

EDITORS NOTES:

Robert Rotenberg
DePaul University

If it seems like we have been publishing a lot of special issues recently, it is because of the efforts like Sascha who organize good sessions for meetings. Not all sessions work out that well. In this one, the participants are all on the same page when it comes to writing their papers. Then, there is the high level of cooperation with getting the publishable drafts to the special editor on time. Sascha Goluboff deserves a lot of credit and certainly has my thanks for overseeing this valuable collection of papers.

What makes a special issue valuable is the concentration of information on a single subject within one publication. Since we feel that anthropologists have a unique perspective on the emerging democracies in Eurasia, publishing volumes like this one enable us to show our scope and relevance to colleagues in other disciplines and policy makers more effectively. As long as the opportunity presents itself, I'll continue to publish special issues.

As for the topic, more attention is being devoted in courses these days to the transition of emerging democracies. Daphne Berdahl, Matti Bunzl and Martha Lampland have a new collection published by University of Michigan called *Altering States: Ethnographies of transition in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union*. The papers are from a 1995 AAA session. It is interesting to compare the two sets of papers to see how our thinking has developed over four years. I'll let you draw your own conclusions.

While I'm on the subject of new books, let me mention that the journal office has also received Fran Markowitz's new book *Coming of Age in Post-Soviet Russia* (Illinois), and Antonia Young's new book *Women Who Become Men: Albanian Sworn Virgins* (Berg). Fran's book is available for review if some one wants to it. Antonia's book is already under review. If you have a book coming out, please send me a copy and I'll try to have it reviewed.

The issue also contains several ordinary articles. Hülya Demirdire Oslo offers us a contemporary perspective on the Gagauz of Moldova. Elizabeth Dunn takes us inside a corporation in Poland. Helen Fallor explores language policy in Tatarstan. And

Andre Simic uses the opportunity of a review of Eric Gordy's new book, *The Culture of Power in Serbia*, to offer us his views of contemporary Serbian politics and culture. Even without the symposium on Post-socialist society, this would have been a satisfying, but thinner issue.

Nancy Ries will be editing the September issue. Please contact her if you have submissions. For those of you who keep track of these things, my mailing address has changed. See the subscription box for the new address.