

НОВОСТИ NOVOSTI NOWOŚCI NOVINY НОВИНИ ВЕСТИ VIJESTI навіны NOVINKY NOVICE

Гриннельцы всех стран, соединяйтесь!

Осень, 2010 ~ Fall
2010

Novosti is the occasional newsletter of the Grinnell College Russian Department and Russian, Central and Eastern European Studies Concentration. It is intended for students, faculty, and alumni, as well as for friends of the Russian Department and RCEES. It is available on the College website, and an electronic version is also sent out to majors and students in Russian and RCEES courses.

Добро пожаловать! Welcome!

The **Russian Department** and **RCEES** welcome returning students back to campus and extend 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 the Russian language 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 9th, 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 new Russian Language Assistant!

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.

Olesya Valger (Олеся Вальгер) comes to us from Novosibirsk, Russia, and we look forward to working with Olesya this academic year.



Olesya writes:

Привет! Меня зовут Олеся Вальгер. Я из Новосибирска, большого сибирского города, который также называют Столицей Сибири. Я с отличием закончила Новосибирский Педагогический Университет и сейчас преподаю английский язык студентам. Я интересуюсь всем, и надеюсь, нам будет о чем поговорить! Жду встречи!

Hello. My name is Olesya Valger. I am from Novosibirsk, a large Siberian city which is also called the Capital of Siberia. I graduated from Novosibirsk Teacher Training University with distinction and currently teach English to undergraduate students. I am interested in everything, and hope we will have a lot to talk about!

Look forward to meeting you!

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



Annie Brothers '11, Juan Яша Garcia '11, and Andrew Mullins '11 return to Grinnell from Moscow, where they've been studying on an ACTR ([American Councils of Teachers of Russian](#)) program. (NB: Thanks to Annie for the photo above!)

Alana Vogel '12 attended a summer Russian language program at Beloit College on an [Anne Hanson '86 Summer Study Award](#).

Addie Anderson '13 studied at the summer Russian School at Middlebury College this summer. The editors of Novosti enjoyed reading her Facebook updates in Russian (молодец!).

Marissa Lenoir '11 returns to Grinnell after studying at the Middlebury College C.V. Starr School in Yaroslavl, Russia.

Two Grinnellians are studying in the region this Fall:

Jared "Vitya" Dye '10 is spending the fall semester in Vladimir, Russia, studying on a program sponsored by ACTR.

Meanwhile, **Cary Speck '12** will spend the fall semester in Prague, Czech Republic to attend a Council on International Education Exchange (CIEE) program.

Счастливого пути! Hezkou cestu!

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 2010

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 **Todd Armstrong**, Chair of the Russian Department. We have a lot of enthusiasts in our midst, and we'll look forward to working with them this semester!

К р у ж о к ?



Кружок русской песни~Russian Song Circle

Last year, **Pippa Hoover '10** lead the Russian Department's Кружок русской песни (Russian Song Circle). This year, the group has plans to continue singing in Russian (and maybe some other Slavic

languages). Watch for more news on when the group will begin meeting.

SUMMER 2010 Mentored Advanced Projects

Kelly Herold directed four MAPs this summer in her group MAP project “**Emigration of Cultural Thought: The Russian Experience, 1800-2000.**” They studied intercultural influence and the appropriation of ideas from abroad, and the way in which this process has worked for Russian culture, literature, and ideas—a process different from anywhere else because of Russia’s history of secretive, dictatorial states and its history of emigration, or exile, from Russia and the Soviet Union. Students met with Professor Herold throughout the summer, conducting in-depth research, and writing final papers on aspects of the group project; the students and the their final paper titles:

Kelly Iacobazzi ’12 “Emigration of Russian Thought: The American Experience in Soviet Russia, 1920-1940”

Dmitriy Glumov ’12: “In Search of Identity: A Study of Isaac Babel’s Newspaper Articles, Diary Entries, and Red Calvary during the Russian Civil War”

Claire Reeder ’11: “Russian émigré writing “in between”: Intercultural contact and literary influence at the Studio Franco-Russe, 1929-1931”

Patrick Stuchlik ’11: “Tolstoy’s Influence on Gandhi”

Ed Cohn (History) directed a group **MAP** entitled “**Soviet Society of the Stalin Era.**” His students based their research on the **Harvard Project**, an oral history project from the early 1950s that compiled lengthy interviews with 705 refugees from the USSR, touching on nearly all aspects of Soviet life.

Alex McConnell ’12: ““Between Heaven and Earth”: Children’s Search for Security, Identity, and Fulfillment in the USSR, 1920-1940”

Cary Speck ’12 ““Because he was in Soviet conditions’: Workers’ Views of State and Party Presences in the Stalinist Factory, 1929-1939.”

Collaborative Exhibits of Socialist Realist Graphic Art and Soviet Poster Art.

The Russian Department, in conjunction with Faulconer Gallery and the Burling Print and Drawing Room, will host an exhibit of Soviet posters and art, one comprised of selected works traveling to Grinnell from Penn, and another from Grinnell’s collection of Soviet Socialist Realist graphic art (on loan from **Eric Johnson ’88** and **Brenda Horrigan ’88**).



Laughing Matters: Soviet Propaganda in Khrushchev's Thaw, 1956-1964 *Burling Print and Drawing Room*

This exhibit was organized by curators Liliana Milkova and Masha Kowell and the Arthur Ross Gallery, University of Pennsylvania. The posters are from the collection of Aimée Brown Price and Monroe E. Price.

The 18 political posters in the exhibition offer a sample of propaganda from the “thaw,” a period of post-Stalinist liberation during Nikita Khrushchev’s ascendancy (1956-1964). The exhibition illuminates the changes in political rhetoric and iconography at a time when the Soviet Union encouraged an unprecedented “warming up” in all social and cultural spheres and struggled to define a new image of Soviet collective purpose.

Curators Liliana Milkova and Masha Kowell will present a talk on **Thursday, October 28, at 4:15 p.m. in ARH 302** and an exhibition “walk-through” on Friday, October 29, at 4:15 p.m. in Burling Gallery.

Young Pioneers: Lithographs from the Johnson-Horrigan Collection

*Chrystal Center
Art Gallery
(Lower level)*



By bringing together lithographs from the Johnson-Horrigan Collection, this small exhibition examines the role of children in works produced by members of the Soviet Artists Union in the early and mid 1970s. The exhibition investigates the varied means in which political ideology was infused in art, specifically in images of children engaged in various pursuits. Curated by Faulconer Gallery Intern **Caitlin Deutsch '12**.

SPECIAL CURRICULAR OFFERING IN RCEES and PEACE STUDIES

Political Science 295.01 Special Topic: Contemporary Russian Politics. The purpose of this course is to explore the issues that arise in the analysis of the politics of the world's largest country and its transition from communist to postcommunist rule. How and why did Soviet rule come to an end in the early 1990s? What is the distribution of power in the contemporary political system? How significant are the checks on central power that are represented by elections, political parties, and 'civil society'? **Dates: August 30 to September 24. Short course deadlines apply. Prerequisite: POL-101.**

Russian and East European Studies 295.01 "Special Topic: Non-Violent Actions and Strategies." Mr. Popović is a former leader of the Serbian student activist group OTPOR (the group that was a key player in bringing down Slobodan Milosević) and executive Director of the Centre for Applied Nonviolent Action And Strategies (<http://www.canvasopedia.org/>), or CANVAS, an international network of trainers and consultants dedicated to training others in non-violent resistance to authoritarianism. CANVAS has worked with activists from 37 countries including US, Egypt, Iran, Lebanon, Georgia, Ukraine, Belarus, Zimbabwe, Burma,

Venezuela, Vietnam and other countries to train them in organizing and developing non-violent resistance movements. This special topics course is based on the CANVAS core curriculum and their book "Nonviolent Struggle, 50 crucial points" which has already been distributed to activists from 13 countries and published in English, Serbian, Spanish, French, Arabic and Farsi. The CANVAS curriculum applies lessons learned from the past decade in a global context. This is a **Peace and Conflict Interdisciplinary Study Theme** course, and sponsored by RCEES, Peace Studies and the Center for International Studies.



Music from the Republic of Georgia, Tuesday, September 28th, 7:30 pm, Sebring-Lewis

We are excited to announce the appearance on campus next September of **Zedashe Ensemble**, a Georgian folk group (<http://www.zedashe.org>). **Claire Griffith '12** made the successful proposal to bring Zedashe Ensemble to the College; she has done extensive work with the group both in Georgia and in the United States, where she is one of their primary organizers. Co-sponsored by the **Department of Music**, the **Rosenfield Program**, and **RCEES**, the event will appeal to students from across campus.



FALL 2010 ROSENFELD SYMPOSIUM

This fall the Rosenfield Program in Public Affairs, International Relations, and Human Rights will host a symposium September 21-23, entitled "[Beyond the Cold War: The World Since 1989.](#)" Russian and RCEES students can expect a number of lectures and presentations of interest during that event. Many of you will be pleased to know that among the speakers will be good friend of the college and former John R. Heath Professor, **Konstanty Gebert**, who will present "Better to Die Standing? Thinking about Violence in the Transition from Communism in Poland and Yugoslavia."



Public Events Performance: ***Crossing the Line*** ***Dah Teatar***

Wednesday, October 27, 7:30 pm, the Roberts Theater

Crossing the Line is an evening length, original work drawn from the stories of women who have experienced the atrocities of the Balkan Wars. Performed by three actresses and two musicians, the work is composed of personal accounts of mothers whose children were killed in front of their own eyes, women who were raped and witnesses of other war horrors. *Crossing the Line* asks, "How do we establish trust between people of once warring powers?" While the subject matter is difficult and tragic, three actresses perform with compassion and consciousness that both gives voice to the women's stories and seeks understanding and, at times, reconciliation. It is a powerful testimony to the human spirit and our struggles to understand war and fear.

The Company

Serbian artists Jadranka Andjelic and Dijana Milosevic founded Dah Teatar to create socially relevant contemporary theatre. The Balkan Wars in 1991 were the backdrop to the start of their company during which time they performed on the streets of Belgrade to protest the actions of Slobodan Milošević. For the last nineteen years the company has performed their original works in locations as far afield as Mongolia, New Zealand, Norway and San Francisco.

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], **Deborah Michaels**, Education, Steiner 303 [MICHAELD] **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

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 **178 members**. We welcome everyone to join the group, and invite everyone to submit photos. We also will be posting more 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](#).



Russian/RCEES Alumni News and Updates

Daniel (Dima) Wolfe '99 is based in the Bay Area and makes music and translates Russian, both in numerous cool contexts (www.wolfesongs.com; www.lavalingua.com). We're also hoping he'll return in more virtual appearances with our Russian Song Circle.

Andrew Greenberg '06 is currently a student in the University of Iowa College of Law.

Brandon Zicha '02 recently completed a Ph. D. in history at Binghamton University.

Amy Donahue '05 is an Associate Fellow at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland.

Ben Coakley '99 recently received an MS in cartography and GIS at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and is employed at Duke University.

Molly Goodwin-Kucinsky '06 recently completed an M.A. in Slavic and East European Studies, with thesis work on civil society and gender, including extensive research on women's rights in the former Soviet Union and Middle East.

Avram J. Lyon '06, currently in the graduate program in Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of California, Los Angeles, recently published an article, "Birth Language Attrition and Reacquisition in Russian Adoptees" in *Russian Language Journal*, a bilingual scholarly review of research, resources, symposia, and publications pertinent to the study and

teaching of Russian language and culture, as well as comparative and interdisciplinary research in Russian language, culture and the acquisition of Russian as a second language.

Rebecca Johnston '08.5 and Luke Rankin '08 recently received U.S. Department of State Title VIII Fellowships to study in Russia.

Naomi Caffee '04, a Ph.D. student in Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of California, Los Angeles, received a U.S. Department of State Title VIII Fellowship to study in Kazakhstan.

Naomi Olson '04, a Ph. D. student in Slavic Languages and Literature participated in the 2009 Summer Russian Language Teachers Program at Moscow State University.

Sarah Freeman '09 received a Flagship Graduate Award for advanced Russian-language study. (The Language Flagship, a major component of The National Security Education Program, leads the nation in designing, supporting, and implementing a new paradigm for advanced language education. Through an innovative partnership among the federal government, education, and business, The Language Flagship seeks to graduate students who will take their place among the next generation of global professionals, commanding a superior level of fluency in one of many languages critical to U.S. competitiveness and security. The Russian Flagship Programs provide for domestic study of Russian at four U.S. universities and colleges, and a one-year-long oversea program at St. Petersburg State University. The Russian Flagship Programs are administered by American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS under the auspices of The Language Flagship. from: <http://www.americancouncils.org/program/22/R OFP/>)

C. Cain Elliott '06, who received his Ph. D. at the Graduate School for Social Research (GSSR) at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw,



Poland, is now working as an Assistant Professor at the University of Warsaw, Center for American Studies, and as an instructor at the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Roxanne Young '05 has started the dual MPA (Master of Professional Accounting)/MBA program Northeastern University in Boston.

Faculty News

Anatoly Vishevsky, Russian, and **Dan Kaiser**, History (SFS) traveled to Stockholm, Sweden this summer to attend the Eight World Congress of the International Council for Central and East European Studies, a “global network of research associations, institutes and individual scholars active in the field of Russian, Central and East European studies, (...) founded in 1974, initially as a joint project of American, British and Canadian research associations.” (from: <http://www.iccees.org>).

Dan presented “Popular Piety in Eighteenth- and Early Nineteenth-Century Russia: Evidence from Tula” on the panel *Public and Private Faces of Orthodoxy in Imperial Russia*, and Anatoly chaired the panel *Women’s Voices from the Urals*.

Todd Armstrong traveled to Nanjing, China, on behalf of Grinnell’s Center for International Studies. In addition to other official activities, he met with colleagues in the Russian Department at Nanjing University. On his journey back to the States, he stopped overnight in Shanghai, China, where he was hosted by Grinnell Russian alums **Brenda Horrigan '88**

and **Eric Johnson '88**, who have recently made their home there, after many years first in Moscow, and then in Paris. A highlight of his trip was finding the statue of **Pushkin in Shanghai** (Eric is posing with the bard in the photo.)



Raquel Greene traveled to Moscow this summer to pursue her research (and was delayed by the Moscow fires!). Raquel is currently on a research sabbatical, and will not be on campus this academic year. We will miss her here on campus!

Again, welcome back to everyone, and our best wishes for a successful academic year!

Желаем больших успехов!