



# REES

CENTER FOR RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES

# NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome back from another summer. REES's programs were once again successful, with Summer Language Institute enrollments maintaining their high levels and even increasing with the addition of ROTC students through our federal Project GO grant. Our study abroad programs were also very strong. Back in the office, Tricia McGough completed a badly needed upgrade of the REES website, [www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees/](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees/). We would welcome additional photographs from students and faculty to post on the site.

The big news for the coming year is that we are anticipating a new Title VI National Resource Center/FLAS competition. While the NRC funds in the current cycle were drastically cut in 2011 and are still very low, the FLAS funds have remained level, and provide important support for both graduate/professional school stu-

dents and undergraduates. The future amounts of Title VI support have not yet been made clear, but we will certainly be applying to receive additional funding from this program, which has been a mainstay of area studies for decades.

That the Title VI NRC/FLAS competition is impending, however, makes it especially important that we have full, current information on the activities of our faculty and students. Thus, if you receive a request for information from REES, please respond to it. If we obtain Title VI NRC and FLAS funding once again, I am sure that we will be able to maintain our current levels of programming and even increase them. In that case, we will be one of the few centers focused on our area that has managed to weather the post-2008 economic and funding crises with all of our programs intact.



*Robert Hayden*

In other news, I'd like to welcome Dr. Michael Bobick as our new UCIS/REES Postdoctoral Fellow (see Faculty Spotlight column on page 3). Mike is an anthropologist who works in Transnistria on issues of the conceptualization and practices of an unrecognized, but de facto existing state. He will be offering a course on the Anthropology of the State in the Spring 2014 term and will develop other courses for the next academic year.

We look forward to another productive year and wish all of you success in your endeavors.

*Robert Hayden*

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## ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER



If you would prefer to receive the *REES Newsletter* electronically, please let us know by sending your request, along with your name and email address, to [crees@pitt.edu](mailto:crees@pitt.edu).

From that point, you will receive an email with a link to the most recent edition of the *REES Newsletter*, which can be viewed as a PDF file. You can access topics in the table of contents, email addresses, and web addresses by clicking on the respective hyperlinks. As always, thank you for your continued interest in the *REES Newsletter*.

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Michael Bobick with his daughter, Daria.

REES is pleased to welcome anthropologist Michael Bobick as a UCIS/REES Postdoctoral Fellow for 2013-15. Dr. Bobick grew up as a Pittsburgh native and attended Oberlin College as an undergraduate, majoring in Anthropology and German Studies. He earned his MA in Social Sciences at the University of Chicago and wrote a thesis focusing on the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad, which is surrounded by European Union member states. This led him to the study of territories that do not fit neatly on the map of nation-states in Europe and Eurasia, including the entity of Transnistria within the territory of Moldova. Transnistria, which has functioned independently since 1990 without gaining international recognition as a sovereign state, became the focus of his research as a doctoral student in Sociocultural Anthropology at Cornell University.

After enrolling at Cornell and studying the Russian and Moldovan languages, Dr. Bobick spent a summer in Moldova with a

host family in Kishinev and made his initial visits to Transnistria, where he returned the following summer to conduct research interviews. He completed his Ph.D. in 2012 after writing his dissertation on “Performative Sovereignty: State Formation in the Transnistrian Moldovan Republic.” He then spent a year as a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow and Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the American University of Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (2012-13) before being appointed to his current position at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Bobick reports that Transnistria is a multiethnic society with Russian, Ukrainian, and Moldovan nationalities represented approximately equally. Transnistria declared independence from Moldova the year before the breakup of the Soviet Union, seeking to become a separate republic of the USSR, and subsequently voted for independence in a popular referendum. Transnistria solidified its de facto independent status following a brief war with Moldova in 1992 and has since maintained its own army and police force, receiving support from Russia through the provision of natural gas on credit.

The Transnistrian republic’s economy is largely controlled by a single company, Sheriff, formed by two policemen who took over much of the territory’s smuggling racket in the 1990s. Sheriff’s holdings range from the republic’s only phone, cable and internet providers to supermarkets and various other consumer goods. Although the current president of Transnistria has sought to curtail the influence of Sheriff, it remains the republic’s largest taxpayer and private employer. While largely overlooked in Western media and

scholarship, Transnistria has recently received some attention due to the publication of *Siberian Education*, a supposed memoir by a member of a Siberian crime family operating in Transnistria (the author later stated that much of the book was actually fictional). A movie starring John Malkovich was also based on the book.

At the American University of Central Asia, Dr. Bobick taught courses on political anthropology, economic anthropology, and First Year Seminar, a yearlong liberal arts core course on political, ethical, and scientific thought. As his students came from throughout Central Asia and often spoke English as their third or fourth language, imparting the nuances of fundamental political concepts such as democracy sometimes proved challenging. Most students were accustomed to learning through rote memorization and often had difficulty adjusting to teaching methods based on critical thinking and the process of writing and revising.

Dr. Bobick looks forward to teaching Pitt students beginning in Spring 2014, when he will offer the course “Anthropology of the State,” utilizing readings and case studies from the former USSR. In 2014-15 he hopes to teach a graduate course on frozen conflicts and unrecognized states, which will be designed to attract students from Law and GSPIA in addition to Arts & Sciences. He will work with REES Director Robert Hayden on the development of this course. In the meantime, he is working on research articles as well as a book based on his dissertation, which will extend beyond the case of Transnistria/Moldova to present a broader critique of the state in the 21st century.

## FACULTY NEWS



**Carolyn Ban** (GSPIA) recently published a book, *Management and Culture in an Enlarged European Commission: From Diversity to Unity?* (Palgrave Macmillan 2013), which analyzes the arrival into the

European Commission of thousands of new staff from the accession countries in Central and Eastern Europe and their impact on the Commission. She presented a summary of the book's findings at several conferences, including the meeting of NISPAcee (Network of Schools and Institutions of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe) in Belgrade in May.



**Ronald Brand** and **Harry Flechtner** (Law) accompanied the Pitt Law Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot team to Vienna for the 2013 Vis Competition on March 13-29. The Pitt team consisted of

Janet Checkley, Tina Hu, John Paul Putney, and Krysta Smith. The team began the trip at the University of Belgrade Pre-Moot, followed by practice arguments at the University of Zagreb. In Vienna, the Pitt team met for informal practice with the Pitt Consortium of teams, which included the American University of Kosovo, the University of Bahrain, the University of Belgrade (Serbia), Dar El Hekma University (Saudi Arabia), the Faculte des sciences juridiques politiques et sociales Tunis II (Tunisia), the University of Jordan, Kyiv-Mohyla National Academy (Ukraine), Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University (Ukraine), the University of Prishtina (Kosovo), Sultan Qaboos University (Oman), and UAE University. The Pitt Law team made the final round of 64 teams out of 296 teams from 67 countries.

Prior to the Belgrade Pre-Moot, Pitt Law's Center for International Legal Education co-sponsored the annual Belgrade Arbitration Conference, at which Professor Brand welcomed some 300 participants and Professor Flechtner spoke on the completion of the 2012 UNCITRAL Digest of Case Law on the United Nations

Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods. Professor Flechtner was engaged by UNCITRAL to coordinate and edit the 2012 Digest. The Digest was printed as a Special Issue of Volume 30 of Pitt Law's *Journal of Law and Commerce*. GIZ, the German Foundation for International Cooperation, paid for and distributed 300 copies of the Digest at the Belgrade Arbitration Conference and Pre-Moot. Professor Flechtner also arranged for the distribution of 700 copies of the Digest at the Vis Moot in Vienna, to each of the teams and arbitrators participating in the Moot. The Pitt Law Vis Moot Team assisted Professors Flechtner and Brand in moving the 700 copies from the offices of UNCITRAL at the United Nations in Vienna to the University of Vienna School of Law for distribution. For many of those in Vienna for the Moot, the highlight was Professor Flechtner's performance at the opening reception (in the Vienna Konzerthaus) of the "CISG Song" and "Mootie Blues."

On June 7, Professor Brand lectured at the University of Prishtina Faculty of Law, Kosovo, on "The European Court of Justice and Private International Law: An American Perspective." While in Prishtina, he had meetings with the University of Prishtina Rector and Dean of the School of Law, as well as with members of the Kosovo Assembly, the Ministry of Justice, and local USAID-funded missions, discussing Pitt Law collaboration with the School of Law. He also met with nine Pitt Law LL.M. alumni now working in Kosovo and two Pitt Law J.D. students doing summer internships in Kosovo.

On July 8-9, Professor Brand taught general international business transactions topics in Zagreb, Croatia, as part of the Institute in International Commercial Law & Arbitration, co-sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Zagreb, and Touro Law Center. The Institute is a four-week course taught in Zagreb and Zadar, and culminating in skills training with students presenting written and oral submissions on behalf of hypothetical clients in an international commercial arbitration.



## FACULTY NEWS *CONTINUED*



**Peter Brusilovsky** (School of Information Sciences) was appointed Editor-in-Chief of IEEE TLT ([www.ischool.pitt.edu/news/3-11-2013.php](http://www.ischool.pitt.edu/news/3-11-2013.php)), received new funding ([www.ischool.pitt.edu/news/05-01-2013.php](http://www.ischool.pitt.edu/news/05-01-2013.php)), and was selected as Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair in Information and Communications Technologies for 2013-2014 ([www.fulbright.fi/en/research-and-lecturing-opportunities-scholars-and-specialists/fulbright-nokia-distinguished-chair](http://www.fulbright.fi/en/research-and-lecturing-opportunities-scholars-and-specialists/fulbright-nokia-distinguished-chair)). He will spend 4.5 months in Finland on sabbatical.



**Bill Chase** (History and Urban Studies) and **Cengiz Haksöz** (PhD student, Anthropology) taught an IFTA (Integrated Field Trip Abroad) course in Istanbul, Turkey, and Córdoba and Granada, Spain, in May 2013. The six-credit course (“Cities of Cultural Conquest”) focused on the impact of cultural conquest on urban design and architecture. Given the conquest of Christian Constantinople by the Ottomans and the “reconquista” of Córdoba and Granada by the Catholic monarchs, these cities offer many marvelous examples of the various ways in which cultural conquest affected the urban fabric, the built environment, and architecture. The course also enabled students to appreciate the historical and contemporary effects of Islamic culture in Europe.



**Nancy Condee** (Slavic Languages and Literatures/Director, Global Studies Center) was a guest commentator for two broadcasts of *Closed Screening [Закр́тый показ]*, a weekly series on Channel One Russian state television. The debate topic each time was contemporary Russian cinema. She was also interviewed by Voice of America (21 February 2013) on the death of Russian film director Aleksei German, Sr. (available at [www.golos-ameriki.ru/content/alexy-german-obit/1608467.html](http://www.golos-ameriki.ru/content/alexy-german-obit/1608467.html)). In June 2013, she was a guest of the Kinotavr Film Festival (Sochi),

Russia’s largest national film festival, where she participated in the award deliberations of the Russian Federation Guild of Cinema Scholars and Cinema Critics. As a member of the Guild, she also attended the Moscow International Film Festival and Cannes International Film Festival.

Prof. Condee’s recent publications include the co-edited volume of essays by Greta Slobin, *Russians Abroad: Literary and Cultural Politics of Diaspora (1919-1939)*, in collaboration with Katerina Clark, Dan Slobin, and Mark Slobin (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2013). Prof. Condee gave a talk at the University of Leeds (UK) at the conference *Russian and Chinese Cinema: Productive Interactions* (“Young Sacrifice: Its Appeal, Controversies, and Revisions”) on 12 March 2013. Another talk, “Cold War and Hot Colonies: Imperial Memory in the 1980s,” was given on 2 May 2013 at the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) for the conference *The Eighties in Theory and Practice*. Prof. Condee has also joined the Advisory Board for the journal *boundary 2*, published by Duke University Press.



**Irene Frieze** (Psychology) has been working on psychological factors in migration decision making, following up on a study published in the Slovene journal, *Anthropos*. More recently, she and her colleagues have published: Li, M., Frieze, I. H., & Olson, J. (in press). Students’ study abroad plans: The influence of psychological factors. *Frontiers: the Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad* (2013); and Before the big decision: Psychological theories on premigration motivation. In E. Tartakovsky (Ed.), *Immigration: Policies, challenges and impact*. (pp. 3-27). New York: Nova Science Publishers.



**William Harbert** (Geology and Planetary Science) published the following abstracts: Hammack, Richard W., Harbert, William, Sams, J., and Siriwardane, H., 2013,

## FACULTY NEWS

Microseismic Monitoring to Determine Fracture Height Growth during Hydraulic Fracturing at NETL's Marcellus Shale Test Site in Greene County, Pennsylvania, AAPG ACE; and Delaney, Daniel, Mur, Alan, Crandall, Dustin, Harbert, W., Halajiasmaa, I., and Soong, Y., 2013, Ultrasonic seismic wave attenuation (Q) for better subsurface imaging, energy exploration, and tracking of sequestered carbon dioxide, SEG 2013 Annual Meeting, DVD Extended Abstracts. His peer reviewed publications include: Hur, Tae-Bong, Baltrus, J. P., Howard, B. H., Harbert, W. P., and Romanov, V. N., 2013, Carbonate Formation in Wyoming Montmorillonite under High Pressure Carbon Dioxide, *International Journal of Green House Gases*, v. 13, p. 149-155; Hammack, Richard, Zorn, E., Harbert, W., Stewart, B., Sharma, S., and Siriwardane, H., 2013, An Evaluation of Zonal Isolation After Hydraulic Fracturing; Results From Horizontal Marcellus Shale Gas Wells at NETL's Greene County Test Site in Southwestern Pennsylvania, SPE 13ERM-P-65-SPE.

Prof. Harbert attended the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, "Integrated Geophysics for Unconventional Resources", 7-11 July 2013, in Krakow, Poland. This forum aimed for an open discussion on unconventional reservoirs with particular emphasis on shale gas development. Exchange of scientific knowledge on topics ranging from shale characterization, to geophysical attributes, to public perception provided a broad review and facilitated cross-subject communication at this forum.

He was active at the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), International Annual Convention and Exposition (ACE) meeting and was the Theme 10 (Geophysics) chairman for this large gathering. In addition, he was co-chair for the following AAPG ACE 2013 sessions: American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) ACE 2013, Theme 10: Geology/Geophysics Integration Case Studies (AAPG); and American Association of Petroleum

Geologists (AAPG) ACE 2013, Theme 10: Microseismic Methods Relevant to Fracturing and Exploration Geophysics (AAPG).

Prof. Harbert was the 2013 Division of Environmental Geosciences (DEG) Luncheon Speaker at their 20th Anniversary Luncheon, during the American Association of Petroleum Geologists meeting. He also received a Founder's Award from the Geophysical Society of Pittsburgh, Society of Exploration Geophysicists.



**Robert M. Hayden** (Anthropology/REES Director) published an article on "Intersecting Religioscapes: A Comparative Approach to Trajectories of Change, Scale, and Competitive Sharing of Religious Spaces" in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 81(#2), June 2013, with co-author Timothy D. Walker, U. Mass – Dartmouth; an essay on "Imagined Commonalities: The Invention of a Late Ottoman 'Tradition' of Coexistence" in *American Anthropologist* 115 (#2), June 2013, with co-author Slobodan Naumović, Belgrade University; and a review essay called "Fahrenheit 96.8: The Cold-Blooded Mass Destruction of 'Unsuitable Books' in Croatia in the 1990s," a featured review in *Slavic Review* (Summer 2013) of *Knjigocid: Uništavanje knjige u Hrvatskoj 1990-ih*, by Ante Lešaja. Stretching the boundaries of the REES area, Professor Hayden also made research trips to Peru and India in the spring of 2013, in connection with his larger project on "Antagonistic Tolerance: Competitive Sharing of Religious Sites."



**Andrew Konitzer** (Political Science/REES Associate Director) presented a paper entitled, "Dačić Goes to Kosovo and Other Tales of Balkan Policy Reversals," at the conference Identity Politics: The New World Versus the New (and Old) Europe, organized by the University of

## FACULTY NEWS *CONTINUED*

Texas' European Union Center for Excellence. This summer he received an IREX Short Term Grant to explore party patronage and public sector employment in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. With the support of the grant, he spent the summer collecting data and conducting expert interviews with various academics and policy analysts in Belgrade, Banja Luka and Sarajevo. This grant is part of an ongoing collaborative study with Mila Dragojević (Political Science, Sewanee: The University of the South), which examines patronage practices in the Balkans and other former communist states of Eastern Europe. Konitzer and Dragojević's manuscript, "The Forensics of Patronage: Identifying the Linkage between Parties and Public Sector Employment in Serbia," was recently accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed, Serbian language journal *Sociološki Pregled*.



**John Markoff** (Sociology) joined Antonio Herrera González de Molina of Pablo de Olavide University in Seville in co-editing a special issue of the historical journal *Ayer* – the journal of the Asociación de Historia Contemporánea – on local struggles for democracy in rural Spain. In addition to an introduction to the issue, John and Antonio contributed a paper on "Democratization and the rural world in Spain at the turn of the twentieth century" (*Ayer* 89(1), 2013). John also published a review-essay on "Successful uprisings against authoritarian regimes" in *Australian Journal of Political Science* 48(2), 2013:233-245.



**David Montgomery** (Anthropology) was recently elected to the Executive Board of the Central Eurasian Studies Society.



**Josephine Olson** (Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business/Director, International Business Center) traveled to Moscow and Samara, Russia and Istanbul, Turkey in May 2013 on a Faculty Development in International Business program run by Pitt's International Business Center. The faculty leader for the trip was Andrew Konitzer, Associate Director of REES. On the trip were about 15 business school faculty members from around the U.S.



**Jonathan Platt** (Slavic Languages and Literatures) will be on research leave in Russia for the 2013-14 academic year, working on a monograph about the Soviet partisan, Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya—supported by REES, UCIS, and the Central Research and Development Fund. His research efforts and his collaboration with St. Petersburg contemporary artist, Natalia Pershina-Yakimanskaya (Gliuklya), on a video installation (provisionally titled *Toska po podvigu*, or "Yearning for Heroism") have caught the attention of various Russian media outlets, including an article in *Pravda* ("Amerikanskii professor pishet o sovetskoi geroine," 16-19 August 2013, pg. 8) and a segment on a local Tambov news program ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCr7\\_h3bAHg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCr7_h3bAHg)). Prof. Platt is also planning to organize a Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya Contemporary Art Festival in Tambov (where the partisan was born) with Gliuklya and the local Communist Party, and he is editing a cluster of scholarly articles on the partisan for *Novoe literaturnoe obozrenie*, which should come out this year.





*Scott Bridgehouse and his new friend Maksim attend a formal.*

## Undergraduate Students

**Scott Bridgehouse** (Political Science/Russian) began work at The American School in Switzerland (TASIS) in June and returned to America in mid-August. TASIS is a year-round boarding school that hosts children from all over the world in elementary, middle, or high school programs. Scott worked in Le Chateau Des Enfants (CDE), the elementary school program, as a counselor/English teacher. He worked with children ages seven to ten who were from Germany, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine and Russia.

During his time at CDE, Scott explained many different games and activities, mediated arguments, translated for parents, and made many great friends, all in Russian. The immersion experience greatly improved his Russian skills and gave him a firsthand look at the culture.

Using his language skills, he gained a rewarding insight into Russian values and ideals. The bonds that he made with the children were much deeper than expected. He constantly had Russian boys hanging on him while the girls used their limited English to tell him that he was “a pretty Scott.” He took it as a compliment. At the end of the first session, it was incredibly sad for him to see the kids go, and many of them cried. After all, they camped, hiked, swam, played soccer (a lot), explored ancient caves, and much more together. He is already in contact with one of his favorite nine-year-olds, Maksim, who emailed Scott to tell him that he was missed. It was a very good feeling for Scott, knowing he had made a difference in Maksim’s life; something he could not have done without learning Russian at Pitt.

**Stephanie Trum** (History of Art and Architecture) is this year’s winner of the 2012 Ossip Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Writing in the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences. Stephanie’s paper, “Tragedy of the People: The Politics of Memory in Moscow’s Victory Park,” was written as an honors thesis under the direction of Barbara McCloskey and won the Independent Scholarly Writing category. It focuses on Tragedy of the People, a memorial by Zurab Tsereteli, which she stumbled upon during her time in Moscow as a participant in the Summer Language Institute’s Moscow 5+5 program in 2010. The paper explores the various reasons (social, political, and aesthetic) why the memorial was misunderstood and harshly rejected by Muscovites upon its installment at the entrance to Victory Park, and how its removal to the rear of the park has redefined the landscape for the Russian people.

## August 2013 REES Graduates

Congratulations to **Abigail Kreckel**, who graduated with a major in Russian and received her REES Undergraduate Certificate in Summer 2013!

## FLAS Fellowships

Congratulations to REES’s graduate Academic Year 2013-14 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellows: **Alyssa Cypher** (Public and International Affairs), **Richard Beach Gray** (Slavic Languages and Literatures), **Trevor Krost** (Law), **Nikolay Markov** (Law), **Julie Nelson** (Public and International Affairs), **Lauren Perez** (Political Science), **Sunu Pillai** (Law) and **Trevor Wilson** (Slavic Languages and Literatures); and to the undergraduate 2013-14 FLAS Fellows, **Kaitlyn Douglass** (Economics) and **Minuet Karjakovic** (Political Science).

Congratulations as well to **Adam Brode** (History), **Justin Classen** (History) and **Samantha Shipeck** (German and Russian), who received Summer 2013 FLAS Fellowships through REES for intensive study of Latvian, Hungarian and Russian, respectively. In addition to these three Pitt students, REES awarded Summer FLAS Fellowships for participation in Pitt’s 2013 Slavic and East European Summer Language Institute to students from Brandeis University, Georgetown University, Indiana University, Queens College, University of Alabama, University of British Columbia, University of Florida, University of Illinois, University of Kansas, University of Massachusetts—Amherst, and University of Southern California.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, FLAS Fellowships provide full tuition plus a living stipend to students whose academic program includes foreign language and area studies courses (or, for Summer FLAS Fellowships, intensive language study). Eligibility is limited to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. In addition to graduate students, undergraduates who are studying a less commonly taught language at the intermediate level or above are eligible to apply. Applications for Academic Year 2014-15 FLAS Fellowships will be due in February 2014. Please be aware that graduate students must apply through



their major department or professional school rather than directly to REES, and individual departments may have earlier deadlines, so be sure to check with your major department. Applications for Summer 2014 FLAS Fellowships will be due in early March. For more information, contact Andrew Konitzer at [konitzer@pitt.edu](mailto:konitzer@pitt.edu).

### Graduate Students

**Jessica Kuntz** (Graduate School of Public and International Affairs) spent 10 weeks this summer as an intern at the US Embassy Zagreb. Jess worked in the public affairs office, where her activities included:

- Drafting remarks for Embassy leadership at conferences promoting entrepreneurship.
- Developing new outreach and presentation materials detailing the activities of the US Embassy in Croatia and the American story.
- Promoting human rights through attendance at the Decade of the Roma conference and organization of an IT donation to a Roma community center.
- Working with local EducationUSA partner to promote opportunities for Croatians to study in the US.
- Developing messaging for use by Embassy leadership regarding EU accession.

**Madalina Veres** (History) was invited to participate in the workshop “Placing History, Historicizing Geography: a Cross-disciplinary Dialogue on the Relations between Geography and History,” organized at the University of Toronto on March 25-26, 2013. She presented the paper, “Trans-imperial Lives: Habsburg Map-Makers in the Age of Enlightenment.”

In July, Madalina presented the paper “Mapping Eastern and Western Habsburg Borders in the Second Half of the Eighteenth Century” at the 25th International Conference on the History of Cartography, which was organized in Helsinki.

### National Scholarships Awarded for Research and Language Study in the REES World Area

**Heidi Cook**, a Ph.D. student in History of Art and Architecture, was awarded both a Croatian Fulbright Fellowship and an American Councils Title VIII Advanced Research Fellowship to fund her dissertation research for the 2013-14 academic year. She accepted the American Councils fellowship and recently arrived in Zagreb, Croatia to examine the history of Croatian folk culture in museums, ethnography, mass media and visual arts. Her research explores how the production, circulation, and reception of objects and images related to Croatian folk culture played an active role in attempting to rally viewers to a variety of national and imperial allegiances from the 1860s to World War II. In October 2013, Heidi will present a paper at the conference “National Socialism and Regional Identity in Eastern Europe” at the Slovak Embassy in Berlin. She was also awarded the Andrew Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship, but deferred it to the 2014-15 academic year.



*Jessica Kuntz visits Dubrovnik.*

**Jessica Kuntz**, who is pursuing a Master of Public and International Affairs degree with a focus in international political economy, received a David L. Boren Fellowship to study the Bosnian language in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2013-14. She also will conduct research on how public goods, such as social welfare, have been provided to Bosnian citizens of multiple ethnicities and whether such goods have reduced the potential for economic and social conflict between the ethnic populations.

### Critical Language Scholarships from the U.S. Department of State for 2013-14

**Nicholas Collins**, a senior Economics major, will study two dialects of Persian in Tajikistan. He is aiming to pursue a career as a diplomat.

**Cody Dickerson**, a senior pursuing majors in Chinese and Religious Studies and a certificate in Asian Studies, will study Turkish in Turkey. Last year he studied Mandarin in China as a Boren Scholar, and now he is studying Turkish because he would like to pursue a career that involves studying and interacting with the Uyghur, a Turkic minority group living in western China. “I started taking Turkish last summer through the Slavic languages program at Pitt, and I’m excited for the opportunity to go over there and speak Turkish,” he says.

**Stephen Sloto**, a junior pursuing majors in Linguistics and Anthropology and a REES certificate, will study Turkish in Turkey. He is the president of Pitt’s student linguistics club, Yinzling, and he plans to become an academic scholar who investigates how social life shapes languages and vice versa. “I would like to study the Turkish language reform, a series of changes initiated after the foundation of Modern Turkey. It involved the excision of Persian and Arabic loan words, the creation of new words to take their place, and the invention of new suffixes,” he says.

**Laura Wilson**, who graduated in April 2013 with a Master of Public Health degree in health policy and management and a certificate in global health from Pitt’s Graduate School of Public Health, will learn Turkish in Turkey. She is pursuing a career in international health policy.

For more information on these prestigious student awards, see [www.news.pitt.edu/scholarshipslanguage2013](http://www.news.pitt.edu/scholarshipslanguage2013).

# STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

REES will offer a variety of study abroad programs in our world area during the upcoming year. Please see below for an overview of our exciting selection of 2014 offerings. For assistance with choosing a study abroad program, or information on potential sources of funding for study abroad (including REES Summer Study Abroad Awards for students enrolled in the REES Undergraduate Certificate program), please contact Program Manager **Susan Hicks** at (412) 648-7418 or [smhicks@pitt.edu](mailto:smhicks@pitt.edu).



*Torre de la Calahorra y Puente Romano in Cordoba, Spain. Photo courtesy of REES staff member, Anna Talone, who participated in the Pitt in Spain and Turkey summer program.*

## Short-Term Undergraduate Summer Programs

Professor **Adriana Helbig** (Music) will lead a six-credit program (three credits in the Music Department and three credits in Urban

Studies, pending approval from the Urban Studies Program) to the Czech Republic and Hungary in May – June 2014. Students will experience Romani culture on stage, as part of the Khamoro World Roma Festival in Prague, as well as in everyday contexts through visits to Romani settlements. Meetings with scholars and public figures from the Czech Republic and Hungary will offer insights to enhance student understanding of Roma-related issues in the European Union and on its borders. Students wishing to enroll in this exciting course are encouraged to consider taking related classes at Pitt, “Introduction to World Music” and “Gypsy Music,” and to view updated information and open an application at [www.abroad.pitt.edu/romani](http://www.abroad.pitt.edu/romani). Students should also contact Professor Helbig at [anh59@pitt.edu](mailto:anh59@pitt.edu).

Also in May 2014, for the ninth consecutive year, the Center will offer a three-credit program in Prague and Krakow. The program, to be led by Professor **Svitlana Maksymenko** (Economics), will explore the theme “Czech Republic and Poland: Economy and Policy.” Participants will examine current economic, political, business, social and cultural developments in the new European Union member states through daily lectures, meetings with local scholars and officials, and field trips to sites of interest in the region. Students are encouraged to view updated information and open an application at [www.abroad.pitt.edu/praguekrakow](http://www.abroad.pitt.edu/praguekrakow).

In addition, REES will offer a six-credit Integrated Field Trip Abroad (IFTA) program in Prague, Vienna and Zagreb in May 2014, led by Professor **Drew Armstrong** (History of Art and Architecture). Titled “Architecture and the City in Central Europe: 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries,” this program is designed for students who have taken one of Professor Armstrong’s courses, “Architecture: Texts + Theory,” “Modern Architecture,” or “18<sup>th</sup> Century Architecture” at Pitt. Other interested students may attend with instructor permission. This program will explore the process of

## STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS *CONTINUED*

modernization in Central European cities and the impact of new ideas about design, technology, and social organization on the development of new building types and urban infrastructure in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. For more information and to open an application, go to [www.abroad.pitt.edu](http://www.abroad.pitt.edu).

From June – July 2014, REES and members of the Study Abroad Consortium for East Europe and Eurasia (SACEEE) will embark on their second joint study abroad program to St. Petersburg and Kyiv. This course will offer a comparative exploration of the history, politics, economics, and societies of Soviet and post-Soviet Ukraine and Russia to a group of students from Pitt, Westminster College, Mercyhurst University, and Allegheny College. SACEEE is a new initiative designed to pool students and interested faculty from regional liberal arts schools into regularly scheduled study abroad opportunities. In upcoming years, REES hopes to expand both the course offerings and membership in this exciting new organization. For more information, please contact REES Associate Director **Andrew Konitzer** at (412) 648-7407 or [konitzer@pitt.edu](mailto:konitzer@pitt.edu).

### Undergraduate Semester Programs

REES offers semester-long or academic year undergraduate study abroad opportunities through its affiliations with the American University in Bulgaria (AUBG) and Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland. Both universities offer courses in English in a wide variety of academic fields. Tuition rates are significantly lower than the cost of tuition at Pitt, and expenses for housing and meals are also very reasonable. For more information, please contact REES Program Manager **Susan Hicks** at (412) 648-7418 or [smhicks@pitt.edu](mailto:smhicks@pitt.edu).

### Summer Language Institute Programs

Finally, the annual Slavic, East European and Near Eastern Summer Language Institute (SLI) will again conduct its highly successful language-based study abroad programs to Moscow, Russia; Krakow, Poland; Bratislava, Slovakia; Debrecen, Hungary; Sofia, Bulgaria; Podgorica, Montenegro; and Prague, Czech Republic in 2014. Most of these study abroad courses involve several weeks of study in Pittsburgh, followed by an immersion program in the target country, while a few courses above the beginning level of instruction take place entirely abroad. Each course provides the equivalent of at least one full academic year of language instruction and carries six to ten Pitt credits, depending upon the course length.

The SLI also offers intensive summer courses at Pitt in Arabic, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Bulgarian, Czech, Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Persian/Farsi, Polish, Russian, Slovak, Turkish, and Ukrainian. Multiple levels of instruction and a variety of competitive scholarships are available to participants, including graduate and undergraduate students and members of the community. For more information, please visit [www.slavic.pitt.edu/sli/](http://www.slavic.pitt.edu/sli/) or contact SLI Associate Director **Christine Metil** at (412) 624-5906 or [sliadmin@pitt.edu](mailto:sliadmin@pitt.edu).



*Minaret with cow, Boyno (Ismailier), Bulgaria. Photo by Robert Hayden.*



## East European Festival

REES is pleased to host the fifth annual East European Festival on Wednesday, October 23 from 7–9 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the William Pitt Union. The festival will feature multiple performing artists from the greater Pittsburgh area and a range of East European ethnic foods. Pitt's Carpathian Music Ensemble and the Junior Tamburitzans will perform, while the REES Undergraduate Student Association, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovak and Ukrainian student organizations will contribute time, effort and food. The Graduate Organization for the Study of Europe and Central Asia (GOSECA) will present a film screening of "Song from the Southern Seas (Pesn' Juzhnykh Morej)" at 9 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the William Pitt Union. Students, staff, faculty, and members of the community are all invited to participate in this popular and enjoyable event.



## "Europe: East and West"

REES, the European Studies Center/European Union Center of Excellence, and the International Business Center will sponsor the 13th annual Undergraduate Research Symposium on April 11, 2014. The "Europe: East and West" symposium is an opportunity for undergraduate students from the University of Pittsburgh and other colleges and universities to improve their academic writing and presentation skills and participate in an event modeled on a graduate-level conference. Students who have written a research paper on Eastern, Western, or Central Europe, the European Union, Russia, or other countries of the former Soviet Union from a social science, humanities or business perspective are welcome to apply. The application form is online at [www.ucis.pitt.edu/ursymposium](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ursymposium), with a deadline of January 27, 2014.

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee, and the students who are selected to participate may work with their professors or the Symposium's graduate student assistants to revise and polish their papers in the months leading up to the event. Participants will be grouped into panels according to their paper topics. The panels will be moderated by faculty members and doctoral candidates, who will provide constructive feedback on the students' papers and presentations.

REES would like to encourage faculty members who teach undergraduates to share information on the Symposium with their students. We would also be glad to hear from faculty members who are interested in serving as a panel discussant. If you have questions about any aspect of the event, or would like to receive flyers on the Symposium to distribute to your students, please contact REES Assistant Director **Gina Peirce** at (412) 648-2290 or [gbpeirce@pitt.edu](mailto:gbpeirce@pitt.edu).



## Project GO Update

REES and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures have renewed for a second year the federal grant they initially received in 2012 from the Project GO (Global Officers) program to provide Russian language training to locally and nationally recruited students from the Army, Navy and Air Force ROTC. Project GO is sponsored by the Defense Language and National Security Education Office and administered by the Institute of International Education. Pitt will receive a \$256,675 grant through this program in 2013-14.

Pitt's Project GO awarded scholarships to 11 ROTC students from throughout the U.S. to participate in the Slavic and East European Summer Language Institute

(SLI) 10-week intensive Russian language program in Pittsburgh and Moscow, plus 6 ROTC students to participate in the 8-week intensive Russian SLI at Pitt in Summer 2013. Among the scholarship recipients were Pitt ROTC students **Samantha Barszowski**, **Jacob Foehr**, **Gregory Markiw** and **Joseph McClain**. Most of the non-Pitt scholarship recipients are enrolled during the academic year at home institutions that do not offer Russian language courses; therefore, REES and the Slavic Department are pleased with their success in reaching out to underserved populations of ROTC students to provide critical language training. The Project GO scholarship recipients who successfully completed beginning Russian in Summer 2013 will have the opportunity to complete two semesters of intermediate Russian in 2013-14, followed by a new 8-week advanced study abroad course designed for ROTC students to be held in Yakutsk, Russia in Summer 2014.

**Yuliya Basina** of the Slavic Department has developed a hybrid (in-person/online) intermediate Russian course sequence for Project GO that she is teaching during the 2013-14 academic year. She has also worked with the Pittsburgh-based Carnegie Speech Company to develop enhancements to their SpeakRussian software, which she is incorporating into her intermediate courses to provide speaking, listening and reading exercises customized to the needs of each student. These hybrid intermediate courses are offered via videoconferencing to Project GO students at colleges and universities located outside of the Pittsburgh region. In addition to coursework, Pitt's Project GO provides ROTC students with supplementary Russian language practice and cultural information through free individual tutoring, a weekly conversation table and a series of cultural events.

For more information about Project GO, please contact **Dawn Seckler** at [ProjGO@pitt.edu](mailto:ProjGO@pitt.edu) or visit the program website at [www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees/projectgo](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees/projectgo).



## ALUMNI AND ASSOCIATE NEWS

**Michael Aleprete** (PhD, Political Science, 2003) has published a book by Lexington Press, *International Dimensions of Authoritarian Persistence, Lessons from Post-Soviet States*. Read more about the volume at <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9780739181591>. Michael is currently an Associate Professor of Political Science at Westminster College and a Research Associate at REES.

**Erin Graney** (BA, Linguistics and Russian, 2011) now works full-time in the office of Mayor Luke Ravenstahl as the Communications Liaison.

**Whitney Grespin** (MPIA, Public and International Affairs, 2009) was recently named to the 2013 "99 Under 33," an international list noting the most influential foreign policy leaders under the age of 33, by the Diplomatic Courier and Young Professionals in Foreign Policy. Whitney is currently Managing Director at Sloan Manor Consulting. She has worked as a Research Fellow at Young Professionals in Foreign Policy and was selected to participate in the inaugural 2012-13 class of the Eurasia Foundation's Young Professionals Network. She is also an active member of the Junior League of

Washington, DC, Women in International Security (WIIS), the American Political Science Association (APSA), and the National Press Club.

**Elissa Helms** (PhD, Anthropology, 2003) announces the publication of her book, *Innocence and Victimhood: Gender, Nation, and Women's Activism in Postwar Bosnia-Herzegovina*. The book will be released December 15, 2013 by the University of Wisconsin Press ([www.uwpress.wisc.edu/books/5202.htm](http://www.uwpress.wisc.edu/books/5202.htm)).

**Artan Karini** (MPA, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2001) was recently awarded a PhD in International Development from the University of Manchester, UK. Artan is the first Albanian to have graduated from GSPIA and then followed an international career, which included his involvement as a consultant in the first-ever REES development project in Albania (2004-2007), made possible through the unsparing collegial support of Dr. Bob Donnorummo and Michele Garrity.

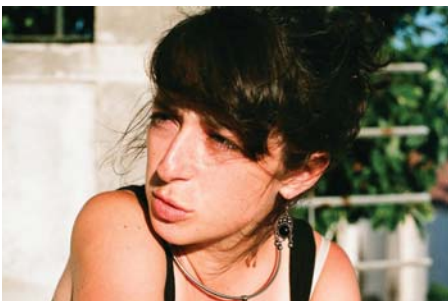
**Alicia Ventresca Miller** (PhD, Anthropology, 2013) has been appointed to a prestigious, three-year post-doctoral position at the Graduate School of Human

Development in Landscapes, Christian Albrechts University, Kiel, Germany. During this appointment, she will pursue research projects on human interaction with environments.

**Daniel E. Miller** (PhD, History, 1989), who is a professor in the Department of History at the University of West Florida in Pensacola, led a tour to Central Europe that included 12 individuals (six graduate and undergraduate students and six non-academic participants from different parts of the US and from abroad) in June and July 2013. During the 17-day tour, the group visited Berlin, Dessau (specifically the Bauhaus School), Leipzig, Buchenwald Concentration Camp, Weimar, Prague, Telč, Vienna, Bratislava, and Budapest.

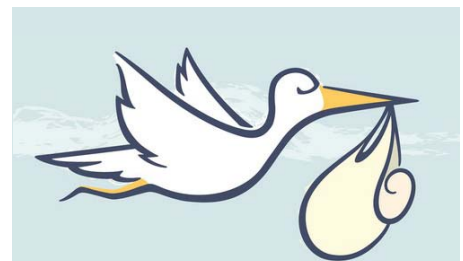
**Ben Sutcliffe** (PhD, Slavic Languages and Literatures, 2004) is now Associate Professor of Russian at Miami University and is currently working on an article on contemporary Russian author Liudmila Ulitskaia and her image of Muslims and Islam.

## VISITING SCHOLAR



**Jaroslava Tomanová** is the recipient of the Pitt Nationality Rooms' 2013 Ruth Crawford Mitchell Czech/Slovak Repub-

lic Fellowship. While at Pitt this fall, she is researching cultural policy and its transfer into different political, historical and cultural contexts. Ms. Tomanová founded and manages the music festival Klatovský Majáles and will receive her Masters in Cultural Policy and Management at the City University London. Professor **Adriana Helbig** of the Music Department will serve as her mentor and advisor.



REES congratulates:

**Dawn Seckler** (REES)  
on the arrival of a baby boy,  
Charlie Buzz Baltus,  
born June 7, 2013

**Jeff Whitehead**  
(Director, Study Abroad)  
on the arrival of a baby boy,  
Silas Brooks Whitehead,  
born May 26, 2013

Best wishes to both families!

# BOB DONNOROMMO STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP FUND



*Bob Donnorommo with students during the 2008 study abroad trip to Prague, Czech Republic and Krakow, Poland.*

You are cordially invited to partner with faculty, friends and alumni in supporting the Bob Donnorommo Study Abroad Scholarship Fund of the Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES), University of Pittsburgh Center for International Studies. This scholarship fund will carry on Bob's compassion and support for students who study abroad for years to come.

Monies from the fund will provide University of Pittsburgh REES certificate students with tuition assistance and/or financial aid pertaining to their study abroad experience. Your gift is important and will make a difference in the lives of students who wish to enhance their education with a study abroad venture. To donate, please complete and return this form with payment to:

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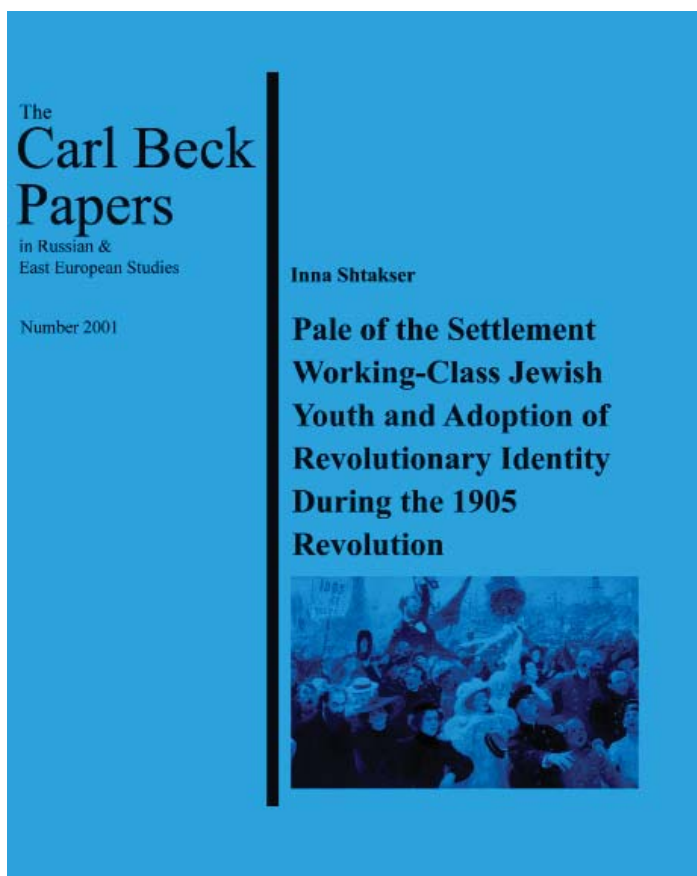
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# THE CARL BECK PAPERS IN RUSSIAN & EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES



The Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES) supports its own publication, *The Carl Beck Papers in Russian and East European Studies*, now published online by the University Library System of the University of Pittsburgh. This scholarly paper series, named after the first director of the University Center for International Studies (UCIS), publishes work of both new and more experienced scholars in many disciplines and areas of inquiry. This series is an excellent opportunity for anyone who is trying to have a paper published.

Submissions to the *Papers* are anonymously refereed in a double blind review process and published as occasional papers at <http://carlbeckpapers.pitt.edu>. The *Papers* are devoted to topics ranging across the entire field of Slavic, Russian, Soviet, post-Soviet and East European studies. Each *Carl Beck Paper* is published on an individual basis, which allows for rapid turnaround, individual advertising and wide and flexible distribution.

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## For more information, contact:

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## Visit The Carl Beck Papers at ASEES in booth #309

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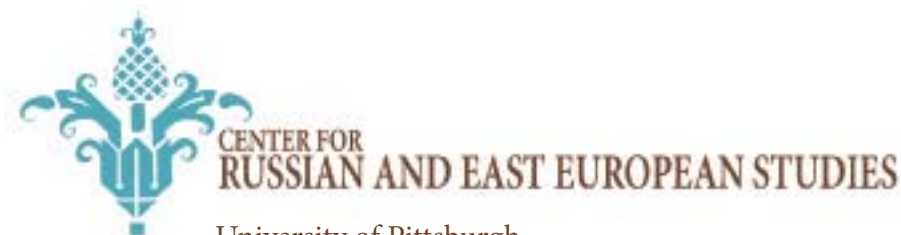
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