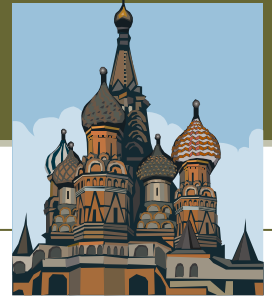


CENTRAL SLAVIC CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER

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CSC heads to the Gateway City in '06

The 45th annual meeting of the Central Slavic Conference (CSC) will take place on November 3-5, 2006 in St. Louis at the Hilton at the Ballpark. For the first time, the CSC will partner with the International Studies Association-Midwest. The CSC will have five panels and the annual business meeting. Also, participating in the ISA-Midwest/CSC meeting will be the Mid-America Alliance of African Studies (MAAAS). CSC board members Marilyn Gaar, Kurt Jefferson, Sherri Raney, and Robin Remington served as observers at the Spring 2006 meeting of the Central Association of Russian Teachers of America (CARTA) meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Discussions were held with CARTA's leadership about partnerships that might include CSC-sponsored panels at future meetings. For CSC 45 hotel information go to the Hilton at the Ballpark's website at <http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=STLBVHF> or call 314-421-1776 or 1-800-HILTONS. It is now too late to get the conference discount. Also, registration information can be found at the ISA-Midwest website at <http://www.missouri.edu/~isa-m/AnnualMeeting/registration.htm>. Pre-registration is \$40 for faculty/professionals (it is \$45 for this group on site). Pre-registration for graduate/undergraduate students is \$25 (and \$30 for this group on site). The Quincy Wright Luncheon on Saturday, November 4, 2006 is

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\$15 for faculty/professionals and \$12 for students. The luncheon is partially subsidized by the ISA-Midwest. According to ISA-Midwest President John Ishiyama, a limited number of partial lodging scholarships to help defray graduate student housing costs during the conference are available. Students can obtain a form at the conference registration table and apply for the ISA-Midwest subsidy for student participation. Submit the application along with a copy of the hotel receipt for reimbursement for the cost of one night's stay, at the conference hotel, based on double occupancy, and dependent on available funds. Students must stay at the conference hotel to qualify for the subsidy.

CSC Annual Business Meeting Agenda in St. Louis

The CSC Board of Directors will held its annual business meeting in St. Louis at the 45th annual CSC meeting (held in conjunction with the ISA-Midwest and MAAAS). The agenda for the meeting is as follows (according to the CSC Treasurer Will Adams):

CSC Agenda

Saturday, November 4, 2006
3:30-5:15 PM in SD2

1. Call to order; record roll of attendees
2. Minutes from May 19, 2005; minutes of non-meeting of March 31, 2006?
3. Old Business: Announcement of current

officers (see list provided)

4. Old Business: Organization of Endowment Board
5. Other Old Business, if any
6. New Business: Invitations for 2007, 2008
7. New Business: Election of officers whose terms are expiring
 - a. Sam Goodfellow, Treasurer
 - b. Sherri Raney, Endowment Board
 - c. Replacement for Will Adams (4 year unexpired term)
8. New Business: Presidential Appointment(s)
 - a. Program Chair(s) for 2007

Please see *Annual Business Meeting* on page 4

My Trip to Ukraine—Part II

By Jerry Morelock

The weather in Ukraine in July 2005 was stiflingly hot, typical mid-summer heat in the land where Western-style air conditioning is still rare. In fact, for our overnight train ride from my wife's home town of Kharkov to the rail terminal in Simferopol, Crimea, we paid extra for an "air conditioned" first-class compartment. Yet, as our 60's-era Soviet train pulled away from the Stalinist architecture of Kharkov's main station, we weren't terribly surprised to find out that the air conditioner didn't work. My wife (a Russian, born and raised during the Brezhnev era in an ancient high-rise not far from Kharkov's famous Tank Factory) patiently explained the still-existent Soviet logic involved – we'd paid extra for the air conditioner, not for one that actually worked. Thankfully, the windows in our compartment opened so that, when the train gained some speed, we got a cross-draft that warded off the worst of the heat. Of course, that meant keeping our compartment door open and, therefore, putting up with the constant, curious stares of our travel companions – the holiday crowd headed for Crimea's beaches – who packed the car's narrow corridor. At bedtime, we wisely chose security over comfort, however, and locked the compartment doors.

My wife's family has made annual summer holiday trips to the Crimea since long before she was born. In fact, her paternal grandparents lived there in the 1920s-30s, and the family scrapbook – her grandfather (born in Tbilisi, Georgia) was a photographer – is filled with shots of Yalta and other Crimean locations. They always stay, as we did last summer, in Alushta, a resort city on Crimea's southern coast about 25 kilometers east of Yalta. We found Alushta packed with vacationers, but even though we had made no reservations ahead of time we had no trouble – at \$50 US per night – hiring a comfortable, two-room apartment with enclosed courtyard and shower room within a few hundred yards of the waterfront. Roadside vendors line all the roads leading into town, "hawking" rooms to let; so finding accommodation is no problem.

Our apartment's proximity to the waterfront and all the activities available there was convenient; yet, as our taxi driver warned us, the noise from the (mainly) western-style music boomed loudly each night into the wee hours of the morning. Our nightly dilemma was to decide if we wanted to close all the windows to block out some of the noise – and suffer through the heat – or try to catch a little breeze and snatch a few winks between the thumping, bass-driven music of the seemingly endless songs. My in-laws, who came down by separate train – pensioners, they always travel in second-class and think we're foolishly extravagant to waste money on a first-class train compartment–stayed (for free of course) in a relative's apartment in a high-rise located in the hills well back from the waterfront. Despite the kilometer or more walk to and from the beach area, their higher, more remote location is quieter, cooler and more comfortable. Lesson learned for our next trip. Our landlady, Fatima, is a Crimean Tartar, who lives in the apartment adjoining the one we hired. Although she seemed friendly enough, my wife overheard her complaining to her husband late one night about "all these Americans, who think they can just go anywhere they want in the whole world." Her mostly-hidden, anti-American attitude, however, did not in the least prevent her from happily taking our 50 "greenbacks" every day. We found, in fact, quite a lot of resentment from Russians and Ukrainians directed toward the Tartars. In particular, many non-Tartars were unhappy about

Jerry Morelock (center in white shorts) in a market on the Black Sea in Ukraine in Summer 2005 (note the numerous kiosks)



the fact that the Tartars (displaced from the Crimea by Stalin after World War II) had received monetary compensation from the government. The grumbling usually went something like, "Stalin murdered my grandparents and sent my uncle to the Gulag, but the government hasn't given *me* any money!" The sentiments seem reminiscent of the old Russian "please kill my neighbor's goat" revelatory parable.

The waterfront area and the beaches were more crowded than Coney Island on the 4th of July, every day, all day long. In order to have a small place to lay out our towel on the beach, one of us had to "hit the beach" no later than 7:30 AM each morning to save a tiny spot for the rest of us. Getting to the water was always an adventure in stepping lightly, since it was impossible to navigate the solid layer of bodies without stepping on somebody. Nobody seemed to mind too much, however. Apparently, getting stepped on is all part of the "Black Sea experience." Once in the water, finding an open spot in the sea of humanity in the shallower water was also no easy task. You've also got to watch out for jet-skis giving rides for pay, since their landing area is anyplace they decide to zoom up to, regardless of how many bathers are crowded into it. If you're claustrophobic, the Crimean Black Sea beaches probably aren't for you. Activity on the brick-paved waterfront promenade picks up around mid-morning and by afternoon it's also packed to maximum capacity with vacationers, souvenir vendors, photographers, artists, carnival-type attractions, restaurants and smaller food kiosks. After dark, the bands and music shows – and the accompanying noise – crank up. The partying goes on, as noted, into the early hours of the next day.

People-watching on the promenade is not only fascinating, it's revealing – given the penchant for the majority of Crimean visitors to wear nothing but skimpy bikinis or "speed-o" trunks, "revealing" has a definite double meaning here. Unlike what's found in America, nobody is fat, and hardly anyone is even close to being overweight. Ukrainians may be small "d" democrats now, but although Western-style department stores and fast food establishments now abound in the larger cities (Kharkov recently opened its *seventh* McDonald's), they haven't as yet succumbed to the worst traits of Western culture – i.e. drive everywhere, eat constantly, shun physical exercise. On the other hand, whether or not we were in Kharkov, the Crimea or Kiev, we pointedly noticed that "please," "thank you" and "excuse me" have yet to enter the vocabulary of the general Ukrainian

Please see *Ukraine-Part II* on page 5

Pondering the CSC's Mission and Goals

By Kurt Jefferson, CSC President

I am looking forward to the CSC's 45th annual meeting in St. Louis. At the CARTA meeting in Tulsa, some of us in the CSC sat down and drafted a mission statement and some goals that we hope the board of directors will discuss and approve at our annual business meeting on November 4th. We believe they capture the spirit of a newly energized CSC that is seeking to not only be relevant to academic and professional circles, but to students and American society as well. Please review the proposed mission statement and goals and give us your feedback. We hope to take the CSC forward in the 21st century as a revitalized organization that works not only with scholars and faculty, but high school teachers and students and others to alert our society of the importance of Slavic studies and issues that relate directly to American society and, even, national security and foreign affairs. Also, we hope to change the name of the organization to Central Slavic Association to reflect the ongoing nature of the professional society (several regional affiliate of the AAASS have done this—the Midwest Slavic Association, the New England Slavic Association, etc). The tradition of the CSC is long and storied, but some of us believe that the word conference implies a static meeting and we hope to show our colleagues and constituencies we serve (and hope to reach) that the CSC/A is an evolving professional association among several important organizations that devote much valued time and energy to the study of the Slavic world. Please contact me if you have any questions or want to participate in the evolution of the CSC as we meet the challenges of professionals who want to study and disseminate knowledge about Europe and Slavic cultures. Here are the proposed mission statement and goals of the CSC/A:

CSC to have Five Panels in St. Louis in November 2006

CSC Panel 1: Fri, Nov 3—10:15 AM-12:00 PM: FB1:
Lessons from the Post-Communist Transition
Chair: Terry D. Clark, Graduate Program in International Relations, Creighton University
Papers:

1. Jessica Lynch, Graduate Program in International Relations, Creighton University, "Using fQCA and SEM to Test Hypotheses of Democratic Consolidation in the Post-Cold War Era"
2. Danielle Pressler, Graduate Program in International Relations, Creighton University, "Privatization in the Transitioning Economies of Eastern Europe and Post-Soviet States"
3. Terry D. Clark, Graduate Program in International Relations, Creighton University and Ramunas Dilba, Vilnius University, "Deputy Behavior in the Lithuanian Seimas: Does Mandate Type Matter?"

Discussants:

1. Nicole Gudikunst, Graduate Program in International Relations, Creighton University
2. Jim Martin, Graduate Program in International



Bulgaria and Romania will join the EU on January 1, 2007 increasing the EU's size to 27 members

The CSC will have a *mission statement*: It is the mission of the Central Slavic Conference/Association to increase awareness of Slavic cultures in the new Russia and new Europe. The CSC/A will also work to stimulate inquiry, knowledge, and communication in understanding the implications of relationships between Slavic cultures and educated Americans and others around the world who are interested in Slavic studies and issues.

The CSC will serve the following constituents: Undergraduates, graduate students, faculty at smaller colleges and universities, faculty at larger research universities, and other professionals interested in the CSC's mission and goals.
Goals of the CSC:

Please see *CSC Mission and Goals* on page 4

Relations, Creighton University

CSC Panel 2: Fri, Nov 3—3:30-5:15 PM: FD1: *Russia and the Near Abroad: Politics, Economics, and Security*

Chair: Kurt W. Jefferson, Westminster College
Papers/Talks:

1. Kurt W. Jefferson, Department of Political Science, Westminster College, "President Putin's use of oil as a foreign policy tool"
2. Jerry D. Morelock, Senior Editor-in-Chief, *Armchair General*, "NATO today"
3. Juris Pucenoks, Department of Political Science and International Relations, University of Delaware, "Changing identities of Baltic Russophones"
4. Liis Vahemaa, Department of Political Science, Eastern Illinois University, "Problems with European Union expansion: The case of Estonia"

CSC Panel 3: Sat, Nov 4—8:15-10:00 AM: SA2: *A Roundtable Discussion: State Sovereignty and Security:*

Please see *2006 CSC Panels in St. Louis* on page 4

Annual Business Meeting from page 1

- b. Changes, if any, in those appointed for indeterminate terms
 - c. Mission and Goals
 - d. Other organizational matters, if any
8. AAASS representative, Terry Clark of Creighton University

CSC Panels in St. Louis from page 3*The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations*

Chair: Robin Remington, Peace Haven International
Panelists:

1. Kathy Dewein, Regional Psychologist, Missouri State Division of Youth Services
2. Rose Procter, Executive Director, International & Educational Trust (IMET).
3. Waverly de Bruijn, International Coordinator, Global Action to Prevent War.

CSC Panel 4: Sat, Nov 4—10:15 AM-12:00 PM: SB2:
Rethinking National Security: Globalization, Codependency, and Regime Change.

Chair: Robin Remington, Department of Political Science, University of Missouri-Columbia and Peacehaven International

Papers/Talks:

1. Robin Remington, Department of Political Science, University of Missouri—Columbia and Peacehaven International, "Contradictions Between Theory and Practice."
2. Byron T. Scott, Missouri School of Journalism, University of Missouri—Columbia, "Courtship and Codependency: Bulgaria, Macedonia and Albania Chase EU Membership."
3. David J. O'Brien, Department of Rural Sociology, University of Missouri-Columbia and Valery V. Patsiorovsky, Institute for Socio-Economic Studies of Population at the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, "Comparing the Quality of Life of Russian Villagers in the Yeltsin and Putin Years: Alternative Paths to Household Adaptation in a Global Economy"

CSC Panel 5: Sat, Nov 4—1:30-3:15 PM: SC1:

Panel 4: *Challenges in Education: Recent Developments at Moscow State University.*

Chair: Byron Scott, Missouri School of Journalism, University of Missouri—Columbia

9. Appeal for deductible donations to the CSC Endowment fund
10. Other New Business, if any
11. Adjournment.

Please contact Kurt Jefferson or Will Adams if you have any questions.

**(CSC Panel 5, continued) Panelists:**

1. Fritz Cropp, Missouri School of Journalism, University of Missouri—Columbia
2. Stuart Loory, Missouri School of Journalism, University of Missouri—Columbia
3. Mike McKean, Missouri School of Journalism, University of Missouri—Columbia
4. Hans Ibold, Missouri School of Journalism, University of Missouri—Columbia

CSC Mission and Goals from page 3

The CSC will provide a support base for those faculty, graduate students, and other professionals:

- 1) who need continual professional networking (when none exists at the institution they are currently housed) in a genuine learning community;
- 2) who need continual support intellectually in contemporary trends and thinking in the areas of Slavic, Russian, European studies, and post-Communist contexts as they affect both separate disciplines and interdisciplinary endeavors;
- 3) to provide opportunities for undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, and other professionals to deliver papers and participate on panels and to have other organizational experiences (such as leadership in the CSC/CSA and workshop participation) in a regional network of scholars and professionals;
- 4) to enhance these experiences at the regional level in order to provide a stepping stone to help faculty, students, and professionals at the national level in their respective disciplines and professions;
- 5) in order to give them the best possible experience in making the study of the Slavic world, the new Russia, and the new Europe part of a broader process of life-long learning; and
- 6) to interact with secondary social science teachers (and other secondary teachers interested in the CSC's subject matter) to help them educate the next generation of students who will study, learn, and teach about the Slavic world as well as the new Russia and new Europe.

Ukraine—Part II from page 2

population. Making your way through the crowd is an experience something akin to being trapped in a roomful of New Yorkers with bad attitudes. Best advice: use your elbows a lot, keep your eyes focused straight ahead and just plow on through with no regrets – everybody else does. On the other hand, with tipping starting to take hold, waiters and salespersons of the old Soviet-era mould (“ignore the customer – it means less work to do”) seem to be more and more rare. Some are actually smiling now.

Kiosks provide the best value for finding something to eat without soon going broke, but the proximity of the ubiquitous kiosks to the higher-priced restaurants provided an interesting insight into how the basic underlying principles of capitalism haven't quite taken hold yet. The crowds flock to the kiosks, but there is no place at all to sit and eat – except for the nearly always empty tables at the restaurants, separated from the kiosks by only a few feet of empty space. However, the restaurants won't let anyone in with food purchased at the kiosks. Despite the fact that the restaurants sell numerous beverages (all were well-stocked with anything you'd want) – and could turn a handy profit on the otherwise “empty” tables by selling drinks to those who've purchased food at the kiosks – grim-faced waiters and waitresses diligently shoo away anyone carrying a shashlik or a shaurma (sort of a Crimean “taco”). The wait staff would rather stand idly by, sullenly leaning against empty tables, than make money by allowing the “illegals” to invade their forbidden territory.

We took day trips from Alushta – mostly via the old and uncomfortable Soviet-era Ukrainian busses – including excursions to Yalta and Sevastopol. Our trip to Sevastopol occurred, coincidentally, on “Russian Navy Day” and the town was packed with visitors for the occasion. Sailors and commanders from the Russian Black Sea Fleet were out in large numbers and activities included a parade along the waterfront. We spoke with several city residents who confided that, if it were not for the money emanating from the Russian fleet being still based re, Sevastopol's economy would be totally on the rocks, despite the tourism evident. Surprisingly, we ran across several groups of Ukrainian “military re-enactors.” One group near the waterfront area was dressed as Red Army and German Army World War II soldiers, while another at the Sevastopol Cyclorama (the restored 19th century museum of the Crimean War) portrayed Russian Imperial troops of the 1850s. Extremely popular in the U.S. and Britain, military re-enacting has made its way to Ukraine, encouraged (according to those we spoke with) by Western internet contacts.

Yalta continues to be a popular tourist destination, particularly Livadia Palace, the former Czarist retreat famous as the site of the World War II conference in February 1945 of the Allied “Big Three” (Stalin, Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt). Both palace and grounds appear to be being maintained in good shape and the lines to purchase entry tickets were several rows deep. Gift shops and food kiosks abound, so if you leave the Livadia Palace hungry and without an appropriate souvenir, it's your own fault. Food prices and small souvenirs are incredibly cheap (as they are in Alushta). Nearby to Yalta is a “Disney World-like” theme park, but it seems to suffer from a lack of the Western-style promotional advertising that entices visitors to the American counterpart. There was a single billboard advertising it and no “promotional ads” ran on any of the dozen or so TV channels we received at our apartment. Madison Avenue, take note. The

TV broadcasting followed the German model – 50 or so minutes of program (movies, news, public service documentaries, comedy series, drama shows, soap operas, 50s-style variety shows, etc.) each hour followed by 10 minutes of commercials. The vast majority of TV commercials were beer ads which looked like provincial copies of Budweiser “feel good”-themed productions. They were all slickly produced, however, regardless of the product being hawked. In all, Ukrainian TV reminded me of the German TV I watched for the five years I lived in Germany back in the 1980s.

Jerry Morelock is an historian (PhD, University of Kansas) and retired US Army colonel. He is the senior editor-in-chief of Armchair General.



Young Pioneers still stand ceremonial watch over Sevastopol's World War II monument. The Hero City suffered terribly during the war. This was taken on Russian Navy Day 2005 (photo by Jerry Morelock).

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(public domain photo)

Анна Степановна Политковская
Anna Politkovskaya (1958-2006)

The world was shocked at the death of one of Russia's top investigative journalists who authored several important works on Chechnya and Vladimir Putin's reign over the Russian state. Her dispatches from Russia were important for Western analysts because she gave alternative opinions that were not always popular with the government and leaders in business.



In the Spring 2007 CSC/A newsletter:

- *Members' Corner (updates on what members are doing)
- *Run down on CSC 45 in St. Louis
- *Update on CSC/A 46 (where, when, who)
- *Update on the CSC/A Endowment and who will benefit
- *Other travel commentaries from members

Send all ideas to Kurt Jefferson at the CSC/A Address (or contact him via email (jefferk@westminster-mo.edu))

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
www.ku.edu/~csc

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