

Historía

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ASSOCIATES TALK

Djordjevic to Analyze Eastern Europe Crisis

Few professors wait to see the morning's headlines before preparing their lectures, but this month's History Associates speaker has no choice.

Prof. Dimitrije Djordjevic's topic is Eastern Europe, and the title of his November 14 talk—"Quo Vadis Eastern Europe?"—sums up the problem he faces.

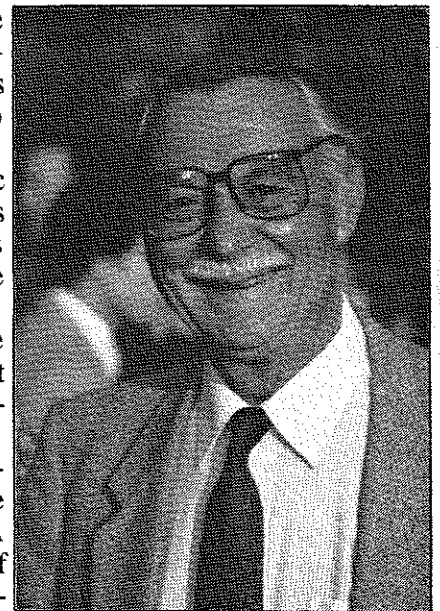
"Do you have a crystal ball?" he replies jovially when asked to predict where the dramatic events in that region will lead. "I don't!"

Still, if anyone can make predictions after so many unpredictable events, it is Prof. Djordjevic. A member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts and former president of both the North American Society for Serbian Studies and the Conference on Slavic and East European Studies, Prof. Djordjevic is a leading authority on the history of the Balkans and Eastern Europe, with 10 books and dozens of scholarly articles on the region to his credit.

"It reminds historians of 1848," Prof. Djordjevic said of the upheavals that has swept through Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. "That was also a year when all Europe turned to revolution."

The current wave is going through three phases, according to the Balkan expert, who has been teaching at UCSB since 1970.

"First there was the phase of 'dancing in the street,' when they got rid of 40 years of totalitarian rule," he



Prof. DIMITRIJE DJORDJEVIC
...luncheon speaker

explained. "Now we are in the second phase of 'jumping into a vacuum,' where these countries have got to adjust to a free market. For some of them, this is a completely new experience."

The final phase, Prof. Djordjevic predicts, will be stabilization.

"Nothing is black and white in history," he observed. "The people of Eastern Europe have gained on one side, but they have also lost such benefits as subsidized food, rent and transportation.

"Soviet oil is another loss," he continued. "Now that there is no Warsaw Pact, the Russians are restricting their oil shipments and de-

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Prof. DAVID CHANDLER
... Napoleon expert

UCSB Hosts Annual Western French History Meeting

When the program shows the Eiffel Tower topped by a Stetson, the press release includes a cartoon of the keynote speaker dressed like Napoleon Bonaparte, and the menu features such pun-filled exotica as "Rouget de Lisle, sauce Marseillaise," it can only mean one thing: the Western Society for French History is in town.

The 18th annual meeting of the Society, which is one of the two largest professional associations of French scholars in the country, attracted more than 300 participants from the United States and Europe.

The diversity of the Society's membership, which includes arts and literature students as well as historians, was reflected in the topics of the more than 60 panels that were scheduled during the four-day conference, held Nov. 7-10 at the Santa Barbara Sheraton.

In addition to traditional themes of war and politics, panels ranged from "French Opera" to "Gender Politics" and "Postmodern Theory."

The program also included a performance by the Santa Barbara Baroque Ensemble and the

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LAURA KALMAN'S NEW BOOK

**Abe Fortas and American Liberalism:
A Study in What Might Have Been**

Here's a book that started on the Obituary page.

Prof. Laura Kalman was reading the *New York Times* in the winter of 1982 and learned that former Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas had died.

"I was already thinking that I would like to write a study of American liberalism from the New Deal to the Great Society by means of a biography, and Fortas was just the kind of person I was looking for," she recalls.

"Fortas' career covered just this period—he worked in all the New Deal agencies and at the sub-Cabinet level during World War II. After the War, he founded one of the most prominent law firms in Washington, and he was one of Lyndon Johnson's closest advisers."

The result—eight years and thousands of pages of archival research later—is *Abe Fortas: A Biography*, published last month by Yale University Press.

Prof. Kalman was uniquely qualified to undertake such a study, since before going to Yale to get a doctorate in 20th century U.S. history she picked up a law degree at UCLA.

All of this training proved valuable to understand the career of the lawyer and political insider that Fortas was. Undoubtedly, it also helped open doors for Prof. Kalman that had been closed to other scholars.

One of those doors was to Fortas' private papers, now in the possession of his widow.

"There were no big bombshells," Prof. Kalman reports. "In fact, the biggest bombshell I got from another scholar, who found proof that Fortas discussed a case pending before the Court with LBJ.

"Everybody knew he talked with LBJ all the time," she explained, but he had always denied discussing cases with him."

But bombshells, Prof. Kalman says, were not what she was looking for.

"I wanted to use Fortas as a kind of mirror for an era—to see what happened to American liberalism between FDR and LBJ."

She sees the derailment of Fortas' career during the Nixon Administration as an example of what happened to liberalism as a whole.

"LBJ had nominated Fortas in 1968 to succeed Earl War-



Prof. LAURA KALMAN
...Fortas biography

ren as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court," Prof. Kalman explains. "Fortas withdrew, however, because of complaints that he had been too involved in politics while a Justice.

"But the Nixon people wouldn't let it stop there. They kept harrasing him with the same kind of dirty tricks that eventually led to Watergate, and finally he just quit the Court altogether."

The charge that led to Fortas' resignation—that he accepted money from a foundation that might have brought a case before the Court—is "bogus," according to Prof. Kalman.

"The head of that foundation was a former client, and Fortas always recused himself in such cases," she explains. "Accepting a consulting fee was bad judgment, but there was never any chance that he would have sat on the case if it had come before the Court."

Imagining a Fortas Court as successor to the Warren Court, Prof. Kalman says, is a great exercise in "what might have been."

"Fortas had a strong commitment to social justice—as a lawyer, he argued the case that won free legal representation for the poor in criminal cases," she explains. "If he had become Chief Justice instead of Warren Burger, there is no doubt that he would have carried on the legacy of Earl Warren, who he strongly admired."

Prof. Kalman came to UCSB as an assistant professor in 1982. She is currently vice chair of the Department.

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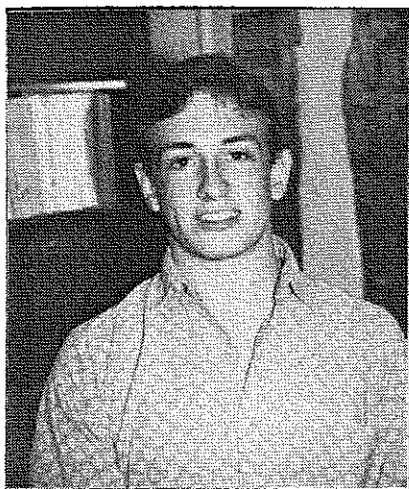
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Published by the UCSB Alumni Association

Phi Alpha Theta Plans Big Year

The UCSB chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the prestigious history honors society, is planning a number of events for 1990-91.

Efforts are being made to update our organizational roster and to send out invitations to qualified



MERRICK DRESNIN
...PAT president

SOCIETY

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Westmont College Instrumental Ensemble, as well as plenary addresses by Profs. Eugen Weber of UCLA, David Chandler of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, England, and Bruno Neveu of the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris.

History Prof. Paul Sonnino, a specialist in 17th Century French history, chaired the local arrangements committee and was slated to succeed to the presidency of the Society at the conference.

Prof. Sonnino acknowledged the support the conference received from UCSB's Interdisciplinary Humanities Center.

Additional support was provided by the office of the French Consul in Los Angeles.

Other History faculty on the program included medievalists Jeffrey Russell and Sharon Farmer, historians of science Michael Osborne and Anita Guerrini, and economic historian Ken Moure.

potential initiates. The annual Phi Alpha Theta banquet, which is held in Winter quarter, is already in the preliminary planning stages.

Office hours are being set for peer advising in the Phi Alpha Theta office, which is located across from the main History Office on the fourth floor of Ellison Hall. Peer advising allows history students to talk over their courses and ideas with other history students, instead of with an official adviser.

This year, the primary goal of the organization will be to get students involved. Phi Alpha Theta is a very prestigious society, with chapters across the country. The society began at the University of Arkansas on March 17, 1921; since then, it has grown to more than 650 chapters, with more than 150,000 members.

Phi Alpha Theta creates a wonderful opportunity for its members to interact with other students with similar interests and goals, as well as with teaching assistants and professors.

If you have any questions, please come to the Phi Alpha Theta office during our special office hours every Monday at 11 a.m.

Merrick Dresnin
President

UCSB Goes To UC in DC

The new University of California Center in Washington, D.C. will have a UCSB component beginning in Winter quarter.

History Prof. W. Elliot Brownlee, who will serve as acting director of the UCSB program, said that the UC Center was set up to serve the needs of the large number of faculty and students from UC that go to the Capital for study and research.

UCSB's group will join contingents from Davis and UCLA that opened the Center this term.

From the Chair

At 78 per cent of American colleges, students can graduate without taking a course in Western Civilization.

At 38 per cent they can graduate without taking even a single history course.

Happily, this is not true at UCSB. Since 1985, all students in the College of Letters and Science (approximately 90 per cent of our undergraduates) have to take at least two quarters of a three-quarter survey of Western Civilization.

Not all do so in the History Department, since year-long Western Civ courses taught in Classics, Religious Studies, and Art History also qualify.

Nevertheless, over 1500 students enroll in our History 4 series every quarter. Enrollments in History 4 and History 17 (the American history sequence) were healthy even before the 1985 General Education program made them (and other history courses) attractive to students looking for ways to fulfill their General Education requirements. Our newer surveys in Asian and Latin American history are also thriving.

In my view, the single most important reason for the success of our lower division survey courses is that we consistently staff them with regular, ladder faculty—that is, faculty in the professor series, as opposed to temporary faculty, such as lecturers. When we are forced to hire lecturers to teach these courses, we appoint them with great care.

As a result, the surveys have always been an excellent recruiting ground for new majors as well as for non-majors who take upper division history courses as electives.

Our investment in the surveys has been expensive. They require enormous amounts of faculty time which must be taken away from upper division and graduate courses.

I would argue, however, that it has been time (and money) well spent.

J. Sears McGee
Chair

Moscow's Archives in the Era of Glasnost

How One Grad Student Found Happiness And Research Material in Soviet Russia

History grad student Katie Siegel travelled to the Soviet Union last Spring to conduct research for her doctoral dissertation, which she is writing for Prof. Alexander DeConde. The following account of her experiences is adapted from the Sibley Flash Star, Katie's family newspaper.—Ed.

By KATIE SIEGEL

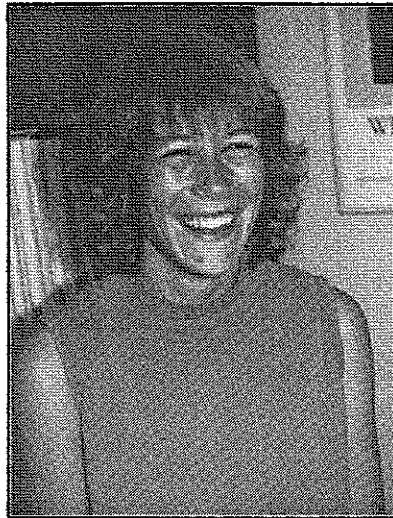
Welcoming signs were waving from the crowd at the arrival gate that Moscow May morning, as my flight-mates and I emerged from the passport checkpoint of Sheremetevo Airport. Yet as I scanned the greeters' placards for my name in one or two languages, I saw that none of these signs bore anything resembling it.

A little anxious at this turn of events, I decided to take care of various airport business while I waited for my Soviet sponsors to show up. First I went to get my money changed, and as the clerk turned \$100 into 600 rubles, I felt suddenly rich. Next, I cleaned my contact lenses, the better to see the people from the Foundation for Social Innovations (the group hosting my stay) when they would arrive to meet me, and I made my own sign in Cyrillic scrawl, which I held up hopefully.

They did not appear however. Finally, I decided to have them paged at the Information desk. But this brought no response, and I was beginning to feel the early stages of panicked queasiness. My Russian was hardly worth uttering, but something had to be done, and quickly. Thus, over the course of the next two hours I became very well acquainted with the man at the Intourist Information desk. About all he could say in English was "no problem"!

Fortunately, I did have a few phone numbers in Moscow. One was for my group, but since it was a Sunday we got no answer there. I also had the home number of Tair Tairov, the man who directs the Foundation and whom I'd met a couple of times in California. Alas, said the man at the Intourist desk, the number I had for Mr. Tairov was missing a digit—it needed seven, and I only had six.

The American Embassy—handily listed in the Fo-



KATIE SIEGEL
...Moscow adventure

dor's Guide—was completely shut down on Sunday, except for the answering machine. I tried the British Embassy next, but the kindly live voice at the end of the line could not offer me a phone directory.

The situation, and my excitement for foreign travel, were fast deteriorating as I pictured myself schlepping my two bulging suitcases around Moscow's pot-holed streets in search of the Foundation.

My Intourist friend had been dialing like mad for me all this time, adding successive digits to both ends of my inadvertently abbreviated phone number for Tair Tairov. At last, he landed upon the right combination—Tair's son, who spoke English, answered the phone! Marlboro cigarettes and a \$20 bill soon bought me an illicit taxi fare to the Tairovs' apartment, 50 minutes away in downtown Moscow.

About three hours after I arrived at their cozy apartment, just as I was tucking into Mrs. Tairov's delicious meal, we got a phone call. The folks who were supposed to meet me had thought my flight arrived at 5:30 p.m., not 10:30 a.m. They were at the airport, wondering where I was!

* * *

I never did get used to the difficulties of finding food in Russia. The state stores bearing the name "Vegetables and Fruit," for example, sell only fizzy fruit soda and preserves in industrial-sized cans. In addition to their meager selections, the Soviet food emporiums nearly all feature an imposing collection of large, empty food cases. In many stores, stock was so depleted that customers would come in, look around, and walk out within seconds—the lack of a line outside always an indication that there was nothing to buy inside.

Fortunately, bread was cheap, plentiful, and good in Moscow when I was there (although I understand that it, too, is now in very short supply). For variety, I ate it with salami, yogurt, or my can of "easy Cheese," a Velvetoid concoction imported from Goleta.

Dinners are best eaten at the new cooperatively run restaurants, where the food is of high quality. These private co-ops require reservations, often a difficult prospect with my tremulous command of the language. In addi-

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'Bubonic Plague' Threatens UCSB's Basketball Courts

Maybe it was the change of name that did it.

History's basketball team was the scorn of the Intramural league last year when it went by the name "Out of Shape."

This year, however, the team changed its name to "Bubonic Plague," and it has become the terror of the courts, winning the first of its seasonal games and thereby tying its win record not just for last year, but for the last three years put together!

The change, according to team manager Ted Dickson, was inspired by Prof. Randy Bergstrom—the only faculty player—whose championship Intramural team at Columbia was called "The Black Death." It has, he said, given the team a new image and new inspiration.

But forward Bob Frakes has another explanation.

"This year we switched to a Detroit Pistons-style deep bench," he explained. "This has let us switch to a running game and a man-on-man defense. We wear down the opposition."

Whatever the reason, the Plague looked good on its first outing, winning by 30-12. The next two games were less impressive (i.e., they lost), but morale remains high.

"These games aren't officiated until Winter quarter," said guard David Toye. "By then we'll be ready."

Toye was the first casualty of the season, bruising his leg badly enough to have to stay out of action for the rest of the quarter. Others have continued to play with minor injuries—Bill Hartley



Historia Photo By Helen Murdoch

FORMIDABLE! Savoring the rush of victory are the History Department's own 'Bubonic Plague.' Top row (l. to r.): Brian O'Rourke, Erik Ching, Randy Bergstrom, Bob Frakes, and Mark Schroeder; bottom (l. to r.): Keith Zahniser, Tom Widroe, Ted Dickson, and Van Hodge.

with bad ankles, Tom Widroe with a bad knee, Erik Ching with a knee brace.

But no one has shown the fortitude of Brian O'Rourke, who broke his finger in a game last Spring, but has returned this year.

"We're the walking wounded," manager Dickson said. "But we're holding our own against undergraduates."

All games this quarter are being played Mondays at 6 p.m. in the Events Center.

MOSCOW

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tion, there are always the *stolovayas*, or cafeterias, which are open to the public. They are grim, but tolerable in times of extreme need.

I found the Soviet citizens I met were friendly and patient when I asked them for any assistance or directions in my wobbly Russian.

Every weekday I ventured out to the State Archival Administration, about an hour from my apartment. There, in the spirit of *glasnost* I was treated with great courtesy and helpfulness. I also discovered the fine collection of books and journals at the mammoth Lenin Library, where the card catalog still lists all U.S. history since 1918 under the comprehensive heading of the "Period of the Crisis of Capitalism."

My final research destination was the Stalinesque (c. 1953) Gothic tower of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The staff was very pleasant, but said I must write in advance to gain admission (which I have since done). I hope to return there soon to do research, although it sounds as if daily living in the Soviet Union is each day becoming a more Herculean task.

Perhaps I'd better bring an extra box of Velveeta this time!

'72 History Grad Sits on Saddam

What can you do with a History degree? Ask Our Man in Baghdad.

His name is Joseph Wilson IV and he is deputy chief of mission, the highest ranking American diplomat in Iraq.

Wilson attended UCSB from 1968-72, graduating with a BA degree in History. While here, he did not confine himself to courses on the Middle East, but also took classes in U.S. history and ancient history.

Wilson's high-spirited style as the leading American in Baghdad has attracted a great deal of attention, with stories in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *New York Times*, and the *Santa Barbara News-Press*.

Historia attempted to contact Wilson for a special alum-to-alum report, but a State Department spokesperson said the mail was not entirely reliable right now.

Eastern Europe Talk

manding hard currency at market prices for what they do send."

Winter, he predicts, is going to be very difficult—not just because of the loss of Russian oil, but also because of another unforeseen event, the Gulf Crisis.

"All the states of Eastern Europe did business with Iraq, expecting oil in return," he explained. "But now the Iraqis owe them some \$6 billion, and couldn't pay even if they wanted to, because of the blockade."

Prof. Djordjevic, who has just written a chapter on the situation in Yugoslavia for a new book to be published by Columbia University Press, says he is optimistic that his native country will not disintegrate.

"There will be change, probably to a form of federation or confederation," he predicts. "But there won't be dissolution because that would destabilize the whole Balkans and everybody knows it."

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Tickets for the November 14 lecture, which will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, 1111 E. Cabrillo Blvd., are \$13 for members, \$15 for non-members. Reservations and further information are available from the UCSB Alumni Association, (805) 893-2288.

The 1990-91 lecture season began October 17 with a talk by Prof. Otis Graham on the mis-use of historical analogy by policy makers.

In Winter quarter, Prof. Pat Cohen will discuss a sensational 19th century murder trial, and Prof. Abraham Friesen will reflect on the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Spring quarter will bring talks by Prof. R. Stephen Humphreys, newly appointed holder of the King Ibn Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud Chair in Islamic Studies, and Dr. Jarrell Jackman, director of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.

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