney for Sprint in Overland Park, Kansas. She lives in Leawood with her husband Torey whom she met while studying abroad in Moscow in the fall of 2001 and married in July, 2005 (with a honeymoon in Iceland and Prague!). Kara writes that they are enjoying getting settled into their new house, getting adjusted to working after so many years in school. She loves to travel and remembers fondly a trip backpacking through Europe in the summer of 2002, when Torey and she visited five countries in three weeks. They celebrated the end of their graduate work with a trip to Jamaica, which they took after graduating and before Kara’s bar exam studies began.

Mary Greff (MA, Slavic, 1999) writes that things are going well in Austin, Texas, where she lives with her husband and two daughters, 2 and 4 years old. She is teaching Russian at Austin Community College during fall, 2007.

Jason Merrill (PhD 1997), assistant professor at Michigan State University, had a feature article in the May, 2007, AAASS NewsNet (vol. 47, no. 3) on “Meeting the Challenges of the Global University through Study Abroad: Developing a Multi-Disciplinary Study Experience in Russia for All College Students.”

Allison Smith (BA, Slavic, 2003) celebrated her graduation from KU in spring, 2007, with a masters degree in Urban Planning. She started her career as a transportation planner directly after graduation. She writes, also, that she is the “proud mommy of a three year old!”
KU Alumnus Thayer Thompson (KU MPA ’73 in Urban & Public Administration, City Management) of Sedalia, Missouri, donated a small but select collection of Russian literature in English translation to the Slavic Department’s Parker Library on November 30, 2006. The collection numbers 30 books as well as several hundred articles collected over 40 years, including a special book, *The Collected Works of Thayer D. Thompson*, 1951—2003. Reflecting on his longtime avocation reading Russian literature, Mr. Thompson said, “A book is like an intellectual music box—open the cover and the author sings to you. I’m reminded of the movie *Fahrenheit 451*. The forest people memorize a book. One person says: ‘I am *War and Peace.*’ In some way I am my books. I give part of me to you, because of what KU gave me.”


Susan M. Zvacek, Director of Instructional Development and Support at KU, spent two weeks in the Czech Republic and Slovakia during the spring, 2007 semester. She traveled to several universities throughout the region, where she gave presentations and workshops on topics related to e-learning, and met with administrators and faculty members at those institutions. Dr. Zvacek continues to work with educators in both countries as she teaches online courses designed to assist professors make the transition from teaching face-to-face to working in the online environment. She returned to the area in September to present an invited paper at the 5th International Conference on Emerging e-Learning Technologies and Applications, to be held in the High Tatras Mountains of the Slovak Republic. Dr. Zvacek jokes that she is “a pathetically bad speaker of Czech who apparently looks vaguely Czech-like and, consequently, has been asked for directions in every city of the Czech Republic [she has] ever visited.”

On April 10, 2007, Professor Maria Carlson delivered the closing lecture of the Hall Center Humanities Lecture Series, an event founded at KU in 1947 to promote dialogue among the University, the community, and national speakers. Each year, the Hall Center for the Humanities invites one KU faculty member to join the prestigious line-up, and this year more than 225 people came to Woodruff Auditorium to hear SLL’s Prof. Carlson explain why “Culture and History Matter” as she explored “Russia’s Search for Identity After the Fall.” (*Those interested in reading Prof. Carlson’s talk can find it on line at: https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/dspace/handle/1808/1368.*) Her other speaking engagements in the last year included a presentation on the future of Slavic departments and area studies programs for the 5th Biennial Slavic Librarians’ Summit, which was held in Lawrence in Fall 2006; a presentation to the Library Council at KU’s Watson Library, on “Humanities Research in the New Research Library” in October; and a paper on the Symbolists Andrei Belyi and Nina Petrovskaia, given at the national meeting of the AAASS.

Prof. Carlson begins Fall 2007 with a well-earned sabbatical to work on her Slavic mythology and neo-paganism project, which has grown from her recently-developed graduate course in Slavic Folklore. After her sabbatical she will work with Dr. Charles Eldredge, Hall Distinguished Professor of American Art & Culture at KU, to design a team-taught course to be called “Affinities: American and Russian Art in the 19th and 20th Centuries.”

Prof. Carlson continues as Associate Chair of SLL. She added a new national service obligation to her existing slate: this year she was named to the Board of the National Council for East European and Eurasian Research. During the past year Professor Edith W. Clowes enjoyed an ACLS-supported sabbatical devoted to writing a draft of a new book, “The Center at the Periphery: Symbolic Geographies and the Debate about Russian Identity in Post-Soviet Writing Culture.” The project examines the role of concepts of center, periphery, border, as well as cultural-geographic compass points of south, west, east, and north in the current post-Soviet debate about Russian identity. Professor Clowes gave a lecture at the University of Colorado on her work dealing with the art of Viktor Pelevin, “Illusory Empire? Victor Pelevin’s Chapaev and Post-Soviet Eurasianist Identity.” She continues to explore early twentieth-century philosophy, particularly Nikolai Berdiaev and Lev Shestov, delivering a lecture at Suffolk University on “Eastern Orthodox and German Protestant Roots of the Russian Concept of Personhood.” In Spring, 2007, Professor Clowes joined the editorial board of *Russian Review*.

Professor Clowes continues to devote part of her free time to fundraising, for the causes of the Slavic Department—particularly, the Conrad Fund and the Czech Opportunity Fund—as well as those outside of academia. She is the co-founder of Music Works!, the fundraising arm for music programs in the Lawrence Schools Foundation. In January she organized a “Concerto Concert” to celebrate the best classical musicians in the Lawrence high schools. In 2007 the music endowment of the LSF was large enough to be able to announce its first competition for grants to music teachers.

A final bit of news concerns the Slavic-related successes of Professor Clowes’s son, Sam Huneke, who won first place at National History Day at the University of Maryland for his 10-
In June 2007 Professor William Comer stepped down as director of the Ermal Garinger Academic Resource Center after nine years of serving in that capacity. Before returning to the Slavic Department full-time, he will spend the 2007-2008 academic year as the Acting Director of CREEES while Erik Herron is on sabbatical.

Professor Comer presented the paper “A Treatment of One’s Own: The Teaching and Learning of svoj in Russian” at the 2006 AATSEEL conference in Philadelphia, PA. In April 2007 he was invited to the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) to conduct a workshop “Using Tasks Effectively in the Teaching of Slavic Languages” for graduate teaching assistants and faculty members in the Slavic Department. His annotated and glossed edition of Viktoria Tokareva’s story День без вранья (A Day without Lying) will be published by Slavica, and is due out by November 2007.

Stephen M. Dickey presented “Slavic *jazditi ‘Ride’ and its Implications for the Development of the Category of Determinacy” in collaboration with Marc L. Greenberg at the First Meeting of the Slavic Linguistics Society in Bloomington, Indiana; this paper appeared subsequently as an article in Jezikovna predanost. Akademiku prof. dr. Jožetu Toporišču ob 80-letnici, and was the beginning of a collaborative project on the rise of indeterminate-determinate pairs of motion verbs in Slavic. He ended his term as the president of the Slavic Cognitive Linguistics Association in April 2007. He helped organize the Balkan Semester in Spring 2007, participating in a roundtable discussion on the post-war Balkans and presenting a lecture “More than They Could Consume Locally: Aspects of Balkan History.” He received a course development grant from the Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies to develop a course on the effects of Ottoman rule on the cultural development of the South Slavs. Additionally, he set up a new summer program for Croatian language study in Zadar, Croatia, which has just ended. His translations of poems by Croatian poet Damir Sodan recently appeared in American Poetry Review.

Professor Marc L. Greenberg published his Short Reference Grammar of Standard Slovene (183 pp.) in the (http://www.seelrc.org/projects/grammars.htm) Reference Grammar Network project with Duke University / University of North Carolina’s Slavic and East European Language Research Center (SEELRC). He was the only non-Slovene author invited to contribute to a special retrospective of the last decade in Slovene linguistics with his article “The Slovene Sound System Through Time” in Slovensko jezikoslovje danes/ Slovenian Linguistics Today in a special issue of Slavistična revija, issue 54, which appear in late 2006. He also published a co-authored article with Stephen D. Dickey, “Slavic *jazditi ‘to ride’ and its Implications for the Development the Category of (In)determinacy” in Marko Jesenšek and Zinka Zorko, eds., Jezikovna predanost, a volume for which he also wrote the cover blurbs. In summer 2006 he gave two days of lectures at the Northwestern Summer School in Croatia, Dubrovniki, on the topic of language and national identity (reprise in summer 07) and in November 2006 he gave the Marshall Woods Lecture at Brown University, “Building a European Community: South Slavic Uses of Reconstructed Pasts.” In April 2007 he gave the paper “The prehistory and areal distribution of Slavic *gledeti ‘speak,’” co-authored with Joseph Schallert (U. of Toronto), at the Third Southeast European Studies Association Conference, Ohio State University. The paper will appear in summer 2007 in the 10th anniversary issue of Slovenski jezik/ Slovene Linguistic Studies. In addition to helping to organize and host a number of guest speakers for the Balkan semester, he also gave a talk on language and identity in the Balkans in the April Conflict and Creativity Workshop for area teachers, sponsored by CREEES. He is currently collaborating with various colleagues on joint projects, including developing a new course “Language, Culture and Ethnicity in Prehistoric Eastern Europe” with Ivana Radovanović, Dept. of Anthropology, for which the two were awarded a course development grant from CREEES, an article on phylogeny in Slavic (with Alan Redd, Dept. of Anthropology, KU), and researching for a larger project on the diachronic development Slavic verbs of motion with Professor Stephen Dickey.
In March Professor Greenberg performed on classical guitar with the Lawrence Downtown Mandolin Orchestra and in June participated in the 2nd annual International Russian Guitar Festival (IARGUS) in Iowa City, May 30-June 4, where he played in master classes on the Russian seven-string guitar with artists Vladimir Markushevich (Moscow), Dmitri Illarionov (Moscow), Tariel Berimeladze (Tbilisi), John Schneiderman (UC Irvine), and Nadia Borislova (Puebla, Mexico). At IARGUS he also played the Roma piece *Vengerka* with an ensemble of Russian guitars led by renowned *semistrunnik* Vadim Kolpakov.

Professor Svetlana Vassileva-Karagyozova’s first year at KU was busy but productive. Her article “Барокъ в българската литература. Столайне на проблема” [The Baroque in Bulgarian Literature. Review of Publications] was published in *Slavia* (Czech Republic) in 2007. She presented a paper entitled *Feminine or Masculine? The Case of Gender Preference in Occupational Titles in the Bulgarian Language* at the 2006 AATSEEL annual meeting in Philadelphia.

In November 2006, Prof. Vassileva went to Warsaw to start the preliminary negotiations with Polonicum (Warsaw University) for establishing a KU Polish Summer Study Abroad Program. She also started a Polish conversation table, which meets every second Monday of the month from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. at The Market dining area in the Kansas Union.

Professor Vassileva-Karagyozova was awarded a teaching grant from CTE for developing a coherent set of teaching materials for the 3rd year Polish course, integrating language, literature and film.

She began working on a KU New research project *Communism through the Eyes of a Child: The West Slavic Initiation Novel and Film after 1989*. With the support of the New Faculty Grant and a grant from the Institute of Czech Literature at the Czech Academy of Sciences she traveled over the summer to Poland and the Czech Republic to collect material for her new study.

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