

NEWS FROM THE
HARRIMAN INSTITUTE

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
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TIMOTHY FRYE, DIRECTOR

NOVEMBER 2009

FROM THE DIRECTOR

On July 1, 2009, Catharine Nepomnyashchy stepped down as Director after eight years of service to the Institute. It is difficult for me to express my gratitude for all her hard work over the years and especially in the last six months when she did so much to ensure that the transition from one director to the next was smooth. I take the helm of an Institute in good shape with an exciting agenda and for this Cathy deserves great credit.

July 1 also saw the Institute enter a new relationship with the School of Arts and Sciences. While continuing to work closely with SIPA, Harriman will now report directly to the School of Arts and Sciences rather than to SIPA. This change should help deepen our ties with core academic units of the university.

We are only a few months into the fall semester, but HI has already hosted a number of high-profile visitors. As part of the World Leaders Forum, HI welcomed President Boris Tadic of Serbia. Not only did President Tadic discuss current political developments in Serbia, he also helped to raise over \$60,000 for the Njegos Endowment to ensure the teaching of Serbian at Columbia. Thanks to Gordon Bardos for bringing this event to fruition. Ian Kelley, Spokesperson for the Department of State and HI alum, discussed the current state of Russian-US relations

to a large audience in the Faculty House on September 29. Fresh off hosting President Obama at the New Economics School in Moscow this summer, Sergei Guriev, discussed Russia's efforts to diversify its economy. We were also fortunate to host the Foreign Ministers of Azerbaijan and Armenia, the Prime Minister of Hungary, and the speaker of the Parliament of Georgia.

Events in October and November proved to be no less exciting. Archie Brown of Oxford University spoke about his forthcoming book, *The Rise and Fall of Communism*, on November 5th. World Literature took center stage as HI hosted Yuriy Andrukhovych, Olzhas Suleimenov and Lyudmila Petrushevskaya.

The Harriman is taking part in the Performing Revolution festival of events to mark the 20th anniversary of the revolutions of 1989, organized by the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts. HI helped kick off the Festival with a "Sneak Peek" event that explore themes of culture and politics in the revolution of 1989. We will mark the fifth anniversary of the Orange Revolution on November 20, with a day-long conference followed by the screening recent films on the Orange Revolution. Looking a bit into the future, HI will host the Synetics, a Georgian theatre company based in Washington DC on March 11 at Miller Theater to kick off fundraising efforts in support of Georgian studies at Harriman.

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PRESIDENT BORIS TADIC OF SERBIA, LOW LIBRARY,
SEPTEMBER 22, 2009.

HI's fourth Core Project, *New Modes of Communication in the Post-Soviet World*, has gotten off to a good start thanks to the hard work of Alan Timberlake and Cathy Nepomnyashchy. *Modes* will focus on new and old media in the post-Soviet space, including the burgeoning world of blogs, instant messaging, and the internet and bring together scholar across disciplines from across the university. The Core Project also includes two post-doctoral fellows, Eugene Gorny and Florian Töpfl, who have long experience working on the topic. Eugene published the definitive work on the history of the internet in Russia, while Florian is an expert on the politics of media in the postcommunist world with a special focus on the Czech Republic.

HI also welcomes two post-docs working outside the core project. Faith Hillis is a historian from with a degree from Yale University who is studying urban politics, violence, and community in Kiev from 1863-1907. Maya Nadkarnaya, a recent Ph.D. in Anthropology from Columbia, is working on memory and nationalism in postsocialist Hungary. We are also fortunate to have two post-doctoral fellows returning from last year. Riina Kulla is working on "The Mediterranean Dialogue on Communism and Non-Alignment during the Cold War" and Paola Castagna is writing on the Russian chivalric romance *Bova Korolevich*.

This academic year also brings some familiar faces into new roles at the Institute. We are very fortunate to have hired Lydia Hamilton as a Program Coordinator in charge of student affairs. Lydia, a recent graduate of the MARS program herself, will also handle alumni relations. Lincoln Mitchell will take up residence on the 12th floor in January 2010. Lincoln and Alex Cooley were awarded a generous grant from the Smith Richardson Foundation to study US-Georgian relations that will run until 2011. We also welcome back Elise Giuliano, a former Harriman post-doctoral fellow and faculty member of the University of Miami, who is running the thesis seminar for our MARS (Masters of Arts in Regional Studies) students as well as teaching several courses at Barnard this year.

Finally, we welcome our largest class of MARS students. With 24 students currently enrolled, our MA program is nearly twice as large as in 2008-09. They are an impressive bunch.

Hope to see you all at the next sherry hour.

Best,

Tim

HARRIMAN CORE PROJECT 2009-10

NEW MODES OF COMMUNICATION IN THE POST-SOVIET WORLD

During academic year 2009-10 the Harriman Institute is sponsoring a core project investigating *New Modes of Communication in the Post-Soviet World*. It centers on electronic modes of communication, above all, the internet in all its genres, with secondary attention to traditional media. The time frame is the last two decades. In broadest terms the project is open to the discussion of modes of communication throughout the geographical area defined by the Soviet Union, from Eastern Europe to the Caucasus and Central Asia; in practice the project will focus on contemporary Russia.

The internet and related developments of technology present various interesting, sometimes paradoxical, questions for analysis, including the nature of blog networks and networks of special interests; censorship, official and group generated; the use of the internet for the promotion of cultural and political agendas; the role of women; the internet as a force of political activism; the register and form of language used. In addressing these and related questions, the project will be particularly interested in examining and developing effective methodologies for studying the internet in general.

Throughout the year the project will sponsor a range of activities: a workshop involving primarily local participants (but with some invited guest speakers); a series of presentations by cultural figures of note who have been active in the Russian internet, and, more specifically, the Russian and Eurasian internet as a distinct phenomenon, to demonstrate how individuals and generations respond to the internet; and an open conference at the end of the academic year. There will also be showings of selections from the tapes of Soviet TV made at the Harriman Institute by the TV Project.

Central to the activities of the project are two post-doctoral fellows, Eugene Gorny (Ph.D., University of London), who—in addition to his own active participation in Russian internet life—has written on the construction of self on the internet, and Florian Töpfl (Ph.D., University of Passau), who has investigated the relationship between print and electronic journalism in Russia and the Czech Republic.

The project is organized by Alan Timberlake, whose interest in linguistics extends to how language is used and the behavior of speakers, and Catharine Nepomnyashchy, who has a long-term interest in the interaction of culture with politics and ideologies (she is a member of the Bergen working group "The Future of Russia" on Russian language on the web).

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS 2009-10



PAOLA CASTAGNA received her Ph.D. from Columbia's Department of Slavic Languages. As she writes, "My master's thesis on Van'ka Kain opened me up to a part of Russian literature, that is, *lubok* literature, which has become one research interest that has consistently punctuated my academic career. As I ventured further into the study of *lubok* literature, and in particular the chivalric romances of Western origin, such as *Bova Korolevich*, I began looking with increasing interest at the issues of imitation, rewriting, translation, but also at more ambitious issues, such as copy and originality, as well as at the ideas of tradition and innovation, the familiar and the alien, and finally, I have extended my research to examine the relation of *lubok* literature with images, that is, the kinship of writing and painting."

Paola's academic work at the Harriman Institute has centered around the idea that Russian romances of chivalry offer a unique opportunity to shed light on the intricate process of "translation" from one language into another, which include not only verbal languages (Western European and Russian), but also visual codes (sacred and secular images). Her research project places an emphasis on the analysis of the "originality of the copy" in Russian popular culture and focuses on the meaning the visual and the verbal have for Russia through an investigation of the key notions of copy and original in the iconic and verbal imagery; it aims to examine the socio-cultural context that made the assimilation of word and image possible and to determine how deeply the concept of *copy* is rooted in Russian thought and how the imitative process allowed the development of an *original* Russian culture.

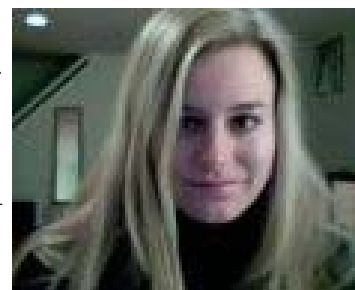
FAITH HILLIS received her Ph.D. in History from Yale University in 2009 and her A.B. from Princeton University in 2002. At Harriman, she is revising her dissertation for publication as a monograph. Her project, "Between Empire and Nation: Urban Politics, Community, and Violence in Kiev, 1863-1914," examines how the rise of mass politics shaped class, ethnic, and ideological identities in a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, and multi-confessional city. Following the city's Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, and Jewish residents as they learned to practice politics in municipal elections, street demonstrations, and voluntary associations, the project offers new insights into Kiev's multi-cultural commercial life, the emergence of nationalist ideologies and anti-Semitism, and the causes and results of ethnic violence. Hillis' research has been funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Jacob K. Javits fellowship program, Fulbright-Hays, and IREX, and she has held research fellowships at Stanford University and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. When she manages to pull herself away from her research, she enjoys practicing yoga, learning Yiddish, and exploring New York.



EUGENE GORNY is one of the coordinators for the Harriman 2009-2010 Core Project *New Modes of Communication in the Post-Soviet World*. The topic of his research is "Collective Identities in the Russian blogosphere." Eugene received his Ph.D. in media and communications from Goldsmith College, University of London, in 2006. His Ph.D. thesis, *A Creative History of the Russian Internet: Studies in Internet Creativity*, was published in 2009 by VDM Verlag. In the same year, his *Popular Symbolology* was published (in Russian), which includes his works in semiotics, literary studies, the history of art, and cultural criticism.

In 1991, he graduated from the University of Tartu, Estonia, with the equivalent of an M.A. in Russian philology and library science. From 1996 to 1998 he held the position of Editor-in-chief of Zhurnal.ru. From 1998 to 2000 he worked for *Russkij Zhurnal*, where he edited the Net Culture section. He is director of the Russian Virtual Library (rvb.ru), and coordinator of Setevaja Slovesnost (netslova.ru). He also works as an expert in semiotics of culture for Greg Rowland Semiotics and Space Doctors.

RINNA KULLAA received her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland in 2008, and her M.Phil. in Russian and Eastern European Studies from the University of Oxford in 2004. Her primary research interests are the diplomatic and regional history of the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and the Balkans. Her doctoral dissertation outlines the goals of Soviet foreign policy in Europe after the Second World War through two comparative examples of separate but related Soviet relations with Finland and Yugoslavia. In Spring 2009 she organized the workshop "Contending with the Superpowers: The Non-Aligned Movement in the Mediterranean." She is the co-organizer of the forthcoming workshop "Superpower Rivalry and Third Way(s) in the Mediterranean" to be held at the European Union Institute, Florence, in March 2010. Her work challenges the conventional study of Europe in the Cold War through the customary exclusive lens of its fault lines between East Europe and West Europe; the Balkans and the Mediterranean. Her research interests lie in rediscovering the history and interconnectedness of the Balkan Peninsula with East Central Europe and the Mediterranean. Rinna is currently working on a new second volume entitled "Khrushchev's Cold War: The Rational Subdivision of Europe."



Rinna has also worked as a political advisor at the United Nations in New York. Her policy work has focused on the analysis of current Serbian political parties, the entry of Cyprus to the European Union, and the current relations of the states of the former Yugoslavia with the European Union. Rinna was born in Finland, educated in the United States and England, has lived in Russia and Serbia, and enjoys keeping up her foreign languages and surfing in her free time.

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FLORIAN TÖPFL received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Passau in southern Germany in 2009. He earned a diploma in International Business and Eastern European Cultural Studies from Passau University in 2005, after spending two semesters abroad at Charles University in Prague and the University of Florence in Italy. Before arriving in New York, he worked as a lecturer in political science at the LMU University in Munich for six months.

In his Ph.D. thesis Florian investigated the transformation of post-Soviet media systems in the years after 1985. Referring to more than one hundred empirical country studies and the sociological theory of social systems, his work elaborates a so-called “Typology of Defective Media Systems.” In the second part, this new analytical framework is used to scrutinize and compare the processes of media transition in Russia and the Czech Republic in the years after 1985.

Alongside his academic studies, Florian completed a two-year journalistic education program and has worked ever since as an occasional contributor for one of the leading German magazines. Florian is very much interested in the future of quality journalism on the internet. Recently he has engaged in establishing and advocating new forms of quality journalism in Germany, trying to set up a foundation-funded bureau of investigative journalism similar to the US-American ProPublica in Germany.

MAYA NADKARNI is a cultural anthropologist who received her B.A. from Harvard University and her Ph.D. from Columbia University. Her research focuses upon memory, nation, and the challenge of historical subjectivity in postsocialism. She is currently completing a book on this topic, titled *Remains of Socialism: The Afterlives of the Socialist Past in Postsocialist Hungary*. One of its chapters, on rhetorics of communist terror in Hungary’s first postsocialist generation, won the 2008 Graduate Essay Prize from the Association for Women in Slavic Studies.

Maya has received fellowships from the NSF, Fulbright-HE, SSRC, and ACLS, among others. She has published articles on socialist nostalgia, Budapest’s Statue Park Museum of communist monuments, and spectacles of criminal and celebrity scandal in postsocialist public culture. Before returning to Columbia as a postdoctoral fellow, she was a visiting fellow at the Aleksanteri Institute for Russian and Eastern European Studies in Helsinki, Finland.

VISITING SCHOLARS

Each year the Harriman Institute hosts a number of Visiting Scholars. For additions and updates on Visiting Scholars at the institute, please check the Harriman website.

Anastasakis, Pantelis (Ph.D. Candidate, University of Minnesota), “Church of Greece under Axis Occupation.” anast002@umn.edu.

Bustikova-Siroky, Lenka (Ph.D. Candidate, Duke University), “Radical Political Parties in Post-Communist Democracies.” lbs11@duke.edu.

Chikhradze, Mzia (Senior Research Fellow, Center for Georgian Art History Research and Monuments Preservation, Georgia), “Modernist Art and Avant-Garde Films.” mchikhradze@hotmail.com

Krasikov, Sana (Independent Writer), “From Pilgrimage to a Promised Betrayed.” sk3223@columbia.edu.

Lordkipanidze, Gocha (Assistant Professor, University of Georgia), “Global Politics.” g12322@columbia.edu.

Marrese, Michelle (Independent Scholar), “The Lives of Princess Dashkova.” marresem1@comcast.net

Masalimova, Dana (Ph.D., Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan, Fulbright Visiting Scholar), “Ethical and Aesthetical Understanding of Religious Values in the Context of Eurasian Culture and Literature.” dmasalimova@gmail.com.

Naganawa, Norihiro (Assistant Professor, Hokkaido University, Japan), “Muslim Travelers and Empire: Local Politics and World Order.” nn2239@columbia.edu

Simonova, Inna (Independent Writer, Moscow State University), “The Bells of Daniil of Moscow.” Is2310@columbia.edu

Sjoeborg, Fredrik (Ph.D. Candidate, London School of Economics and Political Science), “Legislative Electoral Competition in Post-Soviet Eurasia.” fs2380@columbia.edu

Tyrrell, Marie, Lecturer (Khazar University, Azerbaijan), “Educational Reform in Central Asia and the Caucasus.” Mt2560@columbia.edu

Tziampiris, Aristotle (Assistant Professor, University of Piraeus, Greece), “Institutionalism at the End of the Unipolar Moment.” at2586@columbia.edu



MITCHELL SPEAKING AT THE GEORGIAN FOUNDATION FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES.

LINCOLN MITCHELL spent much of the summer of 2009 doing research for his book on the color revolutions. Tentatively titled *Whatever Happened to the Color Revolutions: Democratic Breakthroughs or Lost Opportunities*, the book seeks to look at the Rose, Orange and Tulip revolutions, which occurred in Georgia, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan respectively, in a comparative concept. The study will explore a range of issues central to all three of these events, including the extent to which any of the color revolutions accelerated democratic development, the role of Western governments and NGOs in these events and how the three color revolutions have had an impact on US-Russia relations.

As part of his research, Mitchell traveled to Georgia and Kyrgyzstan over the summer. In both capitals he spent time interviewing and speaking with government leaders, NGO activists and others who had been involved in the Rose and Tulip revolutions. Part of the purpose of the trip was also to spend some time with democracy activists and other observers to further assess the extent of democratic development in the two countries in recent years.

The Georgian and Kyrgyz regimes, while quite different from each other, have both moved away from the initial promise following the Rose and Tulip revolutions. In Kyrgyzstan the kleptocratic regime of Askar Akaev, which was overthrown in the spring of 2005, has been replaced by a regime presided over by Kurambek Bakiev. Bakiev's government has backed away from its initial promise of democracy and reform and has become as corrupt as its predecessor. Some human rights advocates who follow the region argue that Bakiev's regime is more violent and politically intolerant than the government which it overthrew only a few years ago. Bakiev was re-elected over the summer in an election where opposition candidates were sufficiently intimidated that there was no real opposition.

As Kyrgyzstan has moved away from its democratic

promise it has also reoriented its international ties. The Bakiev regime has moved closer to Russia and even China while relations with the US have soured substantially. The US has a strong interest in Kyrgyzstan due to the Manas Air Force Base just outside of Bishkek which plays a critical role in getting supplies to Afghanistan. However, the Kyrgyz government has threatened to deny the US use of the base unless they offered even more money, a demand to which the US had to accede.

Georgia, while still considerably freer and more democratic than Kyrgyzstan, has also begun to display some troubling backsliding away from democracy after the initial period following the Rose Revolution. Following a very difficult year that included two elections, which were broadly viewed as less than democratic, and a defeat in a military conflict with Russia, Georgia has entered a period of low-level political instability where it faces both foreign and domestic threats to political stability. While it is tempting to use this to excuse democratic shortcomings, it is more appropriately viewed as largely the result of these shortcomings.

In recent years, elections, which as recently as 2004 were held up as examples of Georgia's democratic advances, have become far less democratic as restricted media climates and use of government resources have tipped the scale firmly towards the party in power. Similarly, the lack of independent media, particularly electronic media, the failure of a judiciary that is not heavily influenced by the executive branch of government to emerge, and a concentration of power in the presidency have all contributed to Georgia's democratic shortcomings. Equally importantly, these problems have contributed to a decision-making process where fewer voices are heard and bad decisions, such as the one to respond to Russia's provocations with military actions, are made.

In both of these countries, the narrative of democratization no longer has any explanatory value. Although there are dramatic differences between the levels of freedom in the two countries, neither is moving towards democracy and neither government is interested in democratic development. One key difference between the two countries is that the Kyrgyz government makes no attempt to conceal this as it seeks support from authoritarian regimes in Moscow and Beijing. The Georgian government, in no small part because of its desire to integrate into European and Trans-Atlantic political institutions as well as the support it receives from Europe and the US, still seeks to present itself as moving towards greater democracy and freedom. While this is no longer the case, it helps keep Georgia somewhat open, but also presents a more complicated challenge for the Georgian government. The failure of the color revolutions in Georgia and Kyrgyzstan to lead to enduring democratic gains raises questions for the future of democracy and US democracy promotion policies specifically. The other color revolution country is Ukraine, which at the present time seems to be the most

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MEET OUR NEW LIBRARIAN



ROBERT H. DAVIS, JR., HI '87, is Librarian for Russian, Eurasian and East European Collections at Columbia University, where he is principally responsible for the curatorship of one of North America's oldest, largest, and most distinguished area studies collections, encompassing more than sixty languages of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Prior to assuming his present position in November 2008, Robert was Assistant Curator of the Slavic and Baltic Division of the New York Public Library. He holds graduate degrees from Columbia's GSAS, and from the City University of New York. Author of four books, and many articles, reviews, and communications, Robert has presented referred conference papers at numerous regional, national, and international meetings. He has also authored, coauthored, and/or managed ten preservation and access grants funded by various federal and private entities, including the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Department of Education. (In June and July of this year, he was Co-Director of "America Engages Russia, 1880-1930," a summer institute sponsored by the NEH.)

Robert has co-curated two major exhibitions, both at The New York Public Library. "The Romanovs: Their Empire, Their Books" was a 1997 exhibition of books and photographs of Russian imperial provenance; 2003-2004's "Russia Engages the World, 1453-1825" was the largest exhibition of works

on paper pertaining to Russian studies ever staged in this country. He was also a contributor to the exhibition's companion volume, published by Harvard University Press.

Ongoing research interests include the documentation of early Slavic, Baltic, and East European manuscript and printed materials held outside Eastern Europe; the history of Slavica collections in North America in general, and Columbia in particular; and the sale of art and book treasures by the Soviets during the 1930s. This last topic was the subject of a major international conference at Dartmouth College, co-organized by Robert, in October 2008. He is presently completing for publication—with the assistance of current Harriman student Megan Duncan-Smith—an extensive revision of his 1998 census of Russian and Ukrainian avant-garde and books and serials.



"ORTHODOX BATHING" BY EUGENE GORNY, HI POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW, FROM THE EXHIBIT "WINDOW TO RUSSIA, EAST CENTRAL EUROPE, AND EURASIA" (SEE PAGE 12 FOR DETAILS).

SAVE THE DATE!

SYNETIC THEATER AT COLUMBIA IN MARCH

The Harriman Institute will welcome the award-winning Washington, DC-based Synetic Theater company to Columbia University's Miller Theatre on Thursday, March 11, 2010, for a rare New York performance of its acclaimed production *Host and Guest*, based on the epic poem by Georgian writer Vazha Pshavela (1861-1915). *Host and Guest* centers around two Caucasian men, one Muslim and one Christian, who befriend one another in time of war despite the harsh resistance they face from their own respective communities. Vazha Pshavela's story and Synetic's production offer a moving reflection on ethnic difference and human nature which resonates deeply with our times.

Contact Lauren Ninoshvili (LN2106@columbia.edu) for more information.

BUILDING OASIES ACROSS INNER EURASIA

*A new scholarly organization connects
the Harriman Institute with the rest of Inner Eurasia*

In 2007, when the founders of the Organization for the Advancement of Studies of Inner Eurasian Societies (OASIES) first began discussing the idea of formalizing Inner Eurasian scholarship at Columbia University, they did not know what they were getting into. Despite their varied interests in Turkish, Hindi and Chinese, graduate students Owen Miller, Tony Shin, Darren Byler and others were driven to build a new community. Realizing the potential for this community through Harriman faculty member Gulnar Kendirbai's history course "Nomads Across Eurasia," these students began to visualize a home, or a second home, for students and scholars who wanted to hear different disciplinary and area studies perspectives on their otherwise bounded research. Without much hesitation they began petitioning for funding, designing a website, and trying to persuade scholars from across the greater New York area and the country to come to Columbia and talk about their work on Inner Eurasian topics.

OASIES draws heavily on the diverse backgrounds of its members. These students and scholars bring with them interests in such topics as: the history of ethnic Koreans in Uzbekistan, the problematic of Uyghurs living between China and Central Asia, the relationships of twelfth century Mongols and Europeans, the future of Kurdish nationalism, and the relationship between the Russian Empire and the Qing Dynasty. After securing institutional funding and support – the bulk of which came from the Harriman Institute, the members of OASIES began organizing panel discussions with senior faculty and graduate student conferences which pushed these interests further.

The Organization was interested in problematizing the lacunae and knowledge which exists regarding Inner Eurasia. As a part of this approach, OASIES began hosting an ongoing series of scholar panel discussions on the state of area studies across the Eurasian space. These discussions invited senior faculty to speak on the genealogy of area studies around the Inner Eurasian space as well as how its

paradigm has impacted their work. Working from the Mongol period to the present, these discussions interrogated the legacy of the Cold War, civilizational and disciplinary discourses, and strategies for learning languages and cultures often deemed obscure and irrelevant.

Since the study of Inner Eurasia is not located within a single regional institute at Columbia, a large portion of the work of OASIES is assisting in the dissemination of information and organizing regular lectures, brown bag discussions, film screenings that transcend the various area studies approaches. Toward this end, OASIES hosted a series of discussions which addressed the "Forgotten Communities of Inner Eurasia." Drawing on deep interest and research in the Inner Eurasian subaltern, the Organization invited leading scholars of such groups as the Kurds and the Uyghurs to engage in spirited discussions with students and the local Inner Eurasian community. These events draw large crowds from the greater New York area and serve as a public forum where highly charged issues can be discussed and dissected.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, OASIES has constructed a community of student-scholars, now led by Hannah Barker, Greg Ferguson-Cradler, and Jessica Tiecher, whose work transcends or does not fit neatly within the boundaries of area-studies institutes. Toward this end, the Organization holds periodic graduate student conferences which attract students and scholars from around the country and across the world. For more information about future events and programs please consult the OASIES website: www.oasies.org.

—Darren Byler, GSAS '09

(Lincoln Mitchell, continued from page 5)

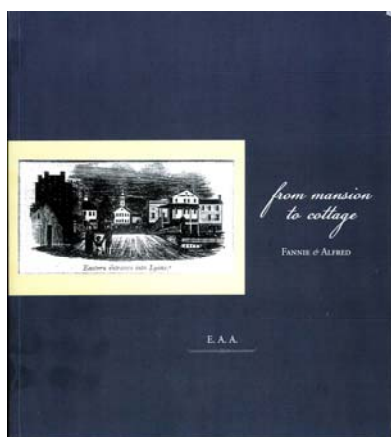
successful of the three cases with regards to democratic development, but even there democratic advances are very precarious, particularly given the economic problems and ongoing tensions with Russia. Color revolutions were, in the middle part of the decade, presented by the US government and other supporters of democracy assistance as evidence that there was still some value to pursuing democratic advances in non-democratic countries. The discouraging news from Georgia and Kyrgyzstan forces us to revisit this notion and explore more long-term, and less dramatic, strategies for advancing democracy.



JANET KLEIN (UNIVERSITY OF AKRON) AND ROBERT OLSON (UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY) IN A PRESENTATION ON "POWER, KNOWLEDGE AND KURDISTAN" (MAY 9, 2008).

FACULTY NEWS

Edward Allworth, Professor Emeritus of Turkic-Soviet Studies, after lecturing for years about the importance of oral history in Central Asian cultural affairs, decided that it was time “to take his own medicine.” In his new book, *From Mansion to Cottage*, Allworth writes about his own ancestors, back to the Christianized Bengali lady, Eliza Balfour, his great great grandmother, and records his surprise and the consequences of recently finding his own grandmother’s birthplace in upstate Lyons, New York, when he had only known her in her rural cottage in a small hamlet in the State of Washington. The book was published by PressPress in Los Angeles earlier this year.



Rafis Abazov's (SIPA) new monograph *The Culture and Customs of Turkey* (Greenwood Press, 2009) presents results of his research on the historical roots of the Turks and explores the cultural changes that have taken place during the modern era in this important region on the crossroads of the Middle East and Europe. He also discusses Turkey’s intellectual discourse on the role of Islam in the country’s political and cultural life and on Turkey’s place in the European cultural universe. Abazov’s current research focuses on a comparative study of national state-building in Central Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

Karen Barkey (Sociology) received the 2009 Barrington Moore Award from the Comparative Historical Sociology section of the American Sociology Association for her book *Empire of Difference: The Ottomans in Comparative Perspective* (Cambridge University Press, 2008) as well as the 2009 J. David Greenstone Book Prize from the Politics and History section of the Political Science Association.

Edward Beliaev (SIPA) published an article titled “Is Russia Really Moving Toward Its Own Demise as the Mathematicians Foretell It?” in *Ojkumena*, a Russian academic journal devoted to regional studies; it was published in two parts: nos. 2 (9) -- 3 (10) (2009). He published a review in *Asian Politics and Policy*, (Apr./June 2009) on Paul Georg Geiss’s *Pre-Tsarist and Tsarist Central Asia. Communal Commitment and Political Order in Change*.

Padma Desai (Economics) authored the Introduction to Alfred Kokh and Igor Svinarenko’s *A Crate of Vodka* (Enigma Books, 2009). The Russian translation of the book and introduction is already in its second printing. She published the opinion piece “Putin Needs to Make Trading Concessions, Too” in the *Financial Times* (Sept. 23, 2009). She is a member of the Russia Working Group, organized by the Century Foundation, under the chairmanship of Senator Gary Hart and Ambassador Jack Matlock. The Working Group’s Spring 2009 report is available at <http://www.tcf.org/publications/internationalaffairs/grouprec.pdf>. Desai travelled to St. Petersburg in June to take part in a panel on “The New Economic Model,” which was organized by the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, and to Taiwan in August to speak on “The Global Financial Crisis: Different Symptoms and Difficult Choices for Policy Makers,” at a conference or-

ganized jointly by the National Cheng Kung University, the Asian Development Bank, and the Asian Productivity Organization at Tainan City. In August she participated in a roundtable, organized jointly by Time Warner and the Nixon Center, with Ambassador Sergei Kiselev of the Russian Federation at Time Warner headquarters in New York.

Anna Frajlich-Zajac (Slavic Langs.) delivered the keynote lecture at the AATSEEL-Wisconsin Conference at the University of Wisconsin, Madison (October ‘09). The topic of her lecture was “The Ghost of Shakespeare in Szymborska.” She also gave a reading of her own poetry, which was sponsored by the University of Wisconsin’s Department of Slavic Languages and Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia.

Lynn Garafola (Dance, Barnard) curated the exhibition “Diaghilev’s Theater of Marvels: The Ballets Russes and Its Aftermath,” which opened in June at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts. Her book *Diaghilev’s Ballets Russes* was published in Russian translation by the Perm publishing house Knizhnyi mir.



PRESIDENT BORIS TADIC PRESENTS PROF. RADMILA GORUP WITH A LETTER OF APPRECIATION FOR HER MANY YEARS OF PROMOTING SERBIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES.

FACULTY NEWS

Radmila Gorup (Slavic Langs.) is the editor of *The Slave Girl and Other Stories about Women*, by Ivo Andrić (Budapest and New York: CEU Press, 2009). She was also elected president of the Columbia School Linguistic Society.

Valentina Izmirlieva (Slavic Langs.) is a 2008-09 recipient of the Howard Fellowship and an NCEEER grant for her new book project *Christian Hajjis: The Forgotten Pilgrims to Ottoman Jerusalem?* She recently lectured on this topic at Harvard University as a guest of The Center for the Study of World Religions, The Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and the Davis Center, and presented a paper at the international Workshop “Great Powers in the Holy Land: From Napoleon to the Balfour Declaration” at The European Institute, Columbia University. She is the co-editor, with Boris Gasparov, of the volume *Translation and Tradition in Slavia Orthodoxa*, to appear in the series *Slavische Sprachgeschichte* (Vienna, Austria). Forthcoming publications include an article on early Cyrillic Venetian editions in the *Festschrift in Honor of Krassimir Stantchev and Aleksander Naumov*, and several contributions to *The Blackwell-Wiley Encyclopedia of Eastern Orthodox Christianity*. Izmirlieva is currently completing the article “Orthodox Widows: The Burden and Power of Charisma” for the volume *Women in the Orthodox Church*, a publication of the Sophia Institute.

Gulnar Kendirbai (History) with the support of a Harriman Pepsico Research Travel Grant traveled to Kazakhstan in summer 2009 and worked at the archives and libraries of Almaty to finalize her work on a book discussing the rise of the first generation of the Russian-trained Kazakh intelligentsia in the nineteenth century. She was invited to deliver the keynote address on the subject of

“Contemporary Faces of Islam in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan” at the undergraduate student conference of the Asian Consortium at La Salle University, Pennsylvania (April 2009), where she also gave a lecture on “Practices of Islam among Nomadic Kazakhs and Turkmens” as a guest speaker of LaSalle’s Diplomat-in-Residence Program. Kendirbai served as faculty advisor to the organizing committees of two OASIES graduate student conferences (2008-09).

John McGuckin (Religion) was in Kiev (Pechersky Lavra and several other of the newly opened Orthodox monastic sketes in Kiev) making a film about the practice of monastic hesychasm in the Russian Church today. Filming took place also in Sergei Posad, with the participation of the newly elected patriarch Kirill. The film is currently being edited and will be released both in a television version (PBS) as well as an art-house Director’s cut later next year. He addressed, by invitation, a gathering of the synod of the Russian Orthodox Church in the Danilovsky Monastery in Moscow on the occasion of the gathering for a conference reassessing how the Church can approach the pastoral administration of the sacraments. After the conference he was invited to address the student body at the Sergei Posad Theological Institute

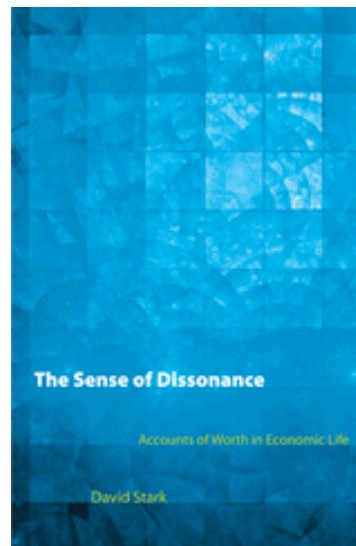
Kimberley Marten (Political Science, Barnard) published an op-ed, titled “The Same Old Mistake,” on the new US military strategy in the *International Herald Tribune* (Sept. 4, 2009).

Mark Mazower (History) received the Lionel Trilling Book Award for *Hitler’s Empire: How the Nazis Ruled Europe*. The Trilling Award honors a book written by a Columbia author that best exhibits the work of Lionel Trilling.

Lincoln Mitchell’s (SIPA) “Compromising Democracy: State Building in Saakashvili’s Georgia” was published in *Central Asian Survey* in June 2009. Mitchell and **Alexander Cooley** (Political Science, Barnard) were awarded a grant from the Smith Richardson Foundation to study “US Policy Towards Georgia After the War.”

Stephen Sestanovich (SIPA) testified on Russian-American relations before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in March; spoke at the Library of Congress-Carnegie Corporation conference on Russia and Russian-American relations in Washington in March; contributed opinion pieces to the *Washington Post* (April and August), *foreignpolicy.com* (April), and the *New York Times* (May 20). He is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Endowment for Democracy.

David Stark’s (Sociology) new book *The Sense of Dissonance: Accounts of Worth in Economic Life* was just released by Princeton University Press.



(Faculty News, continued from page 9)

Gita Steiner-Khamsi (Comparative and International Education, Teachers College) has completed a comprehensive study on the teacher shortage in the Kyrgyz Republic. The study was funded by UNICEF KYRGYZSTAN and was presented at the 7th Central Asia Forum on Education, held in September 2009, in Bishkek. The team of researchers collected quantitative data on the teacher shortage and carried out interviews in the Batken and Jalal-Abat provinces and identified several strategies that schools use (hiring retired teachers, unqualified teachers, correspondence students, assigning excessive teaching loads to teachers at the school, etc.) to cope with the severe teacher shortage. The other members of the team were Nurbek Teleshaliyev, Gulzhamal Sheripkanova-MacLeod, and Ainura Moldokmatova. The report (English and Russian) will be widely distributed by UNICEF Kyrgyzstan and additional publications are planned.

Elizabeth Kridl Valkenier (Art History) enlarged and edited her reminiscences of Czeslaw Milosz for a collection edited by Cynthia Haven and to be published by the Ohio State University Press. She wrote an entry on an early drawing by Ilya Repin, which will be displayed at an exhibit of master drawings at the Louvre this fall. She attended the fiftieth anniversary reunion of guides to the first US Exhibit in Moscow in 1959 (at which the so-called Nixon-Khrushchev debate took place). The reunion took place at the George Washington University in July.

LAURIE MANCHESTER IS AWARDED WAYNE S. VUCINICH PRIZE

Laurie Manchester, Columbia University Ph.D. ('95) in History and former Postdoctoral Fellow at the Harriman Institute, was awarded the 2009 Wayne S. Vucinich Book Prize for her book *Holy Fathers, Secular Sons: Clergy, Intelligentsia, and the Modern Self in Revolutionary Russia* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2008). The Vucinich Prize, sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) and the Stanford University Center for Russian and East European Studies, is awarded annually for the most important contribution to Russian, Eurasian, and East European studies in any discipline of the humanities or social sciences published in English in the United States in the previous calendar year. The prize was presented in November at the AAASS convention in Boston. Laurie is Associate Professor of History at Arizona State University.

From the citation read at the AAASS award ceremony: "Combining sociological and anthropological analysis, intellectual history, and insights drawn from reading personal texts, Manchester identifies and describes the group ethos of the *popovichi* (the sons of Orthodox clergymen), showing that their moral values, social loyalties, and ambivalent identities played a large role in Russia's uneasy transition into the modern world after the Great Reforms of the 1860s. This carefully researched, beautifully written, and highly original book prompts us to rethink such issues as the formation of the intelligentsia, the secularization of educated society, and the rise of modern selfhood in post reform Russia."

"Well researched and vigorously argued. Offer[s] solid reasons to support revisionist arguments."
—*Times Literary Supplement*

New and Forthcoming From *Studies of the Harriman Institute*:

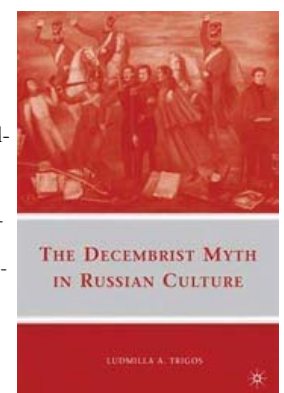
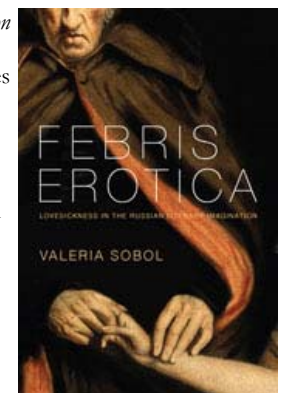
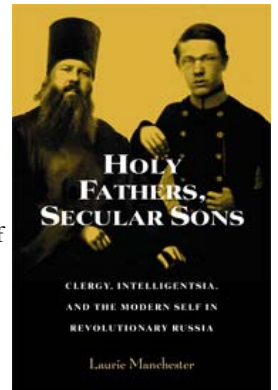
Valeria Sobol's *Febris Erotica: Lovesickness in the Russian Literary Imagination* was just published by University of Washington Press in its series "Literary Conjugations." Valeria, a Columbia University Slavic Languages Ph.D., is currently Associate Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at University of Illinois.

"Deftly weaving together literary, intellectual, cultural, and medical history, Sobol makes a convincing case that the 'lovesickness' topos is an important and exceptionally productive prism for exploring a whole constellation of thorny issues and debates that were played out in fascinating detail in Russian literature and culture from the late eighteenth century through the nineteenth century."
—Thomas Newlin, Oberlin College

The Decembrist Myth in Russian Culture by **Ludmilla A. Trigos** will be released by Palgrave Macmillan in December. Ludmilla, a Columbia Slavic Department Ph.D. ('98) and former Postdoctoral Fellow at the Harriman Institute, has taught at Columbia University, Barnard College, Drew University and New York University. She is currently an independent scholar.

"The Decembrist uprising was uneventful and led to no perceptible change. The same cannot be said about the myths it bred. This lucid, informative and captivating account of Decembrist mythology from Pushkin to Putin takes you to its ideological, political, ritualistic-celebratory, literary, film, operatic and media representations, vividly demonstrating that the past is "usable" in infinitely many ways, until—perhaps—it wears out."

—Irene Masing-Delic, Ohio State University



UKRAINIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

CONTEMPORARY UKRAINIAN LITERATURE SERIES

Through the Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series, launched in January 2008, the Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute and the Kennan Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, have established a consistent forum in the United States to present the best in contemporary Ukrainian literature. Never before in North America has a series of such length and calibre been devoted to the literature of today's Ukraine. Organized and conducted by Dr. Mark Andryczyk, the series has provided audiences in New York City and Washington D.C. a chance to attend readings and performances by some of the leading names in Ukrainian literature and to converse with these artists in a rare and intimate setting. Guests of the series in preceding years have included Andrei Kurkov, Marjana Savka, Viktor Neborak, Andriy Bondar and Taras Chubai.

The series has also acted as an impetus to gather existing English-language translations of contemporary Ukrainian literature and present them to an audience perhaps unaware of such accessibility to contemporary Ukrainian literature. Additionally, it has inspired and showcased new translations. The events in the series have been preserved through video recordings.

The series opened this academic year on October 22, when it hosted the Ukrainian writer perhaps best-known in the world today, Yuriy Andrukhovych.

VISUALIZING THE HOLODOMOR: THE UKRAINIAN FAMINE-GENOCIDE OF 1932-1933 ON FILM

On December 2, 2008, the international conference "Visualizing the Holodomor: The Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 on Film" was held at Columbia. Organized by the Ukrainian Studies Program of Columbia and co-sponsored by the Harriman Institute and the Department of Slavic Languages, the conference provided a memorable contribution to a series of academic forums around the US and Canada, organized to mark the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Great Famine in Ukraine. The conference offered an innovative approach to the subject by focusing on film and filmmaking as a means to understand the consequences of this tragedy for Ukraine and the world.

Dr. Yuri Shevchuk (Dept. of Slavic Languages, Columbia University), Dr. Roman Serbyn (Professor of History, Emeritus, University of Quebec at Montreal), Dr. Crispin Brooks (Archivist of the Shoah Foundation Institution, University of Southern California) and filmmaker Natasha Mikhalchuk presented to standing-room-only audiences during the conference's various panels. Visualizing the Holodomor concluded with the North American premier of the feature documentary *The Living* (Zhyvi) by Serhiy Bukovsky from Kyiv. Mr. Bukovsky is internationally recognized as one of the foremost documentary filmmakers in Ukraine today and his film elicited a lively discussion from the audience.

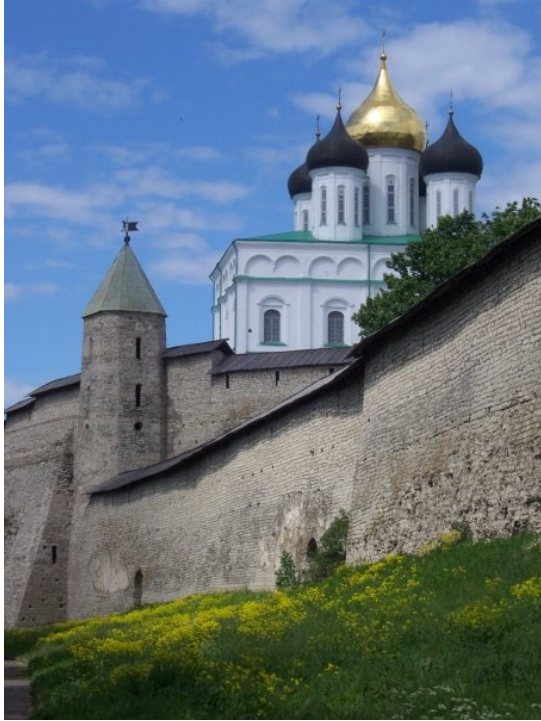
ORANGE REVOLUTION. FIVE YEARS SINCE

On November 20th, the Harriman Institute and the Ukrainian Studies Program will conduct a conference entitled "The Orange Revolution: Five Years Since." The all-day affair will focus on what has changed in Ukraine since the momentous events of November 2004, and what has not. The conference will also provide a comparative aspect by offering updates and analyses of other 'colored revolutions' that have taken place in the region and by presenting opinions by the area's leading experts of what political changes can be expected in the near future. The conference, presented on the eve of the upcoming presidential elections in Ukraine, will conclude with a presentation of new films produced on the topic of the Orange Revolution.

Participants to include Gordon Bardos, Mark Beissinger, Alexander Cooley, Keith Darden, Timothy Frye, Adrian Karatnycky, Valery Kuchynsky, Rajan Menon, Lincoln Mitchell, Alexander Motyl, Catharine Nepomnyashchy, Yuri Shevchuk, Jack Snyder, Frank Sysyn.



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WINDOW TO RUSSIA, EAST CENTRAL EUROPE, AND EURASIA

18 November 2009 – 15 January 2010
Harriman Institute Atrium, 12th Floor International Affairs Building

The Harriman Institute proudly presents an exhibition featuring the winners of its student photography contest. All photographs in the collection were taken by Columbia University graduate and undergraduate students during recent trips to Russia, Eastern and Central Europe, and Eurasia. The exhibition offers unique perspective on the regions studied and visited by our students. Each picture represents something memorable for the photographer: a glimpse into a stranger's life, a frequently visited spot, time spent with old and new friends away from home. The countries represented include Russia, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan.

PSKOV KREMLIN. PHOTO BY JAMES WESLEY JEFFERS, SIPA

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