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Slavic and East European Section

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

For the seventeenth year, our *SEES Newsletter* presents a review of the Section's and Slavic librarianship's many activities, challenges and accomplishments. The past year was no exception in this regard. For the first time SEES was represented at the Frankfurt Book Fair. Our Committees were busy and active as ever. The minutes from their meetings speak for themselves. I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to their chairs, members and volunteers for the work so well done. We can say that our Section is relatively small in numbers but big in action.

One of the priorities for the current ACRL President, Betsy Wilson, is to increase recruitment of new members and "to strengthen membership values and services." I would like to join Betsy and make this a priority also for SEES. In order to maintain our vitality we need more new and active members. Our Section's membership in the past few years has been steadily declining by six to seven percent a year. So if you know any new librarian coming into the Slavic field, or anyone who is already in the field and not a member, please urge them to join SEES.

"Community and Collaboration" is the ACRL President's theme for 2000-2001. The SEES Program at the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco, "Slavic Collections in the San Francisco Bay Area and Their Impact on the Intellectual, Cultural, and Economic Life of the Local Community," will focus on this theme. The speakers are: Allan Urbanic from U. California, Berkeley, Carol Leadenham from the Hoover Institution, and Sharon Wilensky from the San Francisco Public Library. The Program is co-sponsored by the Committee on Continuing Education of Slavic and East European Librarianship in North America and will take place on Sunday, June 17, 2001, 2:00-4:00 PM.

Mieczyslaw (Mischa) Buczkowski, University of Oregon

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

I have been looking over my previous columns and it seems that I frequently write: "Another year, another newsletter." This will be my sixth *Newsletter* as editor, after two as managing editor. Each year's work has been a combination of occasionally frustrating, but mostly rewarding and interesting experiences.

This year however it means something special, as this will be not just my sixth year, but my last as SEES *Newsletter* Editor. As I indicated this has been a special experience that I would not have missed. There have been many changes in personnel over the years, but I am happy to say that all have helped to continue the *Newsletter's* excellence. I am proud to have worked with all of you. I wish to thank the members of the committee for all their hard work these many years. In addition, there are the folk not formally involved who help so much. Thank you to the many people who send us notices and write special pieces for the *Newsletter*. Thanks especially to Harry Leich (Library of Congress) who always does such a thorough job proofreading our text and Gareth Perkins of Berkeley Slavic Specialties who ensures the professional appearance of the finished product.

I am particularly happy to be leaving the *Newsletter* in the very capable hands of Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.) Terri has been our managing editor these past couple of years. Her quick grasp of our needs has been a great strength and help.

Just because I will not be Editor, does not mean I will not be around. Last year, you, the membership, graciously elected me Section Vice-Chair/Chair Elect. The end of this summer's ALA Conference in San Francisco starts my term as Section Chair. I look forward to seeing and working with everyone in this new capacity.

Sandra Levy, University of Chicago

I. Conferences

ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CHICAGO JULY 6–12, 2000 ACRL SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN SECTION

SEES Program July 9, 2000

**“New Expectations in the Quest for East European Information:
Academic Librarians as a Beacon for American Scholars”.**

Nearly fifty people attended the 2000 SEES program, chaired by Patricia Thurston (Yale U.). The speakers included June Pachuta Farris, U. of Chicago, Terri Tickle Miller, Michigan State U., and Allan Urbanic, U. of California, Berkeley. Brad Schaffner, U. of Kansas, was the discussant.

June Farris gave a comprehensive historic overview of reference sources and collection development, focusing on the difficulties librarians have encountered over the past fifty years. She discussed in great detail how events in the regions of the Former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe have altered our practices.

Terri Tickle Miller discussed how Internet technology has changed the relationship between the community of scholars (the Invisible College) and Slavic and East European librarians. She described how electronic media and communication have presented librarians with more opportunities to see into the day-to-day discourse of the Invisible College, allowing more members of the library community to actively participate in academic debates and discussions.

Allan Urbanic focused on electronic tools that have put more power in the hands of the end-user. He described various web sites, online bookstores, online catalogs, and fee-for-service projects, and discussed how each redefines the position of the librarian who used to be the traditional go-between for many research activities.

Brad Schaffner summarized the three papers and gave some additional information from his own experiences. A lively discussion followed.

(Patricia Thurston, SEES chair, 1999–2000)

Automated Bibliographic Control Committee July 8, 2000

Present: Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Diana Greene (New York U.), Leena Siegelbaum (Harvard), Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Tatiana Barr (U. Florida, Gainesville), John DeSantis (Dartmouth), Janice Pilch (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Beth Snyder (U. Michigan), Barbara Conaty (Library of Congress), Rebecca Guenther (Library of Congress), Marek Sroka (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Grazyna Slanda (Harvard), Carl Horne (Indiana U.), Kristin Johnson (Harvard), Patricia Thurston (Yale), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), Beth Feinberg (UCLA)

Barbara Conaty and Rebecca Guenther of the Library of Congress attended the meeting to discuss the issue of Serbian, Croatian and Bosnian language codes. The group largely agreed that catalogers do not use Bosnian unless it is identified as such in the work. Grazyna Slanda added that the only way one can definitely decide that a book is in Bosnian is if it is a language textbook. The general consensus of the group is that the language debate is largely political in nature. Rebecca Guenther stated that the Library of Congress may write guidelines for the use of the Bosnian language code, and that she can contact CPSO in this regard.

Inna Gudanets noted that PCC core records do not include an 041 language code, that many countries have dialects, and that there are more critical issues concerning transliteration systems than concerning language codes. She noted also that the Bosnian language code sets a precedent for all other groups to change codes. This Committee will write a paper to the Library of Congress in support of its position by 1 August 2000.

The Committee also discussed the possibility of the scr language code for Croatian changing to hvr. RLIN can combine these codes, but OCLC cannot, and neither can the vendors.

Rebecca and Barbara reported that the Library of Congress does have guidelines concerning new language codes. More information on criteria for new codes and forms to request additions to the code can be found at: <http://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2>.

Jackie Byrd reported on the catalogers meetings at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Slavic Librarians' workshop in June. There was an informal agenda, and topics included backlogs, staffing, systems, and national cataloging programs. There were about twenty-five attendees at the catalogers meeting.

Barbara Conaty offered to organize a tour of the Library of Congress Slavic Division for the ALA Midwinter conference in January 2001.

Continuing Education Committee July 8, 2000

Present: Joanna Dyla (Stanford), Janice Pilch (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Tatiana Barr (U. Florida, Gainesville), Diana Greene (New York U.), Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Patricia Thurston (Yale), Marek Sroka (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.), Grazyna Slanda (Harvard), Kristin Johnson (Harvard), Beth Feinberg (UCLA).

Joanna Dyla reported that we received no responses to the SEES letter sent to library schools with ALA accredited programs, and she asked the committee if we should continue with the mentor program considering the apparent lack of interest. Patricia Thurston suggested that the letter be posted on main page of the SEES website, and reported that she has spoken with several professors that know of graduate students who may end up in library school. This may be a source for the SEES mentor program.

Mischa Buczkowki pointed out that there are not many entry-level positions in Slavic librarianship to generate mentees. Joanna suggested that perhaps the timing is not right, and Patricia added it might be better to advertise in the fall.

Janice Pilch volunteered to put together a list of Slavic and East European Studies centers located at institutions with library schools.

Joanna will send the SEES letter to Janice after she has compiled this list so that the mentor letter can be sent to a more targeted audience with Slavic language abilities and interests.

The 2001 San Francisco program of the Continuing Education committee will try to coordinate with the theme of the Program Committee. The Program focus will be the local Slavic community and Slavic collections in the Bay Area. The possibilities of visiting the Russian Museum or the Hoover Archives were considered, and Joanna plans to make further contacts in the area.

Professional activities: Patricia Thurston reported on her two trips to Romania in Spring 2000; Sandra Levy reported on the Slavic librarians workshop.

Electronic Resources Committee July 9, 2000

Present: Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.), Anthony Oddo (Yale), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), Andy Spencer (Indiana U), Janice Pilch (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.), Leena Siegelbaum (Harvard), Allen Urbanic (U. California Berkeley), Grazyna Slanda (Harvard), Kristin Johnson (Harvard), James Beale (Russia Online), Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Patricia Thurston (Yale), Yuliya Bir (Harvard), Lydia Wasylenko (Syracuse U.), Jared Ingersoll (Columbia U.), Beth Feinberg (UCLA)

Cathy Zeljak distributed printouts of the SEES webpage and asked for suggestions to rearrange the site and for sites to add as links. The committee decided that the two most recent SEES meeting minutes should be kept on the webpage, and that there should be a link to "archives" for all old minutes.

Other links to be added are Brad Schaffner's preservation site and links to conference sites. Terri Tickle Miller distributed a draft of a page on statistics resources that will be completed and linked soon.

Jackie Byrd gave an update on the status of the Slavic Librarians Directory. She received the file from Molly Molloy at Stanford, who has been trying to maintain the directory. Jackie sent an email to Slavlibs to get active addresses and has updated the addresses she

has received. She will start working on non-US institutions soon. The Committee agreed that each institution should decide who should be listed in the Directory. The Directory is all in one file now, and it will be divide up by country/states. Commercial vendors were eliminated from the Directory because there are other avenues to find their contact information.

Andy Spencer reported that there are two test versions of the Directory. The version now up is the basic file because some browsers don't display the more complicated diacritics. Spencer also put up a form so that institutions can either add or update an entry.

The address for one of the test versions and the submission form is:

http://www.indiana.edu/~libslav/test_slavic_directory.html#INDIANA

Executive Committee July 10, 2000

Present: Patricia Thurston (Yale), Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Joanna Dyla (Stanford), Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.), Marek Sroka (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Grazyna Slanda (Harvard), Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), Mary Lee Sweat (ACRL)

Committee chairs reported on their meetings over the conference.

Mischa Buczkowski and Cathy Zeljak will work on an update of the SEES brochure.

Mary Lee Sweat noted that ACRL has a mentor program that SEES could work with. Joanna Dyla will investigate.

Leena Siegelbaum requested that SEES review its by-laws, which Cathy Zeljak said are on file at ACRL. Mischa said he would contact Melissa Cast and Alan Pollard, and Cathy said she would post them on the SEES webpage.

Sandra Levy reported that there is ACRL money available to revise the SEES brochure and that several ACRL appointment committees are looking for people; contact Melissa Cast if interested.

Mischa suggested having the Executive Committee meeting at the same time as the Membership meeting to save time.

Leena Siegelbaum suggested planning a social event with WESS, Terri Tickle Miller as current Member-at-Large could plan with them.

Mary Lee Sweat reported that the ACRL board approved a Statement on professional development and a policy on scholarships.

Membership Meeting July 9, 2000

Present: Patricia Thurston (Yale), Susan Summer (Columbia), Diana Greene (New York U.), Janice Pilch (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.), Steve Corrsin (Wayne State U.), Brad Schaffner (U. Kansas), Jared Ingersoll (Columbia), Marek Sroka (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Kristin Johnson (Harvard), Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Allen Urbanic (U. California Berkeley), Karina Milosevich (Eastview Publications)

Patricia Thurston reviewed the SEES committees and what was discussed over the Conference.

SEES is going to update its informational brochure. There are now 212 personal memberships, down from 225; 45 organizational memberships and 3 corporate, for a total of 260 members.

The ALA Subcommittee for Eurasia and Central Asia needs members, contact Brad Schaffner if interested. The Europe-Canada subcommittee needs members, contact Patricia Thurston if interested.

Newsletter Committee July 9, 2000

Present: Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Allan Urbanic (U. California Berkeley), Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.), Andy Spencer (Indiana U.), Kay Sinnema (Duke), Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.), Beth Feinberg (UCLA)

Sandra Levy reported that the Newsletters arrived late because bulk rate mail is very slow; she may send Committee members their newsletters by first class mail.

Sandra is now attending meetings for ACRL newsletter editors. The SEES newsletter is very different than others. Ours is substantially larger than most because ACRL publishes the others and sets a strict limit on length. Some other newsletters are going to an all-electronic format, but SEES will stay with print because of concerns of access for libraries in Eastern Europe and Russia.

Allan Urbanic distributed the financial report. There is a small reserve fund accumulated, so some newsletters can be sent first class. Sandra thanked Allan for keeping track of finances.

Sandra asked members to keep their eyes open for a cover design for issue #17. A black and white graphic works best. Sandra will contact Patricia Polansky about writing a profile on the University of Hawaii library with its Russian Far East collection. The Hoover Library was suggested as an alternate, as was the Bancroft Library.

The Committee also discussed the need for new members and shifted some Newsletter assignments.

Preservation Committee July 8, 2000.

Present: Brad Schaffner (U. Kansas), Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.), Diana Greene (New York U.), Kristin Johnson (Harvard), Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Joanna Dyla (Stanford), Patricia Thurston (Yale), Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.), Andy Spencer (Indiana U.), Carl Horne (Indiana U.), Brian Baird (U. Kansas), Olga Fishman (CRL), Adriana Pilecky-Dekajlo (CRL), David Lowe (Columbia), Jared Ingersoll (Columbia), Bob Strauss (Preservation Microfilms), Beth Feinberg (UCLA)

Columbia University was awarded a NEH grant to microfilm brittle Slavic pamphlets and monographs in its collection (see Grants section). University of Kansas has applied for a large grant to NEH and will find out next year if they have received it.

Brad Schaffner reported on the progress of the committee's web-page at <http://www.ukans.edu/~slavlib/Preservation.html>. He is working on linking different consortia websites to the page because they are all working on similar preservation projects.

Grazyna Slanda reported that she sends preservation materials to Harvard's in-house preservation department for reformatting, and this is supported with internal Harvard money; fifteen boxes of materials were just sent and microfilmed.

Andy Spencer would like to meet jointly with the Electronic Resources Committee and the Preservation Committee next Summer in San Francisco to present the results of the Indiana grant project to digitize *Letopis zhurnal'nykh statei*, 1956–1975. Currently originals are being scanned, and this phase will be done by the end of 2000. Then the originals will be marked into XML format to be searchable on the Internet. A test model should be done at the end of 2000.

Bob Strauss from Bookkeeper gave an extensive presentation to the Committee on preservation microfilming issues, focusing on Slavic and Eastern European materials. Brian Baird encouraged cooperative preservation projects to lower costs.

Program Planning Committee 2001 July 9, 2000

Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.), Joanna Dyla (Stanford), Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Patricia Thurston (Yale), Grazyna Slanda (Harvard), Beth Feinberg (UCLA)

The Committee discussed the 2001 program. Joanna Dyla has a speaker from the Hoover Archives. Mischa Buczkowski will try to find a speaker from Berkeley. Cathy Zeljak suggested a discussion of the history of Slavic collections to include Slavic immigration to the Bay Area. Inna Gudanets will contact someone at the Russian Museum in San Francisco.

(All meeting minutes submitted by Beth Feinberg, UCLA.)

**ALA MIDWINTER CONFERENCE
WASHINGTON D.C. JANUARY 12–15, 2001
ACRL SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN SECTION**

Automated Bibliographic Control Committee Jan. 13, 2001

Present: Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Tatiana G. Barr (U. Florida Gainesville), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), Barbara Conaty (Library of Congress), John DeSantis (Dartmouth), Beth Feinberg (UCLA), Diana Greene (New York U.), Jared Ingersoll (Columbia), Tim Larson (Indiana U.), Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Bob Morgan (Library of Congress), Nina Palmin (Library of Congress), Janice Pilch (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Marek Sroka (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), George Toth (Library of Congress), Lydia Wasylenko (Syracuse U.), Keith Westover (Brigham Young U.)

The beginning of the meeting included discussions on a number of issues, including:

- Some problems with the decision to code Serbian, Croatian, and Bosnian as different languages were discussed.
- The staff members from the Library of Congress reported that cataloging staff at Library of Congress was being downsized, but the amount of work to be done has not lessened. It was reported that Library of Congress has approximately 25–30 Slavic catalogers, although they also have other assignments.
- The need to revise the Cyrillic abbreviation list in AACR2 was identified. It was suggested that the committee work on a list of words to be added to the list. An email will be sent to Slavlibs asking for words to be included. The proposal should be funneled through the ALA/ALCTCCS/Committee on cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA). The ABC Committee will contact ACRL's representative on CC:DA, Robert Maxwell, a cataloger at Brigham Young University.
- Library of Congress receipts for Russian and Polish are increasing. There are good publications coming in from the Czech Republic and Hungary. Receipts are down from Slovenia and Slovakia.

- Library of Congress reported on the effects of their Endeavor system. There are slow-response time periods during the day, and training staff was a challenge. There are problems resulting from the inability to do keyword searches on authority records. The acquisitions module was difficult to implement, and the acquisitions record was scaled back to just a few fields.
- Library of Congress has a separate database of vendor-supplied bibliographic records.
- The cataloging of Internet resources at Library of Congress may be decentralized. Currently a small team does all of this cataloging, and others may become involved.

The meeting ended with an extensive tour of the cataloging area at the Library of Congress and a look at the Jefferson Building and the reading room. During the tour a number of additional issues were discussed, including:

- The effect of the implementation of Endeavor on cataloging productivity and quotas;
- The workflow, i.e. how materials arrive in cataloging and are disseminated to catalogers;
- The working conditions at the Library of Congress, including the benefits and compensation for LC catalogers.

Continuing Education Committee Jan. 13, 2001

Present: Tatiana G. Barr (U. Florida Gainesville), Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.), Janice Pilch (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Marek Sroka (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.)

Janice Pilch distributed a document containing three lists:

- North American institutions with centers and/or graduate programs in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (including Departments of Slavic Languages and Literatures) and Library/Information Science programs;

- North American institutions with centers and/or graduate programs in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (including Departments of Slavic Languages and Literatures) but no Library/Information Science programs;
- Short list of other North American institutions with graduate programs in Slavic languages and literatures.

Letters will be sent to each of the institutions listed to offer mentoring by SEES members to graduate students in Slavic/East European/Eurasian studies who are considering a career in librarianship. Joanna Dyla has drafted a letter, but she was unable to attend the meeting. Inna Gudanets will ask Joanna to have different versions of the letter, one for each of the lists.

Inna Gudanets will find out from Joanna whether a visit to the Russian Museum has been arranged for the ALA Conference in San Francisco in June 2001.

Electronic Resources Committee Jan. 14, 2001

Present: Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.), Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), David Chroust (Texas A&M U.), Cathy Espley (Mo-Floyd Reg. Library), Diana Greene (New York U.), Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Jared Ingersoll (Columbia), Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Anthony Oddo (Yale)

Printouts of the SEES websites, including the new website of the Preservation Committee, were distributed. There was a suggestion that individual committees could set up their own websites that could then link to the main SEES page. Terri Tickle Miller's annotated list of sites on Slavic, East European, and Central Asian statistics was distributed also.

There was a discussion on whether we should monitor web resources and provide links on the SEES website. Among the comments were:

- This is too ambitious;
- It is already being done;
- Maybe we could link to new websites announced on Slavlibs.

Two new websites were considered by the committee. Terri's page on Statistical Resources will be linked. Janice Pilch's list for the Continuing Education Committee was also considered (list of graduate programs in Slavic/East European/Eurasian studies for mentoring graduate students considering librarianship as a career). It was discussed whether this was of general interest or just for Continuing Education. It also will be linked somewhere on the SEES website. (<http://www.gwu.edu/~sees>)

Jackie Byrd gave an update on the Slavic Librarians Directory. All updates have been made for U.S. libraries. Tony Oddo offered to help on sending emails to the non-US libraries. Committee members will have input into the email letter before it goes out.

There will be a joint Electronic Resources/Preservation Committee meeting at the San Francisco conference in June. We will hear a report from Andy Spencer on Indiana's *Letopis' zhurnal'nykh statei* digitization project.

Executive Committee Jan. 14, 2001

Present: Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), Diana Greene (New York U.), Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Jared Ingersoll (Columbia), Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.), Anthony Oddo (Yale), Brad Schaffner (U. Kansas), Patricia Thurston (Yale), Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.)

Committee reports were presented:

- **Program Planning:** The program for the San Francisco in June will be "Slavic Collections in the San Francisco Bay Area and Their Impact on the Intellectual, Cultural, and Economic Life of the Local Community". Two speakers have already committed to participating in the program, Carol Leadenham of the Hoover Institute and Allan Urbanic of the University of California. We have some funds for the program.
- **Automated Bibliographic Control:** The committee meeting was held at the Library of Congress. Four staff members from LC (Barbara Conaty, Bob Morgan, Nina Palmin, and George

Toth) attended the meeting for a discussion of cataloging issues at LC and in general. Attendees were then given a tour of the cataloging areas at LC and the Jefferson Building, including the Reading Room and the Great Hall.

- Continuing Education: Janice Pilch created a document listing graduate programs in Slavic/East European/Eurasian graduate programs in North America. Letters will be sent to the institutions listed offering mentoring to graduate students considering librarianship as a career.
- Electronic Resources: The SEES homepage and the website for the Preservation Committee were discussed at the committee meeting. Links will be provided to Terri Tickle Miller's website on statistical information and to websites announced on Slavlibs. The summer meeting will be a joint one with the Preservation Committee.
- Newsletter Committee: New members of the committee include Marta Deyrup (Seton Hall) and Jean Dickinson (University of Nebraska). There is a small surplus of funds. Materials for the next issued need to be submitted to Terri Tickle Miller by Feb. 20th. The cover has been selected for the next issue.
- Preservation Committee: The committee's website is up. A joint meeting with Electronic Resources is planned for the San Francisco conference, including a report on the Indiana project to digitize 20 years of *Letopis' zhurnal'nykh statei*, and a report from Bridgeport Bindery.

Mischa Buczkowski and Cathy Zeljak updated the SEES brochure. Changes included an updated program list, a URL for the SEES homepage, and the addition of the Electronic Resources Committee. Some other changes were discussed.

In 2000, SEES had funding to send Gordon Anderson to the Frankfurt Book Fair. Funding will be available for another year.

Jackie Byrd created a majordomo for the SEES officers and committee chairs to facilitate communication in this group.

SEES and WESS (Western European Specialists Section) will co-sponsor a cruise at the San Francisco ALA Annual Conference. The event will be Sunday evening, June 17, from 6–9 PM. Vendor funding is being solicited. A total of 149 people will be able to attend.

The cost will be \$26 per person, and there will be a buffet and a cash bar. A free cruise for new members will be offered as a recruiting tool. Reservations must be made by May 10th.

For a SEES/WESS event at the 2002 Atlanta conference, ACRL paperwork is due this spring. It was suggested that the Member-at-Large be a 2-year position to provide some continuity in working with WESS. This would require a by-law change. A decision on this action was delayed in order to see how future SEES/WESS collaboration progresses.

2001 SEES Budget:

- \$500 basic;
- \$500 annual conference;
- \$1180 newsletter;
- mailing labels—we need to request an amount.

ACRL has offered a \$1500 allocation to be used by August 2001. The initial restrictions on the use of the funds have been dropped by ACRL. As long as the use meets ACRL/ALA guidelines and supports ACRL's strategic plan, the money can be used. A prioritized list was developed:

1. Recruit new members, e.g. ad in Newsnet;
2. Honorarium for Gareth Perkins for work on Newsletter;
3. Scholarship.

WESS will have a general membership meeting in San Francisco, and SEES is invited to attend. It will be on Tuesday, and most SEES members will be gone. Inna Gudanets has offered to attend.

A comment was made that since our meetings have become relatively short, that it might be better to schedule them for shorer time periods so that members can attend other events. Unfortunately, ALA determines the length of each scheduled session, so meetings cannot be officially scheduled for shorter time periods. A separate suggestion was made that we can combine some meetings to reduce the number of meetings we have.

Sandra Levy requested volunteers for planning the program for the 2002 Atlanta conference. The proposal is due May 1st.

Newsletter Committee Jan. 14, 2001

Present: Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), Tatiana Barr (U. Florida Gainesville), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.), Patricia Thurston (Yale)

Sandra Levy announced new members: Marta Deyrup from Seton Hall, who will compile the Bibliography, and Jean Dickinson from the University of Nebraska, who is compiling the Grants and Acquisitions section.

Sandra gave the fiscal report, saying that nothing had changed since the Chicago conference. There is a surplus of approximately \$2,000. Although she had not heard from ACRL yet, it is expected that there is sufficient funding for the newsletter.

Among the items to be included in the newsletter are:

- Pat Polansky's article on the University of Hawaii Slavic collection;
- Gordon Anderson's report on the Frankfurt Book Fair;
- A report on Marianna Tax Choldin's Pushkin Award;
- A report from Janet Crayne on the Tallinn conference;
- A report from Tatiana Barr on the Chicago program;
- A report from Terri Tickle Miller on AAASS panels.

Submissions should be in MSWord or WordPerfect. All materials must be sent to Terri Tickle Miller by 20 February, since the printer needs them in early April.

Sandra announced that she is stepping down as Newsletter Editor after many years of service. Terri Tickle Miller will become the Newsletter editor after this next issue is published.

Preservation Committee Jan. 13, 2001

Present: Brad Schaffner (U. Kansas), Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), Diana Greene (New York U.), Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Nicoletta Hary (U. Dayton), Jared Ingersoll (Columbia), Tim Larson (Indiana U.), David Lowe (Columbia), Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.)

Brad Schaffner distributed print copies of the Preservation Committee website. More links will be added. Several people presented updates on preservation work currently being done at their respective institutions:

- Columbia is winding up a year of an NEH project to microfilm Slavic pamphlets. It is hoped that funding will be renewed. Other libraries can buy copies of the microfilm. The project involves brittle Slavic pamphlets, 80% of which are in Russian.
- New York University is having some of their Slavic materials deacidified as part of a project of the New York Public Library.
- Indiana University has Slavic materials included in its deacidification and digitization preservation projects.

The San Francisco Conference was discussed. It was decided to have Andy Spencer do a presentation on the Indiana University project to digitize twenty years of *Letopis' zhurnal nykh statei* as well as a presentation on deacidification at the conference. The Preservation and Electronic Resources Committees will have a joint meeting at the San Francisco Conference.

Program Committee Jan. 14, 2001

Present: Mischa Buczkowski (U. Oregon), Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.), Inna Gudanets (Stanford), Janice Pilch (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Marek Sroka (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Cathy Zeljak (George Washington U.)

This year's program will be "Slavic Collections in the San Francisco Bay Area and Their Impact on the Intellectual, Cultural, and Economic Life of the Local Community." Two speakers have already committed to participating in the program: Carol Leadendam of the Hoover Institution and Allan Urbanic of the U. California, Berkeley. It was suggested that speakers focus on the community and not just the libraries or collections.

Other possible participants were discussed. We will find out whether Joanna Dyla has arranged a visit to the Russian Museum for the conference.

(All meeting minutes submitted by Jackie Byrd, Indiana U.)

**32nd NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
SLAVIC STUDIES
NOVEMBER 9–12, 2000, DENVER, COLORADO**

Library and Archive Related Panels

The Ongoing Enigma of the Decembrists: Revelations from Russian Libraries, Archives and Museums

Chair: Marianna Tax Choldin, U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Papers: Mikhail Afanasev, Russian State Public Historical Library, "Libraries and Museums"; Ekaterina Genieva, Russian State Library for Foreign Literature, "Introduction to the Enigma"; Sergei Mironenko, State Archive of the Russian Federation, "Archives"
Discussants: Jeffrey Paul Burds, Northeastern U., Jonathan W. Daly, U. Illinois, Chicago

Keeping Up with the Web: Adventures in Online Sources for Slavic/ East European/Russian Studies

Chair: Stephen David Corrsin, Wayne State U.
Papers: Michael E. Neubert, Library of Congress, "Fee-Based Information from Russia via the Internet"; Marek Sroka, U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign, "Keeping up with the Polish Internet"; Terri Tickle Miller, Michigan State U., "Starting from Scratch"
Discussant: Marshall T. Poe, U. Limerick (Ireland)

Digital Texts in Slavic Studies (Roundtable)

Chair: David Birnbaum, U. Pittsburgh
Participants: Christopher K. Cosner, DePauw U.; James Stephen Driscoll, Harvard; Miranda Beaven Remnek, U. Minnesota; Filipp Sapienza, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Research in the Russian Archives: Practical and Methodological Challenges (Roundtable)

Participants: Mark Nathan Kramer, Harvard; Sergei Mironenko, State Archive of the Russian Federation; Leonora Soroka, Stanford; Amir Weiner, Stanford

Librarians and Vendors/Publishers Working Together to Ensure Access
(Roundtable)

Chair: Karen Anne Rondestvedt, U. Pittsburgh

Participants: William J. Chase, U. Pittsburgh; Jared Ingersoll, Columbia; Norman Ross, Norman Ross Publishing; Kent Lee, East View Publications; Allan Urbanic, U. California, Berkeley

New Options for Gaining Access to Russian Research Materials

Chair: Mikhail Kolesnikov, Russian State Library

Papers: Olga Lavrik, Russian Academy of Sciences, "Russian Research Libraries Corporate Integrated Document and Information Supply System"; Dennis Massie, Research Libraries Group, "What Methods of Discovery and Delivery of Resources to be Shared are Currently in Place to Assist this Type of Resource Sharing?"; Victor Zakharov, Russian Academy of Sciences, "Electronic Document and Information Supply Association (EDISA) and Research Resources available through EDISA"

Discussants: Mikhail Avetisov, Central Scientific Agricultural Library (Russia), Olga Kirillova, All-Russia Institute for Scientific and Technical Information.

Russian Far East Archives (Roundtable)

Chair: Patricia Polansky, U. Hawaii

Participants: Andrew Gentes, Brown U.; Steven E. Merritt, U. California, Riverside; David John Nordlander, Harvard; Elena Shuman, U. California, Riverside; Aleksandr Toporov, Russian State Historical Archive of the Far East.

The Dark Age of Information

Chair: Bradley Lewis Schaffner, U. Kansas

Papers: Murlin Croucher, Indiana U., "An Overview of Some Computer Information Problems"; Tim M. Larson, Indiana U., "Retrospective Conversion or Retrospective Subversion: How Good is our Access to Converted Slavic Collections?"; Aaron J. Trehub, U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign, "The Dark Side of the Web: The Rise of Virtual Information and What it Means for Scholarship and Learning."

Discussant: Patricia Polansky, U. Hawaii.

Bibliography and Documentation Committee

Minutes: November 12, 2000

Session I

Introductions and Review of the Agenda

Brad Schaffner (U. Kansas), Chair of the Bibliography and Documentation Committee (B&D), called the meeting to order at 8:15am and made general introductions. Other members of the B&D committee in attendance were: Michael Biggins, U. Washington; William Chase, U. Pittsburgh; Patricia Thurston, Yale and Cathy Zeljak, George Washington U. Not in attendance was: Robert Burger, U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Brad announced that there are no vacancies on the B&D Committee for the upcoming year. There are a few subcommittee vacancies and Brad asked for those interested to contact him.

ACLS E-Book Project

Miranda Remnek (U. Minnesota) introduced an American Council of Learned Societies e-book project brought to her attention by Jim Millar, President of AAASS. The goal of the project, funded by a three million dollar grant from the Mellon Foundation, is to identify and publish classic history texts in electronic format. According to the lengthy document provided by Dr. Millar that describes the project, as the electronic collection grows, selection of titles will be coordinated with similar projects (e.g., Netlibrary) to avoid duplication. In addition to straight Web-based texts, the document also encourages enhancements to the original texts, including hyperlinks, sound, video and other means of supplementing reader access. Jim Millar would like B&D to coordinate AAASS involvement in the identification of history texts relating to Slavic and East European Studies. More information on the project can be found at <http://www.historyebook.org>.

Discussion/Evaluation of Friday's Vendor Presentation—Should We Continue This Practice?

Patricia Thurston then reviewed the Vendor Presentation Session conducted on Friday morning. Seven of eight vendors scheduled to appear gave an overview of their products and services. Each took ten minutes or less. Those in attendance were IDC, Norman Ross, ATC, Russia Online, Russian Press Service, Eastview and Orbis. This was the first year that the vendor demonstrations were held separately from the B&D Committee meeting. Brad announced that unless there were objections it would be scheduled the same way next year.

SEEIR/REESWeb

Karen Rondestvedt (U. Pittsburgh), Editor of *Slavic and East European Information Resources* (SEEIR), gave a brief overview of the status of the journal. Karen made a strong plea for contributions, noting that the journal could face eventual collapse if participation lags. The journal will move with Karen after she takes her new position as Slavic bibliographer at Stanford. REESWeb will stay at the University of Pittsburgh. A test version of REESWeb's soon-to-be-unveiled revised version can be found at: <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/reesweb/newstuff>. The position of Slavic bibliographer at the University of Pittsburgh has been posted.

Report from B & D Subcommittees

The Subcommittee on the American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies (ABSEES) met on Thursday, November 9. Aaron Trehub (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign), ABSEES Executive Editor, reported on the meeting, which was attended by Robert Huber (The National Council for Eurasian and East European Research) and Daniel Waugh (U. Washington). The outlook for ABSEES is good. Maria Gorecki Nowak, ABSEES Managing Editor, is focusing on indexing current materials and monographs. Graduate assistants are working on indexing current journal articles and on eliminating the backlog. As of November 2000, there are over

41,000 records in the database covering 1990 to the present. All 1997 monographs have been completed. On the business side, there are 92 subscribing institutions, 22 of which are outside the United States. The online bibliographic workform is finally ready and a request for contributing editors will go out soon over Slavlibs. There is also a plan to start advertising ABSEES in major Slavic journals.

The Subcommittee on Access to Research Materials held its meeting on Thursday, November 9. Steve Corrsin (Wayne State U.) reported on the meeting for Jared Ingersoll (Columbia U.) Subcommittee members present were: Jared Ingersoll, Chair; Steve Corrsin; Pat Polansky, (U. Hawaii); and Lynne Viola, (U. Toronto). The group discussed the continuing need for an archives-related email forum. Discussion will continue among Subcommittee members over email. The topic for next year's panel will be examining archival access ten years after the Soviet Union. Mischa David-Fox will participate and/or organize. Steve Corrsin, Pat Polansky and Lynne Viola are scheduled to rotate off the subcommittee this year. If AAASS allows, Steve will continue another term and Lynne Viola for an additional year. The Subcommittee discussed additional names and the Chair will make nominations shortly. Also discussed was the need for other ways, in addition to email, of distributing information relevant to the committee, e.g., working conditions or problems regarding archives. One suggestion is a column in *SEEIR* or *Kritika*. *SEEIR* has been approached and is receptive. East View Publications attended the meeting to discuss the proposed filming of Russian regional archives and finding aids. Subcommittee members were particularly interested in the filming of recent guides.

The Subcommittee for Collection Development met on Friday, November 10. Murlin Croucher (Indiana U.), Chair, reported that the Subcommittee discussed creating a comprehensive list of vendors, including information on what subject areas and countries they cover, types of payments accepted and other pertinent details about each. The subcommittee also thought it would be useful to include a list cross-referenced by language. Murlin noted that maintaining such a list would be a complicated effort because of constant changes. However the goal is to have a list ready for next year's AAASS gathering.

The Subcommittee on the Slavic and East European Microfilming Project (SEEMP) met on Saturday, November 11. Larry Miller (U.

Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Chair, reported on the meeting, the fifth annual to be held. There are currently 27 SEEMP member institutions. James Simon, (Center for Research Libraries), is in charge of all area studies microfilming projects. He has put up a title list of all completed SEEMP projects. It can be found at: <http://www.crl.uchicago.edu/info/seemp/seempco.htm>.

Current SEEMP projects and their status are:

- Luczkiw Collection of Ukrainian DP materials at the University of Toronto: the project is currently underway after a long delay, and the first reels of film have been produced.
- Newspapers from the former Yugoslavia: four of five titles have been filmed; files of the fifth—Vreme (Belgrade)—have been located and will be filmed soon.
- Newspapers from the October Revolution: titles to be filmed are at the Library of Congress and its collections; 1918 issues (a small part of the total) cannot be located. The 1917 issues are extremely brittle but are ready for filming and should be filmed within the next six months. The estimated expenses of \$1,000 are about twice the original estimate, but the Library of Congress will cover the difference.
- Russian regional newspapers: A major project. The first set of sixteen titles, covering 1990–1995, has been filmed; part two of the project, covering 1996–2000, is underway.
- Russian right-wing extremist press: combines materials from the collections at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and UC-Berkeley. The first phase is completed; some materials for the second phase are at the Center for Research Libraries to be collated for filming.
- Soviet Eurasian pamphlets: materials from the New York Public Library's collection that will be filmed there; the project should be completed by spring 2001.

Larry Miller also reported that SEEMP's budget is in good shape. The deadline for proposals is February 1, 2001. At the meeting, several ideas for projects were suggested. SEEMP will probably continue the Russian regional newspaper project and perhaps film other independent Russian newspapers from the combined U. California-Berkeley, U. Illinois, and possibly Hoover Institution hold-

ings. There was also a good discussion of possible digitization projects, including digitizing a few major prerevolutionary Russian historical journals. Michael Neubert, Library of Congress, submitted an announcement that the Library of Congress has placed two cameras (inherited from the Department of Defense) in the Russian State Library. SEEMP may be able to participate in the selection of titles to be filmed in that library.

New Column for *NewsNet*

Jolanta Davis, AAASS Publications Coordinator and *NewsNet* Editor, asked the group if it would be useful to add a selected list of books published in Russian and East European Studies, perhaps subdivided by broad discipline. Jolanta is soliciting feedback via email and will also send the question out over Slavlibs.

Brad briefly mentioned the evolving relationship between the library column in *NewsNet* and the B&D committee. In the past, there was no official relationship, particularly in terms of selecting the column's editor. After the conference in Denver, Brad will investigate with Jolanta possible ways to coordinate the selection process.

Reorganization of the Hoover Institution

Molly Molloy (Hoover Institution) addressed B&D concerning the possible "reorganization" of the Hoover Institution Library. It was announced recently that, as of August 31, 2001, the Hoover Library will no longer be collecting books. Stanford University is looking at ways to "reorganize" the Hoover Library, possibly by transferring some of the collection into Stanford's Green Library. This move would have serious consequences in terms of access to and use of the collection, as well as reference services. In addition, much of the Hoover collection could be sent to remote storage. The Hoover Library is open to the public, but Green Library, as a private university library, is less accessible to the public.

A petition was circulated calling for reconsideration of the plan, and individuals were encouraged to write letters of support for the Library. Molly will send out more information over Slavlibs.

Soros projects

Marianna Tax Choldin (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign) gave a report on the activities of a number of Soros-funded and/or sponsored initiatives including several ongoing efforts of the Soros Network Library Program. The Network Library Program is providing funds to public libraries in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to help them develop into community information centers. The hope is that the refocused libraries will in turn play a supporting role in the development of truly "civil" societies. There has been significant progress on this front, particularly as libraries work in association with the matching funds/grant program. Libraries are experiencing continuing success in acquiring matching funds from local government agencies. The Network Library Program is also helping to develop training centers in individual countries for the continuing education of librarians. Twelve centers have been funded and eight more are coming.

New initiatives for the Soros Network include efforts to encourage and develop consortial and professional library associations in the countries of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Such associations and relationships are needed to promote library-related lobbying efforts and to help library-related enterprises move forward. In countries that already have Soros programs in place, Soros is providing seed money so that libraries may purchase electronic versions of humanities and social sciences serials titles through EBSCO. When the Soros funds end, the hope is that libraries in the program will organize into consortia to continue their access to the databases.

Regarding the Soros National Foundations, those in countries with a European Union orientation are beginning to spin off into local NGOs. Others, especially those in Central Asia, are much less developed. Soros is sending consultants to help underdeveloped libraries identify and develop areas of greatest need. Frequently the greatest need is for library automation. Soros and IFLA are working together on a special initiative underway to help libraries in Kosovo. Within the Soros National Foundations, the focus continues on public libraries. As noted above, Soros sees public libraries as critical to the evolving democratic process. The National Founda-

tions also fund non-library initiatives that involve non-public libraries. For example, in Russia, the foundation is focusing on universities, which will include funding for university libraries.

Marianna also took a few moments to thank everyone for the ceremony honoring her in Tallinn.

International Slavic Librarians' Conference

Janet Crayne (U. Michigan) reported on the World Congress of Slavists held every five years. In 2000 the conference was held in Tampere, Finland, from July 29–August 3. The librarian pre-conference was held in Tallinn, Estonia from July 24–29. The highlight of the Tallinn conference was the dinner honoring Marianna Tax Choldin for her many years of service to the profession. At the dinner, Marianna was given three awards, including the Pushkin Medal, presented to Marianna by Katya Genieva, on behalf of the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin. Presenters also included Peter Burnett, Patricia Polansky, Brad Schaffner, Chris Thomas, and Wojciech Zalewski. Janet Crayne coordinated U.S. participation in the conference.

(See **News from Abroad**)

World Congress ICCEES

Marianna Choldin mentioned that there were a number of very good sessions at both the pre-conference and the World Congress. The next World Congress will be held in Germany with the city still to be determined.

Miranda Remnek noted that an issue that came out of the Tallinn conference was that of Russian copyright and when it took effect. Miranda has since received a letter from the Library of Congress confirming that Russian copyright does not extend back before 1973.

Miscellaneous

Tanja Lorkovic (Yale) announced that several interns from Estonia and Latvia will be working as interns in the Slavic Reading Room of the Yale University Library. Sirje Riitmuru of the Estonian Academic Library in Tallinn concludes her three-month internship on December 20, 2000. The Sterling Memorial Library was able to establish this program thanks to the generous donation given by Dr. Kirstaps Keggi.

(See *News from the U.S. and Canada*)

Session II

Brief Announcements

Allan Urbanic announced that the AAASS program committee is considering the idea of a pre-conference focusing on the use and identification of Slavic resources, particularly those in digital and electronic formats (e.g., how to identify OPACs, introduction to ABSEES). Librarians would be the presenters. The committee felt that faculty from smaller institutions where exposure to such resources is more limited might be very interested in such a program. Those attending the B&D session responded positively to the suggestion. Allan noted that a small group would be put together to plan details of such a pre-conference after the current conference in Denver. Brad said he would write a letter to Carol Saivetz, Executive Director of AAASS, saying that B&D is interested.

Slavic Librarians' Directory

Brad Schaffner reported for Jackie Byrd (Indiana U.). To review, Jackie and Andy Spencer (Indiana U.) offered to develop a web version of the International Slavic Librarians' Directory at last year's B&D committee meeting. Over the last year, much progress has been made. Molly Molloy provided a copy of an earlier, printed directory, which was used as the basis for the new web directory. Jackie and Andy then created a web version of the printed directory

and emailed each U.S. institution requesting entry updates. All email addresses in the U.S. section have been converted into active links. If requested, URLs for U.S. institutions were also added. A form was added to the directory for the electronic submission of entry updates.

The directory was also discussed at the SEES Electronic Resources Committee meeting. SEES members suggested that it might be useful to split the U.S., European and Asian sections into smaller components, with an integrated index linking them and with a front-page equivalent to a table of contents. It was also suggested that each institution should decide for itself what staff members to include in its entry, but that staff members listed should be limited to those individuals specializing in Slavic materials. That way, individual institutions can decide to include any Slavic specialists that may not be librarians, while at the same time limiting them from submitting all of the people who work in the library.

The next step for Jackie and Andy is to send requests for updates to non-U.S. institutions and update the entries as information is received. SEES members have offered to help in this process. As with the U.S. section, much detective work will be required to locate current email addresses. Active links will also be added to email addresses. Jackie and Andy recommend that general requests for updates be sent out two times annually over Slavlibs (perhaps in January and late July).

Any and all suggestions regarding the directory are welcome and encouraged. Jackie sent her thanks to everyone who sent updates for helping to keep the directory current.

Slavic Librarians' Workshop

Janice Pilch (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign) gave an update on the upcoming Slavic Librarians' Workshop. Janice is coordinating next year's effort. The three-day workshop will be held Wednesday, June 27 through Friday, June 29, 2001, at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. As before, Janice noted that the workshop would consist of five sessions focusing on acquisitions, cataloging, collection development, reference and bibliography. This year, a

guest lecturer may be included to speak on a broader issue of interest to Slavic librarians, potentially an expert on copyright law. Some thought is also being given to incorporating a research-in-progress component into the workshop. Janice proposed asking the organizers of the individual sessions to give a brief overview of recent developments in the field as an introduction to the session. A note will go out over Slavlibs asking for volunteers to organize the sessions.

SEES Newsletter

Terri Tickle Miller (Michigan State U.) reported for Sandra Levy (U. Chicago), SEES *Newsletter* editor. Issue number 16 of the annual newsletter was published this year. In December 2000 a call will go out for contributions to issue No. 17. Terri reviewed the content categories of the Newsletter and made a strong appeal to those attending the B&D meeting to please send in any information they would like to see included in the upcoming issue. A generous thank you went out to all those who have contributed in the past.

ARL Global Resources Program

Brad reviewed ARL's request that the Global Resources Program include a Slavic-oriented proposal. The focus of these projects is frequently document delivery. Brad noted the difficulty in finding someone to put the proposal together and suggested one possible project would be to use ABSEES as a vehicle for document delivery. The possibility is being discussed with RLG. Brad will write a short proposal, working out the details with Aaron Trehub, ABSEES Executive Editor, and ask Deborah Jakubs at ARL to review. Any other ideas for possible proposals are welcome. The ABSEES suggestion is one way to get a relevant project off the ground relatively quickly. ARL funds would be used to train librarians in other countries to use RLIN, OCLC or other electronic bibliographic databases. Karen Rondestvedt offered to give Brad information on a similar project that the University of Pittsburgh is doing with China. Janice Pilch noted that Helen Sullivan at the University of Illinois

at Urbana-Champaign is conducting a pilot project with the Jagiellonian University in Poland to do live reference beginning January 2001.

Reports on Activities of Consortia

Nina Shapiro (Princeton) reported on the East Coast Consortium (ECC), which recently shortened its name from East Coast Consortium of Slavic Library Collections. With the addition of the University of North Carolina, there are now nine members of the ECC. The other members are: Columbia University, Cornell University, Harvard University, New York Public Library, New York University, Princeton University, and Yale University. This year the group has focused on negotiating group purchases of individual microfiche titles, resulting in better prices per title for each institution. The Consortium, which meets two times a year, is hoping to work together in the coming months on a digitization project. EEC's URL is: <http://www.princeton.edu/~nshapiro/eastconsrt.html>.

Allan Urbanic (U. California, Berkeley) reported on the Pacific Coast Slavic and East European Library Consortium (PacSlav). Members of the Consortium are: Arizona State University, Stanford University, University of Arizona, UC-Berkeley, UCLA, University of Hawaii at Manoa, University of Oregon, and University of Washington. The University of British Columbia and the University of Southern California are affiliated institutions. Karen Rondestvedt, the new Slavic bibliographer at Stanford, was able to attend the meeting for the first time. Minutes from the meeting will be posted on the Internet. Karen has agreed to continue Wojciech Zalewski's *Guide to Russian Resources* on the Internet. It will be updated soon. The PacSlav URL is: <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/Collections/Slavic/Pacslav>.

Brad Schaffner reported for the Kansas Group. Michigan State University has recently joined. Other members are: University of Kansas, George Washington University, University of Michigan and Indiana University. The group meets every other year and will probably meet this spring.

Discussion of Panels/papers for AAASS 2001 in Washington, D.C.

The following panels were proposed from the floor:

- The Changing World of Library Acquisitions and Slavic/East European/Russian Materials.
- Participants: Michael Herrick, Harvard, Janice Pilch, U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Emily Tock, Ohio State U., Ron Hogg, British Library, Janet Crayne, U. Michigan Discussant/Organizer: Steve Corrsin, Wayne State U.
- Roundtable on new electronic resources—each presenter focuses on one resource in depth. (Steve Corrsin)
- Panel focusing on the effect of online resources on learning and research habits, with a panel of perhaps two teaching faculty and two librarians—each would deal with the pluses and minuses of the Internet as a teaching tool Organizer: Aaron Trehub. Aaron has some teaching faculty in mind and will be contacting them to see if they are interested.
- Panel on the new role of public libraries in Russia—libraries as civic centers Organizer: Marianna Tax Choldin
- Panel on conducting and managing digital projects (and/or other large grant- funded projects). Issues involved include selection of materials, processing, prepping materials, etc. Could include administrative aspects. Organizer: Not yet identified; list will be sent out over Slavlibs to solicit additional panels, organizers and participants.

The deadline for submitting proposals to AAASS is December 1, 2000.

Miscellaneous

Jolanta Davis made a general plea to the future editor of the *NewsNet* column to try to make the column larger. It would be useful to include information of interest to faculty and other members of AAASS. For example, columns might include mention of new resources or websites. Janet Crayne mentioned that in the past

AAASS did not want the column to include such information. Jolanta suggested changing the name of the column to reflect a broader scope.

Minutes recorded by Cathy Zeljak, George Washington U.

II. Reports

NEWS FROM THE U.S. AND CANADA

Kay Sinnema, Duke U.

ABSEES Update

ABSEES ANNOUNCES BIBLIOGRAPHIC WORKFORM FOR CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

The American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies (ABSEES) announces an Internet-based bibliographic workform for creating and submitting records from anywhere in the world. The workform has been available since late November 2000, and so far over 250 records have been submitted by contributing editors at Harvard University, the University of Chicago, the University of Pittsburgh, and the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEEER).

If you are interested in contributing to ABSEES over the Web, please e-mail the editors at absees@uiuc.edu for further details. Although the bibliography's traditional focus is on materials published in the United States and Canada, our goal now is to turn it into an international guide to scholarship in our field. For that reason, we welcome contributions from any country. We are also working with our colleagues at the Paris-based European Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies (EBSEES).

ABSEES is a unique resource. We are asking for your help in making it even more timely and comprehensive. Please feel free to contact us if you have questions about this project or are interested in participating.

The leading resource of its kind in North America, ABSEES has been compiled continuously since 1956. It has been based at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library since 1991. ABSEES Online has been available over the Internet since 1995, and currently contains almost 42,000 bibliographic records for the period 1990 onwards. New records are added every month. ABSEES Online is available by subscription to colleges, universities, libraries, and research centers; it currently serves 100 institutions in North America and Europe. For more information, visit the ABSEES Web site at <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/absees/>.

(Aaron Trehub, U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign)

Hoover News

An exhibit celebrating the life and works of the Russian poet, Nobel Prize recipient, and U.S. Poet Laureate Joseph Brodsky (1940–1996) was on display at the Hoover Institution from May 24, 2000 through the end of February 2001.

Work continues on the Hoover/GARF/Chadwyck-Healey project to microfilm records of the Soviet gulag, including English-language finding aids. For more information, contact Lora Soroka:

soroka@hoover.stanford.edu.

(Molly Molloy, Hoover Institution)

Library of Congress News

The Library of Congress has received hundreds of microfilm reels from the military archives of Hungary, Poland and Romania. The Hungarian materials focus primarily on the years 1948–52, the Polish materials on the years 1939–1968, and the Romanian materials on the years 1944–48. To highlight these materials, a conference, open to the public, was held on June 28–29, 2000.

Cold War Archives in the Decade of Openness:

A Conference Co-Sponsored by the Library of Congress and the Department of Defense at the Library of Congress.

Program highlights:

The Central European Military Archives Collection at the Library of Congress. Collection contents, subject areas, and special features.

Chair: Alfred Goldberg, Historian, Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Poland: Ronald Bachman, Area Specialist, Library of Congress.

Hungary: Kenneth Nyirady, Reference Librarian, Library of Congress.

Romania: Grant Harris, Reference Specialist, Library of Congress.

Central European Military Archives in the Decade of Openness

Chair: BG John Sloan Brown, Director, U.S. Army Center of Military History

Poland: Col. Andrzej Bartnik, Director, Central Military Archives

Hungary: Dr. Jolan Szijj, Director, War History Archives

Romania: Col. Alexandru Osca, Chief, Military Archives of the Ministry of National Defense

Cold War Documentation Programs

Chair: Robert S. Litwak, Woodrow Wilson Center

Panel: Mark Kramer, Harvard University, Thomas Blanton, National Security Archive, Vojtech Mastny, National Security Archive and Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research, Christian Ostermann, Cold War International History Project, Woodrow Wilson Center, Pavol Salamon, Open Society Archives, John E. Haynes, Library of Congress.

(Grant Harris, Library of Congress)

New York Public Library News

Exhibitions

In the Spring of 2000, the Exhibitions Program Committee recommended support for a Gottesman Hall/Allen Room Exhibit in the Fall of 2003, "Peter, Catherine/Moscow, St. Petersburg: The Globalization of Russian Culture, 1672-1812." This traveling exhibit, now in the planning stages, will include approximately 150-175 books, manuscripts and engravings of national significance drawn from the Rossica (both Cyrillic- and Roman-script imprint) collec-

tions of the New York Public Library (approximately 160 items), and the foreign/non-Russian collections of the National Library of Russia in St. Petersburg (ten items). There will also be a selection of art objects from the newly-renovated Hillwood Museum in Washington, D.C. and various private collectors.

Visitors and Events

During the past year, the Slavic and Baltic Division continued to host a large number of delegations brought to the United States by the U.S. Information Service (USIS) and the Department of State. In the past year, groups of library professionals have arrived from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Belarus, Russia (four groups in all, including many professionals from various regions), Kazakhstan and Ukraine.

On April 12, 2000 the Library hosted representatives of the so-called "Great Cultural Embassy" of the directors of leading cultural institutions in St. Petersburg. Among the participants were the directors of Peterhof (Vadim Znamenov) and the Peter and Paul Fortress (Boris Arakhcheev).

In December the Library hosted more than one hundred members of the Episcopal Church Club of New York for a series of lectures relating to aspects of the Eastern Christian resources of the Library. The series is part of a larger program of outreach planned for the current calendar year. These lectures were accompanied by an exhibit of some of the rarest items in the collection, including an early 14th century illuminated Church Slavic manuscript, a bejeweled Altar Gospels from the reign of Catherine II, and original 19th century photographs of the Russian Orthodox Mission in Jerusalem.

Staff Travel

During 2000 Edward Kasinec made two trips to Moscow and also traveled to Kiev, Budapest, and the Crimean Peninsula.

In May 2000, Robert Davis visited the United Kingdom, where he met with colleagues at the British Library, the University of Oxford, the Taylorian Institution, and the Bodleian Library. During a visit to Belgium, he visited the National Library. In July and August he was in Helsinki, Tallinn, and Tampere where he presented a paper on the history of North American Collections since World War I, and delivered two papers on behalf of Library col-

leagues in both Tallinn and Tampere. A subsequent visit to Stockholm included a meeting with a colleague at the Royal Library. In September, Davis met with colleagues at the Marciana Library in Venice and the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana in Rome.

Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz traveled to Poland and the Czech Republic in October 2000. The main purpose of his trip was to meet with the Library's traditional exchange partners in Poland and the Czech Republic—the National Library in Warsaw, the Warsaw University Library, the Jagiellonian Library in Krakow, and the National Library in Prague. He also met with representatives of commercial publishing firms and visited antiquarian bookstores in both countries.

Staff Enhancement Seminars

During the last year, staff were treated to a variety of speakers from throughout the world, among them: Prof. Steven Mansbach, Chairperson, Department of Art History, Pratt Institute, "The Print Sources for a History of Modern Eastern European Art"; Jeffrey K. Cymbler, Esq., member of the Jewish Genealogical Society, "Genealogical Pursuits in Poland"; Edward Kasinec, "Resources for Byzantine Studies THERE, and HERE: Some Personal Observations"; Jeanne Bornstein, NYPL, "The Pen is Mightier than the Sword": A Seminar on Exhibition Text in St. Petersburg (And a Visit to St. Petersburg Cultural Institutions); Dr. Svat Soucek, NYPL, "The Roots and Growth of a Recently Published Book: Why, How, and Whither" concerning his book *A Short History of Inner Asia*; Dr. Milada Klatil, NYPL (*Emerita*) "Czech and Slovak Literature at The New York Public Library."

(Robert Davis, New York Public Library)

Reminiscences of Slavic Librarianship

This call is for potential contributions to a publication of reminiscences about Slavic librarianship prior to 1991. Contributions do not have to be American, or in English. If you wish to contribute, or know of others who might, please send us the following information:

Your name:

Your address:

Your Phone Number:

Your E-mail address:

and we will contact you in the near future with the specifics.

Janet Crayne (jcrayne@umich.edu)

Patricia Polansky (polansky@hawaii.edu)

Wojciech Zalewski (zalewski@leland.stanford.edu)

Slavic Librarians' Workshop

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, June 21–23, 2000.

Sandra Levy coordinated the Tenth Annual Workshop held in connection with the University of Illinois' Summer Research Laboratory.

After our welcome by Bob Burger, Head of the Slavic and East European Library, the first morning included a variety of announcements and short reports. For the balance of the workshop, we had several more in-depth discussions on a variety of subjects including: a report on Russian online catalogs by Marina Pluzhenskaia (Yaroslavl, Russia and U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign); Barbara Bulat's (Jagiellonian Library) discussion on new Polish bibliographic resources both print and electronic; Jackie Byrd and Tim Larson (Indiana U.) on the new electronic version of the Slavic Librarians' Directory; and Helen Sullivan (U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign) on her tests with real time electronic reference work using different "chat" software.

Jackie Byrd also led a lively discussion on the many cataloging issues facing Slavic librarians today.

Sandra Levy (U. Chicago)

Dates have been set for the Eleventh Annual Slavic Librarians' Workshop to be held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as part of the annual Summer Research Laboratory on Russia and Eastern Europe. The dates had to be adjusted to the

earlier schedule of the ALA conference in San Francisco, and therefore will be slightly later than usual. The dates will be: Wednesday, June 27—Friday, June 29, 2001. For details on the Slavic Librarians' Workshop, please contact Janice Pilch, Slavic and East European Library, 225 Main Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1408 West Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801, Tel. (217) 333-1340, E-mail: pilch@uiuc.edu.
(Janice Pilch, U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign)

Yale University Library Intern

The Slavic Reading Room at the Yale University Library is happy to report that Sirje Riitmuru from Tallinn, Estonia interned at the Library from September through December 2000. Affiliated with the Department of Baltic Literature and Rare Books of the Estonian Academic Library, Ms. Riitmuru is a graduate of the Tallinn Pedagogical University in the field of library science and bibliography. Sirje Riitmuru was our eighth intern from Eastern Europe under a program jointly sponsored by the Sterling Memorial Library and the International and Area Studies Center at Yale. A generous donation from Dr. Kirstaps Keggi funds this internship.

During her stay Ms. Riitmuru studied the operation of the Yale Library System. While based in the Slavic Reading Room, she also spent time observing the many different functions of the Sterling Memorial Library and other school and departmental libraries at Yale to gain insight into the operation of a major American research library. Ms Riitmuru is particularly interested in the Baltic literature collection in our holdings, in Estonian exile publications, and in recent Baltic materials published in North America.
(Tatjana Lorkovic, Yale U.)

NEWS FROM ABROAD

Kay Sinnema, Duke U.

British News

The first Slavonic workshop on electronic resources took place in November 2000 and was declared a resounding success by members of both the Slavonic sub-faculty (literature) and the Slavonic inter-faculty (social studies). It was a joint venture of the Bodleian Slavonic section and the Oxford University Computing Services. For details see

<http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/dept/techserv/slavonic/workshop.htm>.
(Angelina Gibson, Bodleian Library, Oxford University)

IFLA News

The sixty-sixth IFLA General Council and Conference convened in Jerusalem, Israel, 13–18 August 2000 with the theme “Information for Cooperation: Creating the Global Library of the Future.” The enormous potential for international co-operation in the exchange and utilization of information which today’s technology offers, and tomorrow’s technology promises, presents a unique opportunity to library and information professionals. The growing demand for bibliographic exchange, multicultural Internet resources, research unhampered by geographic or linguistic limitations, and cross-cultural networking, both in the sense of online technology and offline partnerships, is a challenge to libraries which should be welcomed and which must be addressed. The Global Information Infrastructure which is developing and which will surely be in place early in the 21st century, will require information professionals with a sense of obligation, both to their national needs and to the larger goals of the international community, to digitize, navigate, distribute and preserve all the world’s knowledge for all the world’s people.

This IFLA conference sought to address the questions posed by the Global Library of the future with panels and presentations on virtual reference, digitization of collections, cataloging and classifica-

tion in numerous languages and scripts, and access to materials in the electronic age. The conference program and papers are available in several languages at:

<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla66/66intro.htm>.

The sixty-seventh IFLA General Council and Conference will be held in Boston, Mass., USA, 16–25 August 2001 with the theme “Libraries and Librarians: Making a Difference in the Knowledge Age.” The library exists as an idea and a symbol as well as a physical reality. Throughout history the mission of the library—to facilitate the free flow of information—remains unchanged although change is constantly occurring in the ways in which librarians fulfill the library’s mission. Librarians, as knowledge workers, collect, transmit and preserve recorded messages. They organize and manage the storage, retrieval and use of information. They provide personal assistance in tailoring information services for people and institutions. Librarians analyze, evaluate and synthesize the information they collect to create new forms of knowledge. The technology changes, but the mission endures.

The power of technology supports sophisticated systems for connecting people to new forms of knowledge and creates linkages between the expanding physical and intellectual universes. By harnessing rapidly developing technology with a reaffirmation of the historical values and contributions of librarianship, the chaos and experimentation of the Information Age transforms into a new era of human development—the Knowledge Age.

For further information on participation in the 2001 IFLA conference, see <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla67/index.htm>.

Crimea Conference

The Eighth International Conference “Crimea 2001: Libraries and Associations in the Transient World: New Technologies and New Forms of Cooperation” will be held in Sudak, Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine, June 9–17, 2001. The following topics for presentations and discussions at sections, roundtables, workshops, and other events are envisioned:

- Worldwide Information Infrastructure and Interlibrary Cooperation in Information Society;
- Development and Preservation of Library Collections;
- Cooperation of Libraries, Publishers and Book Market;
- Online Technologies, CD-ROM, Electronic Publications and Internet in Libraries;
- Electronic (Digital) Libraries;
- Automated Library Systems and Technologies;
- Information Support of Education and Information Society;
- Corporate Library and Information Systems;
- Information and Linguistic Support of Library and Information Systems;
- Library Staff, Profession and Education;
- Development of Library Collections in National Languages;
- Libraries, Municipal Information and Regional Studies;
- Library and Information Services for the Disadvantaged;
- Libraries and Museums in Global Information and Cultural Environment;
- Bibliography and Library Science;
- Ethics and Security of Electronic Information;
- Ecological Information and Role of Libraries.

For more information see <http://www.iliac.org/crimea2001/>.

The Seventh International Conference “Crimea 2000: Libraries and Associations in the Transient World: New Technologies and New Forms of Cooperation” was held in Sudak, Feodosiya, Sary Krym, Alushta, Yalta, Koktebel, Simferopol, Republic of Crimea, Ukraine, June 3–11, 2000. The conference program and proceedings are available at: <http://www.gpntb.ru/win/inter-events/crimea2000/>

ILIAC Workshop

ILIAC’s (International Library Information and Analytical Center) fourth International Workshop “Digital Resources and Digital Libraries: Opportunities for Cooperation” was held in Washington, D.C., March 12–13, 2001. The purpose of the Workshop was to exchange information and ideas on crucial problems of digital

resources and digital libraries development worldwide, particularly in NIS; their impact upon economy, science, culture, education and business; opportunities for international cooperation in the digital environment, particularly USA-NIS cooperation and vice-versa. Legal, ethical and security problems of digital information and other related topics were discussed at the Workshop. The Workshop Proceedings will be published on the Internet and available for free.

Some of the papers include:

- “Russian State Sci-Tech Information System: Present Stage and Prospects.” Dr. Vladimir Nechiporenko, Deputy Head, Department of Information Technologies, Ministry of Industry, Science and Technologies of the Russian Federation, Russia.
- “Current State of the Information Market in Russia: Main Producers and Basic Groups of Databases.” Dr. Yakov Shraiberg, President, ILIAC; First Deputy Director, Russian National Public Library for Science & Technology, Russia.
- “Electronic Divide of Russian Libraries.” Dr. Andrei Zemskov, Director, Russian National Public Library for Science & Technology, Russia.
- “Republic of Uzbekistan Commercial Banks Information Resources.” Anvar Kabulov, Mirsabit Achilov, Ibrohim Babakulov, Rogib Kadirov, Banking and Financial Academy, Republic of Uzbekistan.
- “Information Resources of Russian Libraries.” Tatiana Manilova, Deputy Head, Department of Libraries, Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, Russia.
- “Electronic Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan.” Marat Rakhmatullaev, Executive Director, Uzbekistan Library Association, Republic of Uzbekistan.
- “Russian Web-sites in the Field of Science, Culture and Education.” Mikhail Goncharov, Executive Secretary, ILIAC; Department Head, Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology, Russia.
- “ILIAC Moscow Representative Office: Products and Services for Domestic and Foreign Users.” Valery Garmashov, Director, ILIAC Moscow Representative Office, Russia.

- “Russian Visual Sources in Digitization under the ‘Visual Treasures’ project of the New York Public Library.” Heegwone Yoo, New York Public Library, New York, NY, USA.
- “Publishing in Russia.” Dr. Yakov Shraiberg, President, ILIAC; First Deputy Director, Russian National Public Library for Science & Technology, Russia.
- “Electronic Resources and Russian Producers of Business Information.” Olga Putilina, Department Head, Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology, Russia.
- “Internet Club as a New Form of Internet Users Services in Russia.” Marianna Panycheva, Executive Director, Non-Commercial Partnership “Internet Club 12 Kuznetsky Most”, Russia.
- “Digital Libraries in Russia.” Dr. Alexander Visly, Deputy Director, Russian State Library, Russia.
- “Use of Digital Resources for Universities of Culture Students Programs.” Dr. Olga Shlykova, Professor, Moscow State University of Culture, Russia.
- “Digital Information Resources of All-Russian Institute of Scientific and Technical Information (VINITI).” Dr. Valentina Tsvetkova, Department Head, All-Russian Institute of Scientific and Technical Information, Russia.
- “Resources on Russian Legal Information: from Legal Information Databases to Digital Law Libraries.” Dr. Irina Mironova, Director, “Kodeks” Legal and Information Consortium, Russia.
- “Use of Digital Information Resources on Healthcare in the Republic of Tatarstan.” Dr. Yulia Dresher, Director, Republican Medical Library and Information Center, Republic of Tatarstan, Russia.
- “Digital Information Resources of Russian North.” Ekaterina Veselova, Director, Municipal Library Network, Severodvinsk, Arkhangelsk Region, Russia.
- “Digital Information Resources of the Perm Region of Russia.” Ekaterina Sirotina, Deputy Director, Library and Information Center, Perm, Russia.
- “Demonstration of Russian and CIS information products on CD-ROMs and on the Internet.” Mikhail Goncharov, Execu-

tive Secretary, ILIAC; Department Head, Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology, Ksenia Volkova, Section Head, Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology.

For further information on the Workshop and these papers, see: <http://www.iliac.org/confer/2a.html>.

Fifth International Slavic Librarians' Conference

Traditionally librarians from around the world have convened just prior to the World Congress of Slavists, which is held every five years. The librarians' preconference, entitled "Libraries in Open Society," took place July 26–28, 2000 in Tallinn, Estonia. It was attended by librarians representing many countries throughout the world, but with the clear majority representing countries from Eurasia and North America. The conference was organized by the National Library of Estonia and the library of the Finnish Institute for Russian and East European Studies, with Mari Kannusaar representing the former, and Anneli Virtanen representing the latter. Marianna Choldin opened the conference, speaking on "How We Came Together." Larissa Petina, from the National Library of Estonia, presented a special paper, "Sobranie knig grafa Bobrinskogo v zamke Pylytsamaa: iz istorii priusadebnykh bibliotek Èstonii 18 veka."

Panels, roundtables and papers focused on topics of particular interest to Slavic librarians. Although provision had been made for panels dealing with cataloging and other technical services issues, panels on cataloging were conspicuously absent, and technical services were only mentioned. Collection development was covered very thoroughly, including panels on periodical databases, electronic information delivery, full text databases, journals, regional collections, collaborative initiatives, and preservation. There was also a separate session devoted to papers that could not be fit into a panel structure.

There were twelve exhibitors who set up tables in a separate hall in the Conference Center. This provided a unique opportunity to

have an extended conversation with vendors in a more relaxed setting than can be provided at much larger library conferences. The conference package also included many meals, tours of local libraries, and a reception at the Finnish Embassy. Of course, the city itself is incredibly picturesque, so straying a block or two from the Conference Center provided its own entertainment.

On the last night of the conference a farewell dinner was held at Kolu Tavern in the Estonian Open-Air Museum, specifically honoring Marianna Tax Choldin's career in Slavic librarianship. Friends and colleagues, including Peter Burnett of the Bodleian Library, Patricia Polansky of the University of Hawaii, and Chris Thomas of the British Library, recognized Marianna's contributions to the field. Wojciech Zalewski of Stanford University toasted Marianna and Brad Schaffner, chair of the Bibliography and Documentation Committee of AAASS, presented her with the text of a forthcoming plaque that read: "Let it be known that her colleagues hereby recognize and honor Marianna Tax Choldin for thirty years of outstanding service to the international library community." The "crowning moment" was provided by Ekaterina Genieva, Director General of the Library for Foreign Literature in Moscow, and President of the Open Society Institute-Russia, who, on behalf of the President of Russia, presented Marianna with the Pushkin Medal (See below.)

(Janet Crayne, U. Michigan)

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARIAN SELECTED AS RECIPIENT OF RUSSIA'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS CULTURAL AWARD

Marianna Tax Choldin, the C. Walter and Gerda B. Mortenson Distinguished Professor at the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign, has been notified by the Russian government that she is the third recipient of the prestigious Pushkin Medal.

The Pushkin Medal recognizes extraordinary contributions to Russia in the sphere of culture and education. It was established in 1999 by President Boris Yeltsin to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Alexander Pushkin, the great Russian poet. It

has been awarded three times: first, to the late and renowned scholar of the humanities and academician Dmitry Likhachev; second, to the American philanthropist George Soros; third, to Professor Marianna Tax Choldin.

Choldin received notification on July 28 while she was attending the Fifth International Slavic Librarians' Conference in Tallinn, Estonia. During the closing dinner, she was recognized by several international colleagues for her professional contributions to the field. "The news of this award was the crowning event of the recognition ceremony . . . the whole thing was a surprise for me!" she said.

Notification was made by Ekaterina Genieva, Director General of the Library for Foreign Literature in Moscow and president of the Open Society Institute-Russia (Soros Foundation). Genieva is a member of the Presidential Council on Culture, which selected Choldin for the award and forwarded her name to Russian President Vladimir Putin for his approval.

Although the award was a surprise for Choldin, she is no stranger to Russian culture. Through her work at the Mortenson Center and as chair of the Soros Foundation's Network Library Program, she has worked closely with Russian libraries and librarians for the past decade and addressed issues such as access to information, intellectual freedom, and the history of censorship. "The Mortenson Center has hosted more than 100 librarians from Russia, and I've visited numerous libraries throughout the country," Choldin said. "Through the Soros program, we've helped dozens of libraries in many areas of library development, including automation, collection development, preservation, Internet access, and training."

Marianna Tax Choldin became the founding director of the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs in 1991. The Center brings librarians to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for short courses and extended periods of study; to date approximately 485 Mortenson Associates from 75 countries have spent time on the campus, and the Center has initiated cooperative programs in Russia, Central America, Haiti, and South Africa.

Choldin has traveled all over the world to work with librarians, promoting improved library services, new technologies, and espe-

cially freedom of information. In conjunction with her activities as Mortenson Professor, she chairs the multifaceted library program of the Soros Foundation, which has distributed millions of dollars to libraries and librarians in more than 30 countries.

Educated at the University of Chicago, Choldin received her bachelor's degree with Phi Beta Kappa in 1962 and her doctorate in 1979. She has been on the faculty of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for 31 years and has served as director of the Russian and East European Center and head of the Slavic and East European Library.

She is currently an adjunct professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science. She focuses her research on censorship in Russia, the Soviet Union, and the post-Communist world. The author of numerous articles and books, she is best known for *A Fence Around the Empire: Russian Censorship of Western Ideas under the Tsars* and *The Red Pencil: Artists, Scholars, and Censors in the USSR* (co-edited with Maurice Friedberg). In 1995 she was elected president of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies.

(U. Illinois Urbana-Champaign press release, August 2000)

Managing the Digital Future of Libraries International Conference

The international conference "Managing the Digital Future of Libraries" was held in Moscow, April 18–19, 2000 at the Russian State Library. The conference marked the final phase of the European Union—Russian State Library project "To create an Information System for the Russian State Library." The project resulted in the implementation of the cataloging and OPAC modules of a state-of-the art fully integrated library system. Local and remote users will have access via LAN and Internet to a Russian State Library catalog database created by converting existing machine-readable databases and retro-conversion of catalog cards. Together with other related projects to create the Russian National Digital Library, the project is one of the first steps toward full automation

of Europe's largest library and its future networking with other libraries in Russia and abroad.

The aims of the conference were threefold: to present results and lessons learned from the European Union project and other Russian State Library information technology projects; to discuss issues and future activities of digital library development in Russia; and to stimulate Russian-international dialog and cooperation in digital library development. Papers were presented on the following broadly defined themes: national digital library initiatives (policy, planning, funding, research, standards); digital preservation of cultural heritage (policy, selection, methodologies); organizational impact (on internal management, acquisition of skills); new digital alliances (libraries and publishers, museums, archives); digital library services for users (especially the development of electronic document delivery services); technology trends (networking, preservation, storage, retrieval); and best practice case studies reflecting these themes from Russia and other countries.

For more information on the conference and its program, see: <http://www.rsl.ru/tacis/conf.htm>

Sabre Foundation

The year 2000 marks the tenth year of operations for Sabre-Svitlo and Sabre-Zagreb, two of Sabre's most successful partner organizations. In Croatia, Sabre-Zagreb is readying plans for targeted book donations to the following institutions, the first four of which were severely damaged by war: Law Faculty, University of Osijek; Zadar Public Library; Inter-University Center, Dubrovnik; City Hospital in Vukovar; and Library of the American and Croatian Friendship Society.

In Ukraine, Sabre-Svitlo has been recognized for its important work in increasing open access to information with a generous grant from the Soros-funded International Renaissance Foundation. The \$50,000 grant supports the selection and targeted distribution of scholarly literature in the humanities and social sciences.

For more information on Sabre and its work, see: <http://www.sabre.org/>.

Sofia 2000 Conference

The third international conference “Sofia 2000: Libraries in the Age of the Internet” was held in Sofia, Bulgaria, November 8–10, 2000 and organized by the library schools of Emporia State University, Kansas and the University of Sofia, Bulgaria. The social, political, and economic changes in western, central and eastern Europe call for a dialog between those in the information professions on the development of library and information services in the context of the communication revolution. Democratic and economic reforms, digital technology, information access and use, social change and democracy constituted the themes of the conference. Core issues explored at the conference included:

- Local, national, and global library cooperation and network systems;
- Sources for and managing fund and partnerships;
- Library services and information delivery systems;
- Electronic publishing;
- Preservation and digitization of information sources;
- Infrastructure development;
- Professional development and training;
- Database creation and management;
- Mediated and end-user services;
- Library school curriculum;
- Information/knowledge management;
- National/international information legal and policy frameworks.

Conference notes, pictures and video can be found at:
<http://slim.emporia.edu/globenet/sofia/sofia.htm>.

SEES, WESS, and ACRL at the Frankfurt Book Fair

At the 2000 Frankfurt Book Fair, the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) presented an exhibit of ACRL publications and services, including some of those from the Slavic & East European Section and the Western European Studies Section (SEES

and WESS respectively). The new journal *Slavic and East European Information Resources* was also displayed. There was a large contingent of American research librarians that staffed the booth and promoted ACRL to the world, including: Melissa Cast (Director of ACRL Member Services); Marzena Pasek (New York Public Library), WESS representative; Gordon Anderson (U. Kansas), SEES representative; and several other WESSies, including Bryan Skib (U. Michigan).

Visit the WESS website (<http://www.lib.virginia.edu/wess>) to view an attractive photo album of the ACRL exhibit at the Conference and other reports on the Frankfurt Book Fair. For more on ACRL's activities in Frankfurt, see: Pasek, Mazena, and Gordon B. Anderson. "ACRL Promotes American Libraries at the Frankfurt Book Fair," *College and Research Libraries News* 61, no. 11 (December 2000): 1007-1009.

Poland at the Frankfurt Book Fair

The Polish exhibit in Hall 3 was extensive, eye-catching, and artfully and thoughtfully put together. Over thirty exhibits ranged from a working model of manuscript illumination (placed next to the latest version of an electronic book), to the Solidarity movement's history, to exhibits on Szczecin and Wrocław before and after 1945.

Czesław Miłosz and Wisława Szymborska were honored guests at the Fair's opening ceremonies on Tuesday evening, October 17, when they read from their poetry. Władysław Bartoszewski, Polish Foreign Minister, also addressed the opening convocation, as did Joschka Fischer, the Foreign Minister of Germany. Over the next few days at the Poland Exhibit, Czesław Miłosz, going strong at age ninety, gave more programs of readings and reminiscences, for example, about his translation of Aleksander Wat's *My Century*. In all some seventy Polish authors were present at the fair and/or at literary events around Frankfurt before and during the Fair.

Other Central and East European countries presented concise but impressive displays of their national book production and their library networks. These exhibits were very conveniently located on

the same floor of Hall 9 as the ACRL exhibit, and several visitors from these countries came to the ACRL booth.

“POLAND” is the rubric under which these events were organized and promoted. Its URL (<http://www.polska2000.pl/>) is a very useful gateway to the press releases and other reports on Poland’s presence in Frankfurt this year.

(Gordon Anderson, U. Kansas)

III. Grants

Jean Dickinson, U. Nebraska-Lincoln

The **Columbia University Libraries**, thanks to the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), is engaged in the Slavic Culture and History Preservation Microfilming Project, a one-year project to preserve primary source materials owned by Columbia University on Slavic and East European art, history, literature, politics, religion, and social movements. The Columbia University Libraries' Slavic Culture and History pamphlet collection, chiefly composed of materials published between 1800 to 1960, numbers an estimated 9,500 titles, approximately one-third of which are located in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library's renowned Bakhmeteff Archive. In addition, the Project will target primary and secondary source materials from the Libraries' Slavic and East European history monographs collection, also composed of materials published between 1800 and 1960.

It is estimated that 1,500 pamphlets and 2,700 monographic volumes will be filmed for this project. The majority of the titles are in Slavic languages (88% Russian, 5% Ukrainian, and 7% other), but project survey results also reveal a small number in Lithuanian, Latvian, Hungarian, and Finnish. The materials selected to be microfilmed in this project are in very poor condition as evidenced by the brittleness of the paper and the deteriorated nature of their bindings. All will be preserved on high-quality microfilm. Item-level catalog records, accessible through national databases and through Columbia's online catalog, will be created for each.

(David Lowe, Columbia U.)

The **Hoover Institution Archives** is finishing up an NEH project filming selected materials from the Museum of Russian Culture in San Francisco. Microfilms should become available for research in the Archives in July 2001. Registers are already prepared for most of the

collections. Contact Anatol Shmelev (shmelev@hoover.stanford.edu) for more information. For copies of the registers, write to: archives@hoover.stanford.edu.
(Molly Molloy, Hoover Institution)

In May 2000 **New York Public Library's Slavic and Baltic Division** completed a grant-funded (New York State Library) project to catalog and microfilm almost 500 rare Central Asian-language pamphlet volumes, part of its historical collection since the late 1920s–early 1930s. The microfilms were cataloged into the Oriental Division's holdings, while the originals have been retained by the Slavic and Baltic Division.

In December 2000, the Slavic and Baltic Division completed a SEEMP-funded project involving the cataloging and preparation for filming of some 377 Chuvash, Kumyk, and Yakut pamphlets from this same unique collection. These materials will be microfilmed by an outside vendor and made available at the Center for Research Libraries in the spring of 2001.

The Slavic and Baltic Division has fully embraced the multi-year, Library-wide "Visual Treasures" digitization project. Funded by an anonymous donor, the project began in June 2000 and continues until 2004. The Division has developed numerous proposals, many with the benefit of existing electronic checklists as the basis for metadata. Metadata input is complete for its collection of original photographs from Russia and Eastern Europe, and digitization is now underway.

Major donors to the Slavic and Baltic Division included Ms. Karin Falencki and Dr. Jiri Brotan, who each made gifts of \$25,000 to the Research Libraries.

The Endowment for Latvian Materials has grown to more than \$30,000, an increase of \$24,500 from the previous year. Mr. Janis Kreslins, the Division's consultant for Latvian and Lithuanian materials, has been instrumental in this effort.
(Robert Davis, New York Public Library)

IV. Acquisitions

Jean Dickinson, U. Nebraska-Lincoln

The Dartmouth Department of Russian and the Dartmouth College Library received a very large gift of Russian books (ca. 1000 volumes) this past year, comprising the personal library of the late Professor David Goldstein, a former professor of Russian at Dartmouth. The gift includes several rare items and twentieth century émigré publications.

(John DeSantis, Dartmouth College)

The Hoover Institution continues to acquire printed and archival materials concerning the political history and current events in Russia/CIS and East Central Europe. Significant collections added in the last year include:

Russia/CIS Collections:

- Collected materials of George E. Barantseff, relating to the Russian imperial family and émigré history.
- Papers of Robert Pierpont Blake, relating to Russia and Georgia, 1911–1948.
- Archive of the first Chechen War, 1994–1996—a collection of interviews with inhabitants of refugees from Grozny, including audio and video clips. The collection is on five CDs, on a Russian database (Efrat), which is fully searchable. The only other copy of the collection is in Moscow with the NGO that made it, the Civil Assistance Committee.
- Election materials from the Georgian parliamentary elections (1999) and the Ukrainian presidential elections (1999).
- Vera Figner letters—a collection of original letters (about two dozen) written by the Russian socialist revolutionary and feminist, Vera Figner to Marie Zeitline between 1911 and 1922.

- Dmitrii A. Levchik collection—papers of a Russian archivist and specialist at organizing political campaigns and one of the leaders of the “self-administration” movement, which developed first in Moscow during the late 1980s as the first genuine attempt at democratic local self-government in the USSR.
- NTS “Samizdat” collection—the collection of the Narodno-Trudovoi Soiuz (mentioned in last newsletter) was received. It consists of 72 manuscript boxes of unofficial and uncensored private publications, accompanied by a computer-generated, searchable index created by the people at NTS.
- Russian nationalist movements in St. Petersburg, 1988–1998—a collection of Russian nationalist and fascist materials gathered over a ten-year period by Irina Levinskaia and Iurii Lesman; first installment received.
- *Sobytiia na Dal'nem Vostoke, predshestvovavshiiia Russko-Iaponskoi voine, 1891–1903 g.g.*—exceedingly rare three-volume book on the Russo-Japanese war published in St. Petersburg in 1910 in only five copies.
- Tatar national materials—a small collection (two manuscript boxes) of materials dealing with various Tatar nationalist groups.
- Memoirs of Russian émigré life in Estonia, France, Germany, and the United States by Marie von Uexkuell-Idol, a member of a Russian aristocratic family.
- Ukrainian broadsides, announcements and leaflets—a collection of over 200 original Ukrainian materials, some from the period of Ukrainian independence, 1917–1920, and others from the period of occupation of Ukraine by the Germans during World War II.

East Central Europe:

- Large Czech samizdat collection purchased from the Documental Center for Czechoslovak Independent Literature in Scheinfeld, Germany, including many periodical issues.
- Collection of Tomas Glanc, a Professor of Russian Literature at Charles University in Prague, including information on the

Czech crisis of 1968, the Charter 77 movement, and the Velvet Revolution of 1989.

- Krzysztof Jagiieski collection—the archives of one of the leaders of Solidarity in the northwest (Szczecin).
- Papers of Jan Karski (1914–2000)—a large increment to the earlier World War II period collection already in the Archives.
- Papers of Arved Karklis (1896–1983)—relating to various aspects of the Russian Civil War and political administration in Latvia.
- Papers of Mikhail Krasil'nikov (1933–1996)—a Russian-Latvian poet, dissident, and political prisoner.
- Papers of Edward Osobka-Morawski (1909–1997)—Prime Minister of Poland, 1944–1947, 55 manuscript boxes.
- Papers of Sandr Riga (Aleksandr Sergeevich Rotberg, 1939-)—a journalist, philosopher, and ecumenical movement activist from Latvia.
- Round Table collection—a collection of some fifty files of original reports, notes, photocopies of documents, photographs, as well as fifteen videotapes recording the process leading to the “round-table” discussions and the first free elections in the Soviet Bloc in June 1989.
- Ronald Tasho collection—about 3,000 photographs from Albania documenting history from 1970–2000, including the situation in Kosovo.

(Molly Molloy, Hoover Institution)

Indiana University received about 200 books and pamphlets of rare pre-World War II materials from retiring professor Edward Wynot, a graduate of Indiana U. and now teaching history at Florida State U. Most materials (some going back to 1860) deal with history, politics and living conditions in Poland.

(Murlin Croucher, Indiana U.)

The **New York Public Library Slavic and Baltic Division** made a number of important rare book purchases in the past fiscal year, including:

- An album of photographs of landscapes around Lankorona-Izdebnik (near Wadowice, birthplace of John Paul II) presented to the Archduke of Austria, Rainer (1827–1913) on January 11, 1897.
- An album of photographs of the Russian countryside in the Vyborg Region, (S.I., 1900–1910?) in an album with an Art Nouveau binding.
- A New Testament *Gospels*, in Church Slavic (Moscow, 1652).
- An illuminated manuscript Old Believer Church Slavic prayer book and hymnal, circa 1840.
- A late-Petrine era book of geometry, *Priemy tsirkulia i linieiki*, printed in St. Petersburg in 1725.
- *Puti revoliutsii; stati, materialy, vospominaniia* (Berlin, 1923), with a cover by El Lissitzky.
- Franciszek Kniaznin, *Dziela Franciszka Dionizego Kniaznina* (Lipsk, 1837).
- Nikolai Kavalerov's *Semia: povest'* (Moscow, 1930), with a cover by the Latvian artist Gustav Klutsis.
- *Ceskoslovenske legie ve Francii: malirske dokumenty*. (Prague, 1923).
- Copy 29 of a limited edition (70 copies) of Gennadi Aigi's *Slovo-vorona* (Paris, 1997).
- The exceedingly rare lithographic scroll of V.S. Sadovnikov's drawings of the southern side of Nevsky Prospect, St. Petersburg (St. Petersburg, 1835), the only copy of the southern side available in an institutional collection in the United States.
- At the beginning of 2001, the Library's Spencer Collection purchased a brilliantly illuminated land grant on vellum, dated 1775 and signed by Catherine the Great, with its original wax seal intact inside a hallmarked silver case.
- The Library continued to purchase on microfilm the *gubernskie vedomosti* of additional regions of the former Russian Empire, most recently that for Grodno, covering the years 1838 to 1915 on fifty reels. Additional purchases of this series are planned in 2001.
- Microformat replacement for deteriorated hardcopy included the *Arkhiv pavitel'stviuushchago Senata*.

- Zora and Vitaut Kipel, who established the Kipel Family Endowment for Belarusian Materials in 1999, donated to the Library their unique collection of Belarusian émigré periodicals, which will soon be accessible via a published checklist prepared by the donors.
- A number of rarities were donated by the Estate of Marjorie L. Hoover (a reader in the Division), including N.N. Evreinov, *Samoe glavnoe: dlia kogo komediia, a dlia kogo i drama*, v 4 (St. Petersburg, 1921), with a cover by Iurii Annenkov.
- The Alexis V. Lapteff Collection, containing more than 425 photographs of Russia and Turkey, as well as documents and rare interwar Russian imprints from Shanghai.
- Supplements to the Serge Hollerbakh Collection, including rare, often autographed exhibit catalogs and books (which will be described in a forthcoming issue of *Novyi zhurnal*), and to the Blinder Family collection of original photographs from the Russian emigration, a gift from Mrs. Estelle Cobin.

(Robert Davis, New York Public Library)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries, through the continued support of the Anatole Mazour family, received \$4,500 in the last fiscal year for the purchase of Slavic materials, especially for history titles. One important item the Libraries bought with Mazour money was the microfilm set: "Newspapers from the Russian Revolutionary Era."

(Jean Dickinson, U. Nebraska-Lincoln)

V. Transitions

Tatiana Goerner-Barr, U. Florida, Gainesville

Lev Chaban, formerly of the Shevchenko Scientific Society Library, has joined the New York Public Library's Slavic and Baltic Division as a full-time Technical Assistant. Mr. Chaban has principal responsibility for the Division's holdings of current and retrospective serial publications.

Barbara Conaty, team leader of the Central and East European Languages Team in the Social Sciences Cataloging Division of the Library of Congress, has accepted a position as senior instructor in the Library's Technical Processes Automation and Instruction Office. Team members and fellow catalogers Robert Morgan, Jurij Dobczansky, and Vejune Sotelis have been serving in turn as interim team leaders until the team leader position is filled.

Jean Dickinson joined the faculty of the library at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as a Cataloger in February 2000. She catalogs Slavic, East European and German language materials and is the faculty liaison and bibliographer for the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. Jean comes to the University of Nebraska from New Mexico State University, where she worked as the Assistant Acquisitions librarian for a year. Prior to that she was the Assistant Slavic Acquisitions Librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for three years. Jean received her MLS from the University of Arizona in 1995.

Gordon McDaniel has accepted the position of Assistant Technical Services Librarian at the Library of the New York Botanical Garden. He will be joining his wife and family (including one grandchild) in New York City. Gordon has been in the Slavic field for twenty years. He received his Ph. D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures from the University of Washington in 1980, after which he taught Serbo-Croatian and Russian at various institutions. He received his MLS from the University of Illinois in 1991, and has

been a Slavic Cataloger at the Hoover Institution since 1992. Gordon will not be leaving the Slavic field in his new position since the New York Botanical Garden Library has Slavic materials and Slavic exchange partners, and, as he points out, he will be the only Slavist there.

In June 2000, **Janice T. Pilch** joined the Slavic and East European Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as Assistant Professor of Library Administration and Slavic and East European Technical Services Librarian. Prior to that she had been working at the National Security Archive at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Janice received her M.S. in Library Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1998, and she is a Ph.D. candidate in Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan.

Anna Rakityanskaya at the University of Texas, Austin, has recently been appointed a coordinator for the Russian and East European Network Information Center (REENIC: <http://reenic.utexas.edu/reenic.html>). This appointment is an addition to her regular position of Slavic bibliographer. REENIC is a collection of information resources on East and Central Europe, Russia, and the independent countries of the former Soviet Union and is supported by The University of Texas at Austin Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies.

Karen Rondstvedt joined the Stanford University Libraries as Curator for Slavic and East European Collections at the beginning of 2001. She filled the position formerly held by Wojciech Zalewski. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in Slavic Linguistics and General Linguistics, as well as an M.A. in Library Science and an M.A. in Slavic Linguistics, all from the University of Chicago. Prior to this she was the Slavic Bibliographer at the University of Pittsburgh. In addition to her bibliographic responsibilities there, she managed the Alliance College Polish Collection, and has been co-maintainer of the REESweb, a significant guide to Internet resources in Russian and East European studies. She is also the inaugural editor of *Slavic & East European Information Resources*, a new journal published by The Haworth Press. (source: Stanford University Library News)

Emily Tock is the new Collection Manager for East European and Slavic Studies at the Ohio State University. Emily has a B.A. and M.A. in Russian Language and Literature from the University of Kansas. From Kansas, she moved to Moscow to work until the end of 1994 in various capacities, including kindergarten teacher, legal secretary, and office manager for a U.S. legal firm. She completed her MLIS at University of Texas-Austin in 1998. Emily not only purchases materials for OSU's Slavic collection, but also serves as faculty liaison and reference librarian to OSU's Slavic Studies faculty.

HeeGwone Yoo has joined the Slavic and Baltic Division of the New York Public Library as an employee of its "Visual Treasure" digitization project. Mr. Yoo's initial project has centered on the digitization of the NYPL Slavic and Baltic Division's unique albums of original Russian photographs, including some 4,000 images, and will continue with projects for rare Slavic plate books, popular prints, and other materials in the coming year. Mr. Yoo is a Slavist from Korea who started as an intern in the Slavic and Baltic Division while a student at the Queens Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

In Memoriam

Nathalie K. Zitzelsberger

The many friends and colleagues of Nathalie K. Zitzelsberger, Librarian in the Slavic and Baltic Division since 1980, were deeply saddened to learn of her passing on the evening of Sunday, October 22nd 2000. She had been ill many months, but few suspected the gravity of the illness. She bore her long hospitalization stoically, and with her usual grace and forbearance.

Nathalie was born in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg). She received her early education in Germany and did advanced graduate work in Slavic Languages and Literatures at New York University, and in Library Science at Columbia University. During her early years in the Division, Nathalie was involved in both public service and cataloging of the Ukrainian and Russian collections, but in more recent years turned to issues of collection development and coordination, as well

as working with the hourly staff of the Division. In both of these areas, she displayed great patience and sagacity in dealing with dealers, colleagues and staff, in the Library and beyond. In September 1998, she returned to the city of her birth for the first time since the end of World War II, where she renegotiated exchange agreements with the National Library of Russia—agreements that have reaped rich rewards for the Library. She was one of the central figures in the consortium of East Coast Slavic Research Collections, participated actively in the Division's outreach programs, and periodically contributed to the professional literature of the field, as well as to the Library's own journal, *Biblion*.

Nathalie was a warm, caring and understanding person, ever-ready to extend herself to others. I and countless others can personally attest to her many acts of generosity and kindness. We will not, unfortunately, see her like too soon again. May she now have the peace that was denied her in recent months, and may her memory be eternal.

Edward Kasinec

Chief, Slavic and Baltic Division, New York Public Library

Two other figures with longstanding connections to the Slavic and Baltic Division of the New York Public Library died in the past year: **Dr. Adam Yarmolinsky** of the University of Maryland, was the son of Slavic and Baltic's longtime chief, **Avrahm Yarmolinsky**. Also, Professor **Alexander Dallin** of Berkeley, Sovietologist and scholar, worked as a Page in the then Slavonic Division of the New York Public Library.

VI. Libraries in Profile

The Russian Collections at the University of Hawaii's Hamilton Library

Patricia Polansky

Russian Bibliographer, University of Hawaii, Hamilton Library

The former Sandwich Islands are fast approaching the 200th anniversary of the first visit by the Captains Ivan Kruzenshtern and Iurii Lisianskii on their ships, the *Nadezhda* and *Neva*, when they sailed into Honolulu harbor in 1804. Russian circumnavigations continued until the end of the nineteenth century led by Golovnin, Kotzebue and over one hundred others—all stopping in Hawaii. They recorded their observations on ethnography, social conditions, politics, customs, climate, and flora and fauna. These voyages were multi-purpose—military, exploratory, and scientific. A tangible remnant of this era is the Russian Fort Elizabeth on the island of Kauai.

The next significant period of Russian influence in Hawaii is from 1900 to the Russian revolutions in 1917. At the turn of the century, Dr. Nicholas Russel [real name Sudzilovskii], the colorful former member of *Narodnaia Volia*, settled on the Waianae coast on the island of Oahu to practice medicine. He later moved to the Big Island to run a large coffee plantation, and from here was elected to the Senate of Hawaii's first Territorial Legislature. During its first year in 1901, Russel was elected President of the Senate. At this same time, owners of the big sugar plantations were bringing foreign laborers from many countries. A.L.C. Atkinson, a former Governor of the territory whose father was born on the Kirghiz steppes, teamed up with a questionable Russian "businessman" named A.V. Perelestrous and traveled to Harbin, a major center of the Russian emigration in Manchuria. Here they recruited approximately 2,000 Russians from Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, and other cities in the Far East to immigrate to Hawaii. A recruitment pamphlet on life in Hawaii was printed in Vladivostok to help in this effort. In 1917 the

new Bolshevik government in Moscow sent V.V. Trautshold to Hawaii to repatriate the Russians living in the islands. Although passport applications were processed for almost all the families, the majority did not return to live under the Soviets. Most had received letters from relatives in Russia describing very grim conditions. The Russians in Hawaii largely moved on to California; a smaller number, supposedly returning to the Soviet Union, stayed in Japan when the ships stopped there.

The Russian influence on the University of Hawaii began around 1937, when the History Department hired Dr. Klaus Mehnert to teach Russian history. He had studied at the University of California at Berkeley with Dr. Robert J. Kerner, the proponent of the so-called Kerner School of studying Russia through a Pacific lens. Kerner himself had taught at the University of Hawaii during the summer session of 1935. Professor Mehnert began a concerted effort to add materials to the library about Russia, in both Russian and English. He was also the first to investigate the Russian presence in Hawaii in the booklet, *The Russians in Hawaii, 1804-1819* (Honolulu: 1939). In June 1941 Dr. Mehnert moved to Shanghai, China.

The University's next historian on Russia was John Albert White, who in addition to Russian had studied Japanese during the war and taken degrees at Columbia and Stanford. He brought a strong Siberia-Asia-Pacific orientation with him for studying Russia: a perfect continuum to Mehnert's tenure. During the years that Carl Stroven was the University Librarian from 1941 to 1963, White had to negotiate and plead for every Russian title added to the library's collection.

The next event was the arrival in 1952 of Ella Lury Wiswell to begin a Russian language program. Ella was born in the Russian Far East city of Nikolaevsk-na-Amure and grew up in Japan. She developed the early holdings of Russian language and literature. In 1970 John J. Stephan joined the History Department as a Japan specialist with a dual interest in the history of the Russian Far East to continue the tradition.

Although the University of Hawaii has had many faculty over the years in mainstream Russian history, geography, religion, philosophy, and language and literature, the focus of our collection development was primarily on Siberia, the Soviet/Russian Far East, and

Soviet/Russian relations with the countries in Asia and the Pacific. This supported the University's primary areas of excellence in Asia/Pacific studies. These materials often fall between the cracks of interest for both Asian and Slavic collections. As a conscious collection policy, this is unique. This work began in 1937 under Dr. Klaus Mehnert and has continued to the present.

I have been very fortunate in my years as Russian Bibliographer to travel often and extensively in the Soviet Union/Russia. We have always tried to maintain contacts not only with libraries, but also to visit the major academy and university research institutes and get to know the scholars who work in the areas in which we collect. I would like to emphasize that my additions to the collections essentially have been done working with and under the direction of the prominent faculty here at the University of Hawaii.

We estimate that there are about 40,000 titles (56,000 volumes) on topics dealing with Russia. During the flush years of the mid-1960s, we were fortunate to acquire all the titles in the Arno Press reprint series, almost all the titles in the Mouton series *Slavistic printings and reprintings*, and the Russian historical series I and II that Readex issued in microcard. We have well over 1,000 titles in microfilm/fiche/card formats.

Some of the highlights of our collections include:

Siberia/Russian Far East

This is our best collection and the one that I worked the hardest to enlarge. It is an outgrowth of the first books that Klaus Mehnert added to the collection, and that his successor John White continued. White began a semester course on Siberia in 1947 and alternated this with a semester on Central Asia every other year until 1966. *The Siberian intervention* (Princeton: 1950) by John White is still considered a basic work on this subject. In this early period when money was available, the collecting sweep was broad and covered all of Siberia. When John J. Stephan arrived, he traveled numerous times to the Soviet Far East, which greatly increased our contacts and holdings. His book *The Russian Far East: A History* (Stanford: 1994) is already a standard text. As our acquisitions funds became limited over the years, we concentrated more and more on just Soviet Far East imprints. After the collapse in 1991,

I was finally able to travel to this previously forbidden area. We established good exchange relations with many libraries in the primary Far Eastern cities. Our imprints from Khabarovsk, Vladivostok and Uzhno-Sakhalinsk are extensive. We had an excellent collection of newspapers from all the major Russian Far East cities from 1989 to 1999, but these are now located at the Hoover Library.

Russian Revolution

When Rex Wade joined the History Dept in 1968, he began to develop an in-depth collection on the revolutions. The strengths only increased when Donald J. Raleigh joined the faculty in 1979. He emphasized regional imprints.

Lury Collection

In 1985 Professor Emeritus Ella Lury Wiswell donated the books that her father, Moisei Lury, purchased in 1923 from Anatolii Lebedev, the Soviet Ambassador to Japan. It is mainly a collection of the prominent Russian writers and poets.

Hawaii and Pacific Collection

My own research efforts began with identifying what was written in Russian about Hawaii and the South Pacific. As a result of work begun at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the summer of 1970, I had a preliminary bibliography published by the University of Hawaii Pacific Islands Program entitled *Russian writings on the South Pacific area* (Honolulu: 1974). In 1977 I received a long term IREX research grant to work in Soviet libraries in Leningrad and Moscow. This grant had a generous fund with which I was able to extensively microfilm Russian voyaging materials. Unfortunately, my films were burned in a fire at the American Embassy. Fortunately, the Soviet libraries replaced these films, but at University of Hawaii expense. We purchased a collection containing some archival material from Canadian Professor Glynn Barrett in the late 1980s. The greatest addition was after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Amir Khisamutdinov, a Vladivostok scholar, arranged for the Naval Archive in St. Petersburg to film all references to Hawaii in all of the logbooks from the voyaging era. We hold the

Records of the Russian American Company (66 reels on microfilm), a film of the reports of the Vitse-Konsul'stvo in San Francisco that dealt with Hawaii, and a box of the actual documents from Augustus Marques, the last Russian Consul in Honolulu (about 1880–1925). Our edition of Iurii Lisianskii's *Puteshestvie vokrug svieta* (SPB: 1812. 2 v. and atlas) bears the author's signature. Our holdings on the South Pacific are very rich.

Russkaia Pechat' v Kitae, Iaponii i Koree

Manchuria, especially Harbin, became home to Russians when the building of the Chinese Eastern Railway [*KVzhd*] began in 1900. After the Russian revolutions of 1917, cities like Harbin, Shanghai and Tientsin became large colonies for Russian exiles. After the Communist takeover of China in 1949, most of the Russians were forced to leave. Some repatriated, but most left for America, Australia, and South America. Publishing activities were extensive in Harbin and on a somewhat lesser scale in Shanghai. Today these materials are very rare and concentrated in a few places. The largest collections are in the San Francisco Bay Area at the Museum of Russian Culture, the Hoover Institution Library and Archives, and the library and archives at the University of California at Berkeley. The RZIA [*Russkii zagranichnyi istoricheskii arkhiv*] collection in the Czech National Library holds the next largest collection. Our holdings here at the University of Hawaii are probably next in size. In the 1970s I noticed these Russian materials with Chinese imprints and began to pick them up very cheaply. They were a curiosity at the time. During the 1980s John Stephan in our History Department persuaded Szvede Slavic Bookstore in Palo Alto and Globus Slavic Bookstore in San Francisco to be sure to offer us these materials, which they most faithfully did. Andre Savine at Le Bibliophile Russe in Paris was the other most important supplier for us. Presently, we have about 1,000 books and journals printed in China and Japan. The *Pashkov Dom* at the Russian State Library in Moscow has agreed to publish an illustrated catalog of our holdings, which will hopefully be out sometime in 2001. Scholars and graduate students from around the world continually come to work in this collection.

Geography

In 1958 when Roland Fuchs joined the faculty, he offered a course on the geography of the Soviet Union and had a special interest in Siberia. He was responsible for adding many journals and books to the collection especially dealing with Siberia. He traveled extensively in the Soviet Union and to cities in the Far East, and established an exchange for us with the *Institut geografii* in Irkutsk, which in 1972 was very unusual.

Social Movements Collection

A pamphlet collection of about 17,000 items covering roughly 1910 to 1930 reflects the “social” or political and labor ideas that were prevalent during this era. Many items concern the Soviet Union—the Communist Party; the Workers’ School; writings by Lenin, Trotsky, Stalin; and the international workers movement. For example, Paleologue’s two-volume diary of the Russian Revolution, a major source and very rare, is in this collection. Some of the Moscow imprints and the publications and documents from the Workers’ School and the Communist Party may well be unique.

Russian Materials on Asia

Our Asia Collection is concerned with collecting materials from East, Southeast and South Asia. It is in support of these areas that Russian language titles are acquired. For East Asia the countries covered are Japan, China (including Taiwan, Hong Kong, Mongolia, Tibet), and Korea (both North and South); for Southeast Asia all countries, and for South Asia, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Nepal.

Historically, Russian involvement in China and Japan began in the seventeenth century. The prerevolutionary name for the eastern part of the empire was Asiatic Russia. The area today known as the Russian Far East played an integral part in Northeast Asia. For example, the well-known *Vostochnyi institut* [Oriental Institute] established in 1899 in Vladivostok specialized in training diplomats, military officers, and scholars about Asia. Numerous languages were taught; two of which were required studies for each student—among them Japanese, Korean, and the many Chinese and Manchu dia-

lects. We hold the prolific publications of this institute (61 v., 1899–1916).

Exchanges are maintained with Russian libraries specifically able to supply materials on Asian scholarship from Russia. These include the Institute of Oriental Studies (Moscow), the State Public Historical Library (Moscow), the Russian State Library (Moscow), The Russian National Library (St. Petersburg), Gorky Public Library (Vladivostok), and others. Retrospective materials are continuously sought to fill in gaps, largely through microfilming projects and/or from antiquarian dealers. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union acquiring materials has become more difficult and requires acquisitions trips to keep current. The primary reason for this is not necessarily the cost of the materials, but the lack of bibliographic control and prohibitive postage costs.

Currently, we are also involved in a project funded by the Korean Foundation to acquire all of the items listed in the *Bibliografiia Korei* [Bibliography of Korea] covering 1917 to 1970. About 2,400 titles are microfilmed already. We are also pursuing archival documents about Korea.

Finally, let me conclude with the note that the above description applies from 1970 to about 1996. The State of Hawaii experienced a severe economic crisis in 1995 during which time the University sustained huge budget cuts, and the library went for two years without a kopeck for books. It has been a painfully slow recovery. Our Russian collection efforts are virtually dead. Presently, the only area to which we are adding is the Russian imprints from China.

VII. Selected Bibliography of Recent Publications on Slavic Librarianship and Collections in the West

Marta Deyrup, Seton Hall U.

*Indicates titles that have not been examined

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Chepesiuk, Ronald. "From Rubble to Reconstruction: Rebuilding Bosnian Libraries." *American Libraries* 31, no. 2 (February 2000): 22.

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- tional Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control* 29, no. 1 (January/ March 2000): 12–13.
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