



# НОВОСТИ NOVOSTI

Гриннельцы всех стран, соединяйтесь!

Осень, 2009 ~ Fall 2009



Добро пожаловать! WELCOME!

The **Russian Department** welcomes returning students back to campus and extends a first welcome to students who are new to Grinnell. Welcome, everyone, and best wishes for a rewarding academic year!

Поздравляем всех с новым учебным  
ГОДОМ!

Приглашаем на **ПИКНИК!**

We invite all students of Russian to our annual fall picnic. There will be a variety of Russian dishes (vegan, vegetarian dishes included), many of them from the garden! This year's picnic will be held on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m., at 1132 Elm Street.



## РУССКИЙ СТОЛ

Russian Table will be held Fridays during the lunch hour in the new Joe Rosenfield '25 Center, in room 224C, which is one of the reserved dining spaces on the Mezz level of the dining hall (the furthest one from the top of the stairs; it overlooks the courtyard). We invite speakers of Russian at every level to join us for informal

Russian conversation. Individuals not on board are guests of the Russian Department.

## Давайте познакомимся!

Welcome to our new Russian Language Assistant **Anastasia Selemeneva**! Each year the department sponsors a language assistant from Russia. The assistant serves as an additional resource for students of Russian and, depending on student interest, organizes extracurricular activities. The language assistant conducts Russian 200 (conversational practice) and runs the weekly Russian Language Lab, where students are able to come to do homework, consult with the native speaker, or just chat. Our language assistant also lives in Russian House.

From Anastasia:

*My name is Anastasia Selemeneva and I come from the South of Russia. I was born in Stavropol city, which is a sister city of Des Moines. I graduated from Pyatigorsk State Linguistic University with a degree in Linguistics in June, 2003 and started my career as a teacher of English. I am very honoured to be a Language Assistant at Grinnell College and look forward to meeting my students!*  
**До встречи на уроках русского языка!**

**-Анастасия.**





**Welcome back to Grinnellians who studied in Russia and Central and Eastern Europe last spring and this past summer!**

**Pippa Hoover '10** attended an ACTR ([American Councils of Teachers of Russian](#)) program in Moscow last summer, and **Marissa Lenoir '11** studied at the Middlebury College School of Russian. Both Pippa and Marissa received support for their studies with [Anne Hanson '86 Summer Study Awards](#).

We would also like to recognize two alumnae who are currently studying in Russia through the [John Mohan Study Award](#).

**Rebecca Johnston '08.5** continued her studies this summer at the Middlebury College School of Russian. **Sarah Freeman '09** is currently studying on an ACTR program in Vladimir, Russia.

Several Grinnellians are currently studying in the region this Fall.

**Steve Hoff '10** is spending the fall semester in Moscow, studying at the International University on a program sponsored by ACTR.

**Marissa Lenoir '11**, after attending the Russian School at Middlebury College is now studying at the C.V. Starr School in Yaroslavl, Russia.

For more information about off-campus study in Russia, as well as Central/Eastern Europe, watch for announcements of information sessions, where student-veterans of past programs, as well as faculty advisers, will share their perspectives about this valuable, life-changing experience. Students should also feel free to contact **Todd Armstrong**, program adviser for these programs—or any member of the Russian department.

## Russian Department SEPC/Fall 2009



Each department at Grinnell has a Student Educational Policy Committee (SEPC), a group usually made up of **Russian majors**, that assists and participates in a number of departmental activities, including faculty reviews; faculty hiring and promotion; extracurricular events; and faculty-student communication.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Russian Department SEPC, please contact **Raquel Greene**, Chair of the Russian Department.

## Back by popular demand!



**Кружок русской песни~Russian Song Circle**  
Last year, the Russian Department sponsored Кружок русской песни (Russian Song Circle). Todd Armstrong, together with Dima Shklyarov, worked with Russian language students

on singing a variety of Russian songs, ranging from classic folksongs to contemporary hits. Watch for more news on when the group will begin meeting!

## RUSSIAN DEPARTMENT REGULARIZES FILM COURSE

We are pleased to announce the regularization of a popular special topics course, **History of Russian Film: From Eisenstein to Tarkovsky and Beyond**.



Through lecture, discussion and film analysis, this course examines the fascinating and controversial history of Russian film in all its genres: from pre-Revolutionary melodrama to

Eisenstein's famous *Battleship Potemkin*, from the hilarious comedies of Stalin's era to the coded films of the 1960s and 1970s, from Tarkovsky's sophisticated *Solaris*, to the daring films of the glasnost era, from *chernukha* (noir) films of the 1990s to contemporary cinema about the Russian mafia, New Russians and the dramatic search for a new Russian identity. The course, which will be listed as RUS 261, will be taught in English. Prerequisites: HUM 211 (Film Analysis); a course in the Russian Department, or a course in Russian history.

The department is also pleased to welcome to campus next semester **Galina Aksenova**, who will team-teach RES 261 for the first six weeks.

We look forward to welcoming Galina back to Grinnell College, where she has already taught on numerous occasions. In addition to her position as Associate



Professor of Cinema at the Moscow Art Theater School, Galina serves as the Associate Director of the Kathryn Wasserman Davis School of Russian at Middlebury College. Her current field of interest is Russian comedy and Russian director Yevgeny Bauer.

## 1989-2009 20 Years of Freedom 1989/2009 Formování svobody 1989-2009 20 lat wolności

To commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the momentous events that swept Eastern Europe in 1989, in late October Czech political scientist Jakub Duerr, who is currently Deputy Minister of Education, will visit Grinnell. A student in 1989, and later a member of the new department of Political Science at Palacky University, he is an expert on political changes in the region, with sub-specializations in Polish issues, as well as minority rights issues in the Czech Republic. Deputy Minister Duerr has worked extensively with Grinnell faculty and students in the past (both in the Czech Republic, and on campus in Grinnell several years ago).

During his visit, he will take part in a roundtable discussion, and also visit a number of classes (in RCEES, Education, Political Science), and meet with colleagues and students.

Jakub demonstrates the shaking of (Grinnell House) keys—symbol of protest in the events leading to the fall of the Communist regime in then Czechoslovakia.



a

## Fall 2010 (plan ahead!)

**Collaborative Exhibit of Socialist Realist Graphic Art and Soviet Poster Art.** As many of you will recall, the Russian Department, in conjunction with Falconer Gallery and the Burling Print and Drawing Room, and with the support of the Center for International Studies and Center for Humanities, began work on a project that will bring together selected works from Grinnell's collection of Soviet Socialist Realist graphic art (donated to the College by Eric Johnson '88 and Brenda Horrigan '88) with a collection owned by Monroe E. Price, Director, Center for Global Communications Studies, Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania. This exhibit will take place at Penn in Spring 2010 (with the Grinnell pieces traveling there), and then the exhibit will be held in the **Grinnell College Burling Print and Drawing**

**Room in Fall, 2010.** The Russian Department and RCEES are planning a series of curricular and co-curricular events around the exhibit for that semester, including a tutorial, our senior seminar, and invited lectures by specialists.



IF YOU CAN  
DRAW THIS  
PORTRAIT, YOU  
TOO CAN BE A  
SOCIALIST  
REALIST  
GRAPHIC ARTIST!  
(This is a portrait of  
Lenin as a child,  
from the Johnson-

Horrigan collection; there are several others just like it—drawn by different artists... The picture in our SEPC story is also from this collection.)

**Watch for further information in Novosti!**

### Grinnell College Russian Department on Facebook!

We provide here a reminder that the Russian



Department has established a group-page on Facebook; at last count, there were 114 members. We welcome everyone to join the group, and invite everyone to submit photos, and we also be posting some pictures from the past, as well as some discussions about employment opportunities in Russian and Slavic studies. Visit our Facebook site at [Grinnell College Russian Department](#).

*Painting from the Horrigan-Johnson collection,  
Burling Library Print and Drawing Room*

## The Russian Department and RUSSIAN, CENTRAL, AND EASTERN EUROPEAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION AT GRINNELL COLLEGE

The staff of the Russian Department and colleagues in other departments cooperate closely in promoting the study of the languages, culture, and history of the former Soviet Union and the lands which are usually designated as Central and Eastern European. The Russian Department consists of the following members: **Todd Armstrong**, ARH 232D [ARMSTRON], **Raquel Greene (chair)**, ARH 232A [GREENER], **Kelly Herold**, ARH 232C [HEROLDK], and **Anatoly Vishevsky**, ARH 232B [VISHEVSK]. In addition to members of the Russian Department, faculty in other departments have specializations in Russian, Central, and Eastern European Studies: **Robert Grey**, Political Science, Carnegie 209 [GREY], **Ed Cohn**, History, Mears 315 [COHNED], and **John Rommereim**, Music, BCA 258[ROMMER]. If you are interested in the Russian, Central and East European Studies Concentration, please contact any concentration members, or **Ed Cohn**, who currently chairs the RCEES Concentration.

## Вспоминаем... Remembering...

The Russian Department would like to express sincere gratitude to the College, President Russell Osgood, Vice President Marci Sortor, and Associate Director of Facilities Management Mike Burt for their role in replacing the plaque in memory of Professor John Mohan, our dear colleague and friend. The new plaque recognizes John's 30-year affiliation with the Russian Department at Grinnell. We also thank the college for replanting an oak tree in his memory.

