

HSA Hungarian Studies Association

May, 2006

Newsletter

We have a homepage. Please bookmark: www.hungarianstudies.info. Please visit it, and, if you find any mistakes, let me know.

Two of our members were honored by the Hungarian Government for their work. On March 2, 2006, Minister Andras Bozóki and Ambassador Dr. Gábor Horváth, Consul General of Hungary bestowed Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary on **István Deák** at a reception at Columbia University.

On March 14, 2006 in Budapest, **Barnabas Racz** was received the Gold Merit Cross of the Republic of Hungary. (<http://www.nol.hu/cikk/397209/>) **Congratulations to both!**



Call for papers:

The University of Debrecen will host the **6th International Congress of Hungarian Studies** on 22-27 August 2006. The official languages of the congress are English and Hungarian. The conference will take place in the Main Building of the University of Debrecen. The opening ceremony and the plenary sessions will be in the Main Hall, while the section lectures and symposia will be in university classrooms. The participation fee of 150 EUR (120 EUR for members of the International Association for Hungarian Studies) includes the scholarly and cultural program, receptions and publications.

Registration form and paper proposals must be submitted before May 31, 2006 to the organizing committee. The conference themes and registration form is available on the university's website. (<http://www.hungkong.unideb.hu/>)

Re-Calling the Past: Collective and Individual Memory of World War II in Russia and Germany, to be held at the University of Tampere, Finland on 1 - 2 December 2006. Deadline for proposals is April 30, 2006. More information at www.uta.fi/laitokset/kielet/saksa/Call.htm

“Changing Economies and Changing Identities in Postsocialist Eastern Europe”, Workshop, EASA Meeting, Bristol, 18 – 21 Sept., 2006. EASA requires you to propose papers *only through their website* by MAY 1, 2006. Feel also free to contact the convenors. Dr. Ingo W. Schröder, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology/ Center for Social Anthropology, Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, ingowschroeder@hotmail.com or Asta Vonderau, M.A., Institute of European Ethnology, Humboldt University, Berlin asta.vonderau@web.de.

Ab Imperio, Studies of New Imperial History and Nationalism in the Post-Soviet Space is an international humanities and social sciences journal dedicated to interdisciplinary and comparative study of nationalism and history of empire and nationalities in the post Soviet space. The journal is published 4 times a year in web and paper copy in Kazan'/Russia (the volume run includes 6 volumes (2000-2005), 22 issues). The languages of publication are English and Russian with summaries, respectively, in both languages. Manuscripts are accepted in five languages (Russian, English, German, French, Ukrainian). *Ab*

Imperio pursues the policy of thematic issues. The journal is distributed free of charge to major Russian universities, libraries, research centers and individual readers as well as to institutional and individual subscribers outside of the Russian Federation. *Ab Imperio* enjoys participation of authors from the US, Canada, Japan, Germany, France, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Finland, Poland, Turkey, Hungary, Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine, Armenia, Moldova, Georgia, and different regions of the Russian Federation.

Ab Imperio is a peer-reviewed periodical; all submitted materials are subject to anonymous peer-review. *Ab Imperio* is an affiliated journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS). (<http://abimperio.net/index.html>)



Publications and presentations:

Lee Congdon reviewed Gábor Gyáni's *Identity and the Urban Experience: Fin-de-Siècle Budapest* in *Slavic Review*, Volume 65 Number 1, Spring 2006.

Katalin Fabian, "The Changing International Relations in Central and Eastern Europe." *Canadian-American Slavic Review*, Vol. 39, No. 4 (Special Issue). 2005.

_____, "Globalization and Its Impact on International Relations in Central and Eastern Europe: Introduction to the Special Issue" *Canadian-American Slavic Review*, Vol. 38, Special issue, 2005.

_____, "Blades Amidst The Velvet? Development and Security in Central and Eastern Europe During European Unification" co-authored with Merje Kuus, *Canadian-American Slavic Review*, Vol. 38, Special issue, 2005.

_____, *Aldozatiságon túl, ha lehet (Beyond Victimhood) Feminista Almanach: 100 éves a Feministák Egyesülete 2004 decemberében.* (Feminist Almanach: The Feminist Alliance Was Established 100 Years Ago) MINők Egyesülete, NőTárs Alapítvány, Ifjúsági, Családügyi, Szociális és Esélyegyenlőségi Minisztérium támogatásával. (MINők Association, NőTárs Foundation, with financial support from the Ministry of Youth, Welfare, and Social Equality) Budapest, Hungary: 2005.

_____, "Against Domestic Violence: The Interaction of Global Networks with Local Activism in Central Europe" In: Janet Laible and Henri Barkey (eds), *European Responses to Globalization*, Elsevier Publishing, 2005.

Catherine Portuges, has been awarded a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities for 2006-07 for her project "The Subjective Lens: Post-Holocaust Identities in Hungarian Film."

_____, "Traumatic Memory, Jewish Identities: Remapping the Past in Hungarian Cinema" in *East European Cinemas* ed. Anikó Imre: American Film Institute Film Readers series (New York and London: Routledge, 2005) pp. 120-133.

_____, "Imre Kertész and the Filming of *Sorstalánság (Fatelessness)*" in *Imre Kertész and Holocaust Literature* eds. Steven Tötösy & Louise Vasvari (Purdue, 2005) ISBN 1-55753-396-2.2.05

_____, "*Napló Gyermekeimnek/Diary for My Children*" in *The Cinema of Central Europe* ed. Peter Hames (London, U.K.: Wallflower, 2005) pp. 191-203

Charles Gati's new book, *Failed Illusions: Moscow, Washington, Budapest, and the 1956 Hungarian Revolt*, on 1956 will be co-published by the Woodrow Wilson Press and Stanford University Press this summer. The book will also appear early this fall in Hungarian, Russian, Polish, and Slovak editions as well. The book is based on extensive archival research, including CIA operative materials declassified at the author's request in 2005.

_____, spoke at the Wilson Center on "Nikita Khrushchev and the End of the Soviet Bloc: The Impact of the Secret Speech on East Central Europe" on March 1, 2006.

_____, was interviewed by Judit Csernyánszky of the *Népszava/Szabadság* about the recent Hungarian elections on May 5, 2006.

Eric Beckett Weaver, *National Narcissism, The Intersection of the Nationalist Cult and Gender in Hungary*, Peter Lang Publishing Group, 2006. <http://www.peterlang.com/index.cfm?vID=10726&vLang=E&vHR=1&vUR=2&vUUR=2>

National Narcissism offers a groundbreaking anthropological and sociological approach to nationalism through an exposé of the belief systems and psychology of extreme nationalists for whom nationalism is a form of religion. This theoretical approach is illustrated with examples primarily taken from Hungary, with a special focus in two chapters on the role of gender in nationalism. The state of politics and society in Hungary is also examined in a way that steps beyond the usual simplistic, flat narratives of 'what Hungarians are like', by stressing the broad variety of viewpoints current in Hungarian society, the milieu in which a small minority of extreme nationalists are able to make their voice heard out of proportion to their numbers or political support.

The theory offered by *National Narcissism* has wide-ranging implications for the future study of extremist nationalism in nation-states throughout the world. Sociologists, anthropologists, nationalism studies specialists, social-psychologists, and historians of the recent past in Hungary will find that this theoretical book, richly illustrated with examples from Hungarian society, challenges positive and negative stereotypes about nationalism, extremism, post-communism, central and eastern Europe, the European Union and, not least, about Hungarians themselves.

_____, *Madness in the Media: Political extremism and beliefs in historical primacy* Nationalities Affairs (26/2005)(pp.7-18)

Beliefs in the divine descent of a nation and its glory, grandeur and even biblical origins are not uncommon worldwide. In this discussion focusing on such beliefs amongst Hungarians and Serbs, the author demonstrates that far from being unique to states undergoing transition from communism, similar beliefs have also arisen over a long period of time amongst nations who have never experienced a totalitarian polity. He speculates that just as theories of divine descent arose in connection with royal families in monarchies, theories of linear descent from ancient peoples arise from the logic of nationalism enshrined in the nation state. As long as such states persist, similar theories will continue to emerge. What is specific to some countries in transition is the relative influence that these concepts may achieve, or rather their ready availability. This, in the author's opinion, is not the result of any atavistic element amongst central or eastern Europeans, but rather is a consequence of relatively weak markets and a low degree of media autonomy in transition countries.

Jason Wittenberg, *Crucibles of Political Loyalty: Church Institutions and Electoral Continuity in Hungary*. (Cambridge U. Press, 2006).
<http://www.cambridge.org/us/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=0521849128>

This book investigates one of the oldest paradoxes in political science: why do mass political loyalties persist even amid prolonged social upheaval and disruptive economic development? Drawing on extensive archival research and an original database of election results, this book explores the paradox of political persistence by examining Hungary's often tortuous path from pre- to post-communism. Wittenberg reframes the theoretical debate, and then demonstrates how despite the many depredations of communism, the Roman Catholic and Calvinist Churches transmitted loyalties to parties of the Right. Contrary to conventional wisdom, Church resistance occurred not from above, but from below. Hemmed in and harassed by communist party cadres, parish priests and pastors employed a variety of ingenious tactics to ensure the continued survival of local church institutions. These institutions insulated their adherents from pressures to assimilate into the surrounding socialist milieu. Ultimately this led to political continuity between pre- and post-communism.

Judit Szapor, "The Paradoxes of Assimilation: Cecile and Laura Polanyis in turn-of-the-Century Hungary", at the Central European University, Budapest in March, 2006.

Judith T. Marcus and **Zoltan Tarr**, eds. Werner J. Cahnman, *Jews and Gentiles: A Historical Sociology of Their Relations*, ed. (New Brunswick, NJ / London: Transaction, 2004), pp. xvi + 253.

László Csorba had three articles published in *Historia*. (<http://www.historia.hu/>)

Széchenyi, a hippológus, (2005/1-2), Tél a Középtenger partjainál, (2005/10) and Róma és a Magyar Sion, (2005/6-7)

Géza Jeszenszky's article "USA: semlegesség és üzlet?," appeared in *Historia*, 2005/6

Attila Pók's article "Ausztia krónikája, 1945-55," was published in *Historia*, 2005/5

Gabor Vermes presented "Gondolatok az újkori magyar történetírásról" at the NY Fészek Klub in April, 2006.

At the 1956 Conference organized by the György Ránki Hungarian Chair Symposium, Indiana U., Bloomington several of our members were invited presenters. **Istvan Deak**'s paper was titled "The Revolutionary Tradition in Hungary and the Lessons of the 1956 Struggle for Independence, **Attila Pók**'s paper was titled "Captive Minds and Scapegoats in Stalinist Hungary". **Béla Király** was the keynote speaker, with a speech titled "The Five Truths of the Hungarian Revolution and the War of Independence of 1956". **Peter Kenez** spoke on "Khrushchev and the Hungarian Revolution of 1956", and **Andrew Ludanyi** talked of "The Impact of 1956 on the Hungarians of Transylvania." **Tibor Frank**'s paper was titled "Saving a Nation or Saving Face: US Efforts to Rescue and Aid Hungarians, 1956-1958".

Karoly Nagy was the invited speaker at Montclair State University's Hungarian Festival of the Arts and Humanities on April 11, 2006, "The Hungarian Diaspora in America: Preserving a Culture", and **Ivan Sanders**, spoke on April 18, 2006 on the "A Question of Identity in Kertész's Work".



Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice hosted a ceremony and reception at the State Department February 13, 2006 to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. As a scholar, Rice has written numerous articles on Soviet and East European foreign and defense policy, including "The Hungarian Crisis of 1956: The Soviet Decision," which she co-authored with Michael Fry (*Studies in Comparative Communism* XVI, 1-2, 1983). The resolution authored by Lantos (House Resolution 479), which passed unanimously December 6, 2005, expresses condolences to the people of Hungary for those who lost their lives fighting for the cause of Hungarian freedom and independence in 1956, as well as for those individuals, including Prime Minister Imre Nagy, executed by the Soviet and Hungarian communist authorities in the five years following the revolution. It also welcomes the changes that have taken place in Hungary since 1989 and reaffirms the friendship and cooperative relations between the governments of Hungary and the United States and between the Hungarian and American people.

According to the resolution, an estimated 1,200 Hungarians were tried and executed by the post-1956 Hungarian government and an estimated 200,000 Hungarians fled into exile, more than 47,000 of them to the United States.

"The uprising of the Hungarian people in 1956 dramatically confirmed the widespread contempt in which the Hungarians held the Soviet Union and the underlying weakness of the communist system imposed by Soviet authorities in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the strength of popular support for democratic principles and the right of the Hungarian people to determine their own national destiny," the resolution states.

The full text http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109_cong_bills&docid=f:hr479eh.txt.pdf of House Resolution 479, which includes a summary of the events of 1956, is available on U.S. Government Printing Office Web site.

A transcript <http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2006/61121.htm> of Rice's remarks is available on the State Department Web site accompanied by video and audio versions.

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I received the following email, asking me to pass it on to all interested students:

Dear colleague

I am pleased to announce that the call for applications for a third generation of the **Master in East European Researches and Studies (MIREES)** has been launched. The deadline for submitting applications on-line is May 2nd, 2006.

Attached endorsing documents should arrive at the University of Bologna by May 15th, 2006. As you know, MIREES is an entirely English program that provides a joint diploma of the Universities of Bologna, Ljubljana, Kaunas and Szombathely. The University of Bologna, an international and prominent Faculty, teaches courses at Forlì Campus during the first year, while students are required to attend courses and make researches for the thesis during the second year (for 6 months) in one of the 3 University partners, or in one of Universities connected through the Socrates network or the MIREES Mobility Scheme.

Our Master's program combines language skills (in Polish, Russian, Slovak, Serbian, Croatian and Finnish) with studies in economics of transition; politics and international relations; media; social and cultural studies. After a two-year in-depth studies in an international environment (in the previous 2 generations we have enrolled students from 18 countries from US to Russia, from Estonia to Macedonia, from Germany to the United Kingdom, from Albania to Poland, Armenia, Croatia, Bulgaria and... Italy of course!), students are properly prepared either for further Academic studies at doctorate level, or for working as AREA EXPERTS in public administrations: from the European to the national and regional level; in international agencies and NGOs; as well as in private companies, corporations and banking.

I will greatly appreciate, if you could kindly encourage BA students interested in this specific field of studies to apply to this 2-year program. Further and detailed information on the teaching plan and the Faculty, together with the application form, can be found at our web site: <http://www.eurobalk.net/>.

If you need further information or additional paper material (such as panels and brochures) please feel free to contact me or Master's Didactic Manager, Dr. Massimiliano Del Gatto. Thank you very much for your kind attention and cooperation.

Best regards,
MA Director
Professor Stefano Bianchini



A book of possible interest:

The Third Shore

Women's Fiction from East Central Europe, Edited by Agata Schwartz, Luise von Flotow. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press. February 2006. 288 pp. ISBN 0-8101-2311-8 / \$19.95

The events of 1989 that brought an end to the so-called East Bloc may have increased women's opportunities to write and publish, or at least changed the circumstances under which they do so. Still writing from a certain historical and cultural margin, these women from East Central Europe have begun to explore a new freedom whose fruits are displayed to exhilarating effect in this book - a freedom to experiment, to innovate, to create a literature uniquely expressive of their world. This volume for the first time allows English-speaking readers to discover the pleasures of these women's writing.

A rich compendium of fiction by twenty-five women from eighteen different nations ranging from Lithuania to Ukraine to Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania, Albania, and Slovenia, *The Third Shore* brings to light a whole spectrum of women's literary accomplishment and experience virtually unknown in the West. Gracefully translated, and with an introduction that establishes their political, historical, and literary context, these stories written in the decade after the fall of the Iron Curtain are tales of the familiar-of illness and death, love and desire, motherhood and war, feminism, and patriarchy-reconceived and turned into something altogether new by the distinctive experience they reflect.

<http://nupress.northwestern.edu/title.cfm?ISBN=0-8101-2311-8>



Broadcasting direct from Budapest, Hungary, **DUNA TV** is a 24-hour Hungarian-language channel aimed at preserving a bond with the Hungarian community living abroad. Experience the Hungary of today by

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(For your information, you can listen to Kossuth, Petöfi and Bartók Radio **free** through the internet, www.radio.hu)



The 2006 issue of the *Hungarian Studies Review*, a special issue, titled **The Image of Hungary and Hungarians, From the Fifteenth to the Twenty First Century**, includes the following articles:

Nándor Dreisziger, Perceptions of Hungary and Hungarians Throughout the Centuries – a preface

George Bisztray, The World Visits Hungary: Reflections of Foreign Travelers, 1433 1842

Zoltán Fejás, Education in the Mother Tongue: The Perpetuation of Ethnic Consciousness among Hungarian Americans, 1890–1920

Kenneth McRobbie, Ilona Duczynska Meets Ervin Szabó: The Making of a Revolutionary Personality — from Theory to Terrorism, April May 1917

Dany Deschenes, French Intellectuals and the Image of Austria Hungary in France: Prelude to the Break-up of Historic Hungary, 1918 20

Béla Bodó, Militia Violence and State Power in Hungary, 1919 1922

Thomas Sakmyster, Gyula Gömbös and Hungarian Jews, 1918–1936

Margarite deHuszár Allen, The Wartime History of the National Bank of Hungary through Hungarian-American Eyes

Emese Ivan, Sport Policy in Canada and Hungary: Lessons of Inclusion and Exclusion

N. F. Dreisziger, Thomas Spira: an Obituary



Do not forget to pay your annual dues. Make checks (\$25) payable to HSA, c/o Susan Glanz, 1550 East 9th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11230. Thank you!



About a month ago I created a survey to find out about the members of this association. I sent the email link to all members for whom I had a valid email address. The survey results were collected by an outside company. The preliminary results of the survey are below.

I emailed the survey to 106 members and received 54 replies, for a 50.9% response rate.

THE SURVEY RESULTS

1. Gender

Male	Female
54%	46%

2. Your age

under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-59	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+
	4%	12.5	8	14.6	2	4	10.4	20.8	2	14.6	6

3. You are a resident of

A-	B-	C-	D-	E-	F-	G-	H-	I-	J-	K-
9.3%	29.6	9.3	1.9		1.9	18.5	1.9	11.1	7	9.3

a. New England: CT, ME, MA, NH, VT, and RI.

b. Middle Atlantic: NJ, NY, and PA.

c. East North Central: ILL, IN, MI, OH, and WI.

d. West North Central: IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, and SD

e. East South Central: AL, KY, MS, and TN.
OK, and TX

f. West South Central: AR, LA,

g. South Atlantic: DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, PR, SC, VA, and WV

h. Mountain: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, and WY

i. Pacific: AK, CA, HI, OR, WA, and GU

j. Canada

k. other, outside North America

4. Were you born in Hungary?

Yes	No
52.8	47.2

9. Is your spouse Hungarian or of Hungarian descent?

Yes	No
26.9	73.1

10. Do you speak Hungarian at home?

Yes	No
32.1	67.9

11. How well do your children speak Hungarian?

No children	Don't speak	Understand	Some	Well
29.4	33.3	7.8	11.7	17.6

12. Do you follow events in Hungary?

Yes	No
84.9	15.1

14. Do you regularly read the Hungarian press?

Yes				No
Daily	Weekly	Monthly	occasionally	
13.2	13.2	11.3	45.3	17

15. Do you read the press?

In print	Internet	both
4.3	68.1	27.7

20. Do you participate in Hungary/Hungarian related events in your community?

Yes	No
46.3	53.7

21. Are you an educator?

Yes	No
94.3	5.7

23. If you are an educator, at what level do you teach?

Elementary	High	College	Univ.	school administration	retired
		14	66	2	18

40. How would you rate the quality of the Hungarian Studies newsletter?

No opinion	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
6.25	2.1	4.2	20.8	41.7	25

41. Do you receive institutional support to attend scholarly conferences?

Yes	No
69.6	30.4

43. Overall, how satisfied have you been with the Hungarian Studies Association?

Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied	No answer
	13	7.4		40.7	24.1	14.8

45. How many other (other than the AHEA and HSA) **Hungarian related** organizations are you a member of

0	1	2-4	5+
69.4	16.3	8.2	6.3

46. How many other (than the AHEA and HSA) **scholarly organizations** are you a member of

0	1	2-4	5+
8.2	10.2	67.3	14.3