In August 1995, the Fifth World Congress of Central and East European Studies Associations (ICCEES) met in Warsaw, Poland, the first time the associations had ever met in a Slavic country and the first meeting in a post-communist country. More than 1,500 delegates attended the Congress, held on the campus of Warsaw University and in the halls of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN). Indiana University was particularly well represented with over a dozen participants from several campuses. In addition, there were a number of panelists who had matriculated from IU's graduate departments, as well as scholars from Poland who had lectured at IU under the IU-Warsaw exchange. Of the latter were conference co-coordinators Andrzej Rychard and Edmund Wnuk-Lipinski of PAN, and Krzysztof Michalek, director of the WU's American Studies Center and a former associate director of IU's Polish Studies Center from 1992 to 1994. IU had an official presence at the congress. The Polish Studies Association, a U.S.-based group founded at IU, held a one-day pre-conference meeting with four sessions. That same day, IU's Polish Studies Center hosted a reception which drew about 125 people, including administrators of Warsaw University and WU's American Studies Center. In turn, members of the IU delegation were guests at the American Studies Center reception.

Among IU faculty presenters and discussants were: Jack Bielasiak (Political Science, IUB); Jill Bystydzienski, accompanied by her husband, Hal Pepinski (Criminal Justice, IUB); Daniel Cole (School of Law, IUPUI); Cynthia Dominik (English, IUB); Bernd Fischer (History, IPFW); George Fowler (Slavics, IUB); Hiro Kuromiya (History, IUB); Howard Mehlinger (Education, IUB); Alexander Rabinowitch (History, IUB); Toivo Raun (Central Eurasian Studies, IUB); Scott Seregny (History, IUPUI); Dmitry Shlapentokh (History, IUSB); Willard Sunderland (History, IUB); and Frank Thackeray (Social Sciences, IUSE). Other IU participants included Murlin Croucher (Library), Denise Gardiner (Russian & East European Institute), Patrick O'Meara (International Programs), Ellie Valentine (US-Ukraine Parliamentary Development Project, SPEA), and Timothy Wiles (Polish Studies Center).

Update on IU-Warsaw University Exchange

During the ICCEES conference week, members of the IU delegation, led by International Programs Dean Patrick O'Meara, met with Warsaw University's Rector Wlodzimierz Siwinski and Vice-Rector for International Programs Jacek Holowka, to discuss a new implementation of the long-standing Indiana University-Warsaw University exchange agreement. The new terms include short-term faculty and librarian exchanges, graduate student exchanges, and visiting scholars-in-residence. For details, contact Timothy Wiles, Director, Polish Studies Center, IUB (812) 855-1507.