

The Ohio State University

Slavic & East European Newsletter

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OSU to Host Midwest Slavic Conference 2-4 March 2006

The Midwest Slavic Association, the Ohio State University Center for Slavic and East European Studies, and the OSU Office of International Affairs are organizing the 2005 Midwest Slavic Conference, to be held at the Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center on 2-4 March 2005 on the campus of Ohio State University.

MIDWEST SLAVIC CONFERENCE

The conference will open with a keynote address and reception on the evening of Thursday 2 March, followed by two days of academic and business-related panels. The Thursday keynote speaker will be Beth Holmgren, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

This is the third year in a row that CSEES is sponsoring the Midwest Slavic Conference, which in 2005 featured 31 panels and 300 participants. The conference attracted academic,

community and business leaders from throughout the United States, as well as visitors from Russia, Central Asia, and Ukraine. Also in attendance were advanced graduate students from such major universities as Harvard, Michigan, Columbia, and Indiana.

For this year's conference, CSEES is inviting proposals for panels or individual papers ad-

ressing topics within any field of Slavic studies. Please send a one-paragraph abstract, along with a brief c.v. to csees@osu.edu by 15 January 2006. Persons proposing papers must be willing to be scheduled either Friday or Saturday. Graduate students are particularly encouraged to submit presentations. Limited funding will be available to subsidize graduate hotel stays on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, contact the Slavic Center at 614-292-8770 or csees@osu.edu.

OSU Theater to Perform Gogol's *The Government Inspector*

CSEES is pleased to announce that in Winter Quarter 2006, the OSU Dept. of Theatre will be performing the play *The Government Inspector* by Nikolai Gogol. The play is co-sponsored by CSEES and will be directed by Beth Kattelman.

First produced in 1836, *The Government Inspector* is a hilarious comedy about mistaken identity and council corruption in a small town. Experience the chaos that occurs when a corrupt mayor and his officials hear rumors of the impending arrival of a government inspector traveling incognito. While the mayor and his officials desperately struggle to stifle public dissatisfaction by deflecting the blame for their many misdemeanors onto each other, it is brought to their attention that an apparently

penniless rake and his servant happen to be staying at the local inn. The unlikely couple suddenly find themselves being treated like royalty by the mayor and his cronies and receiving the competitive adoration of the mayor's forceful wife and his seemingly impressionable daughter.

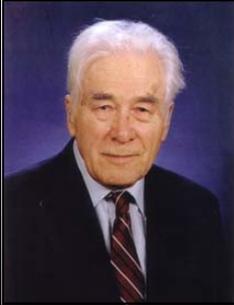
Find out what happens when the truth of the dreadful mistake is finally revealed; and the collective dismay of the assembled dignitaries when the arrival of the real inspector is announced. Playing at the Thurber Theatre in the Drake Union, 1849 Cannon Drive. Show times: February 23, 24, 25 at 8 PM; February 26 at 3 PM; March 2, 3, 4 at 8 PM. To purchase tickets, contact the Theatre Box Office at 614/292-2295 or

Theatre-tix@osu.edu



From the Director

It is with great sorrow that we announce the death of two of our esteemed colleagues, Dr. Leon I. Twarog (1919-2005) and Dr. Rimvydas (Frank) Silbajoris (1926-2005). Dr. Twarog was the founder and longtime chair (1962-72, 1978-84) of the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures at The Ohio State University. He was also the founder and first director (1965-87) of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies. He served as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (1963-64), Associate Dean of Faculties for International Programs (1966-70), and Acting Dean of the College of Humanities (1977-78).



Leon I. Twarog
1919-2005

Dr. Silbajoris was distinguished scholar of Russian, Lithuanian, and Latvian literature and joined the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures at OSU as an Associate Professor in 1963. He was promoted to Full Professor in 1967 and taught at the university until his retirement in 1991. He served as Chair of the OSU Slavic Department from 1986 to 1989, as well as President of the Institute for Lithuanian Studies (1978-84) and the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies (1973-74). In 1991, he was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy Honoris Causa from the Latvian Academy of Sciences in Riga.



Rimvydas Silbajoris
1926-2005

Through their creative service, administration, teaching, curriculum development, and scholarship, Drs. Twarog and Silbajoris have left an indelible mark on the Department, the University, and the field of Slavic and East European Studies in the United States. As a special tribute, CSEES

presents the following interview with Dr. Twarog, which originally appeared in Volume 1 of *Working Papers in Slavic Studies*, edited by Dr. Irene Masing-Delic and Father Mateja Matejic in 2001. The interview was conducted by Ms. Charlotte Remenyik and details much of the history of Slavic Studies at Ohio State University, from the founding the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures and the creation of the Slavic Center, to the establishment of the Hilandar Research Library. The interview is reproduced here with the permission of Ms. Remenyik and with the permission of the Slavic Department.

An Interview with Leon Twarog

By Charlotte Remenyik

What factors motivated you to seek an academic career?

I was not sure I was going to have an academic career. Before the war I went to a small two-year Polish college in Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania, which was financed by the Polish National Alliance. PNA was based in Chicago and they had insurance policies. Immigrants usually organized first churches and then clubs of various types. In this case, it was a fraternal organization-insurance company. Along with the premiums, each member contributed 5 cents per month towards running this particular college. Tuition was very, very low. My parents were from a village in Poland and had at best four years of schooling altogether. They had no idea of what college meant, but this was something that was offered at very low cost. So I went there, and majored in Chemistry. I studied this subject between 1937 and 1939. Then I went back home. There was still a depression in the United States, especially in New Bedford, a textile city whose mills had moved south. So I worked for a couple of years.

To come back to your college years once more – what was the teaching language there?

It was English, but everyone had to study Polish as well. The instructors were excellent, but I suppose they would not have met with current demands. However, they were excellent teachers and the students worked very hard.

What happened in 1941?

I was drafted and eventually I ended up in Australia and New Guinea and spent close to three years in the Pacific. During that time I came

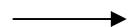
to realize there were only two major powers left in the world: the USSR and then United States. So I decided to study Russia, not just its language, but also its economics, history, geography and so forth. When I got out of the service in August 1945, I happened to talk to a counselor at the Harvard Club in Boston who worked for a number of colleges on the East Coast. He suggested I go talk to the people at Harvard and I went there about a week later. And after talking with the Admissions Officer for about half an hour I was asked: "Would you care to apply now or later?" I said: "I'll apply now." So, I did. On September 25th, I was enrolled at Harvard. I switched from Chemistry to Russian and started from scratch.

What happened then?

I majored in Slavic Languages at Harvard and took intensive courses in Russian. I also became more interested in area programs – Harvard was just starting up its Russian Research Center, modeled on the Columbia Russian Institute. I was lucky to get a national scholarship at Harvard in my second year there.

In those days didn't they have the G.I. bill yet?

Yes, it was in place. But no one knew how many GI's would actually go to college. As it turned out, GI's applied in great numbers – two years later I am sure I wouldn't have gotten in as a transfer student. Harvard had just restarted its Slavic program, which had been dormant for a number of years. They had two graduate students that I palled around with. The chair was Saul Cross. He was from my hometown and he mapped everything out for me. He said: "Well, we'll send you here, we'll send you there. You'll go to Europe for two years." And I said, "So, where's the money to come from?" He said: "Your job is to study, I'll find the money." He died in my senior year.





So I received my national scholarship when I was a senior. It was something President Conant came up with – to diversify the student body, so that people from less affluent families would become part of the university. They asked how much money you could put in for tuition and expenses in any given year and they would make up the difference. And they said – don't dare work or do anything else to waste your time. Just study and we'll provide you with the money. I was on that grant for three years. Then I had a fellowship with this new Russian Research Center and continued there to my doctorate.

They didn't encourage you to work in the summer?

No. I went to Middlebury to perfect my Russian. I did that for three summers and got an M.A. in Russian there in 1948, and then an M.A. in Russian Area Studies at Harvard in 1949, and then I continued my studies for a Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures.

What got you to The Ohio State University?

I was unhappy at Boston University where I worked after my Ph. D. I spent 7 years there and built up an excellent undergraduate program – I had an agreement with Harvard that the best students from this planned program would be accepted into their Ph.D. program. But Boston University would not do this. Another factor was that at Boston University, they had decided to put all foreign language and literary instruction into a single department of modern languages. In December 1959, I ran across Mrs. Justina Epp who was teaching Russian at Ohio State, at a national meeting of Slavists. She said that they were looking for someone for the Russian Program (within the German Department). I had an interview very soon thereafter and a job offer a few days later. Of course, to leave the Boston area was unusual – already the suburbs of Boston were considered the "Wild, Wild West." My friends were surprised, but from my point of view this was something I was to do. OSU promised they really would help me develop my area. However, I had to start as a Professor in the German Department.

How come?

They had Russian in the German Department because the man who taught Russian there originally was Peter Epp, a Professor of German, who also knew Russian. When he died his widow took over. Mrs. Epp was the only one who taught Russian at OSU when I came – she and a graduate student in English teaching half-time. And the library had 3,000 volumes in our field. Mrs. Epp had no formal degrees – she had graduated from a Russian lyceum. She was a wonderful language teacher. In Political Science we had one man – Lou Nemzer. We had one man in history, Charles Morley, and one in economics, Michael Condoide, and someone in geography with a slight interest in Eastern Europe. At a time when we were in the middle of the Cold War, this university had not developed anything to serve the national interest.

I certainly understand how you were perceiving this as almost a virgin land. Fantastic. So would you say that after you retired the situation was different?

No question about that. I was brought in to develop a Slavic program and it became Slavic and East European when we added Romanian to it. And then I also developed a Russian and East European Area Studies Program. I was involved in International Programs as well. From 1966 to 1970, I had three titles. One was that of Chair of the Slavic Department, the other was Director of the East European Studies Center, and the third was that of Associate Dean of Faculties for International Programs.

So you started here in 1960?

Yes, and in the autumn I had some planning to do. I took a trip around the Midwest, to the Big Ten, to see what they were doing. I found many of them had federal money – since 1957 when the National Defense Education Act was passed. This money was mainly intended for area studies programs. OSU was behind in this case. It was clear to me that what we needed were books and people, which is not so surprising. I could have told them right away, but you have to get wise men from outside to say these things. So I wrote a report with a fancy title and then applied to the Mershon Center, which at that time was concerned with national defense projects. I asked for \$10,000 to go to the Soviet Union and buy books. I had been there twice already.

In 1960?

That's right. I took a group of tourists and later some students funded by the Ford Foundation. So I knew what was available and what the prices were. My proposal was to create a library collection virtually overnight.

Were you treated with suspicion in the Soviet Union?

Well, yes, that was normal. Mershon approved the money, but I also needed approval from the President of the University. The Dean took me to a meeting of the President's Cabinet, which consisted of all the vice presidents and senior staff in central administration. I didn't know one Vice President for another. Some raised ornery questions such as, was I going to hurt book dealers in Ohio? I said there wasn't a book dealer in Russian within 600 miles. At the end of the session, President Fawcett said, "Gentlemen, I think we had better send Professor Twarog." This was on Thursday and I left on Sunday.

Did you actually bring books back from the Soviet Union?

Well, this became a matter of international trade. The normal process of acquiring and shipping books in the USSR was the following: you bought books at a bookstore, then you would take them to a post office and the staff there would examine each book and wrap them.

They would wrap them?

That's right. To make sure you don't take out any books published before 1917. I knew the process. I had money and about two weeks to spend the money. After many futile trips to the ministry of Foreign Trade and the Lenin Library, I was told that the one who could help me was the Minister of Culture. I said, "Where can I find him?" – I didn't even know the Minister was a woman at that time (Furtseva). By this time I was so frustrated by three days of futile taxi trips from one institution to another that I took a taxi to the Ministry of Culture and when the car pulled up, I ran right through two policemen guarding the door, went inside and said: "I want to see the Minister." People swarmed around me, saying: "What is this crazy American doing here?" Finally I got to a man who turned out to be the inspector general for all Soviet libraries. For one and a half hours I explained to him how the books would make Americans better understand the Soviet Union and how that would lead to better business deals eventually. "What, if I do not agree to allow you to do this?" – he said. I answered that, in such a case, I would have to buy books every day and ship them the old way, stand in line in the post office and count how many I sent out each day. He said, "Okay, we'll help you." He phoned the Ministry of Trade, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mezkhkniga and told them to ship the books for me. And that's what happened.

Then I went to the bookstores, handed them my creden-

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tials and went behind the sanctified area behind the counter. I climbed a ladder and began to throw books on the floor. [I then]...selected my books before they could recover. In Leningrad I did the same thing. I came back just before Christmas... I had left the money there so people at OSU were nervous too. But in April the books began to arrive. [They]...came by ship, each package registered. Every book I had selected came. What I then bought for \$10,000 would now probably cost \$7-800,000. We have a library that in several areas is as good as that of Harvard University because of this trip. But some people thought I would abscond with the funds.

Is that possible?

Well, there were positive reactions too. There was one editorial, or letter to the editor, in the *Dispatch* though that I remember. It congratulated me on purchasing all these books but also asked: "What else did Professor Twarog bring back with him?"—implying I was tainted with communist ideology. Vice President Heimberger wrote a reply to this. I guess I could have been shipped out of the country—I was a little more rash than than I am now. The success of this trip made it easier for me to gain other goals, though—I had credibility. Also, the Russian bookstores came to know me and began to facilitate subsequent shipping. And made recommendations and kept books for me.

There always has to be an icebreaker.

There has to be. Well, we continued to pay great attention to the library. We started out with about 3,000 volumes in Slavic and East European languages and I think at the time I left (I retired officially in 1987), in 1988, the Center listed 445,000 volumes.

Well, we have discussed the 'book part' of [your work at OSU]. Let's now turn to the 'people part' and take up the three major segments where you felt that you had a major impact—the Department, the Area Studies Program and the International Program. Let's start with the Department.

The very first task was to initiate an Undergraduate Major in Russian. I had experience in doing that from Boston University, but I also modeled it to some extent on the German Major at OSU. I believe this program was approved in Spring Quarter 1961. For 1961-62 I was authorized to hire a linguist for the planned M.A. Program. The appointee was Rudolf Zrimc who had received his Ph.D. from Harvard. In June 1962, the Board of Trustees formally established a Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures to be effective October 1st, 1962. In addition to the three existing faculty members Mrs. Epp, Rudy Zrimc, and myself, two additional faculty were authorized, but the people I wanted turned down my offers. For a few years, we had Visiting Professor Nicholas Vakar, who had been a Visiting Professor in the Harvard Area Studies program and a Russian émigré journalist in Paris prior to his appointment at Wheaton College and the visiting appointment at OSU. While with us, he completed his *Word Count of Spoken Russian: The Soviet Usage*, which was published by the Ohio State University Press in 1966.

By 1963-64 an M.A. Program was established; it was a program with fixed courses and it required a thesis. Candidates had to pass a Russian language examination before being permitted to take examinations in Russian literature and linguistics. The Departmental Graduate Committee would then decide on admission to the Ph.D. program. For some students, the M.A. was a terminal program. Professor Zrimc

resigned in 1962 and was replaced by Dr. Ilse Lehiste in the academic year of 1963-64. The two individuals, who had previously declined my offers, now accepted appointments beginning in 1964-65. They were Hongor Oulanoff (Harvard Ph.D.) and Frank Silbajoris (Columbia Ph.D.). We now had enough Ph.D. faculty for offering a Ph.D. program. Our first Ph.D. was awarded in 1969 just nine years after the decision had been made to develop a full-fledged Slavic Department here. Additional faculty were added during the sixties and seventies bringing the total of full-time faculty to 14.

We still have not discussed the Area Studies Program, which was your second mandate.

The main task of someone trying to develop an area studies program was to see to it that there were qualified faculty teaching in the basic disciplines of History, Political Science, Economics, Geography and Sociology, and to make sure that there were sufficient courses to do justice to the importance of the Soviet Union in the world. If one could add expertise in Philosophy, Religion, Art, Music, Theater, Architecture, Business, Medicine and so forth, that would be a plus, of course. Therefore my principal task was to persuade Chairs to hire East European specialists when an opening occurred in a Department and then to persuade a departmental and college curriculum committees to approve new courses to be offered by the new faculty. Center funds were often used to help bring a new faculty member to campus, or to pay for a special course by a visiting specialist.

When the National Defense Act was passed in 1957, just about any university with a fledgling area studies program was eligible for federal funding, primarily to support graduate programs. By 1964 it was apparent that OSU had made rapid progress and was seriously developing its language and area studies. In that year we were awarded a grant of approximately \$25,000. In fact, it emerged that our Undergraduate Center had bigger and better programs than some existing Graduate Centers. The reason we were good was that we had good faculty in spite of the rarity of good specialists in the country then. We had to resort to some unorthodox means in recruiting faculty though. This was the case with Professor John Quigley. In 1967 there were only four scholars in the US teaching courses in Russian and Soviet Law. John had a law degree from Harvard, spoke Russian and had been working with Harold Berman, one of the four specialists on Soviet law in the country. I first spoke with the Dean of the College of Law who stated quite frankly that they were not interested in scholars who specialized in foreign countries. John really wanted to come to Ohio and he indicated that if there were some other way in which he could be appointed, he was sure that he would convince the College of Law to take him on within two-three years. Dr. Corbally, our Provost, gave his approval for hiring John in the Slavic Department since he spoke such fluent Russian, and the Department approved this procedure. Law and Political Science gave him Adjunct Appointments immediately and filled up his teaching schedule. John never taught in the Slavic Department; after two years he became a faculty member in the College of Law and that is where John still is today.

In 1960 there were few faculty member teaching courses on the Soviet Union. By the mid-seventies there were about 18 teaching 50%, or more, in their specializations. Fourteen Emeriti Professors are listed in the January 2000 Center Directory. It also lists 54 faculty from 23 departments, including the *Current Digest of the Soviet Press*, but not including the Department of Slavic and East



The Klezmatics to Perform at OSU in February 2006

On Thursday, 16 February 2006 the well-known musical group the Klezmatics will be performing at the Fawcett Center at 2400 Olentangy River Road at 7:30pm. The Klezmatics play soul-stirring Jewish roots music for our time, recreating klezmer in arrangements and compositions that combine Jewish identity and mysticism with a contemporary zeitgeist and a post-modern aesthetic. Since their founding in New York City's East Village in 1986, the Klezmatics have celebrated the ecstatic nature of Yiddish music with works which are by turns wild, spiritual, provocative, reflective and danceable. The vitality and joy of the Klezmatics' music has uplifted audiences around the world since their inception. The band has reached millions of viewers with appearances on *Late Night with David Letterman*, *A Prairie Home Companion*, BBC's *Rhythms of the World* and PBS's *Great Performances* with Itzhak Perlman. Sponsored by the Melton Center for Jewish Studies. For tickets, contact City Music at 228-6224 or www.citymusiccolumbus.org



The Klezmatics will perform at the Fawcett Center on Thursday, 16 February

European Languages and Literatures. So that's a good number.

In the mid-1960's, students could earn advanced degrees in a discipline, but not in area studies as such. The OSU Center offered a Certificate, which could be added to a regular degree, including the Ph.D. At a time when there were still very few experts on the Soviet Union, this served the needs of government employees. We did grant a number of certificates, but by the mid-seventies, the need for such a certificate began to disappear. The requisite knowledge could be acquired in a good major in History, Political Science or Economics. So, by 1982 or 1983, the Center Executive Committee began to consider other alternatives. We decided to propose an M.A. in Russian Area Studies, which would require a full year of graduate work, language competence, and a thesis on an interdisciplinary topic. I had more difficulty in getting this M.A. approved than any other program. Individual department advisors had objections. The College Curriculum Committee stalled. I had to make two appearances at the Board of Regents, because other universities in Ohio wanted to make sure that we were not stepping on some of their protected territories. The process took two full years and required considerable patience and persistence. This program is still operating and it serves the needs of very able students whose life goals do not necessarily coincide with the...philosophy of individual departments.

What is the *Current Digest of the Soviet Press*?

This was at first a translation service housed at Columbia University from the 1950's onwards. It provided most of the information for most of our so-called experts at that time, many of whom could barely read one page of Russian with a dictionary in one hour. They had to rely on translated documents. [So this]...translation service was housed at Columbia and headed by Leo Gruliov, a well-known journalist. About 1968, Columbia decided they needed the space they had given to the *Current Digest*. Professor Silbajoris, while a student at Columbia, had worked for the *Digest*, and so Leo Gruliov wrote to him and asked if Ohio State would consider the possibility of inviting the *Current Digest* to its campus. I mentioned the query to the Provost. He asked, if I thought it was a good idea and I said "yes" and he said, "Well, let's see what we can do about getting them to come."

After some difficult negotiations, the organization moved from New York to the "Wild West." I remember, they arrived in two trucks, one of which broke down because it carried all their backlog. The *Digest* came out every week and they had to keep on schedule. They came on a weekend, but several of us got together to help them set up, so they could be in business on Monday morning. I was there – with three jobs at the time – and so was Professor Eason, a professor in the Economics Department and member of the national supervising committee for the *Digest*, as was Professor Demko, a professor of Geography. We spent the weekend carrying desks, hauling books. We also took care of a litter of kittens that weekend. But we completed all our tasks – there was a spirit of cooperation that we had and we did all these things because they needed to get done. Now the *Digest* is located off campus and it is called the *Current Digest of the Post-Soviet Press*. Its services are still used widely throughout the country. Now faculty members generally know Russian and other languages of the region, but the *Digest* is still very useful as a compact source of information. It enhances Ohio State's reputation now, as it did then.

Another organization we acquired was the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS), which we also gave space and various incentives. Its purpose is evident from its name. Professor Demko was our first Executive Secretary for the AAASS. It publishes the *Slavic Review*, a major journal. We had AAASS for about eight years. It is housed at Harvard now.

Was Slavic Studies the only foreign sector that OSU developed at that time?

As I already noted, at the beginning of the 1960's, there were very few foreign languages taught at OSU. There were no area courses to speak of. It was an isolated community in many ways. Once we had the example of the Slavic Department and Russian Area Studies Program, the point was how to develop this further. We had to figure out where the priorities were, what was needed in Ohio. So, we formed a committee to discuss these matters. It was an unusual committee, made up of high-level administrators, including the Vice President for Academic Affairs. We met every week and members never missed a meeting, unless there were exceptional circumstances. As chair I would have no substitutes and demanded everyone be there in person. And then in 1966 when Jack Corbally became both Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, he came to me and said that I had made a lot of noise about how badly prepared the University was in respect to international studies and that he would like me to take a position in Academic Affairs to rectify this. And so I be-

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came Associate Dean of Faculties for International Programs. I was still Chair of the Department and Director of the Center.

The Dean of the College of Commerce and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences agreed that if the Provost gave money for new position to fund area programs, that I would have veto power on any appointments to be made in those departments. It was also agreed that, if a department hired someone and that person left, that department had the first opportunity to hire someone in his, or her, place in the same field. Or, they would give up the money and it would be used somewhere else. I was in that office from 1966 to 1970 and so for four years we had that control. First of all we had to decide which area programs to develop on our campus. We focused on East Asian and the Middle East. Our biggest potential was really in the Latin American Program, but the specialists we had on campus did not reach an agreement about what to do during my time. Now of course, there is such a program.

So I was for four years Associate Dean of Faculties. Although titles have varied over the years, since 1966 someone in the Office of Academic Affairs has been designated to administer and develop international academic programs. I think everyone recognizes that an area program cannot be left to an individual college. One college does not have all the pieces and it would tend to slant everything in the direction it was interested in. Since one of the functions of area programs is to supply introductory courses, it is important that these cover a broad range. Many professional students will perhaps have their only knowledge about, let's say, the Slavic world, or the Far East, from such a course. So this was the beginning of internationalizing the academic side of OSU. There were always research and exchange programs in the Colleges of Agriculture, Medicine and specialized technical programs under US AID. But the academic side was really missing at Ohio State. This was not part of my mission when I was hired, but it happened to fit in with the kind of things I was doing.

Is there any question you wish I would have asked?

Yes, I would like to talk about the Hilandar Project, to give some background on that. We had hired Father Matejic to teach Russian literature – he also founded and built the St. Stephen of Dechani Church, the Serbian Church here in Columbus. One day he came to me and said that he had received a letter from a friend from his seminary years about the problems that the Hilandar Library on Mount Athos was having. In the monasteries of Mount Athos, every once in a while there were fires. Monks were in general fearful for the safety of the manuscript collections in their libraries. This was in 1969. So, I arranged for Father Matejic to go to Mount Athos. He went there three weeks after a gall bladder operation, in the middle of winter. Father Matejic's boat could not reach the monastery and he jumped into the water and they threw his luggage to him. He came back with an agreement that the monks were willing to have us microfilm the manuscripts. So Father – and Professor – Matejic went there in 1970 with a University photographer, Professor Walter Craig, and brought back 130 manuscripts. Then, the following summer, he went there with his son Predrag, who is now the Curator of the Collection. This is the largest and last remaining collection of Serbian manuscripts of this kind. The major collection of Belgrade was destroyed during World War II, by bombs. And the library

Elliot, Woznicki Awarded \$6000 Undergraduate Research Scholarships

The Center for Slavic and East European Studies is pleased to announce that in Spring Quarter 2005, **Deborah Elliot** and **Katherine Woznicki** were awarded Undergraduate Research Scholarships from the Colleges of Arts and Sciences. The scholarships will provide Elliot and Woznicki with \$6,000 stipends to assist them with their first research experiences. A student in the History of Art Department, Elliot is advised by Dr. Myroslava Mudrak and will be conducting research on the topic *The New Architecture: An Examination of the Changing Role of the 20th Century Architect*. Woznicki is a student in the Linguistics Department and will be conducting research on the topic *An Acoustic Analysis of Slovene Prosody* under the guidance of Dr. Brian Joseph. For more information on how to apply for the Undergraduate Research Scholarship Competition, please visit the ASC Honors Office in 207 Enarson Hall or call 292-5104.

there had never taken an inventory, never had copies made. So this is a Serbian treasure. Today we have the largest depository of Slavic manuscripts on microfilm in the world.

In the Hilandar Research Library?

Yes, in the Hilandar Library. We divided the Hilandar Project into two parts: one is the Library part, supported by the Main Library in various ways; the other is connected with the College of Humanities because of its research concerns history, literature, art and religion. People come from all over the world to access this collection. [At first] we had microfilms but no space in the Library. When Dr. Studer became the Director of Libraries, we convinced him to give us a room. We got a room best characterized as a big broom closet on the third floor. The Serb National Federation of Pittsburgh put up \$20,000 for equipment. That was our first Hilandar Room. We had a big celebration at that time. Father Mitrofan, Father Matejic's friend from the Hilandar Monastery, came. We invited three Serbian bishops and many people from the community. All the faculty appeared in academic gowns. It was a grand celebration. Soon we had to look for new space. Room 225 in the Library had no air conditioning. It was too hot in the summer and too cold in the winter. We asked the library to give us that space. Dr. Studer gave us this room, but said we'd have to furnish and set it up. For a variety of reasons, the book acquisitions money was not used up that year. We got that money and equipped and refurbished the room. Of course, as soon as we got our new quarters, more scholars came and needed new space. We managed to acquire some, right next to Room 225. When that question was settled, I created an Advisory Council from the University, about 13 or 14 people, to deal with Hilandar affairs.

It is hard to imagine the Hilandar Room as the object of international intrigue, but there has been some. As late as 1998

Cont'd p. 10



Faculty/Student News

Alan Beyerchen (History) chaired sessions on "Verwissenschaftlichungsprozesse in der deutschen Gesellschaft nach 1945" and on "Integration: Legende und Wirklichkeit in der Fruehphase der Bundesrepublik Deutschland" at the German Studies Association annual meeting in Milwaukee, WI, 29 September - 2 October 2005.

Larissa Bondarchuk (DSEELL) recently attended the annual AATSEEL conference in Washington, D.C. on 27-30 December 2005. She presented a paper entitled "Anchar Through the Prism of Structuralism" on a panel sponsored by the North American Pushkin Society.

Joe Brandesky (Theatre) adapted and directed *The Three Spinners* for the OSU Lima Theatre for Young Audiences production. Puppets designed by Brad Steinmetz enriched this production enjoyed by over 1500 children from a 10 county area. He also served as Resident Director for the Prague Theatre Tour (Dec.8-18) with 20 participants.

Inna Caron participated in the panel "Life and Death of a Hero" at 2005 AATSEEL Conference in Washington D.C. She also published a paper "A Reluctant Heiress: Ayn Rand and the Legacy of the Silver Age" in *Neuerwerbungen der Ostasienabteilung* (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, No. 10, 2005).

Daniel E. Collins (DSEELL) authored three articles: "Distance, Subjecthood, and the Early Slavic Dative Absolute" for *Scando-Slavica* 50 (2004): 165-81; "Mixed Blessings: From Benediction to Command in Slavia Orthodoxa," forthcoming in the *International Journal of Slavic Linguistics and Poetics*; and "Speech Reporting and the Suppression of Orality in Seventeenth-Century Russian Trial Dossiers," forthcoming in the *Journal of Historical Pragmatics*.

Yana Hashamova (DSEELL) had an article accepted for publication: "Two Versions of a Usable Past in (Op)position to the West: Mikhalkov's The Barber of Siberia and Sokurov's Russian Ark," in *The Russian Review*

(forthcoming, July 2006). She also gave a talk on "Trafficking in Women: Reality and Representation," at a Symposium on Trafficking at Utica College (NY) on 12 October 2005.

Ludmila Isurin (DSEELL) and Tania Ivanova-Sullivan (DSEELL) co-authored an article "Lost in Between: The case of Russian Heritage Learners" which will appear in a special issue on Russian Heritage Language in the *International Journal of Heritage Learners*. Dr. Isurin is also undertaking a research project involving cognitive shift in Russian-English bilinguals and will be designing a new 4th-year Russian course on Russian Culture to be offered this spring.

Neil G. Jacobs (GLL) recently co-organized a conference (with Prof. David Neal Miller) "Looking Backward-Looking Forward: A conference commemorating the centenary of the birth of Dr. Shlomo Noble," 5-7 November 5-7 at OSU; he also gave a lecture on Jewish cabaret at Wayne State University in December 2005.

Marianna Klochko (Sociology) published a book with Peter C. Ordeshook entitled *Endogenous Time Preferences in Social Networks* (2005). The authors use social network analysis and rational choice theory to explain a variety of phenomena, including corruption in former Soviet Union, crime, drug addiction and a possibility of change through changing the individual time preferences.

Ilse Lehiste (Linguistics) recently co-authored the book *Meadow Mari Prosody*, which was published by the Estonian Academy of Sciences as No. 2 of the *Linguistica Uralica* series in Tallinn in 2005.

Margarita Mazo (Music) published a new edition of Igor Stravinsky's *Les Noces* with Chester Music, London. She also co-authored a chapter entitled "Singing as Experience among Russian American Molokans" in *Music in American Religious Experience* (Oxford, 2005).

Margaret Mills (NELC) co-organized the conference "Afghan Women Leaders Speak: Conflict Mitigation and Social Reconstruction," held at the Mer-shon Center in November. Together with Sally Ktich, she submitted a review of the conference to the *National Women's Studies Association Journal*. In summer 2005, she conducted the second half of a field ethnography project involving an ethno-linguistic study of contemporary (post-Soviet) forms of everyday ethical discourse in Tajikistan.

Myroslava M. Mudrak has completed a project on Modern Ukrainian Book Covers of the 1920s-1930s, based on the collection of the Kyiv State Archive-Museum of Literature and Art of Ukraine. The project was funded by the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. In August, Prof. Mudrak gave a lecture entitled "In Search of a Modernist Style: Ukrainian Book Graphics of the 1920s-1930s" at the Harvard Summer School in Cambridge, MA.

David Pettegrew (History) is currently a fellow at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece, where he is conducting research for his doctoral dissertation. He also recently co-authored "The Pyla-Koutsopetria Archaeological Project: First Preliminary Report," in the Report of the Department of Antiquities of Cyprus (2005).

Daniel Prior (History) published an article entitled "Tonyuquq's Humiliation and an Old Turkic Etymology," in Stéphane Grivelet, Ruth I. Meserve, Agnes Birtalan, and Giovanni Stary (ed.), *The Black Master: Essays on Central Eurasia in Honor of György Kara on His 70th Birthday* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2005), pp. 85-94.

Joan M. Titus (Musicology) received an OSU Presidential Fellowship for 2006 to conduct research on her dissertation. She will also be presenting a paper on Dmitri Shostakovich's early film music at the International

Fink Awarded George Lewis Beer Prize by the American Historical Association

CSEES is pleased to announce that Professor Carol Fink of the OSU Department of History was recently awarded the George Louis Beer Prize by the American Historical Association for her work *Defending the Rights of Others: The Great Powers, the Jews, and International Minority Protection, 1878-1938* (Cambridge, 2004). The George Louis Beer Prize is offered in recognition of outstanding historical writing on any phase of European international history since 1895.

Fink, a specialist in European international history and historiography, has published three books, five edited volumes, one translation, and numerous articles and chapters. In addition to *Defending the Rights of Others*, they include *Marc Bloch: A Life in History* (Cambridge, 1989); *The Genoa Conference: European Diplomacy, 1921-22* (Chapel Hill, 1984; Syracuse paperback edition, 1993), which also was awarded the George Louis Beer Prize; and an introduction to and translation of Bloch's *Memoirs of War, 1914-15* (Cambridge, 1988).



Prof. Carol Fink of the Department of History



Global Hotspots Workshop 2006

The Center for Slavic and East European Studies, in conjunction with the other OSU Area Studies Centers, will hold a 5-week social studies workshop for P-12 teachers from the Central Ohio area in February. Entitled "Global Hotspots," the purpose of the workshop is to provide teachers with background materials and information on events currently in the news. Representing CSEES at the workshop this year will be Dr. Alexander Pantsov, Professor of History at Capital University. A graduate of Moscow State University and the Russian Academy of Sciences, Dr. Pantsov teaches both European and Asian history courses with a specialization in modern China. Dr. Pantsov will present a lecture entitled "Whither Russia" on 15 February as part of the workshop lecture series.



Dr. Alexander Pantsov of Capital Univ. will lecture at the 2006 Global Hotspots Teacher Workshop

The workshop is a closed event and registration is required. If you are a K-12 educator in Central Ohio and are interested in attending the workshop, please contact Jenny Spolnik (spolnik.1@osu.edu) for registration information.

Professor Krzysztof Frysztacki from the Institute of Sociology at Jagiellonian University will be teaching a course Spring quarter on the economic, political, social, and cultural issues facing Central and Eastern Europe, and the policies that have been or are being developed to address them. The ways in which the historical context and current political environment have influenced responses to these issues will be discussed. The class will meet on Monday afternoon and is open to all interested graduate students. The course title and registration information will be available soon. Please contact Dr. Denise Bronson in the College of Social Work for additional information at Bronson.6@osu.edu

Faculty/Student News (cont'd)

Shostakovich Centenary Conference to be held in Bristol, England in September-October 2006.

Olli H. Tuovinen (Microbiology) recently co-authored an article entitled "Sulfate Reduction Potential in Sediments in the Norilsk Mining Area, Northern Siberia" for *Geomicrobiology Journal* 22 (2005): 11-25.

Gary Wright (JD/CSEES) was recently featured in the Moritz e-Record because of his leadership role with the Ohio State Students for Immigration and Refugee Rights; last year, he organized an alternative spring break program for the group to provide free legal services to children detained by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

2006-2007 FLAS Fellowship Competition

CSEES is currently seeking applications for fellowships for Summer Quarter 2006 and Academic Year 2006-07 under the US Department of Education's Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship program.

These fellowships are available to all full-time graduate and professional students at all levels and in any department who are pursuing a course of study which requires advanced foreign language and area studies training. The fellowships are expected to carry a stipend of \$14500 for three quarters of the academic year and \$2400 for the Summer Quarter. These awards carry a Graduate School fee authorization for all OSU fees and tuition.

Academic-year award recipients must register for a minimum of 15 credit hours (which include language courses in addition to regular degree courses) during each quarter of the award period. Summer fellowships are awarded for intensive language study only. Intensive programs eligible for support must embrace the equivalent of a full year of language study with at least 140 contact/classroom hours of instruction. Individualized instruction does not qualify for support.

The availability of these fellowships is contingent upon receipt of funding from the US Department of Education. All applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents. Languages for which awards will be made through CSEES include:

- * Czech
- * Hungarian
- * Romanian
- * Serbo-Croatian
- * Modern Greek
- * Polish
- * Russian
- * Turkish
- * Uzbek
- * Yiddish

In awarding these fellowships, priority is given to students who combine language and area studies with professional training in agriculture, business, natural resources, education, and law. FLAS applications can be picked up in person at 303 Oxley Hall, or downloaded at: <http://oia.osu.edu/> under "Grants for Faculty and Students."



**THE GEORGE AND RENEE K. LEVINE
GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN JEWISH STUDIES
AND THE SAMUEL M. MELTON GRADUATE
FELLOWSHIP IN JEWISH STUDIES**

The Melton Center for Jewish Studies is inviting applications for the graduate fellowships for 2006-2007. Each fellowship provides a \$14,400 stipend plus a tuition waiver for one year. Applications must be made through affiliated graduate programs at The Ohio State University. For full application information, contact Professor Daniel Frank, Director, Melton Center for Jewish Studies, 306 Dulles Hall, 230 W. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43210; email frank.152@osu.edu; or visit meltoncenter.osu.edu.

Midwest Slavic Conference

**2-4 March 2006
Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center
Ohio State University**

**JOBS IN
RUSSIAN &
EAST EUROPEAN
STUDIES!**

The Slavic Center has begun to compile a list of jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with a background in Slavic Studies. The list includes business, government, post-secondary, and non-profit sector jobs located both in the United States and abroad. The list is posted every two weeks and is *free of charge*. To subscribe to the CSEES Russian and East European Job List, please contact kling.10@osu.edu

Call for Participants

THE MEDIEVAL SLAVIC SUMMER INSTITUTE

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
25 JUNE – 22 JULY 2006

The Hilandar Research Library (HRL)/Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS) and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures (DSEELL) at The Ohio State University will host a four-week intensive Summer Institute for qualified graduate students in Columbus, Ohio, June 25-July 22, 2006. The Medieval Slavic Summer Institute (MSSI) will offer: Practical Slavic Palaeography (Slavic 870) and Readings in Church Slavonic (Slavic 812). All lectures will be in English. Manuscript material on microform from the Hilandar Research Library's extensive holdings forms a large part of the lectures and exercises. Participants will also have the opportunity to work with original manuscripts and to conduct their own individualized research in the HRL. Also planned is a program of lectures on related topics and other activities.

Applicants must be graduate students with a B.A. degree and with a reading knowledge of Cyrillic and of at least one Slavic language. Preference will be given to applicants with reading knowledge of Old Church Slavonic or some other pre-modern Slavic language.

The Hilandar Research Library, the largest repository of medieval Slavic Cyrillic texts on microform in the world, includes the holdings from over 100 monastic, private, museum, and library collections of twenty-one countries. There are over 5,000 Cyrillic manuscripts on microform in the HRL (more than a million pages), as well as over 700 Cyrillic early printed books from prior to 1800 on microform (more than half a million pages). The holdings range from the eleventh to twentieth centuries, with a particularly strong collection of manuscripts from the fourteenth to sixteenth centuries. About half of the manuscripts are East Slavic, with much of the remainder South Slavic in provenience.

For further information about the HRL/RCMSS, visit its website at <http://cmrs.osu.edu/rcmss/> - see issues of the HRL/RCMSS newsletter, Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage, on the HRL/RCMSS website for an account of MSSI 1999 (issue #6), MSSI 2001 (issue #10), and MSSI 2003 (issue #14). For further information on eligibility, credit, housing, financial aid, and to obtain an application to the MSSI, please contact the HRL/RCMSS at hilandar@osu.edu or Hilandar Research Library and Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, 225/227 OSU Main Library, 1858 Neil Avenue Mall, Columbus, Ohio 43210-1286. Deadline for receipt of application: 1 March 2006



CSEES Fall Events Calendar



25 January

Lecture: "Beyond What is Said and Done: Last Living Remnants of Jewish Culture in Ukraine," by Dov-Ber Kerler, Indiana University (3:30pm, Room TBD, Hagerty Hall, 1775 College Rd.) Sponsored by the Melton Center for Jewish Studies. For more information, call: 292-0967.

23 Feb - 8 Mar

OSU Dept. of Theatre performs *The Government Inspector* by Nikolai Gogol (Thurber Theatre in the Drake Union, 1849 Cannon Drive). Show times: February 23, 24, 25 at 8 PM; February 26 at 3 PM; March 2, 3, 4 at 8 PM. To purchase tickets, contact the Theatre Box Office at 614/292-2295 or Theatre-tix@osu.edu

2 March

Opening Reception of the Midwest Slavic Conference, including a Keynote Lecture by Beth Holmgren, Chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (7pm, Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center room, 2110 Tuttle Park Place).

3-4 March

Panel Sessions of The Midwest Slavic Conference (8:30am-5:45pm; all sessions held at the Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center, 2110 Tuttle Park Place).

5 March

Lecture: "Holocaust Restitution and the Law," by Michael J. Bazylar, Whittier Law School (7:30pm, Moritz College of Law Auditorium, 1659 N. High St.) Sponsored by the Melton Center for Jewish Studies. For more information, call: 292-0967.

OSU Participants in AAASS Salt Lake City, 3-6 Nov. 2005

The following OSU faculty and students participated in the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies Annual Conference held on 3-6 November 2005 at the Grand America Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Irene Masing-Delic (DSEELL) presented a paper entitled "Performance and Politics: What Gorky Learnt in the Theater" for the panel *Russian Modernism and Performance* and served as discussant for the panel *Constructing the Stalinist Arts*.

Nicholas Breyfogle (History) served as discussant for the panel *Imagining the Caucasus in Russian Empire and the Soviet Union* and presented a paper entitled "Population Politics and Russian Colonization in the South Caucasus" for the panel *Population Politics in Imperial Russia*.

Myroslava Mudrak (History of Art) participated in the roundtable *Inter-Slavic Post-Soviet Cultural Influences: The Case of Ukraine*.

David L. Hoffmann (History) chaired the panel *Bad Habits, Corruptive Practices, and the Politics of Soviet Culture*.

Jennifer Siegel (History) chaired the panel *The Practical Eurasianism of Baron von Ungern-Sternberg*.

Mary W. Cavender (History) presented a paper entitled "Gentry and Estate: Soslovie and Local Identity in Tver', 1820-1860" for the panel *Doing Local History: Society and Religion in Tver' Province*.

Alexander Burry (DSEELL) presented the paper "Poetic Escape in Vladimir Kazakov's Don Juan" for the panel *Unofficial Literature and Nonconformist Art in the Late Soviet Period*. Burry also chaired the panel *East European Cinema and National Identity*. The panel included papers by **Yana Hashamova** (DSEELL) "Russian Cinema in

Search of the Father," **Sunnie Rucker-Chang** (DSEELL) "Fashioning Ourselves After Ourselves: Notes on Contemporary Serbian Cinema" and **Elizabeth Worrall** (DSEELL) "Erben among Us: The Revival of the 19th-century Czech Writer in Contemporary Czech Film."

Brian Joseph (Linguistics) participated in the roundtable *Nouns, Sounds, and Bounds: The Construction of Linguistic Borders in the Balkans*.

Carole R. Rogel (History) chaired the panel *New Research by Young Scholars in Slovene Studies: The Kozolec, the EMU, and Clitics* and served as discussant for the panel *So Close yet So Apart: Western Slavs Viewing Russia, 1809-1913*

there was an accusation made in Bulgarian newspapers that some manuscripts had been stolen from the Hilandar Monastery and that it could only be the "Brothers Matejic," who had taken it. It turned out that the Bulgarian Security Services had had the manuscript in their vaults for ten years to protect it from the "Brothers Matejic," who had last visited Mount Athos in 1975. The Greeks were suspicious too and wanted to know what Father Mitrofan had said during his speech at our big banquet. So we had his speech translated into English and distributed it widely. In spite of such events, this is a big success. By the way, the originals of the materials in the Library, 4000 manuscripts on microfilm, are stored in a cave in Pennsylvania, I think. Every 40 or 50 years, they are going to have to redo the microfilm for library use, because the film deteriorates. Hilandar, as Research Center and as Research Library is something The Ohio State University can be proud of. ■

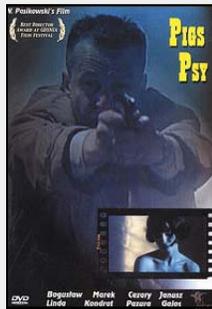


IMAGES OF CRIME AND CORRUPTION IN RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN CINEMA

MONDAY, 9 JANUARY

Pigs (1992)

One question that arose when Poland changed from its communist form of government to a more open model was what to do with its thousands of secret policemen. Clearly, some of them couldn't be integrated into the regular police force, and some of them could. In this police thriller, Olo is a former secret policeman who has joined an illegal drug cartel, and he soon comes into conflict with one of the men newly integrated into the regular police force. Despite his being a "regular" policeman, Franz refuses to play by the book, and uses many of his old techniques and contacts to track down whoever is killing so many of his new colleagues. 104 mins. In Polish with English subtitles.

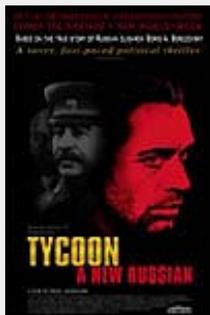


A WINTER FILM SERIES

MONDAY, 30 JANUARY

Oligarkh (2002)

The Russian equivalent of *Once upon a Time in America* or *Scarface* with a corporate twist, *Oligarkh* takes place against the fade of communism and the rise of capitalism, following the entrepreneurial travails of a quintet of well-educated street thugs as they transform their black-market operation into a multi-billion-dollar corporate enterprise. Much of the tale is told in flashback,



with each sequence related chronologically to the climactic event that begins the film (à la *Citizen Kane*): the assassination of the title character, Platon. Murder, double-dealings, and political jockeying fill the passing years. 128 mins. In Russian with English subtitles.

MONDAY, 6 FEBRUARY

Brat (1997)

Danila returns from the army to a St. Petersburg transformed into a casual culture high on music and consumerism. The chaotic atmosphere easily invites the smug Danila into a world of crime. Soon the youth accompanies his brother Viktor, a contract killer for the Russian underworld, on violent escapades where wads of cash and a well-gripped gun are the ultimate symbols of power. 96 mins. In Russian with English subtitles.



MONDAY, 20 FEBRUARY

It's Me, the Thief (2000)



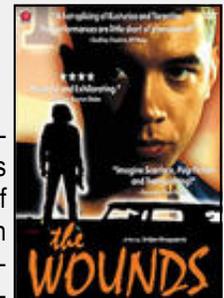
This is the hard luck story of Jojo, a 16-year-old boy who has high aspirations for the future but has no chance at achieving them because he is forced to support his family by working in an auto repair shop. The owner of the shop, Wyskocz, treats the boy like a son. Out of desperation, Jojo steals a Jaguar in order to earn the respect of a gang that he hopes to join. However, this is only the beginning of his real problems. Without his knowledge, he angers the gang by stealing a car in their territory. Now, with the gangsters chasing him, the only person Jojo can rely on is Wyskocz. 97 mins. In Polish with English subtitles.

order to earn the respect of a gang that he hopes to join. However, this is only the beginning of his real problems. Without his knowledge, he angers the gang by stealing a car in their territory. Now, with the gangsters chasing him, the only person Jojo can rely on is Wyskocz. 97 mins. In Polish with English subtitles.

MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY

The Wounds (1999)

Pinki and Kraut are a pair of Serb teenagers who begin as simple petty thieves and work their way up into the heart of the Yugoslav underworld. As war rages in nearby Bosnia, the boys become increasingly callous and violent, ultimately overthrowing their mentor, a powerful black marketer, before turning on each other. A savage and powerful movie from the Serbia of Slobodan Milosevic. 103 mins. In Serbian with English subtitles.



**FILMS ARE SHOWN AT 7:30 PM
IN 180 HOBERTY HALL,
1775 COLLEGE ROAD, OSU CAMPUS
AND ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

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MIDWEST SLAVIC CONFERENCE

2-4 MARCH 2005

AT
**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
BLACKWELL HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
2110 TUTTLE PARK PLACE
COLUMBUS, OHIO**

(SEE PAGE 1 FOR DETAILS)