A newsletter devoted to diversity and opportunity in Eastern Europe and Eurasia, published by the Duke-UNC Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies

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#### Center Welcomes Robert Jenkins

I am pleased to join the Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies as Administrative Director. In this position I am responsible for administering the MA. Graduate Certificate, and undergraduate programs in Russian and East European Studies. I will also be teaching capstone courses for the MA and BA programs. Another important aspect of the job will be helping students to arrange summer internships and explore career opportunities. I look forward to working with students and the Center community to build distinctive, quality programs.

I would like to introduce myself by giving a brief overview of my recent work. Since July 1995 I have been an independent consultant and researcher based in Chapel Hill and Raleigh, North Carolina. During these years I have worked with organizations involved in education reform and development in Central and Eastern Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union, including Civic Education Project (CEP), the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), and the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS). From 1995-97 I was Senior Consultant to CEP on a project assessing the impact of international activities on social science higher education in nine countries in Eastern Europe (Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, and Ukraine). With IREX and ACLS I have been involved in evaluation of programs in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia.

Since 1997 I have also been a member of the Higher Education Development Programs Board of the Ministry of Education in Hungary. The Board annually distributes the equivalent of several millions of dollars in competitive awards to Hungarian universities and colleges. Additionally, I write quarterly analyses of political and economic trends in Hungary for the Economist Intelligence Unit of London.

My recent research interests have focused on the growth of the nonprofit or NGO (nongovernmental organization) sector in post-Communist countries. My work has analyzed the institutional development of the nonprofit sector as well as the role of nonprofit organizations in social policy in Hungary. I have also been working on an overview of labor market developments in Eastern Europe. Earlier in my professional career I did research on the transformation of political movements into political parties in Hungary, the political transition in Central Europe, and labor markets and income determination in Hungary during the 1980s.

After receiving my Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, I was an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Yale University from 1987 to 1995. At Yale I taught courses at both undergraduate and graduate level on socialist societies and the transition from communism to democracy. I was also active on the Russian and East European Studies Council and served on the advisory board of the International Relations program.

I am very happy to be a member of the team at the Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies and look forward to meeting all the friends and associates of the Center. If you have any questions or information that you might like to offer, please contact me at the Center or by email - rjenkins@email.unc.edu.

Bob Jenkins

# UNC Slavic Students Help With Special Olympics World Games

From June 25 to July 4 central North Carolina hosted the 1999 Special Olympics World Games, the largest sporting event in the world this year. Over 7,000 athletes, coaches and family members enjoyed the assistance of volunteer interpreters both at the competition venues and elsewhere. Graduate students Steven Clancv and Anne Keown (Slavic Department) were among the thousands of volunteers who accompanied the various national teams and delegations. Anne Keown worked as an interpreter for the Russian delegation while they were staying in Lumberton before the beginning of the games, then as a Russian interpreter at the Olympic Town East (located at NCSU in Raleigh) and at UNC's Koury Natatorium throughout the games. During this period, Steven Clancy provided translation services for Russian, Czech, Polish, and Hindi-Urdu speaking teams at the Language Services Switchboard, at the televised nightly delegation meetings in Chapel Hill, and at the Tennis and Table Tennis Venue. Delegations from Russia, Belarus, Kazakstan, Azerbaijan, Czech Republic and Slovakia benefited from these students' linguistic skills. A big thank you for their effort!

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## The Hermitage on the Internet

Missed the opportunity to go to St. Petersburg and visit the keeper of one of the world's largest art collections? Do not worry! More than 2,000 masterpieces and treasures from the Hermitage collection are now viewable, in the highest available quality, on a site (www.hermitagemuseum.org) put together by IBM technicians working with the latest scanning technology.

#### CALLS FOR PAPERS.

FOURTH ANNUAL WORKSHOP ON CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES October 21-24, 1999 University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Central Asian Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in conjunction with the Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia is pleased to announce the convening of the fourth annual "Workshop on Central Asian Studies" on October 21-24, 1999.

The goal of this annual workshop is to offer an opportunity for scholars, institutions, and organizations interested in the Central Asian field to meet annually to discuss how we research, teach, and coordinate efforts in the field. While the first three annual Workshops were organized around specific themes, we have not designated an annual theme for 1999 since we wish to encourage participation by scholars interested in all areas of Central Asian Studies. However, papers or panels on "Women in Central Asia" are particularly encouraged.

The keynote speaker and the topic for the plenary session will be announced at a later date. Proposals for special roundtables, pre-organized panels, or individual papers are welcome.

For submission of abstracts and further information contact:

Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia University of Wisconsin 210 Ingraham Hall tel. 608/262-3379; fax 608/265-3062 Email: creeca@macc.wisc.edu http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/creeca/

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PROGRESS AND THE CHALLENGES OF DEMOCRATIZATION AND ECONOMIC LIBERALIZATION: SOUTH AFRICA, NIGERIA, BRAZIL, MEXICO, INDONESIA, KOREA, POLAND, AND HUNGARY April 6-9, 2000 Michigan State University

Michigan State University will host an international conference comparing the political, social and economic impact of global restructuring (globalization and liberalization) on eight political economies – South Africa, Nigeria, Brazil, Mexico, Indonesia, Korea, Poland and Hungary.

The conference will be held at the Kellogg Center at Michigan State University, April 6-9, 2000. Sponsored by the university's African Studies Center, Asian Studies Center, Center for European & Russian Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center, Center for the Advanced Study of International Development and James Madison College, this conference is designed to provide a multi-disciplinary examination of the impact of global restructuring in an environment of democratization and liberalization. Comparative analysis is particularly encouraged, but single country investigations are welcome as well. Partial support for local housing and meal costs is available to participants. Publication of the conference Proceedings is envisioned.

Proposals consisting of cover letter, paper abstract, and curriculum vitae should be sent by August 1, 1999 to: Professor Norman A. Graham, CERS, 205 International Center, Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI 48824-1035; Telephone: 517-355-3277; Fax: 517-432-4845; e-mail: grahamn@msu.edu.

INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON REGIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES Graduate Conference and Career Workshop April 14-15, 2000 Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia

Master's and Doctoral students/candidates in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Business Studies are invited to submit abstracts of papers addressing aspects of the following themes: Culture and Area Studies, Globalization and Trade, Conflict and Cooperation, Environment and Development, Transnational Issues, Global/Regional/National/Sub-national Actors. Participation is limited to students in degree granting programs. Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words, accompanied by a one-page resume including name, address, phone number, e-mail and institutional affiliation. Abstract submissions must be postmarked by November 30,1999. Send submissions to: Graduate Conference, Old Dominion University, Graduate Programs in International Studies, 621 Batten Arts and Letters Building, Norfolk, VA 23529. For additional information visit website at www.odu.edu/~gpis/ or contact Cecilia Ramirez: 757-683-5700 (T) 757-683-5701 (F) cramirez@odu.edu

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### **Funding Opportunities**

IREX has posted information regarding forthcoming Grant Opportunities.

Individual Advanced Research Opportunities

Application Deadline: November 1, 1999

Grants of one to twelve months to predoctoral and postdoctoral scholars for research at institutions in Central and Eastern Europe and Eurasia. American scholars in policy research and development, and cross-disciplinary studies are strongly urged to apply. More information at <a href="http://www.irex.org/programs/iaro/index.htm">http://www.irex.org/programs/iaro/index.htm</a>>.

Short-Term Travel Grants

Application Deadlines: February 1, 2000 and June 1, 2000

Grants for scholarly projects focusing on Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, and limited opportunities for Mongolia. Support is available for brief visits (about two weeks) for individuals who do not require administrative assistance from IREX. American scholars in policy research and development, and cross-disciplinary studies are strongly urged to apply. More information at <a href="http://www.irex.org/programs/stg/index.htm">http://www.irex.org/programs/stg/index.htm</a>.

Please contact IREX at <irex@irex.org> for applications and further information on these programs. Some application forms can be downloaded directly from the IREX web site at <a href="http://www.irex.org">http://www.irex.org</a>>.

NRC Travel Grants Program

With the support of the U.S. Department of State's Research and Training Program for Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (Title VIII Program), the National Research Council (NRC) will support scholars to travel to Central Europe and the Former Soviet Union for periods of two to six weeks to conduct research related to "Governance in Post-Communist Societies." The three sub-themes are: "Science and Democratization," "Organized Crime, Terrorism, and Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction," and "Technology and Industrial Economics."

Deadline: December 3, 1999

Application information: applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Applicants also must be affiliated

with American universities or research institutions. The program will be open to scholars at the post-doctoral level and to advanced graduate students if the travel and research are directly relevant to their dissertation topic.

For more information on this new program, please contact Stephen Deets at 202-334-2658 or <a href="mailto:sdeets@nas.edu">sdeets@nas.edu</a>
Information is also posted on the web at <a href="mailto:http://www4.nas.edu/oia/oia/oiahome.nsf">http://www4.nas.edu/oia/oiahome.nsf</a>

Any contributions and announcements that you would like included in *inflections* should be sent to the Center in Chapel Hill. The deadline for contributions to the next issue of *inflections* is September 15, 1999. For more information on any of the above events or opportunities, please feel free to contact the Center on either campus or stop by and browse through our bulletin board postings. We can be reached as follows:

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We look forward to seeing you soon!

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