
НОВОСТИ NOVOSTI

Гриннелльцы всех стран, соединяйтесь!

Осень 2011 № 1 ~ Fall 2011 № 1

Добро пожаловать!

Welcome!

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.

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!

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 Julia Fedoseeva!

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) assists with 1st and 2nd year instruction, and holds regular office hours, 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. **Julia** has already been busy acclimating herself to life in Grinnell, and has begun her teaching responsibilities (in Russian 101 and Russian 221). She and the residents of Russian House have already hosted a Russian Tea Party (**Русское чаепитие**), and plan to hold one each Wednesday evening at 8 pm in Russian House (**Русский дом**). Julia wrote us last spring, and we thought we would share her letter, which also appeared in last spring's final issue of Novosti:

Всем привет! Меня зовут **Юля Федосеева**. Мне 24 года, я родилась и живу в молодёжном динамичном городе **Тольятти**, который находится на берегу красивейшей реки Волги. Тольятти нередко называют автомобильной столицей России. Уже несколько лет я преподаю русский как иностранный и я очень рада, что у меня появилась замечательная возможность поделиться русским языком и культурой. Мне очень повезло, потому что моя работа - это моё любимое хобби. Я также люблю заниматься спортом, встречаться с новыми людьми и общаться-общаться-общаться. С нетерпением жду встречи с вами!

*Hi everyone! My name is **Julia Fedoseeva**. I am 24 years old, and I was born and live in the young, dynamic city of **Tolyatti**, which is located on the banks of that most beautiful of rivers, the Volga. Tolyatti is quite often called the automobile capital of Russia. I've already been teaching Russian as a foreign language for several years, and I am very glad to have this remarkable opportunity to share the Russian language and culture. I'm very fortunate that my work is also my favorite hobby. I also like to do sports, meet new people, and converse-converse-converse. I can't wait to meet you!*

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



Kelly Iacobazzi '12 and **Alana Vogel '12** (pictured with their group above) studied in St. Petersburg on an [American Council of Teachers of Russian \(ACTR\)](#) program, while **Kristen Moreland '12** spent her semester abroad in Irkutsk (in Siberia), at the [Middlebury College C.V. Starr School in Russia](#). **Ben Saderholm '12** returns from a semester studying mathematics in Budapest, Hungary, and **Claire Griffith '12** participated in an SIT program, [Serbia, Bosnia, and Kosovo: Peace and Conflict Studies in the Balkans](#). **Sydney Devine Rausch '13** studied on a summer program with ACTR in St. Petersburg.

We also send best wishes to our students studying in Russia and Central Europe this fall. **Addie Anderson '13** is in Saint Petersburg at the [Bard-Smolny program in St. Petersburg](#). Three students are in Prague, Czech Republic attending [CET programs](#): **Amanda Borson '13** (Jewish Studies), **Laurel Tuggle '13**, and **Leah Yacknin-Dawson '13** (Central European Studies). **Doug Dobrzynski '13** travels to Warsaw, Poland, where he will study on the [CIEE program](#) there.

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 any member of the Russian department for information about these programs.

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!

SUMMER RESEARCH NEWS

Mentored Advanced Projects

Todd Armstrong directed four MAPs this summer in a group MAP project, *Russian Literature and Intertextual/ Intercultural Influences*. **Kristen Moreland '12** focuses on Gogol and Italian literary influences in "Non è "Finita la Commedia": *Commedia dell'Arte* Influences in Gogol's *Dead Souls*;" **Grant Dissette '12** examines Dostoevsky's legacy in J.D. Salinger's work in "Salinger and Dostoevsky: Untangling the Roots of "The Inverted Forest;" **Austin Redman '12** studies the interrelationship of philosophy and literature in "Traces of Dionysus: Dostoevsky, Nietzsche, and Suffering;" and **Addie Anderson '13** analyzes romantic influences on Lermontov in "Through the Window: Lermontov's *A Hero Of Our Time*."

Anatoly Vishevsky directed a MAP with **Cary Speck '12**, entitled "Czech Masculinities; Continuity and change in men's sexuality and gender roles since socialism." Cary conducted his MAP research in Prague, Czech Republic, drawing on his experiences there during his study abroad in fall 2010.

Mentored Advanced Projects (continued)

Bob Grey worked with Jared Dye '12, Charity Porotesano '12 and Tom Van Heeke '12 on "Russian Public Opinion on Democracy." Students worked with recent public opinion data from Russia citizens and surrounding countries compiled by Professor Stephen White of the University of Glasgow. Readers of Novosti will remember that Professor White was here during the fall 2010 semester teaching a short course on Russian politics.

Former RCEES/Peace Studies Visiting Scholar from Serbia Srdja Popović collaborates on publication with Kristina Đurić '13.

Novosti readers will recall the visit to campus by Srdja a year ago, when he taught a course



on non-violent resistant to authoritarian regimes, part of the CANVAS curriculum. Kristina interned this summer with Srdja, and together they

authored "People Power: The Real Force Behind the "Bad Year for Bad Guys," which appears in [Revolution and Political Transformation in the Middle East: Agents of Change](#), a publication of the Middle East Institute, the oldest Washington-based institution dedicated solely to the study of the Middle East. Congratulations, Srdja and Kristina!

New Faculty Publication!

We are pleased to announce the publication of a new book in Russian by Anatoly Vishevsky of the Russian Department:

Анатолий Вишевский Сквозь призму детектива : мир романов Бориса Акунина и Леонида Юзефовича

Автор проводит параллель между героями и произведениями Бориса Акунина и Леонида Юзефовича, писателей детективного жанра. Вступая в диалог со своим читателем, Акунин и Юзефович определяют и своё кредо, свой взгляд на события, которые они описывают.



[Anatoly Vishevsky
*Through a Detective's Lens: The Novelistic
World of Boris Akunin and Leonid Yusefovich*

The author draws a parallel between the heroes and works of Boris Akunin and Leonid Yusefovich, writers of the detective genre. Entering into a dialogue with the readers, Akunin and Yusefovich also set forth their credo, and their view on the events they describe. http://www.mdk-arbat.ru/bookcard?book_id=709940]

Russian, Central, and Eastern European Studies 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 (chair)**, [ARMSTRON], **Raquel Greene** [GREENER], **Kelly Herold**, [HEROLDK], and **Anatoly Vishevsky**, [VISHEVSK]. In addition to members of the Russian Department, faculty in other departments have specializations in Russian, Central, and Eastern European Studies: **Danielle Lussier**, Political Science [LUSSIERD], **Robert Grey**, Political Science, [GREY], **Ed Cohn**, History [COHNED], **Deborah Michaels**, Education, [MICHAELD] **John Rommereim**, Music, [ROMMER], **Gemma Sala**, Political Science [SALAG] 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 **187 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.



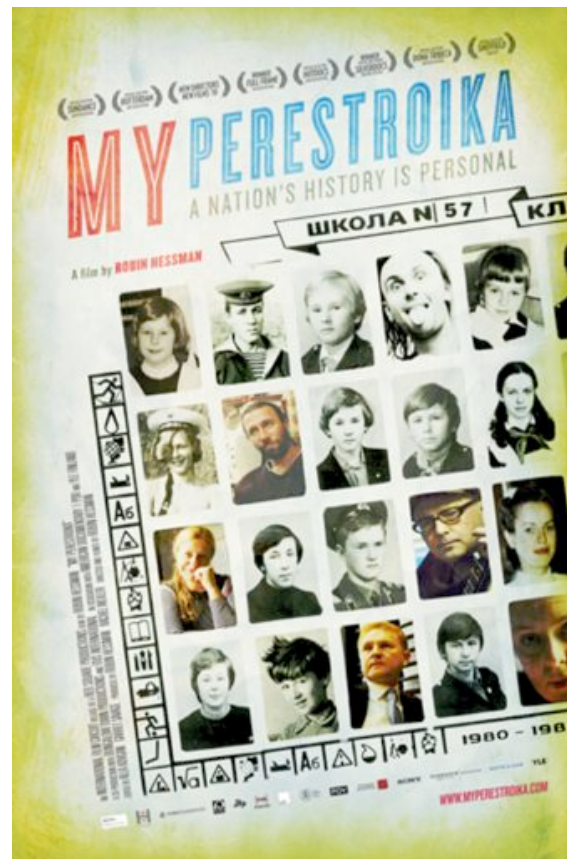
RCEES EVENT: MY PERESTROIKA

Novosti is pleased to announce the on-campus screening of Robin Hessman's award-winning documentary film.

“MY PERESTROIKA follows five ordinary Russians living in extraordinary times — from their sheltered Soviet childhood, to the collapse of the Soviet Union during their teenage years, to the constantly shifting political landscape of post-Soviet Russia. Together, these childhood classmates paint a complex picture of the dreams and disillusionment of those raised behind the Iron Curtain.”

[\[http://myperestroika.com/\]](http://myperestroika.com/)

The film will be shown on the evening of Tuesday, October 11. Watch Novosti announcements for news about location and time!



Funding for Russian Studies

Many students choose to supplement their study of Russian during the summer, as well as after graduation. There are a number of programs available, both in the U.S. and in Russia; several are listed below; there are many more. Many of them offer additional funding assistance. The Russian Department also is able to offer support with two awards:

Anne K. Hansen '86 award

Many students choose to supplement their study of Russian during the summer. There are a number of programs available, both in the U.S. and in Russia; several are listed below; there are many more. Many of them offer funding assistance. The Russian Department also is able to offer support for summer Russian study through the **Anne K. Hansen '86 award**, established in 1989 in memory of Anne K. Hansen '86 by her friends and family. Anne Hansen was a Russian Studies major who went on the Grinnell College Interim Tour of the

USSR during her senior year. The Award is used to partially fund at least 1 student who wishes to take a Russian Summer intensive language program. The program must be approved by the chair of the Russian department and be completed prior to graduation from Grinnell College.

[<http://www.grinnell.edu/academic/russian/hansenaward>]

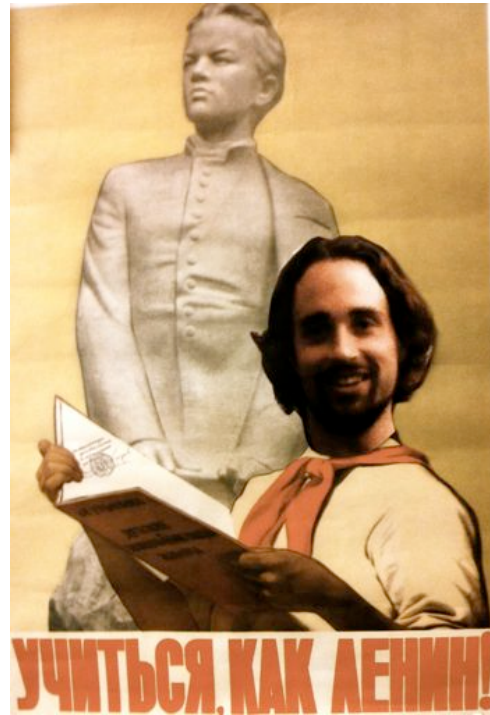
Corina Varlan '14 received this award for last summer, and attended a summer Russian language program at the University of Indiana in Bloomington, Indiana.

John Mohan Russian Study Award

The purpose of the **John Mohan Russian Study Award** is to provide students who have seriously pursued the study of Russian with an opportunity to develop their language skills in the Russian speaking world. The Award is intended to enable Grinnell College students to pursue a study program or a project of their own design after graduation. The Award is drawn from funds raised by three devoted friends of the Russian Department: **Diane Fisher Perkinson '82**, **Sharon McKee '82** and **Emily Silliman '81**.



кафедре на прошлой неделе. He also bequeathed an interesting poster to the department, a souvenir from Moscow, and the old Soviet Union:



Спасибо Wyatt!

This year's John Mohan Study Award recipients are **Juan Яша Garcia '11**, and **Catie Scott '11**.

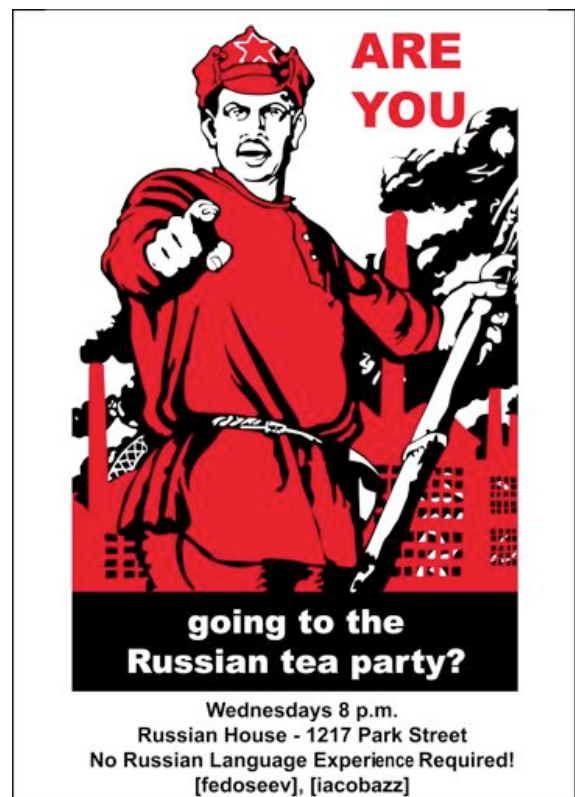
For more information, please see the departmental page for the [John Mohan Study Award](#).

ALUMNI NEWS?

As readers of Novosti will recall, we often post updates as to what our many alumni are doing; we'd like to encourage submissions for our next issue of Novosti. Send us your stories, let us know where your Russian/RCEES background has taken you! Meanwhile, the department was pleased with a surprise visit by

Wyatt Montague '08 this past week.

He visited with members of the department, and also sat in on Tolya's senior seminar (on *Мастер и Маргарита*). Wyatt is currently making his home in Moscow, and teaching English. Вот он на русской



Russian Department Visiting
Artist-in-Residence
Spring 2012
Vladimir Сорокин ~



Владимир Sorokin

The Russian Department has been pleased to host a number of distinguished writers and artists over the past years, both for short visits, and for longer periods of time through the International Visiting Fellows program, which is administered by the **Center for International Studies**. Guests in the past have included Vasily Aksenov, Tatyana Tolstaya, Vladimir Voinovich, Victor Pivovarov, Veniamin Smekhov, Galina Aksenova, and Yevgeny Yevtushenko.

This spring, we will have the honor of hosting Vladimir Sorokin, one of Russia's most important writers. Described by Keith Gessen (in *The New York Review of Books*) as the "only real prose writer, and resident genius" of late-Soviet fiction, he was recently interviewed in the New York Times (see "[From a Novelist, Shock Treatment for Mother Russia](#)"). He will participate in our departmental senior seminar on Russian Post-Modern Poetry and Prose, which will be taught by Anatoly Vishevsky in Spring '12.

We encourage students to consider reading some of Sorokin's works prior to his visit (see the

bibliography below). Check out as well his official website: <http://www.srkn.ru/>.

- *Ochered'* (The Queue) [1983]. Paris: Syntaxe, 1985. (Translated into English, 1988)
- *Norma* (The Norm) [1979-1983]. Moscow: Tri Kita in cooperation with Obscuri Viri, 1994.
- *Roman* (A Novel) [1985-1989]. Moscow: Tri Kita in cooperation with Obscuri Viri, 1994.
- *Tridtsataia liubov' Mariny* (Marina's Thirtieth Love) [1982-1984]. Moscow: Izdanie R. Elinina, 1995.
- *Serdtsa chetyryokh* (Four Stout Hearts) [1991]. Moscow: Literary Miscellany Konets Veka, 1994.
- *Pervy Subbotnik* (The First Saturday Workday) [1979-1984]. In *Collected Works in Two Volumes*. Moscow: Ad Marginem, 1998.
- *Goluboe Salo* (Blue Bacon) [1999]. Moscow: Ad Marginem, 1999.
- *Pir* (The Feast) [2000]. Moscow: Ad Marginem, 2000.
- (Translated into English by Jamey Gambrell, 2007)
- *Put' Bro* (Bro's way) [2004]. Moscow: Zakharov Books, 2004.
- *23000* [2005] in *Trilogy* (Trilogiya). Moscow: Zakharov Books, 2005.
- *Den' oprichnika* (Oprichnik's Day) [2006]. Moscow: Zakharov Books, 2006. (Translated into English by Jamey Gambrell, 2010)
- *Zaplyv* (Swimming in). Moscow: AST, 2008.
- *Saharniy Krem'l* (Kremlin Made Of Sugar) [2008]. Moscow: AST, 2008.
- *Metel'* (Tempest) [2010]. Moscow: AST, 2010.

- *Pelmeni* (1984-1987)
- *Zemlyanka* (The Hut, or Earth-house 1985)
- *Russkaya Babushka* (Russian Grandmother) (1988)
- *Doverie* (Confidence) (1989)
- *Dismorphomania* (1990)
- *Yubiley* (Anniversary) (1993)
- *Hochzeitreise* (The Post-Nuptial Journey) (1994-1995)
- *Shchi* (Cabbage Soup) (1995-1996)
- *Dostoevsky-Trip* (1997)
- *S Novym Godom* (Happy New Year) (1998)



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

Желаем больших успехов!