The 1994 John W. Ryan Awards for Distinguished Contributions to International Programs and Studies

HENRY R. COOPER, JR.

Henry Cooper’s easy fluency with languages and cultures—he speaks half a dozen well and knows at least that many others—has served Indiana University well, as professor of Serbo-Croatian and Russian languages and literatures, as past Director of the Russian and East European Institute (REEI), as acting Dean of International Programs, and as present Chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.

In the classroom, Cooper has been innovative in developing and teaching a wide variety of courses. Cooper has infused new vitality into the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures by sponsoring East European scholars through the Fulbright program. He has also been active in helping the department to maintain its national reputation in Slavic studies. Cooper is the author of dozens of articles and the editor of numerous books, including the forthcoming Introduction to Yugoslav Literature.

In addition, he serves as an editor of Balkanistica and the Journal of Slovene Studies, and has been instrumental in reviving the department’s own Indiana Slavic Studies.

As director of the Russian and Eastern European Institute from 1986 to 1991, Cooper worked to bring new faculty into the Institute, to assure continuous funding through U.S. Department of Education Title VI grants, and to keep REEI among the top centers of its kind in the United States. As acting International Programs Dean in 1991, he sought to involve the many units and resources of the university and keep them focused on international objectives.

In recognition of his scholarly contributions, in 1989 Cooper was awarded the Order of the Yugoslav Flag with Gold Star. In 1992, he was honored with the Zahvala (Acknowledgement) from the Republic of Slovenia.

ALEXANDER RABINOWITCH

A renowned scholar of modern Russian and Soviet history, Alexander Rabinowitch has contributed with singular distinction to the international reputation of Indiana University. His trail-blazing books, Prelude to Revolution: The Petrograd Bolsheviks and the July 1917 Uprising and The Bolsheviks Come to Power: The Revolution of 1917 have helped reshape a generation of Western scholarship in the field; now translated, these books continue to command wide respect in post-Gorbachev Russia.

His influence on the Bloomington campus has also been widely felt—in the Department of History, where Rabinowitch is highly respected as an innovative and compassionate teacher and mentor, and as a top administrator in international education at Indiana University. From 1975 to 1984, Rabinowitch directed the Russian and East European Institute (REEI), playing a key role in attracting private foundation support and increasing the Institute’s Title VI federal funding.

As Dean of International Programs from 1986 to 1993, Rabinowitch worked to broaden contacts and provide opportunities for international faculty at the IU campuses and established a fully-staffed international affairs office at IUPUI. In addition, he conceived of the grant proposal to the MacArthur Foundation which established the Indiana Center on Global Change and World Peace. Under his leadership, overseas study opportunities for IU undergraduate and graduate students were also greatly expanded.

Currently, Rabinowitch is completing a major study of the influence of the Russian civil war on everyday life and popular political culture. As one of the first Western scholars to be allowed access to the KGB archives, he hopes to provide new insights into the early stages of Soviet authoritarianism.

International Programs, March 1994 / 3