



GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear RASP-CERES Alumni,

It was great to see so many of you—from every decade since 1959—at our 50th anniversary gala last month. I am impressed by your varied career paths and accomplishments. Your presence highlighted what RASP/CERES has achieved over the past half century. And our awardees—President Kwasniewski, Ambassador Pickering, and Dr. Feshbach—enjoyed their conversations with alumni.

Any program would deserve to celebrate surviving and prospering for half a century, but we are particularly mindful of what we have achieved because of the tremendous and unanticipated changes that have taken place in our region. When RASP first opened its doors in 1959, the ideological and military rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union dominated international politics. Khrushchev visited the U.S. that year and also engaged Richard Nixon in the famous “kitchen debate” at the Moscow exhibition, but the nuclear standoff between the two superpowers had divided the world into two highly armed camps. When I first came to Georgetown thirty years ago, détente had come and gone, and in our classes, as some of you may remember, we puzzled over whether the Soviet system would ever change. For the next eight years, a series of ailing, elderly General Secretaries ruled the USSR and there were jokes about people having season tickets to their leaders’ funerals.

Then suddenly Gorbachev appeared and the advent of glasnost’ and perestroika not only revolutionized the USSR, but also changed the entire field of Soviet Studies. After the USSR collapsed, our field faced a major challenge—what did it mean to be a “recovering Sovietologist?” We struggled to redefine who and what we were.

Nearly two decades after the USSR imploded, our field is once again thriving, as students and faculty have broadened both their geographic and intellec-

tual horizons in the post-communist world. Area Studies have survived several waves of challenges and remain highly relevant for understanding the unique cultural, historical, and political influences on the diverse region we cover. Enrollments in the M.A. program have recovered, as we continue to puzzle over what drives developments in Russia, its neighbors, Central and Eastern Europe, and the Balkans.

Twenty years ago, as the system was unraveling, people had high expectations for what the end of communism would mean. Not all of them have been realized and maybe they were unrealistic to begin with. But we need to understand better what happened then and why things turned out as they did. CERES hosted a major conference to mark the twentieth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall on November 19-20. My discussion with former National Security advisors Brent Scowcroft and Zbigniew Brzezinski is up on the CERES website. Summaries of the panels featuring our other speakers will soon be up on the website. We invite you to follow the discussion of events two decades ago and how they changed the world.

Best wishes,  
Angela Stent

IN THIS ISSUE

NOTES FROM ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR.....2
NEWS.....3
CALENDAR OF EVENTS.....4
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GALA.....8
EVENT SPOTLIGHTS.....11
ALUMNI UPDATES.....13
RECENT FACULTY BOOKS.....16

# NOTES FROM THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Greetings from CERES!

It's an exciting time as we celebrate the program's 50th anniversary and reflect on the similarities and differences from the time when you studied at Georgetown. Dr. Stent outlines eloquently the changes in 'our region' over the decades, and our conference in November focused in particular on the fall of communism in eastern Europe and changes since then. It was nice to host some of you at the conference and our Gala on November 21. For others, I hope you can attend an event soon so that you can get a sense of CERES' programming, and reconnect with current faculty and students and other alumni.

Although CERES continues the tradition of an active calendar of events that began with RASP, our program is different in distinct ways. The current student body includes a Bulgarian, Czech, Turk, Azerbaijani, and Uyghur-Uzbek, as well as émigrés from Russia, Kazakhstan, Albania, and Poland. Our US students continue to come to us from universities and colleges

CERES  
CENTER FOR EURASIAN, RUSSIAN AND  
EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES

Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service

Angela Stent, Director  
Jennifer Long, Associate Director  
Sarah Dixon Klump, Program and Outreach Officer  
Christina Watts, Office Manager

The CERES newsletter is a publication of the Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies at Georgetown University.

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across the US. CERES works closely with the Department of Slavic Languages on our offerings in Russian, Polish, and Ukrainian, and with the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies for courses in Turkish and Persian. Our students participate in summer language programs for other regional languages as well. The combination of native languages our students bring and the languages students are interested in studying is a prime example of CERES' diversity today.

Our curriculum has also changed to reflect current trends in area studies of our region. The move to SFS in the mid-1990s opened up opportunities for our students that now include certificates in International Business Diplomacy and Refugees and Humanitarian Assistance. Likewise, our certificate in Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies is now available for graduates in other Master's programs as well as undergraduates at Georgetown. Our MA students each build a unique multidisciplinary plan for their coursework that includes Anthropology-Sociology, Literature-Culture, Economics, Government, and History and our faculty provides interdisciplinary courses that incorporate different trends in academia. We no longer require comprehensive exams – graduating students present a Capstone paper to students and faculty every spring. Through these different means we are able to offer a curriculum on Central and Southeastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, the Caucasus, Turkey, and Central Asia, truly representing the 'area' in our area studies. Finally, our graduates continue to pursue the interesting careers that many of you began when you left the program, working for the US government, NGOs, the private sector, the media, or continuing in academia. Although the opportunities themselves may now reflect the current post-Cold War state of international politics and a more globalized world, CERES graduates continue to contribute in numerous important ways to our field.

As a RASP alumna ('90), I am grateful to be able to contribute to our alma mater's continued success. Each current staff member has a tie to the program: Program and Outreach Officer Sarah Dixon Klump is an alumna ('08) and Office Manager Christina Watts is a current student. In addition, we are lucky to have maintained a stable core faculty over the last two decades but we also benefit from hires since then who allow us to broaden the curriculum to reflect the changes in the post-communist era. Our thanks to our faculty for their teaching, research, and inspiration to students, past and present. The next newsletter will include updates from them to celebrate their many successes.

In closing, I hope this alumni newsletter will remind you of what you loved best about RASP/CERES and that you will come back to campus to learn more about what's changed!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Long  
RASP, '89

## CERES Celebrates its 50th Anniversary with Awardees, Former Directors, Alumni, Faculty, Staff, and Students

On Saturday, November 21, in Copley Hall, CERES celebrated 50 years of Eurasian, Russian, and east European studies at Georgetown University with 200 alumni, students, faculty, and guests. At the gala, CERES Distinguished Service Awards were given to President Aleksander Kwasniewski, former President of Poland and Georgetown University Distinguished Scholar in the Practice of Global Leadership, Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering, former U.S. Ambassador and Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, and Professor Murray Feshbach, Georgetown University Professor Emeritus and Woodrow Wilson Center Senior Scholar. Past directors of CERES/RASP Harley Balzer, David Goldfrank and Marcia Morris also attended.

## CERES Collaborates with Library of Congress to Archive Fragile Regional Websites

CERES and the Library of Congress have been collaborating since 2007 on building an archive of possibly fragile websites in Moldova, Belarus and Ukraine. The collections are housed at Archive-it.org, the non-profit arm of the Internet Archive. The country collections focus on areas of conflict in these societies and include both official government and independent websites.

## CERES Awarded Grant from Social Science Research Council

The Social Science Research Council awarded CERES a grant through the “Academia in the Public Sphere: Islam and Muslims in World Contexts” program. CERES’ project, “Eurasian Web Resources,” will build 7 collections of websites from the former Soviet Union that reflect the relationship between Islam and politics in these states. Organized according to themes such as “Daily life and family law” and “Business, Economics, and Finance,” the collections of websites will highlight voices from the region to provide a view of the links between religion and politics.

## Director Leads SFS Dean’s Search Committee

CERES Director Angela Stent currently leads the search committee for a new dean of the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service. Former Dean Robert Galluci stepped down July 1 to become president of the MacArthur Foundation. Carol Lancaster, Professor of Politics, has been appointed interim dean. “The search will take place over the coming academic year,” said Stent. “Ideally, we’d like someone in place by the fall 2010 semester.”

## Director Serves on Search Committee for Ertegun Professor

CERES Director Angela Stent also currently serves on the search committee for the Nesuhi Ertegun Professor of Modern Turkish Studies. The position was formerly held by Professor Faruk Tabak, who recently passed away. John McNeill, Interim Director of the Mortara Center for International Studies and Professor in the School of Foreign Service and Department of History, is leading the search.

# 2009-2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**September 18th, 2009**

## *The U.S.-Azerbaijan Strategic Partnership: New Bilateral and Regional Dimensions*

with **Araz Azimov**, Deputy Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan; **William Burns**, Under Secretary for Political Affairs, U.S. Department of State; **Chuck Hagel**, Visiting Professor, Georgetown University; and former U.S. Senator (R-Nebraska); and **David Kramer**, Senior Transatlantic Fellow, German Marshall Fund; and former Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, U.S. Department of State

*cosponsored with the Embassy of Azerbaijan*

**September 24th, 2009**

## *Memory Wars in the Post-Soviet Space*

with **Ivan Kurilla**, Volgograd State University; and **Volodymyr Dubovyk**, Odesa National University

**October 1st, 2009**

## *Valdai 2009: Impressions from September Meetings in Sakha*

with **Angela Stent**, Director, Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies, Georgetown University

**October 6th, 2009**

## *Russian Culture among Post-Soviet Kyrgyz Youth*

with **John Schoeberlein**, Harvard University

**October 8th, 2009**

## *Human Rights in the North Caucasus*

with **Sarah Mendelson**, Center for Strategic and International Studies

**October 14th, 2009**

## *The Future of U.S.-Polish Relations*

with **Victor Ashe**, U.S. Ambassador to Poland, 2004-2009

*cosponsored with the Department of Slavic Languages*

17 89

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**October 15th, 2009**

Film Screening and Discussion

*Border Post*

with **Rajko Grlic**, Film Director

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**November 2nd, 2009**

*Russian Military Reform*

with **Aleksandr Golts**, Russian military expert and Deputy Editor, *Ezhednevnyi zhurnal*

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**November 5, 2009**

*An Address by President Vaclav Klaus of the Czech Republic*

with **Vaclav Klaus**, President of the Czech Republic

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**November 5th, 2009**

Film Screening and Lecture

*Koryo Saram: The Unreliable People*

with **Y. David Chung**, Film Director and Professor, University of Michigan

*cosponsored with the Asian Studies Program at Georgetown University*

**November 9th, 2009**

*Behind the Urumchi Violence: Causes and Consequences of Han-Uyghur Tension in Xinjiang*

with **Sean Roberts**, Director, International Development Studies Program, and Associate Professor of the Practice of International Affairs, the George Washington University; **James A. Millward**, Professor of Intersocietal History, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University; and **Murray Scot Tanner**, China Specialist, Center for Naval Analyses

*cosponsored with the Asian Studies Program of Georgetown University*

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**November 19th-20th, 2009**

The 20th Anniversary of the End of a Divided Europe

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*A Conversation with Zbigniew Brzezinski and Brent Scowcroft*

with **Zbigniew Brzezinski**, Robert E. Osgood Professor of American Foreign Policy, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Counselor and Trustee, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and former U.S. National Security Ad-

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visor to President Jimmy Carter; and **LTG Brent Scowcroft**, President, Scowcroft Group, and former U.S. National Security Advisor to Presidents Gerald Ford and George H. W. Bush

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*A Keynote Address from  
President Aleksander  
Kwasniewski*

with **Aleksander Kwasniewski**, Distinguished Scholar in the Practice of Global Leadership, Georgetown University, and former President of Poland

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*How and Why Did  
Communism Collapse?  
Eyewitness Accounts*

with **J.D. Bindenagel**, Vice President for Community, Government, and International Affairs, DePaul University; and former U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in East Berlin, German Democratic Republic; **Andrei Grachev**, Chairman, Scientific Committee of the World Political Forum, and former Political Advisor and Spokesman for Mikhail Gorbachev; **Jack Matlock**, former George F. Kennan Professor, Institute for Advanced Study, and former U.S. Ambassador to the USSR, 1987-1991;

and **Hans Misselwitz**, Secretary, Basic Values Commission, Social Democratic Party (SPD), Germany, and former State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, German Democratic Republic

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*How Europeans Today View  
the End of Communism:  
Recent Survey Findings*

with **Andrew Kohut**, President, Pew Research Center

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*What Did We Get Right and  
What Did We Get Wrong?  
Reflections on the Post-1989  
Period in Europe*

with **Frederic Bozo**, Professor, Sorbonne; **Charles Gati**, Senior Adjunct Professor of Russian and Eurasian Studies, School for Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, and Fellow, Foreign Policy Institute; **Charles King**, Professor of International Affairs and Government, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University; **Andrei Kortunov**, President, New Eurasia Foundation; and **Kenneth Wollack**, President, National Democratic Institute

17 89

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**November 21st, 2009**

*The 20th Anniversary of  
the Fall of the Berlin Wall:  
a K-12 Educators' Workshop*

with **J.D. Bindenagel**, Vice President for Community, Government, and International Affairs, DePaul University; and former U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission in East Berlin, German Democratic Republic; and **Aleksander Kwasniewski**, Distinguished Scholar in the Practice of Global Leadership, Georgetown University, and former President of Poland

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**November 21st, 2009**

*CERES 50th  
Anniversary Gala*

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**December 3rd, 2009**

*Uncivil Society:  
1989 and the Implosion of  
Communism*

with **Stephen Kotkin**, Rosen-  
garten Professor of Modern  
and Contemporary History,  
Princeton University

**February 11th, 2010**

*Energy as a Tool of  
Foreign Policy*

with **Brenda Schaffer**,  
University of Haifa

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**February 25th, 2010**

The 20th Annual Nava'i Lecture in  
Central Asian Studies

*Authoritarian Survival  
Strategies: Health Care  
Spending and Provision in  
Post-Soviet Central Asia*

with **Erica Johnson**,  
CERES Post-Doctoral Fellow in  
Central Asian Affairs



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ments about CERES events, send an  
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"subscribe" in the subject line*

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# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CERES 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

## A Celebration of 50 Years of Eurasian, Russian, and East European Studies at Georgetown University

November 21st, 2009 | Copley Formal Lounge | Georgetown University



*CERES Associate Director Jennifer Long ('90), Program and Outreach Officer Sarah Dixon Klump ('08), and, from afar, Office Manager Christina Watts ('12) inspect the cake replica of St. Basil's Cathedral, baked by Charm City Cakes of Baltimore, before the gala begins.*

*Director Angela Stent gives Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering a CERES Distinguished Service Award. Other awardees honored at the gala include former Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski (below), and Georgetown Professor Emeritus Murray Feshbach.*



*Ambassador J.D. Bindenagel and President Aleksander Kwasniewski, pictured here with CERES Director Angela Stent, attend the gala after speaking to a group of K-12 educators earlier that day at a professional workshop conducted by CERES on the fall of communism in Europe.*

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CERES 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

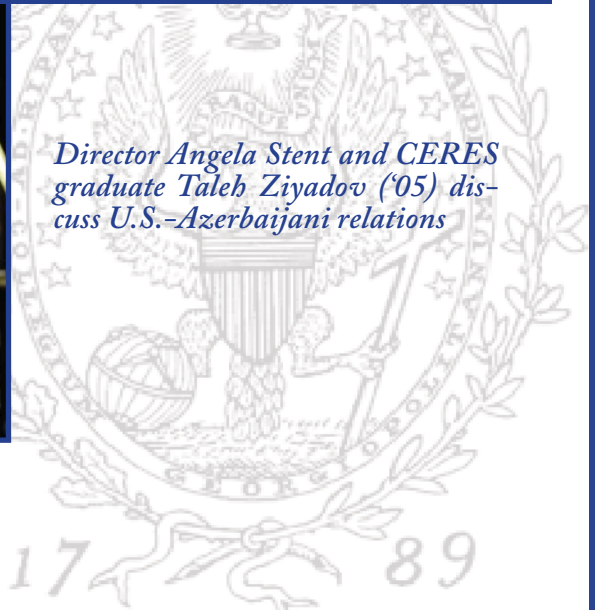


*Graduates Gail Alberg ('90), Gabriel Al-Salem ('93), Jennifer Long ('90), and Valerie Sperling ('91), pictured here with CERES Director Angela Stent, reunite at the gala.*

*Alumni, students, faculty, and gala guests look on in horror as CERES Director Angela Stent takes the first chunk out of St. Basil's Cathedral*



*Director Angela Stent and CERES graduate Taleh Ziyadov ('05) discuss U.S.-Azerbaijani relations*



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CERES 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA



*Zsofia Budai ('08), Claire Pogue ('08), Jaime McGaughey ('09), Anita Kondoyanidi ('07), Director Angela Stent, Sarah Dixon Klump ('08), Professor Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer, and guest Michael Kaiser dance the hora to music provided by the New Klezmer Quintet*

*Gala guests enjoyed both the look and taste of an ice Stolichnaya Vodka martini bar*



*Dina Miller of the Georgian House of Greater Washington discusses Georgian wines with Major Jason P. Gresh ('09) and guests Elizabeth Horst and Anna Bogunova. CERES is especially thankful to the Georgian House, Chevron, and Richard Herold of General Electric for their generous support of the 50th Anniversary Gala.*

## EVENT SPOTLIGHT

### Memory Wars in the Post-Soviet Space

Thursday, September 24, 2009

On September 24, 2009, CERES hosted Volodymyr Dubovyk from Odesa National University and Ivan Kurilla from Volgograd State University in a discussion entitled “Memory Wars in the Post-Soviet Space.” Kurilla began the event, discussing history as interpretation and the ways in which particular interpretations are currently being used in the post-Soviet space. The countries of Eastern Europe have been struggling since 1991 to either create or rebuild nations within the borders of new political states. An important element of this process, Kurilla contends, is the rewriting of national history. It is necessary, he noted, to have not only a common past, but also shared enemies and heroes that help to define the borders of modern political identity.

Turning to the contemporary Russian political scene, Kurilla spoke about Russia’s ongoing reconstruction of its national history and how this effort was enhanced during Vladimir Putin’s presidency. For instance, the new Russian national anthem approved by Putin is an adaptation of the Soviet anthem of 1944, with the lyrics written by Sergei Mikhalkov, the same man who wrote the lyrics of the 1943 and 1977 Soviet anthems. Through such means, Kurilla noted, the state’s attitude toward history was formulated in a very particular way under Putin.

In the region as a whole, memory wars are much more widespread and go deeper than in other regions of the world, Kurilla contended. For the national narratives of the countries surrounding Russia, the Russian Empire became a natural choice for historical enemy or oppressor. With respect to the uniqueness of the Ukrainian case, which is often discussed in Russia, Kurilla argued that the perceived closeness of Ukrainian identity to Russian identity makes Russians especially attentive and sometimes indignant when Ukrainian history is rewritten.

Dubovyk likewise noted that historical debates between Russia and Ukraine are very heated and frequent. He observed that while Russians construct national identity by taking different pieces of their history and putting them together (such as aspects of the Romanov/tsarist era, some Bolshevism, and then a post-Soviet resurgent Russian identity),

Ukrainians go about national identity construction differently, preferring a more cohesive whole. An often-mentioned factor of nation building in Ukraine is the regional division, evincing the fact that memory wars involve not only neighbors, but also sections of the nation itself. Ukraine as a nation experienced only brief, transitory periods of statehood before independence in 1991. As such, Dubovyk emphasized, Ukrainians are often in the position of searching for ways in which they differ from other more established entities or communities.

Kurilla and Dubovyk also discussed the differing historical interpretations of the Holodomor, the famine that swept through Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine in 1932 and 1933 under Stalin’s rule. Kurilla, calling the Holodomor a tragedy in the history of the Soviet Union, acknowledged that this event is a major point of contention between Russia and Ukraine, and attributed the tension to Ukrainian President Victor Yushchenko’s drive to have the Holodomor recognized as a genocide against the Ukrainian nation. The attempt for genocide recognition, along with laws criminalizing denial of the Holodomor, has anti-Russian implications, according to Kurilla. The effect of this historical event on contemporary Ukrainian-Russian relations became apparent in the correspondence between Presidents Yushchenko and Medvedev during the 2008 “gas wars,” as the communications were strangely more focused on historical interpretations than on natural gas transit. Dubovyk agreed that Yushchenko is using the famine in an attempt to create a new myth or vision of Ukrainian national identity. Indeed, the Holodomor is one of Yushchenko’s favorite topics, Dubovyk contends, though this can be seen as a reflection of personal convictions as well as a political calculation—it gives him support from certain segments of the Ukrainian voting constituency.

The question of why this debate over history has intensified now, some 18 years after the fall of the Soviet Union, can be explained by the actions and relative strengths of the personalities in power in Ukraine and Russia, both of which are actively trying to rebuild national identities around historical events. While history is the central element of politics in East European countries, building common enemies sets the stage for conflict, and the negative consequences of using history in contemporary politics are apparent. This discussion of wars over memory, and what the search for a usable past means, shows that history remains an influential and problematic element in the social and political spheres of former Soviet republics.

—Stefanie Tubbs ('10)

17 89

## EVENT SPOTLIGHT

### National Security Advisors Recall Communism's Fall

Thursday, November 19, 2009

The fall of communism in Europe came as no surprise to Zbigniew Brzezinski. He told a Georgetown audience recently that he saw the day coming long before working as national security advisor in the Carter administration.

"I was always convinced that the Soviet Union would break up at some point, and that goes back to my graduate days," said Brzezinski during a Nov. 19 conversation with Brent Scowcroft at Georgetown. Scowcroft served as national security advisor to Presidents Gerald Ford and George H.W. Bush.

The Soviet Union attempted to thrive as an imperialist institution in a post-imperial world, said Brzezinski. He knew nationalist intentions of the Russian people would eventually break up the Eastern bloc.

The Thursday evening discussion kicked off a two-day conference, "The 20th Anniversary of the End of a Divided Europe," sponsored by the Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies (CERES) and the BMW Center for German and European Studies.

The pair talked about their experiences in the markedly different administrations that led before, during, and after the collapse of the Berlin Wall on Nov. 9, 1989 and the domino effect it had, leading to the demise of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Brzezinski and Scowcroft shared their insights with over 90 guests in Riggs Library that included some key players in U.S.-Russian relations during the final years of communism's reign: former president of Poland Aleksander Kwasniewski; Jack Matlock, former U.S. ambassador to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR); and Andrei Grachev, former political advisor and spokesman for former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Once the Berlin Wall started coming down, the Bush administration received criticisms claiming the United States didn't respond as effectively as it should have to the end of the communism.

Scowcroft, who now leads his own international business advisory firm, recalled a media interview that Bush gave during the Berlin Wall's collapse. A reporter asked the president why he wasn't "dancing on the wall, exuberantly" as a sign to other world leaders. Scowcroft said the president responded, "Well, I'm not an exuberant kind of person."

Brzezinski believes Bush's response was both cautious and appropriate.

"When history is in the process of unfolding in a very spontaneous, but also very complex fashion, you don't take tremendous gambles," said Brzezinski, who is now the Robert E. Osgood Professor of American Foreign Policy at Johns Hopkins University and counselor and trustee for the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Scowcroft shared his thoughts about the successes and challenges faced after the fall of communism.

"What we fundamentally got right is that [the process] happened peacefully," said Scowcroft, noting that the latter years of the Cold War between Western powers and the USSR focused on the nuclear arms race.

"I think what we got wrong... was that we didn't really analyze what a traumatic experience the end of the Cold War was for the average Russian," he added. "I think that has created a backlash that we could have avoided, simply by being more attuned to the psychological atmosphere that had to be present."

CERES director Angela Stent moderated the evening's discussion and said she believed the two speakers provided unparalleled viewpoints from two important players in U.S.-Soviet relations.

"[Brzezinski and Scowcroft] remind us that the fall of the communist system was not pre-ordained. It required courageous actions by the people in the region and careful statecraft on the part of the United States and its allies to ensure that Germany was united peacefully and that the Soviet Union collapsed without a major war breaking out."

-Rob Mathis, Georgetown Office of Public Affairs



# CERES ALUMNI: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## 1968

**Albert Fairchild** joined the Foreign Service following graduation. Albert served abroad in Africa (Senegal, Central African Republic, and Niger) and South Asia (Afghanistan and Iran). In Washington, he worked in the Bureaus of African Affairs, Educational and Cultural Affairs, and Personnel. Albert retired in 2004 and has subsequently worked as a foreign affairs consultant, principally on full-time contract for the Office of Strategic and Performance Planning. He is married to the former Parvin A. Jehangiri and has two children and six grandchildren. Albert writes: "I would be delighted to serve as a resource for anyone interested in subjects related to my experience."

## 1970

**Barbara Shea Bispham** currently lives in Hong Kong and is the mother of two children. One works in mainland China, and the other studies law at Cornell University.

## 1973

**James R. Holbrook, SLL, PhD**, used Russian during his entire 27-year Army career. Following graduation, James was stationed in East Germany. He later served as a military attache at the American Embassy in Moscow. He has taught Russian and Soviet Military History at various agencies, institutions, and colleges throughout the U.S. Also, he has been an analyst and a consultant and has written a memoir of his time in East Germany (at [www.potsdammission.com](http://www.potsdammission.com)). James writes: "Russian and my education at GU were a part of my life throughout my career."

## 1978

**Michael Pollock** has been a professional genealogist for the past thirty years. He writes: "My familiarity with the Cyrillic alphabet has given me the ability to anticipate how someone of one linguistic or cultural background might mispronounce or misspell the name of someone of a different background, not to mention how to interpret various handwriting forms." One of the initial reasons for his interest in Russian Studies was as his exploration of his own Slovak, Hungarian, and Ukrainian ancestry.

## 1984

**Suzanne Ament** finished her PhD at Indiana University in 1996. Suzanne is currently an associate professor of history at Radford University in Southwest Virginia, where she works with her seeing eye dog Nikita.

## 1988

**Philip Boobbyer** is a Senior Lecturer in modern European history (specializing in Russia) in the School of History at the University of Kent. He is married to Laura. They have a son, Peter.

## 1991

**Lisa Greenberg** is currently working at the Palo Alto and San Francisco VA hospitals, where she provides neuropsychological assessments to veterans with traumatic brain injuries. Lisa is in the advanced stages of a PhD program, studying clinical psychology with a focus on neuropsychology. Previously, she worked at Jewish family and Children's services in San Francisco, where she helped resettle refugees from the former Soviet Union. Lisa writes that she has two lovely boys.

## 1992

**Lauren Moser Counts**, after moving to St. Petersburg in 1993 to work for a small business investment fund, moved to Moscow in 1995 to work for ShoreBank on an EBRD program expanding loans to small businesses through Russian banks. Lauren came back to the DC area in 1998 to continue working for ShoreBank International in development finance. Today, Lauren oversees the Housing Finance and Latin American communities of practice. She still works on projects globally and uses her Russian socially and professionally. She lives in Bethesda with her husband, Bob, and their children, Philippe and Sophia.

## 1993

**Matthew Sherwood** writes: "I am still based in London, working on the front lines of the credit crunch as Senior Global Economic Adviser for Experian." Previously, he served as the senior North America and global economist at the Economist Intelligence Unit. Matthew lives in Hertfordshire, England with his wife, daughter, and son.

**Chris Williams** is currently the Country Director (Moldova) in the Department for Compact Development at the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

## 1995

**Christine Kelleher** works for Georgetown University in the Investment Office, where she manages the university endowment's international investments. She completed her second master's from Georgetown in History in May 2009. Christine writes: "I had a beautiful son (my first), Gabriel Adrian Kelleher, on August 3, 2007."

**Janet Lardizabal** lives in Seattle and has a full-time mom to her three children.

## 1996

**Cathy Gorodentsev** worked from 1993-98 for the World Bank in Moscow, after which she moved to the Boston area, where she has been working at Harvard University ever since. She lives with her husband, Zhenya, and her three children in Needham, MA.

**Paul Gregory** writes that he is the Head of Mergers and Acquisitions for Metinvest Holding.

## 1997

**Keith Moellering** is a Vice President at PNC Business Credit in Washington, DC. He works closely with business owners and private equity groups to structure debt financing for leveraged buyouts and mergers and acquisitions. Keith lives in Palisades with his wife Julie and their two children, Charlie and Lila.

**Tatiana Serafin** worked at *Forbes* magazine as a staff writer and editor of the Billionaires project, where she covered Eastern European and Central Asian billionaires. She writes: "I am raising a fabulous little girl in New York City with my husband."

## 1998

**Se Hyun Ahn** is an assistant professor at the Department of International Relations in the University of Seoul. His research focus is energy security, the Russian Far East, and Regional Economic Security. He received his PhD from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

**Paul Tibbets** joined Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in October 2002, relocating from Washington, DC to Prague. In 2006, Paul was promoted to Director of Audience Research at RFE/RL. He writes: "It's a job that keeps me constantly challenged and in touch with our broadcast region, almost all of which falls under the CERES umbrella."

## 1999

**Erika A. Ficken** works as the Product Specialist at GMO LLC, an asset management firm in Boston, in its renewable resources division. She and her family live in Winthrop, MA.

## 2000

**Cindy Neil** has worked for the Department of Defense at a facility in Maryland since 2003. She was married to James Bonnell in 2003. The couple have a daughter.

## 2001

**Rita S. Guenther** is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the History Department here at Georgetown. She conducted her dissertation research in Kazan, Russia with support from a Fulbright Hayes fellowship. Rita writes: "I very much credit CERES for having provided me with an excellent foundation upon which to build academically, professionally, and personally."

**Cynthia A. Matuskevich** recently returned from three years at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. She currently works at the Pentagon in International Affairs as a desk officer for Russia and the other CIS countries.

## 2002

**Cathe Yusupov** lives in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and works part time in the field of Eurasian energy consulting. After graduation she spent a couple of years at Brookings and a couple more at RAND. Cathe writes: "My husband's contract could keep us here for the next 2-5 years, so any CERES alumni who find themselves in southeast Asia should feel free to contact us!"

## 2003

**Erin Trough Hofman** left the DC area to pursue a PhD in Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. Erin started her third year this fall.

**Cristian Urse** recently ended an assignment in Albania and is now back in Bucharest at the Foreign Ministry.

## 2004

**Jamey Barrows** lives in Greenbelt, Maryland with her husband. She teaches second grade, special and general education, at a public charter school.

**Shannon Maguire** worked at the National Endowment for Democracy on independent media development issues in democratizing countries, which included a two-year posting in Vietnam. In July 2009, she moved with her husband to Sarajevo for a three-year posting at the U.S. Embassy. She writes "I hope to do democracy and governance-

related work with an NGO while I am there and I welcome any suggested contacts or organizations there!"

**Curtis Gordon Murphy** is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the History Department here at Georgetown, studying under Professor Kaminski. After completing an eight-month fellowship at the Institute of Civic Space and Public Policy, Curtis accepted a Fulbright-Hays fellowship for 2008-2009 to work in Poland and Ukraine on his dissertation.

## 2005

**Maria Savelieva** currently works as the purchasing and planning supervisor for the Russian division of Jabil Circuit, Inc.

**Sarah Siegel** is currently in Kabul, Afghanistan, where she works for USAID in the Development Outreach and Communications office. Before Afghanistan, she was a program officer at the Center for International Private Enterprise, managing youth programs and communications.

## 2006

**John Blake Dodson** graduated from Georgetown Law Center in May 2009.

**John Elliott** is back in graduate school to study comparative politics.

**Mehmet Kalyoncu** was recently named Advisor to the Ambassador and Permanent Representative in the Permanent Observer Mission to the United Nations in New York at the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

**Erin Cate Urban** is currently working as an Assistant Project Manager for the World Movement for Democracy at the National Endowment for Democracy.

## 2007

**Anita Kondoyanidi** is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the History Department here at Georgetown. In 2007, she married Anton Fedyashin, whom she met at the annual CERES New Year's party.

**Kathy Meyer** writes, "I had a daughter, Paloma Katherine Santamarina in February 2008 and we are expecting her sister in December, 2009." She works in Houston, Texas as an IT project manager at Baker Hughes, an oilfield services company with global operations. She also manages the Sutaruk Foundation scholarship program, which awarded scholarships to over 150 students at Ukrainian universities this past year.

# WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING SINCE GRADUATION?

EMAIL US:  
[CERES@GEORGETOWN.EDU](mailto:CERES@GEORGETOWN.EDU)

## 2008

**Swathi Balasubramanian** works at the International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) on civil society development projects in the former Soviet Union and the Middle East.

**Zsofia Budai** spent the 2007-2008 academic year as a visiting student at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO) on a David L. Boren Graduate Fellowship. Afterward, she accepted a job as a media analyst in the Moscow office of the PBN Company, an American strategic communications and PR consulting company. She also taught English and worked as a dance critic for the *Moscow Times*.

**Claire Pogue** works on the global strategies team at McLarty Associates, an international strategic advisory firm in Washington, DC. She is engaged to be married to Michael Kaiser in June 2010.

## 2009

**Benjamin Lazarus** works at American World Services, a Washington, DC-based American company specializing in international business services for non-US organizations. Ben assists companies, government regions, and affiliate organizations in meeting their export marketing or investment promotion objectives in the US market.

**Rachel Naylor** works in Kyiv for the American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR) and writes "I am slowly learning Ukrainian!"

## CALLING ALL CERES BABIES!

### WELCOME AUGUSTINE JONAS HAYES!

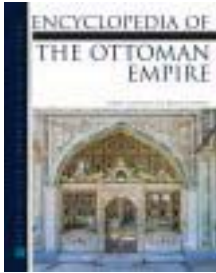
CERES congratulates graduates Sophia Georgieva ('05) and Jonathan Hayes ('07) on the birth of their son, Augustine Jonas Hayes. Augustine was born on Monday, December 7th, at Georgetown University Hospital. Jonathan writes "He was ready for the world, appearing on the original due date and after a relatively short labor."

We welcome Augustine to the CERES Family and wish all the best for Sophia and Jonathan!



## RECENT FACULTY BOOKS

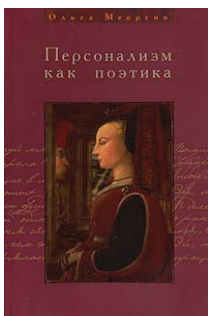
Gábor Ágoston and Bruce Masters, *Encyclopedia of the Ottoman Empire* (Facts On File, 2009)



*Encyclopedia of the Ottoman Empire* provides a thorough overview of the history and civilization of the Ottomans, with more than 400 A-to-Z entries focusing on major events, personalities, institutions, and terms. With signed articles by experts in the field, this comprehensive one-volume resource also includes essential information regarding imperialism and the emerging Balkan, Arab, and Turkish nationalism; the demise of the empire; and Ottoman legacy in the Balkans and the Middle East. Further readings, approximately 85 black-and-white photographs and maps, cross-references, a chronology, glossary, bibliography, and an index complement the text and give readers an in-depth understanding of the broad and fascinating history of the Ottoman Empire.

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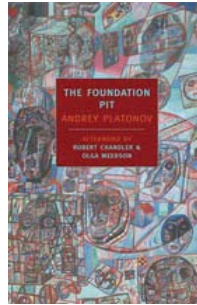
Olga Meerson, *Personalism as Poetics: the World of Fiction through its Inhabitants' Eyes / Personalizm kak poetika. Literaturnyi mir glazami ego obitatelei* (Pushkinskii dom, 2009)



The book contains various chapters exploring fictional characters and narrators not as objects of authorial description but rather as subjects with their own vision of the described events or other characters. The book carries the ideas of Mikhail Bakhtin to new levels, seeing a structural pattern in letting the

characters in fiction “run the show”. It is constructing their vision, not themselves as objects of the author’s description, that allows the examined authors to create their poetic worlds, with inherent values or even whole worldviews.

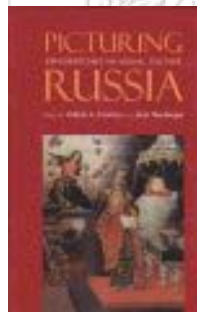
Olga Meerson, Robert and Elizabeth Chandler, trans., Andrey Platonov, *The Foundation Pit* (New York Review Books, 2009)



A team of workers has been given the job of digging the foundation of an immense edifice, a palatial home for the perfect future that, they are convinced, is at hand. But the harder the team works, the deeper they dig, the more things go wrong, and it becomes clear that what is being dug is not a foundation but an immense grave. *The Foundation Pit* is Platonov’s most overtly political book, written in direct re-

sponse to the staggering brutalities of Stalin’s collectivization of Russian agriculture. It is also a literary masterpiece. Seeking to evoke unspeakable realities, Platonov deforms and transforms language in pages that echo both with the alienating doublespeak of power and the stark simplicity of prayer. This English translation includes extensive notes and, in an appendix, several striking passages deleted by Platonov. Robert Chandler and Olga Meerson’s afterword discusses the historical context and style of Platonov’s most haunted and troubling work.

Catherine Evtuhov, David Goldfrank, Alison Hilton, and Richard Stites in *Picturing Russia: Explorations in Visual Culture*, eds. Valerie Kivelson and Joan Neuberger (Yale University Press, 2008)



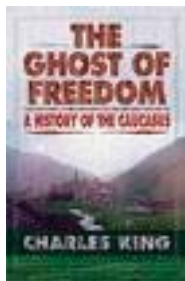
What can Russian images and objects—a tsar’s crown, a provincial watercolor album, the Soviet Pioneer Palace—tell us about the Russian people and their culture? This wide-ranging book is the first to explore the visual culture of Russia over the entire span of Russian history, from ancient Kyiv to contemporary, post-Soviet society. Illustrated with more than one hundred diverse and fascinating images, the book examines

the ways that Russians have represented themselves visually, understood their visual environment, and used visual images in social and political contexts. Expert contributors discuss images and objects from all over the Russian/Soviet empire, including consumer goods, architectural monuments, religious icons, portraits, news and art photography, popular prints, films, folk art, and more.

## RECENT FACULTY BOOKS

Each of the concise and accessible essays in the volume offers a fresh interpretation of Russian cultural history. Putting visuality itself in focus as never before, *Picturing Russia* adds an entirely new dimension to the study of Russian literature, history, art, and culture. The book enriches our understanding of visual documents and shows the variety of ways they serve as far more than mere illustration.

Charles King, *The Ghost of Freedom: A History of the Caucasus* (Oxford University Press, 2008)



“This book tries to make sense of a part of the world that has seemed, during the last twenty years, the epitome of senselessness, where governments have had no qualms about bombing their own citizens, where terrorists have held hospitals and schools under siege, and where acts of selfless hospitality and unspeakable cruelty seem to be two sides of the same cultural coin,” King writes. “This is a history of the modern Caucasus as a place from the beginnings of Russian engagement down to the present day. But it is also a history of the Caucasus as an array of contrasting ideas -- of liberty and lawlessness, of things both awe-inspiring and awful.” “Charles King’s *Ghost of Freedom* is a work that is gripping and important, scholarly and wonderfully readable,” says Simon Sebag Montefiore, author of *Young Stalin*. “It not only explains and analyzes one of our world’s most strategic regions, but also delivers all the exotic and romantic turbulence of these flamboyant warriors and poets and the extraordinary peoples of the Caucasus.”

James Millward, *Eurasian Crossroads: A History of Xinjiang* (Columbia University Press, 2007)

James Millward paints a fascinating portrait of Xinjiang, drawing on primary sources in several Asian and European languages. Situated at the heart of Asia, this region has, since the Bronze Age, played a pivotal role in the social, cultural, and political development of the continent and the world. Xinjiang



was once the hub of the Silk Road and the conduit through which Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam entered China. It was also the crossroads at which Chinese, Turkic, Tibetan, and Mongol empires communicated and struggled with each other. Millward studies Xinjiang’s people and history from antiquity to the present, and his broad chronological perspective offers a clear and engaging survey of the region’s rich ethno-political diversity.

Today Xinjiang’s population is comprised of Turkic Muslim peoples as well as Han Chinese. Competing Chinese and Turkic nationalist visions have led to unrest that has increasingly attracted world attention, as has the region’s phenomenal development since 1991. *Eurasian Crossroads* is written for specialists and students, but also for travelers and other readers eager to learn about this vital link between east and west.

Sylvia Önder, *We Have No Microbes Here: Healing Practices in a Turkish Black Sea Village* (Carolina Academic Press Ethnographic Studies in Medical Anthropology Series, 2007)



Protecting the health of family members is one of the major responsibilities of women in the Turkish family. Studying women’s changing roles from within a rural family, the author presents a complex network of social relations which incorporates both traditional healing methods such as bone-setting and the services of the nationally sponsored health clinic. This study examines the metaphors used to describe the body and its suffering — from birth to death — and places a small Black Sea village community in the global context of labor migration, religious trends, and medical technologies.

# Georgetown University's Title VI National Resource Center

CERES is one of a handful of university centers competitively selected by the US Department of Education to conduct teaching, research, and outreach focused on Eurasia, Russia and Eastern Europe.

The Title VI grant funds both academic year and summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships for students studying languages of the region; library support; curriculum and program development; collaborative relationships with universities abroad; faculty development; and programs that increase awareness of and knowledge about the region for the general public, businesspersons, the media, and K-12 educators.

## RESEARCH

- Library of region-specific books
- Collection of feature and documentary films both from and about the region

## TEACHING

- Faculty travel grants for research and resource gathering for course development

## LANGUAGE TRAINING

- FLAS fellowships to support the advanced study of regional languages

## ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Post-doctoral fellowship that cultivates and supports teaching and research in Central Asian studies

## K-12 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

- Semi-annual educators' workshops on regional issues
- Curriculum development and materials grants
- “Countries in a Box” containing regional artifacts and materials available for loan for classroom use
  - Displays on regional issues and cultures

## PUBLIC OUTREACH

- Active and diverse public lecture series
  - Faculty experts

**CERES Scholarship Endowment Fund.**

In 2006, CERES established the CERES Scholarship Endowment Fund to support the next generation of scholars and professionals devoted to the study of Eurasia and eastern Europe. Your contribution to this effort will help fund future full-tuition scholarships for the most competitive students in the field.

To donate to the CERES Scholarship Endowment Fund, complete this form and return it with your check or credit card donation to:

**CERES Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Center for Eurasian, Russian and  
East European Studies (CERES)  
Georgetown University  
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Or to donate online, visit:

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(Under designation, choose School of Foreign Service and then Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies)

Please fill out and include with your kind donation, thank you.

*Yes, I wish to support the CERES Scholarship Endowment Fund*

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## Transcripts and Email

Georgetown official transcripts are issued free of charge to graduates of Georgetown University degree-granting programs. More information is available at <http://www.georgetown.edu/registrar>

All Georgetown alumni are encouraged to keep an official Georgetown email address, which is (your NetID)@georgetown.edu. In order to do this, please visit the NetID website at <http://www.georgetown.edu/admin/id> and select the option "Review or change your e-mail routing" under Services for Students. You will need to know your NetID and NetID password.

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