



Issue 1

Volume 1

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Newsletter for the Center for Polish and Central European Studies at the University of Rochester

Welcome to the Newsletter of the Center for Polish and Central European Studies (CPCES) at the University of Rochester. The newsletter is our official organ and will be published for each semester. It will bring news and summaries of our activities and hopefully encourage the community to enter into a dialogue with us. We would like to hear especially about the kind of lectures and artistic events that you would welcome to be organized by the Center as a part of the Skalny Lecture and Artist Series. The following is a description about the history of CPCES at UR, details of our administration, programs, future goals and support.

About the Center

As one of many innovative initiatives of Dean **William Scott Green** at the College, the CPCES, was established in 1994 with a generous grant from the **Louis Skalny Foundation**. The Center has a two-fold mission: primarily it is an university-based academic program that invites community participation. The Center has a special focus on Poland because of its size — it is the most populated country in the region — and its fruitful determination to achieve political and economic change. The CPCES offers an interdisciplinary program for undergraduate students and awards certificates of concentration in Polish and Central European Studies. A rich array of courses is offered for in-depth study of Poland and Central Europe. Twelve new courses have been developed and many more courses have been enriched to include substantial amount of material dealing with Poland and Central Europe. The program includes courses in anthropology, history, political science, religion, literature, art history, visual arts, film studies and musicology. As an academic meeting place for teaching and research, the Center brings together faculty and students who wish to study the historical legacy and current transformations within Central Europe.

CPCES is directed by **Ewa Hauser, Ph.D.** and housed within the Department of Political Science. The academic part of the Center is run by a steering committee headed by Dean **William Green** and including also **John Mueller, Melanie Manion, Kathleen Parthe, Randall Stone** and of course, **Ewa Hauser**, all of whom teach core courses for the

program and oversee its development in the College. The community-based Friends Committee has been organized since last year but in existence since the beginning of the Center: It includes volunteers who help with graphic design, **Jarek Kudaj**, organizing of concerts and film festivals, **Greg Stachowiak**, and hosting visiting scholars, **John and Jackie Borek**. The Committee is headed now by Dr. **Lidia Slusarek** and **Ralph Jozefowicz**. During the summer Dr. **Slusarek** organized a reception at her home for the art historians from Poland who participated in a prestigious Getty summer international seminar on visual culture. Besides hospitality, many members help with planning programs and the Center's general development.

Jagiellonian Exchange

The Center was instrumental in orchestrating an institutional exchange between the oldest and most prominent Polish University, the Jagiellonian, and the UR. The Agreement for Scholarly Collaboration and Exchange, signed first by Dean Green in 1995 and re-signed just last September by President Jackson, describes a full-fledged faculty and student exchange. Now in its second term, we are focusing on strengthening the word "exchange" and inspiring more UR professors to go to Poland and teach at various departments of our sister-university. There are standing invitations now from the departments of American Studies, Musicology, Sociology and Anthropology. Our student exchange program is becoming increasingly successful; more students every year show interest in Central Europe and attend JU for semester or summer study programs.

Visiting Professors

During the last three years, the Center hosted twelve visiting professors from Poland and Hungary, sponsored by the **Louis Skalny Foundation**, the **Kosciuszko Foundation** and the **Fulbright Foundation**. During the last academic year, the Center hosted three Visiting professors from the Jagiellonian University: **Wieslaw Godzic** (film and media), and **Adam Walaszek** (immigration history) and **Wojciech Marchwica**, a musicologist who joined the Eastman School of Music last Spring. Currently Professor **Katarzyna Sobolewska-Myslik** is teaching

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Skalny Summer Study Abroad: Colleen Parker

The student exchange program with Jagiellonian University has offered UR students a the opportunity to enroll in JU courses for UR course credit. Students have gained greater language skills and a deeper understanding of Poland's unique transitional period. Eight UR students enrolled in JU Summer Study programs between 1995 - 1998, taking courses which ranged from intensive language programs to studies of current political and economic problems. Three UR students have spent a semester in study at JU in Spring 1997 and each enrolled in four courses for twelve credit hours. This summer two UR under-graduates, Colleen Parker, Katarzyna Slepicka, and UR graduate student, Mara Kozelsky, traveled to Krakow for summer studies. The following are reports from the two recipients of the Skalny Fellowship for summer study abroad, Colleen and Mara.

You're going where?

That was the response I heard all spring when my friends and family about the trip to Krakow, Poland I would take that summer. Personally, I did not understand their surprise; a study abroad program at the Jagiellonian University seemed appropriate for a Political Science major of my age. It was not until I came home and told them about my experiences that they began to understand how valuable my trip was.

Like any good traveler, I came home with five rolls of film, eager to share stories of my trip. I showed everyone pictures of the eight students and two teachers in my Polish language class. We all got to know each other quite well because we met four hours in the morning for the entire month. Then came all the pictures of the city of Krakow. Many appeared shocked at how beautiful the city was! Still, the pictures did not do the city justice. And, it is absolutely impossible to describe shopping and all there is to do in the rynek. The American students at the Jagiellonian Summer School never had a lack of things to do. The arts, night clubs, and cafes all kept us entertained. The pictures of the weekend adventures to the Wieliczka salt mines, Auschwitz museum, mountain climbing in Zakopane, raft rides on the Dujenec

river, sponsored by the school provide some of the best pictures. Finally, there are the pictures of my family in the southern town of Jaslo. I was fortunate to meet my relatives and stay with them for one weekend. Needless to say, my pictures themselves tell more about my trip than I could venture to do in this short essay.

My pictures can't tell you what I, as a person, gained from the experience. First, and foremost, I learned about a country which is truly unique, and in a fascinating stage of development. The different speakers in my "Transitions in Poland" class made me aware of the many issues that face a country in trying to establish a modern democratic society. Living in Poland allowed me to see these problems in every day life. Learning Polish, while in Poland,

made me appreciate the value of communication. On a more abstract level, I realized how big and small this world really is; one forgets that America is not the center of the world - there are other ways of living, thinking, and generally existing. At the same time, thousands of miles away from my home, there are people and problems that now have some relevance to my life. When Professor Mueller in my International Politics class speaks about Hitler's cruelty to the Polish people, I have a new understanding of what that means. At

Auschwitz I saw the piles of suitcases from those people who met their end in that awful place. Jaslo, the city where most of my family now lives, was completely burned by the Wehrmacht. Now, as I pursue my certificate in Polish and Central European Studies, I have new insight into classroom lectures. The Skalny Grant allowed me to study in Krakow. As a result, I have new insight into Poland, a wealth of new experiences, a group of new friends, a renewed sense of family, and a new photo album filled with pictures! By the way, those same people who were wondering why I was going to Poland, are now the ones asking me how they could get into the same program! ■



Skalny Summer Study Abroad: Mara Kozelsky

Unlike Colleen and the two other Rochesterians who attended language school with me (not affiliated with UR), I traveled to Poland more for professional than for personal reasons. Although my Central-East European ancestry certainly has an indirect influence over my interest in the region, I enrolled in the three week intensive language program because I am an historian.

I began my studies in Polish and Russian history during my first year of undergraduate studies in 1990, inspired by Poland's reclamation of her national identity during the crises of communist rule in East Central Europe. Because universities traditionally have had only the most limited resources supporting East-Central European studies, I have independently developed my interests in Polish history until coming to University of Rochester and getting involved with UR's Center for Polish and Central European Studies, where I took my first Polish language courses. I also found my first opportunity to travel to Poland through the facilitation of CPCEs and generosity of the both the Kosciuszko and Louis Skalny Foundations.

The three week language program focused around classroom language exercises, afternoon lectures on Polish economy and culture, and finally excursions around the city of Krakow, the mountains of Zakopane and of course the famous Wieliczka salt mine, where the crisp, clean air was a welcome break from Krakow's humid 90 degrees. I also visited Auschwitz with my classmates --- an experience of singular importance for all of us.

Despite the grueling schedule of my Polish language courses, everyday between 8:30 - 1:15, I found that the five hours and forty-five minutes actually sped by. My extremely dedicated and professional instructors, Kinga Kozak and Elizabeta Maskowska conducted courses only in Polish, pantomiming those words, phrases and expressions that the class did not already know. Although three weeks of intensive language instruction did not turn me into a native speaker overnight, it did help me consolidate and build upon the one-year of Polish language study at CPCEs.

In the afternoon, I alternated between two sets of lectures related to Polish economy and culture, the first held between 3:00 - 4:30, and the second between 5:00 and 6:30. The amount of homework required for the language courses prevented me from attending both lectures consecutively on a daily basis, so I carefully selected those talks that fit best with my program of study at the UR. I found the economic lectures particularly valuable, as they supplied very specific up-to-date information not readily available in the United States.

One of the most welcome and surprising aspects of the summer study abroad program was the school's international atmosphere and the congeniality among the participants. Although Americans and Germans dominated the school during my session, students came from all across the Northern Hemisphere. I met people of all ages from

many countries, including France, Denmark, England, Japan, Russia, Israel, Sweden, and of course, Poland. Everyone had an interesting story about their reasons for coming to Poland and were for the most part, eager to share. Many Americans of Polish descent, whether aged seventeen or eighty-eight, enrolled in the summer school to gain a deeper appreciation of their heritage. The German-Polish Society --- composed largely of the children of World War II's displaced persons --- sponsored almost forty participants. An equal number of participants came for professional reasons, whether as business men and women curious about economic opportunities and Poland's entry in to the European Community, or as students of Polish politics, culture, economics or history, like myself.

Although I spent a great deal of my time attending courses and completing one chapter after another from our Polish language textbooks, I must confess to enjoying Krakow's wonderful clubs, cafes, and museums. My trip coincided with two different summer festivals for Jazz and the Clarinet. On Friday and Saturday evenings, my new friends and I sat in candlelit 'caves' beneath the city square listening to jazz and sipping unusually small servings of Hungarian wine (until we learned the difference between *kieliszek* and *lampka*). During the week, we attended clarinet performances held in Krakow's beautiful and ancient churches. And while I cannot attest to the following from personal experience, Krakow's discotheques acquired a legendary reputation among the more adventurous participants in the summer program.

Finally, I can not begin to express the knowledge about and perspective on Polish history I gained simply by being in Krakow. Cab drivers who whisked me to and from the airport, train and bus stations never failed to point out the sights; one even gave me an impromptu tour of Pope John-Paul II's life in Krakow. While strolling through the corridor of the National Polish Museum, I viewed firsthand the famous portrait of Stanislaus Poniatowski that appears in so many of my history books. I also had the great privilege of meeting with Dr. hab. Adam Walaszek, who taught me about Polish Immigrants as a Visiting Professor at UR. We continued our discussion about Poles, immigration and return migration while I watched with amazement as he consumed thirty-six perogie in one sitting.

Thanks to CPCEs, the Skalny Foundation and the Kosciuszko Foundation I have entered into an important stage of my education. I would not by any means claim expertise, but I do believe that I have made a valuable step, one that I intend to repeat. Three weeks clearly is not enough time to master the Polish language, but it does provide a sufficient introduction to Polish language and culture and consequently, the essential tools for historical research. If I could have changed anything about my experience, I would have opted to stay longer.

**1997-1998 Visiting
Professor
Adam Walaszek**

Dr. hab. Adam Walaszek, specialist in the history of the Polish Diaspora, head of the Polonia Institute and currently Director of the Jagiellonian side of UR/JU exchanges, was the Visiting Professor for Fall 1997 and Spring 1998. As Visiting Professor, Walaszek offered two courses through the History Department: "For Bread with Butter: History of Immigration from Central-Eastern Europe to the USA and Ethnic History of the USA" and "History of Poland." For his contribution to the Skalny Lecture Series, Walaszek delivered a paper, "Long Live the Alliance of Polish Workers: Polish Immigrant Organizations in the USA, 1880 - 1930" for a symposium he helped organize in November 1997, "Polish Workers in Europe and in America." In addition to his teaching and presentations for CPCEs, Walaszek was extremely productive. He researched and completed two articles: "Labor and Commerce" for a book about Polish-Americans edited by S. Blejwas, J. Pula, and M. Biskupski and "Children of Immigrants and Social Control in the USA, 1880 - 1920," for a conference "Children in History" held in the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, May 1998. While in residence at the University of Rochester, Professor Walaszek gathered significant participation from American scholars for a reference volume, "Polish Diaspora Project," which he will be editing. And finally, Ewa Hauser will edit Walaszek's book, Immigrants' World: the Creation of Polish Cleveland: 1880 - 1930, for English language publication. Walaszek's visit to Rochester left lasting contributions to the University of Rochester, from his immeasurable gifts to his students down to his list of books he prepared about Central European and Polish history to be purchased by the Library of the University of Rochester.

Our Visiting Professor for Fall 1998 is Katerzyna Sobolewska-Myslik (sp), (title and specialty). We will be hearing from her in our next issue.

Teaching Polish History at UR

Dr. Hab. Adam Walaszek, Chair and Professor of History, Polonia Institute, Jagiellonian University

At first we were a bit lost. Myself, coming from a different educational system, from a different culture—they looking suspiciously at me, not knowing with whom they are dealing. If not for the help of the teaching assistant, the first weeks would have been even harder. Students in Poland, for example, are accustomed to searching and finding readings for a course on their own. Here, in the US, professors must prepare everything down to the most minute of details — make copies of articles, put them on reserve in the library, order the textbooks for the bookstore. Such details are numerous.

OK, they came to the first class about the history of the east central European ethnic groups in the US. Why? Because they were interested in the topic, because (the graduate students especially) they wanted to learn more about a field of American History they were introduced to in their labor history courses. Their presence in the class made a statement of treating this field seriously. Soon however the initial fears, anxieties and suspicions left us.

Besides the class where we discussed the assignments and where the students asked questions following my comments, the graduate students and I met in my office weekly and soon they themselves asked for additional readings which we would later discuss. I remember well two such additional meetings: one in a peculiar environment that supposedly functioned as the students' dining room — with salads and pop littering the clothless table between us, and another one in a cafe at the bottom of a post-modernist building (Wilson Commons). The latter probably

the best place to informally argue about post-modernist views on the processes of assimilation, accommodation, Americanization of immigrants. And then I remember my great surprise when I received their semester papers — surprise with the maturity of their writings. Two of the papers written for the class were submitted to the graduate student history conference, sponsored by the department. They were both extremely well-received and were highly competitive contenders for first prize in the Department of History for the best paper. Finally, I remember and I truly know how much I learned from teaching them and how I and my students will profit from this experience in the future.

A different surprise awaited me in the second semester. A course covering 1,000 years of Polish History in the context of Central Europe attracted many more students than the ethnic history I taught in the first semester (there was another course on ethnicity offered in the first semester by a regular and well-liked professor in the department — a hard to avoid conflict, EH). About 20 students crowded a room in Morey Hall where we met in January. A majority of them had personal histories with Polish roots. Several of the students had parents who left Poland. One student was actually born in my hometown. For them, the brick and stone traces of Polish history were somehow familiar, if only from family pictures. Because of this familiarity, it was a bit easier for me to make references to certain Polish symbols I was lecturing about—it was reassuring for me to see the recognition in

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From Krakow to Rochester: CPCES's Visiting Professors

Hosting visiting professors from Poland has and continues to be one of our most important contributions to the University of Rochester and to upstate New York's Polish community. We have sponsored eleven

visiting professors from Central Europe supported by Skalny Grants and the Kosciuszko Foundation since 1995, eight of whom were from our exchange program with Jagiellonian University. Our visiting professors traditionally offer courses pertaining to Poland and Central Europe through appropriate departments, including undergraduate surveys and seminars, independent studies courses and graduate readings courses in the areas of political science, literature, religion, constitutional law, film, history and musicology.

In addition to course offerings, each visiting professor delivers a lecture or prepares a presentation for the *Skalny Lecture and Artist Series*, including scholarly lectures, film series and professional conferences. These events are open to the public. The *Skalny Lecture and Artist Series* keeps Rochesterians well-informed about political, economic and cultural changes in post-communist Central Europe, while strengthening connections for Polish Americans with their historical legacies. Finally, events such as Wieslaw Godzic's (Visiting Professor Fall 1997) "Screening Poland" are intellectually stimulating, and just plain entertaining!

The almost two-hundred UR students who have worked with the Visiting Professors probably have benefitted the most, and have responded to the Visiting Professors and their expertise in Poland and Central Europe with enthusiasm, prizing the topic matter as well as the expertise of the educator. Further, the student exchange and the visiting professor exchange are complementary; prior to traveling to JU in the summer of 1998, for example, three UR students who have taken courses with visiting professors Adam Walaszek and Wojciech Marchwica have pre-existing, professional contacts already in place.

Department chairs valued the expansion of course offerings for both undergraduate and graduate students in a geographic region of increasing relevance for current world politics, but still relatively unfamiliar to American students. Randy Calvert of Political Science says that the Political Science department's "educational mission is greatly enhanced by our ability to offer such courses," because "developments in central and eastern Europe are important in the study of modern European and world politics, and stand as fascinating and revealing illustrations of the problems of building democratic constitutionalism." Visiting professors provide important intellectual stimulus, felt by faculty and students alike, in part evidenced by their own prestigious



CPCES Director Ewa Hauser with Visiting Professors Dr. hab. Adam Walaszek (1997 - 1998) and Dr. hab. Wieslaw Godzic (Fall 1997) at the Rochester campus.

backgrounds, their generous donations and continuing joint-research and activities.

Visiting Professors who publish, research for future publication and participate in nation-wide conferences while sponsored by the CPCES enhance the University's reputation. As a rule, Visiting Professors are very productive while in residence here; Kosciuszko Fellow Jacek Wasilewski (1995-1996 Visiting Professor from Jagiellonian University), for example, published eight articles and delivered papers for five highly-respected professional conferences. Further, Wasilewski collaborated with CPCES director Ewa Hauser to organize an international conference held in Krakow, "Democratization in Poland and Eastern Europe: Progress and Prospects," which produced a collection of articles edited by Ewa Hauser and Jacek Wasilewski, to be published by the end of 1998. The 1997 conference also resulted in one course planned by Harold Stanley (PSC) and currently taught by Katarzyna Sobulewska-Myslik, "Comparative Political Parties." In a summary of his experience in the exchange program, Professor Wasilewski co-organizer of "Democratization in Poland and Eastern Europe", concluded that conferences were essential to the program's overall success, writing that "the institutionalization of academic discussion between JU and UR faculty/graduate students seems to be a major achievement of the exchange program."

During the re-signing of the of the Scholarly Collaboration and Exchange between the Jagiellonian University and the University of Rochester in September 1998, administrators discussed ways in which to enhance the Visiting Professors exchange. Previously, for instance, CPCES sponsored visiting professors for semester terms, with a couple of exceptions. Based on three years of experience, administrators concluded that visiting professors should maintain residency for at least one year and alternate their residency by semesters. Long-term residences do not only facilitate greater productivity and lasting relationships, but also provide important continuity for the host department. Thus enrollment for the visiting professors' courses can be expected to rise, as departments will be in a better position to advise students in this regard, and students will likewise learn to anticipate course offerings.

The Visiting Professors leave lasting contributions to CPCES, the University of Rochester and the Rochester community. Please support CPCES and our Visiting Professors (while expanding your knowledge) by attending their lectures and events.

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comparative political party systems in a class co-taught with Professor **Harold Stanley**. Next semester, **Grzegorz Babinski** of the Polonia Institute at the Jagiellonian will be a visiting professor at the department of Religion and Classics and Anthropology. He will teach a course entitled "The Church and the State" in Poland. In this newsletter we are highlighting the Visiting Professor Exchange. Please see pages 4 and 5 for articles about Visiting Professors.

The Skalny Lecture and Artist Series

In addition to the academic program, the Center has also been running the *Skalny Lecture and Artist Series* which include scholarly lectures and artistic presentations. The Center is sponsoring the Rochester part of the Polish Film Festival in America, coordinated through the Society for the Arts in Chicago. The annual film festival is being held at the University of Rochester for the third time in November.

Conferences

The May 28-June 2, 1997 conference "Democratization in Poland and Eastern Europe: Progress and Prospects" was organized together with the Jagiellonian University and held at the Colegium Maius in Krakow. Participants from the University of Rochester's Department of Political Science included **John Mueller, Randy Calvert, Randy Stone, Ted Bluhm, Jim Johnson, Richard Niemi, Harold Stanley** and **Annabelle Lever**. Equal numbers of Jagiellonian University professors participated in the conference. We are presently reading some of the conference submissions for a book (working title: *Lessons in Democracy*) to be published by the UR Press and the Jagiellonian University Press, and edited by **Ewa Hauser** and Kosciuszko Foundation Fellow **Jacek Wasilewski**.

"Polish Workers in Europe and America" took place during one of Rochester's harshest winter storms, Saturday, November 15, 1997. It brought into UR some of the most prominent scholars and specialists in the field of labor and immigration history who focused on issues of ethnicity, race, gender, and union history of Polish Americans.

For the next year, we are planning a conference, "Ten Years After," which will not so much commemorate as analyze and draw conclusions from the ten years which have passed since the east European transition from socialism to free market economy began with the June 4, 1989 elections in Poland. Polish Studies Association, a part of a national and interdisciplinary academic organization, American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, is planning to hold its first conference at our campus next year. An executive board of the PAHA (Polish American

Historical Association and a part of the largest professional organization of the US historians, American Historical Association) is also planning a meeting next year on our campus.

The Kosciuszko Foundation Support

The Kosciuszko Foundation supported three of the visiting professors and directed the recipients of Kosciuszko Senior Fellowships to become affiliated with us and host departments of Political Science, English and Religion and Classics during the last two academic years. In the future, we hope to facilitate more relationships between Kosciuszko Foundation Fellows and UR departments.

Future goals for the Center

An ongoing goal of ours is to increase community input and involvement in the planning and executing the Skalny Lecture and Artist Series. Pertaining specifically to the university, we are concentrating on developing majors and minors in Polish Studies for undergraduates. An important aspect of Polish Studies is the continuation of our student exchange, which we expect to grow with the generous support from the Skalny Foundation and the UR/JU universities. We particularly would like to establish graduate student grants to encourage professional-student scholarship pertaining to Central Europe. Formal avenues for graduate scholarship, such as dissertation and post-doc fellowships along with major concentrations will significantly enhance our reputation as a national and international Center for studies in Central Europe and Poland. To make the above goals happen, we intend to institutionalize change based on outside funding and establish additional resources, grants, and even a Visiting Professor Chair in Polish Studies to insure consistency in program offerings.

After four years CPCEs is no longer in the beginning stages of development, although we are still in the process of growing. Many of you are now familiar with us, and we thank you for your support and encourage your continued interest. We invite your submissions and comments.

Ewa Hauser, Director CPCEs

Contact Information

If you have any comments regarding or submissions for the newsletter, please send them to us!

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From UR President Thomas H. Jackson: UR/JU Exchange Agreement

September 15, 1998



UR President Thomas H. Jackson

Dr. Aleksander Koj, and Rochester President Thomas H. Jackson reaffirmed The Agreement for Scholarly Collaboration on September 15, 1998 with the oldest university in Poland, Jagiellonian University.

Jagiellonian, which is located in Krakow, Poland, and the University of Rochester will continue to host visiting professors, offer student exchange opportunities, and promote other scholarly collaborations. At the ceremony, the group representing Rochester numbered about thirty, among them University representatives and those traveling with Rochester Mayor William Johnson to mark the continuation of a sister-city relationship with Krakow. The following is the speech President Jackson delivered for the signing.

Today is a wonderful occasion for me, on behalf of the University of Rochester, as it is for William Green, Dean of the College, and Edward Hundert, Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education in our School of Medicine and Dentistry. For today we have occasion to reaffirm, and to celebrate, our first three years of successful exchanges with Jagiellonian University while we also make a commitment to the future through the renewal of the Agreement for Scholarly Collaboration and Exchange. With this, we hope to be able

to enrich each other — and each other's country — through the wonderful human interaction and learning that can occur when individuals, whether students or faculty, spend time at the other institution and collaborate together. We have already had successes with these exchanges in the past, and I am confident that we can watch them grow in the future. And I would like to thank Rector Koj — who will be visiting Rochester next month — for his personal commitment to this agreement. Today also helps cement the Sister City relationship between Rochester and Krakow, now celebrating its 25th anniversary, in a ceremony that has present another distinguished Rochester group, led by our Mayor, William Johnson.

One of the wise decisions at the University of Rochester was the establishment of the Center for Polish and Central European Studies. Not only was the decision wise, it was enormously timely. For, we established it expecting to study the culture and history of Poland — an interesting and oftentimes contrasting study for us in the United States. And it has not disappointed on that score. But it is clear that we are also fortunate to be watching the current transformation of a country and its economy in one of the most important, and successful, conversions and commitment to democratic traditions and a market-based economy. Just last week, the New York Times ran a story of economic transformation under the headline "Russia is Not Poland, and That's Too Bad." This captures, beautifully for me, the contemporary importance to us, as an American University, of having a Center for Polish Studies, and why today's reaffirmation of our Agreement with Jagiellonian University is such a wonderful event for me and the rest of the University of Rochester group.

Of course, the Center required more than the wisdom and dedication of individuals at our end such as Ewa Hauser, Director of the Center, and William Green, Dean of the College. It has been supported, tangibly and emotionally, by the Skalny family (and foundation), whose commitment to this relationship has played an integral role in helping us continue to provide quality programs and offer internationally-broadening experiences for students and faculty of both countries. To the Skalny family, Frederic, Stasia, Mary Ann, Gregory, and Diane, thank you! Today is your day as much as it is ours.

And to our wonderful hosts and partners here at Jagiellonian University, I would like to offer my sincere thanks and appreciation on behalf of the University of Rochester for your help in making this arrangement one that has not only worked in the past, but one that holds continuing promise for the future. ■

Teaching Polish History at UR, continued from page 4

their eyes. But there were as many other students who were just plain interested in the fields, so to speak, between Russia and Germany. "Yes, looking at the History department list of courses, it is a shame that our department does not offer much about this part of Europe" Professors Brenda Meehan and Celia Applegate were telling me once, "... it is really too bad." I heard similar comments also from the graduate students who took the course with me, Jackie, Mara, Tatyana and Brian. Tatyana later wrote a fascinating paper about the women's armed forces in the General Anders' army. Was it possible to fill in the blank spots on the map of Europe? I am in no position to judge this, of course. But the Polish history group continued into a warm spring and if on their twenty-year old faces looked deeply moved after watching a film about the Warsaw Uprising, if their term papers were excellent and if two of my students I saw later in Krakow as they came to study at the Jagiellonian Summer School of Polish Language and Culture, I certainly conclude that my effort was quite rewarding. I am quite sure of that. And since, during my tenure at UR, it was also possible to suggest new acquisitions for the library in the field of Polish and ethnic history, it seems that students interested in various aspects of past and present of our history will be able to benefit in the future. ■

Skalny Lecture and Artist Series Cordially Invites You!

Anna Frajlich-Zajac is delivering a lecture entitled "Adam Mickiewicz: A Romantic Poet," on Thursday, October 29, 1998, at 7:30 in Koller-Collins Library, 4th Floor, Rush Rhees Library. Frajlich-Zajac, a renown Polish Language poet in exile, and a teacher of Polish literature at Columbia University, will present a lecture commemorating the bicentennial of Adam Mickiewicz's birthday. The lecture will explore the topic of the portrait of a romantic poetry as genre, and also how portraits of Mickiewicz reflected transformation of his image as a poet, prophet, leader and pilgrim. The audience will be provided with the facts of Mickiewicz's life and work as seen by artists who painted, or drew, his likeness.

On October 2, 1998, Visiting Professor Katarzyna Sobolewska-Myslik delivered a lecture "Party Systems in East Central Europe After Three Elections: Unstable Stability." The lecture was co-sponsored by Political Science and had an attendance of over twenty faculty members and students.



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