

# *inflections*

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, Durham and Chapel Hill, NC.

FEB. 2000 VOL. 5, NO. 3

## ***Kazan kompiutershchiki keep the network alive***

**by Robin  
Bisha**

**FROM** a high-ceilinged office strewn with boxes from computers, a dedicated group of young *kompiutershchiki* is changing the way Kazan communicates. The system administrators of the Kazan State University computer network, led by Sergei Shishkin, take an almost messianic approach to spreading Internet communication throughout the university and the city in general.

Shishkin and the team work together to demonstrate solutions the Internet can provide for Russia's many communication problems.

"First, you have to show them that the computer will



The Tatar National Library in Kazan, Tatarstan, with a KSU building on the left.

solve a problem for them, not just add another headache," said Shishkin. It doesn't hurt to stroke the egos of university officials by making sure that they have access to the latest new technology in their offices.

In addition to the day-to-

day tasks of administering the network's databases and plugging holes in the security system, the team proposes new applications of Internet technology that directly benefit university faculty, and students

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**Robin Bisha**, Park Fellow at the UNC Department of Journalism, recently returned from her third research trip to Kazan. She is getting a master's in journalism and taught "Eastern Europe from 1815-Present" in the fall semester in the History Department.

## **Bosnian Reporters Under Pressure**

**A talk with Nidzara Ahmetasevic, a media fellow from Bosnia who is spending a year at Duke's DeWitt Wallace Center for Communication and Journalism.**

***What kind of research are you doing here?***

It's kind of professional development. I have a Ron Brown fellowship, which is part of the Fulbright program. I applied for a Master's, but Duke offered me a media fellowship instead. Several fellows come for a month, and then one or two, like me, stay for a year.

I'm taking some classes. Women's Studies has been really helpful. In Bosnia, we don't have a problem with equality. Under socialism, we were almost completely equal. I want to promote feminism and explain what

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## P2 | events

**MARCH 5:** Women's History Month: Women and War. Parlor Rooms, East Duke Building, Duke East Campus, 4:30 pm.

**MARCH 7:** Presentation by **Nidzara Ahmetasevic** on life in the former Yugoslavia. Breedlove Room, Perkins Library, Duke West Campus, 5 pm.

**MARCH 7-8:** Alexander Oslon, Duke, details TBA.

**MARCH 8:** Professor **Peter Solomon** (University of Toronto). Location TBA, 6 pm.

**MARCH 19:** Women's History Month: Women and Law. Parlor Rooms, East Duke Building, Duke East Campus, 4:30 pm.

**MARCH 26:** Women's History Month: Roundtable on the State of the Field. Parlor Rooms, East Duke Building, Duke East Campus, 4:30 pm.

**MARCH 26:** Lecture by Professor **Maria Todorova** (formerly of University of Florida) on "Are National Heroes Secular Saints? Vasil Levski and the Making of the Bulgarian National Pantheon." Breedlove Room, Perkins Library,

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## Duke Seeks Assistant Professor

**THE CENTER** for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies of Duke University invites applications for Visiting Assistant Professor of Slavic Studies, a full-time, one-year position with possibility of renewal beginning August 2001. Duties will include teaching one course per semester on some aspect of Slavic studies, assisting in the

various programs conducted by the Center, and assisting the Center Director and staff in applying for additional grant funding.

Essential qualifications include: PhD in hand by August 2001 in some aspect of Slavic studies (history or social studies preferred); commitment to undergraduate education; and evidence of

scholarly promise.

Send dossiers including transcript, 3 letters of recommendation, teaching evaluations, and a writing sample (at least 10 pages) by March 15, 2001, to: Professor Edna Andrews, Director, CSEES, Duke University, Box 90260, Durham, NC 27708-0260. □

## Kazan kompiutershchiki...

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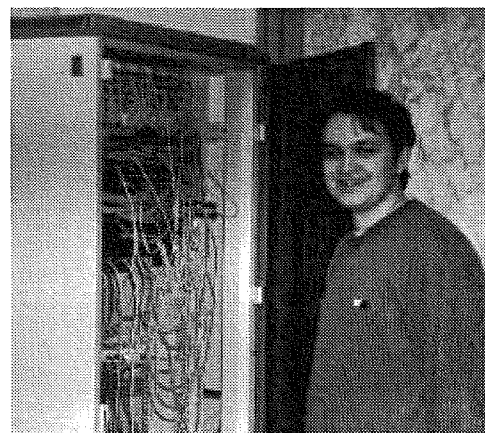
as well as the schools that feed the university.

The team is currently developing an Internet telephony system that would bring telephone service to labs and allow faculty to make long-distance and international calls. Currently, most labs do not have telephones, but they do have networked computers.

Members of this team think past technical issues to deeper changes in the way Russians communicate with each other. Unlike most Russian workplaces, it was impossible to determine who was the supervisor of the KSU team – I finally had to ask.

Team members use the Internet for news, professional development and, most of all, for *obshchenie*, or social interaction. All agree that Internet communication differs from what they experience in Russian society.

When I asked if communication on the Internet was



Pavel Yarmolchuk, the system administration team member who is developing the IP telephony system, poses by some of his handiwork.

democratic, team members decided they would have to define the word democracy before answering the question. "We haven't had enough to drink today to do that!" said the data base administrator.

"The Internet is a 'stand alone' space," said team member Pavel Yarmolchuk, "because the Internet can't

be controlled by politicians."

The Putin administration, like US law enforcement agencies, does try to monitor Internet communication. Last year, however, Russia's deputy press minister announced that

the Internet should be allowed to develop freely, according to a report published by the Internet news service Gazeta.ru.

The combination of government inability to control communication on the Internet (the KSU team said the local state security organs have "lame" specialists on their staffs...) and the missionary work of *kompiutershchiki* bodes well for the continued development of democratic communication in the Russian Federation. □

# UNC Undergrads Tackle Prague History Project

**THIS SEMESTER** eight UNC students are studying in Prague and undertaking a special oral history project involving returned émigrés. The students are participants in a Burch Field

Czech history. The creation of an oral history of the communist era in Czechoslovakia is important since the historical record during those years was severely limited by political restrictions.

The students participating in the oral history project are Dorothy Ball, freshman in English; David Chapman, sophomore in Dramatic Arts; Kristen Johnson, junior in Political Science; Erin Karcher, senior in English; Katherine Mellnik, sophomore in Anthropology; Daniel Perera, sophomore in Interna-

tional Studies; Lauren Pogue, sophomore in History; and Celia Quinn, sophomore in Geography. In addition to exploring the intrigues of Prague, the students say they are looking forward to meeting and talking with people who experienced the dramatic events in the history of the Czech Republic. As one student says, the experience will provide an important insight into one form of storytelling.

The Burch Field Research Seminar Program is administered through the UNC-CH Honors Program and is a product of the vision and generosity of Lucius E. Burch III, a 1963 Carolina graduate. The Program provides students an opportunity to experience the way academic research is formulated and conducted. Jerome of Prague College is a private educational center in the heart of the city, offering courses in the humanities and social sciences and drawing instructors from a variety of Czech universities and institutes of the Academy of Science. □



The eight oral history project members pose with Dr Miroslav Vanek.

Research Seminar that is being offered through Jerome of Prague College (Collegium Hieronymi Pragensis), the host of the UNC Honors Program Semester Abroad.

The goal of the seminar is to involve the students in the process of creating a tradition of oral history in post-communist Czech society. Working with Dr. Oldrich Tuma, director of the Institute of Contemporary History of the Czech Academy of Science, and Dr. Miroslav Vanek, head of the Center for Oral History at the Institute, the students will be involved in collecting oral histories from return émigrés. The project will involve learning the life stories of the émigrés, in Czechoslovakia before their emigration, in a different culture during their time abroad, and in post-communist Czech society. In connection with the oral history interviewing, the students are also studying contemporary

## events

### FROM PAGE 2

Duke West Campus, 5 pm.

**APRIL 2:** A presentation on "Evolving Russian Perceptions of Security" will be given by Professor **Craig Nation** (Army War College). Breedlove Room, Perkins Library, Duke West Campus, 5 pm.

**APRIL 3:** Professor **Moshe Lewin**, "The Return of Stalinism," 4pm, University Center for International Studies, UNC.

**APRIL 4:** Duke, 5 pm;

**APRIL 5:** NC State, locations TBA.

**APRIL 9:** Professor **Alison Hilton** (Georgetown University) will be presenting a talk, "Women's Work: Image and Reality in the Russian Peasant Village and the Soviet World." Co-sponsored by the Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies, the UNC Department of Art, and the UNC Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. For further information, call 962-7554 or email <beth\_holmgren@unc.edu>. Commons Room of the Johnston Center in Graham Memorial, 4 pm.

**APRIL 14:** The Devil in Russian Culture Conference. Art Museum, Duke East

Campus, 9 am to 5 pm.

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There will be a roundtable discussion of the devil in Russian culture, presentation of work by undergraduate and graduate students, a lecture by Kristi Groberg at the Duke University Museum of Art, and a hearty meal for all participants.

Undergraduate and Graduate students from area universities are invited to submit their writing for a term-paper competition (on the subject of Russian literature or culture), or submit entries for a Russian poetry-recital and play-performance contest. There will be cash prizes. Contact Carol Flath or Becky Hayes for further information: <flath@acpub.duke.edu; bhayes@acpub.duke.edu>

**APRIL 19:** "Bibliographers and the Order of Women Writers" will be the topic covered by Professor **Hilde Hoogenboom** (Stetson University). Breedlove Room, Perkins Library, Duke West Campus, 5:30 pm.

**APRIL 26:** The UNC Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures will be hosting its annual spring "Spektakl," a variety show featuring performances by undergraduate and graduate students in Slavic languages and literatures courses. Toy Lounge, Dey Hall, 6-8 pm. □

# Summer Options

A listing of language schools, with reviews from students who took the courses last year.

## Indiana University

[Russian, Czech, Polish, Serbo-Croatian, Romanian, Hungarian, Azeri, Kazak, Turkmen, Uzbek, Georgian, Macedonian]  
June 15-Aug. 10  
Deadline: April 1  
[www.indiana.edu/~iuslavic/swseel.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~iuslavic/swseel.html)

Fawn Pattison, UNC Germanic Languages [Hungarian]:

"I HAD A GREAT time. The instructor was excellent, the class was small (9 students) and we moved quickly through two semesters of Hungarian in one session. Most of the students were grad students (history, philosophy, Central Asian studies, econ, etc) but there was one undergrad as well. I think he was using the "natural approach" — the instructor used Hungarian only and was very creative in getting us to use lots of Hungarian. There was not a lot of written work, the focus was on oral and aural competence (though he said that third & fourth semester Hungarian get more grammatically involved and do a lot more reading and writing). Because the program was part of a large summer Slavic & Central

Asian program, there were lots of movies, talks, workshops, musical things, a Russian choir open to anyone, a vaudeville night, barbecues, etc. It was a neat community. In class we played a lot of silly games and also watched a video of a soap opera about Hungarian language students in Debrecen. I do NOT recommend living on campus, though. The dorm is horrible and you are required to purchase an expensive meal plan. I got a dirt-cheap summer sublet."

Lynn Whiteheart, UNC MA in Russian and East European Studies [Serbo-Croatian]:

"THE TEACHER was great, and covered all the dialects: Serbian, Bosnian, and Croatian. We were in class from about 8-12 every day, with another 3 hours of homework. The pace was intense. There were conversation pairs once a week, films one afternoon a week. As part of the Slavic Institute, there were lectures on various subjects every evening. Most students had studied a Slavic language previously. My peers were all grad students, psycho obsessed with the region, highly motivated. Class size was about eight students."

## Zagreb U./ U. of Kansas

[Serbo-Croatian]

[www.cc.ukans.edu/~slavic/matica.html](http://www.cc.ukans.edu/~slavic/matica.html) (not updated)

Karen Chesnut, UNC Regional Planning:

"Classes were about 10 students, a mix of grad students and diaspora (mainly Australian, Canadian, US, and a couple Brits.) There were a few undergrads as well as some military people. Matica really puts the program on for the diaspora. There weren't really any movies or lectures, although maybe for more advanced levels. It was Grammar for the first 1.5 hours and then more practice and conversation for 2. The teachers were pretty good and there were lots of extracurricular events. Everyone hung out, though in a pack of 50 English speakers."

## University of Iowa

[Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Baltic History and Culture]

June 4-July 27

[www.uiowa.edu/~creees](http://www.uiowa.edu/~creees)

Greg Taff, UNC Geography [Latvian]:

"ONLY THREE students were in my course, while the Lithuanian and Estonian courses had five to eight. Other students were a mixture of professors, grad students, and people of Baltic

ancestry. A folk troupe visited to show off dance and music, and several movies were shown. Classes took place for four hours in the morning; homework averaged 2 ½ to 3 hours a day. I also audited the class on Baltic culture and history, which is held in the afternoons.

The administrators of the program are extremely helpful in contacts for future study."

## Jagiellonian University, Kraków

[Polish]

July 2-August 12

[www2.uj.edu.pl/SL/program.html](http://www2.uj.edu.pl/SL/program.html)

Thom Chivens, PhD Candidate, Fulbright Student, UNC Department of Anthropology:

"EACH CLASS of eight to nine people had two teachers, one who worked early in the morning on conversation, and another who came for a late morning grammar session. Generally the strategy was to first raise a controversial topic and then debate it. We would then read through and discuss a news article, often connected with this topic. After this there were grammar exercises. We also watched the news about once a week. The teachers would occasionally play audio recordings and we were asked questions regarding the content.

On Wednesdays we generally spent half the day touring museums around

Kraków, while Fridays were for films. On the weekends, the entire language school arranged trips ranging from Auschwitz to rafting. There were many undergraduate students from the US who had some familial connection to Poland. A fair number of retired Polish American people attend yearly, and there were a handful of graduate students taking the classes to facilitate research.

The program's biggest drawback is that almost nobody speaks Polish outside of class. The students live together in the same dormitory, and also eat together in a large communal dining area. Kraków is a wonderful city, so much that it can be hard to concentrate. I felt constantly challenged in class and learned quite a bit. If we had been pushed to speak Polish outside of class to each other I might have learned more."

### **other schools:**

#### **University of Pittsburg**

[Bulgarian, Serbo-Croatian, Czech, Hungarian, Macedonian, Romanian, Ukrainian, Polish, Slovak]

June 11 - July 20  
(Also study abroad in Moscow)  
Deadline: April 10  
[www.pitt.edu/~slavic/sli/admin/summer.html](http://www.pitt.edu/~slavic/sli/admin/summer.html)

#### **Arizona State University**

[Macedonian, Serbo-

#### **Croatian, Tatar]**

June 4-July 27  
(Options for Montenegro, Macedonia, Romania and Russia.)  
Deadline: April 30.  
[www.asu.edu/ipo/reesc](http://www.asu.edu/ipo/reesc)

#### **Harvard**

[Russian, Ukrainian]  
June 25-Aug. 17  
[www.summer.harvard.edu](http://www.summer.harvard.edu)

#### **University of Washington**

[Russian, Polish]  
June 18-Aug. 17  
[depts.washington.edu/slavweb/slav-sum.htm](http://depts.washington.edu/slavweb/slav-sum.htm)

[Other Russian:]

#### **University of Michigan**

June 27-Aug. 17  
[www.umich.edu/~iinet/sli](http://www.umich.edu/~iinet/sli)

#### **Middlebury College (VT)**

June 8-Aug. 10  
[www.middlebury.edu/~ls](http://www.middlebury.edu/~ls)

#### **Georgetown**

June 4-Aug. 10  
[georgetown.edu/ssce/summer/136courses.htm](http://georgetown.edu/ssce/summer/136courses.htm)

#### **Johns Hopkins**

June 4-July 27  
[www.sais-jhu.edu/summer](http://www.sais-jhu.edu/summer)

#### **Monterey Institute of Int'l Studies**

June 19-Aug. 22  
[silp.miis.edu](http://silp.miis.edu)

#### **Univ. of California-Berkeley**

June 11-Aug. 17  
[ls.berkeley.edu/dept/slavic/index.html](http://ls.berkeley.edu/dept/slavic/index.html)

#### **UCLA**

June 25-Aug. 17  
[www.humnet.ucla.edu/russian](http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/russian)

#### **University of Virginia**

June 11-Aug. 10  
[www.virgina.edu/~slavic/Home/rsfli/rsfli.html](http://www.virgina.edu/~slavic/Home/rsfli/rsfli.html)

#### **Wesleyan University (CT)**

May 21-June 8  
[www.wesleyan.edu/russian](http://www.wesleyan.edu/russian)

## **Duke in Russia**

Duke offers a summer program consisting of courses in intensive Russian language, literature, culture, history, and media at St Petersburg State University. Students are housed in homestays or in a small residential hotel near the university. Students attend cultural events like the ballet and opera and take excursions to Moscow and the Baltics.

**[www.duke.edu/web/CSEEEES/dir.html](http://www.duke.edu/web/CSEEEES/dir.html)**

Megan Insko, Duke junior in Russian and biology:  
"I REALLY ENJOYED my experience this summer. I learned a lot in class. I preferred my native Russian teachers (I had one who was not native, an excellent speaker and good teacher,

but she too easily fell into English to explain something when someone didn't understand something.) I loved the excursions. The program was planned in a nice way where there was enough structure so we could learn the basics of St Petersburg but had enough freedom allotted so we could run and explore on our own. My

only complaint is that we stayed with kids from the program instead of Russian families because we were only there two months and did not have a ton of Russian prior to the trip. I wished I had more immersion, but that is just the way I learn best. Overall, I would definitely recommend this program to someone else."



# P6| Bosnian reporters, women, under pressure

FROM P. 1

it is really.

I'm exchanging experience with my colleagues and gathering information that can be helpful for me in my intentions to start a new magazine in Bosnia. I'm thinking about a women's magazine, because there's no such thing there now. Women need some kind of newspaper where they can discuss things, talk about what their problems are. Following the war, 60% of the population in Bosnia is now women. Many of them widows with children.

## **Besides war-related problems, what else are women in Bosnia facing?**

Domestic violence. We did not have that much before the war. It is related to the problem of alcoholism and drug abuse, which is growing among men and even among women. Second is the big rate of unemployment. Women are the first people to get fired from a job. These are the basic problems facing women.

## **Does the government have an official position on women's issues?**

The government in Bosnia doesn't take a position for the people. Mostly they do a lot for themselves. There's corruption. Sixty-two percent of the young people want to leave Bosnia. The international community, in a certain way, helps them to do that. They are trying to help them, but it does not help Bosnia. Young people are really welcome all over the world. Most of them are in the USA, Canada and Australia. I hope that we don't become a country of only old people.

## **As in other countries in the region, is there control of the media by business groupings or the government?**

There is no control. The situation in Bosnia is anarchy. Not only in journalism. It's quite dangerous to be a journalist. I work for the *Slobodna Bosna* newspaper. My editor was put on trial forty times in one year, for nothing. Then the High Commissioner enacted a law against this sort of thing. Nobody can sue you in that way anymore.

We do have a problem with freedom of movement. Officially we can go wherever we want, but you have to be careful where you go, what nationality you are. War criminals are still free. If you want to do a story on Karadzic, go to Pale, and talk with people in the streets, you can be killed or something. In Banja Luka, a reporter wrote just one article about war criminals, and he was hit by a bomb placed in his car and lost his legs. He was actually the first Serb in the Republika Srpska planning to do such a series of articles. Now after medical treatment, he is continuing to do his work. He's a great guy, a great journalist. Still, you are just not protected.

## **So there must be a lot of self-censorship?**

Actually, we have more freedom than your newspapers. We write about everything. Some times you just don't even think about it [the consequences]. But that is the job of the journalist. To bring truth to the people. Just to write the truth. □

# people

Joining the UNC Russian & East European Studies MA program is **Major James M. (Mike) Ashford**, a Eurasian Foreign Area Officer Program who studied Russian at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California. While studying at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch, Germany, he served as liaison officer with the Russian Airborne Brigade Headquarters in Bosnia and as the Chief of Security Assistance at the U.S. Embassy in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

**Carol Flath**, Duke Dept. of Slavic Languages and Linguistics, was on Dean's leave this fall to develop a book project, *Dostoevsky's Sacraments and Secrets*. In addition, she published "Chekhov's Underground Man: 'An Attack of Nerves'" in *Slavic and East European Journal* 44 (3) 2000, "Escape from Idyll: Chekhov and Pushkin," in *Collected Essays in Honor of the Bicentennial of Alexander Pushkin's Birth*, ed. Juras Ryfa (Lewiston, N.Y. Mellon, 2000), and finally, "The Seagull: The Stage Mother, the Missing Father and the Origins of Art," in *Modern Drama* XLII, 4, Winter 1999.

*In a Foreign Harbor: Essays in Honor of Vasa D. Mihailovich*, edited by Radmila J. Gorup and Bogdan Rakic, was released by Slavica publishers (Bloomington, 2000).

Blackwell released *The Russian Revolution. Essential Papers in History*, edited with an introduction by **Martin A. Miller**. The book is a collection of published articles on various aspects of the revolution. Contributors include Edward Acton, E.N. Burdzhakov, Orlando Figes, Alexander Rabinowitch, William Rosenberg, Barbara Clements, Sheila Fitzpatrick, Ronald Suny and Steve Smith.

**Donald J. Raleigh** recently published articles in *Cahiers du Monde russe, Problemy slavianovedeniia*, and *Studia Slavica Finlandensia*.

"Ready for Work and Defence: Visual Propaganda and Soviet Women's Military Preparedness in the 1930s" has been published in the latest issue of *Minerva: Quarterly Report on Women and the Military*, authored by **Alison Rowley**, Center for Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies, Duke University. □



# Romania trudges towards welfare reform

An interview with Livia Popescu, associate professor in the Social Work Department of Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania, who is at the UNC School of Social Work under a Fulbright grant.

## **Can you tell us a little about your research?**

The exact title of my project is "the non-governmental sector in a changing welfare system." The objective is to make a comparative analysis of the NGO sector in the US and Romania. The countries are at the extremes in terms of the condition and development of NGOs. I'm interested in the changes in the mission, objectives, and clients of the non-governmental human services as a result of changes in the social policies.

I also have a broader interest in the sociological conditions of the "third sector" -- what are the characteristics of the society supporting the NGOs? What are the specific social segments or layers involved in volunteering, what are the resources and the availability of financial support, like charitable donations?

## **How are you conducting your research?**

The resources at Davis Library and online have been extremely helpful for my documentary research and literature review. I also audited some courses

came in these years to teach at Cluj. Because of this connection, I came here.

## **What is the situation with the Romanian welfare system?**



Visiting Romanian scholar Livia Popescu

relevant for my topic and had insightful discussions with several faculty from the School of Social Work. I collected a lot of materials on the constitution and functioning of service-providing organizations and I met a couple of executive directors and staff members of nonprofit services from North Carolina.

## **What is your connection with North Carolina?**

The former dean of the School of Social Work, professor Richard Edwards, was supporting the establishment of social work education at my university since the beginning of the 90s. Both he and other faculty

The welfare system still preserves some features of the communist one, but there have been important changes in the last six years. There is a new component to cope with the rising unemployment. A new means-tested component which targets the very poor was also introduced in 1995.

The trends are, first of all, a shift from the communist welfare system, which was in principle universal and state-financed, to an insurance-based system where both the employer and the employee are paying contributions. Second, there is decentralization of the administration of welfare benefits and services, and third, there is partnership between the state, public services and the NGO sector.

The poverty alleviation program was the first to be decentralized. Provision depends on the local community, its priorities, policies, and of course, on its financial resources. Very

often the local authorities introduced new criteria, more restrictions, and in the last two years many poor people were not paid the benefit even though they were entitled to it. This welfare provision faced criticism from the very beginning, at the time it was enacted by the Parliament. The amount of the benefit is considered insufficient for poor people to live on, and criteria are not well defined, giving place to arbitrary decisions or to abuses.

Romania has a sad record as far as children's welfare is concerned. The children in numerous families as well as the children in residential care are exposed to malnourishment, poverty, health problems, neglect and abuse. The situation of vulnerable children remains dramatic 10 years after the collapse of communism. At present, this is an issue which, along with economic performance, has become a major criterion in assessing Romania's readiness to integrate into the European Union.

## **How will the election of a new government affect things?**

At this point, it is difficult to say. During the campaign, populist promises were made, to increase the unemployment benefit, improve the social assistance for poor people. They have also delayed the enacting of pension reform. This includes two things, introducing employee contributions and raising the retirement age. I'm not sure how many of the promises to vulnerable groups can be kept. □

# Balkan conference on track

PLANNING continues apace for the March 29-31 conference on "The Future of the Balkans: Beyond Conflict and Underdevelopment" at UNC. Addresses will be given by Susan Woodward of CUNY Graduate Center, author of "Balkan Tragedy," and the Bosnian Ambassador to the US, Igor



Davidovic. Also slated for participation are representatives of the US Depart-

ment of State, the European Commission, World Bank, and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

On Saturday, workshops will be held to provide a more conducive environment for in-depth discussion of the five broad themes of the conference: the history of conflict and underdevelopment in the Balkans, approaches to conflict resolution, economic recovery and development, US policy, and international policy. □

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Any contributions and announcements for the next issue of *inflections* should be sent to <[billhein@email.unc.edu](mailto:billhein@email.unc.edu)>. The deadline for the next issue is April 1. Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Institutions. This publication was produced without the use of State Funds. *inflections* is a quarterly publication of the Joint Duke-UNC Center for Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies. Editor: Robert M. Jenkins; Associate Editor: Nicolae Harsanyi; Managing Editor: Bill Hein.

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