

HSA Hungarian Studies Association

NEWSLETTER

May 2007

1. Announcements

I received two emails asking for help that I would like to share with you. The first was sent from Australia by Laszlo and Pauline Strasser, and the second was submitted by our member, Alfred Reisch.

a. Dear Sir/Madam,

Please excuse my addressing you the way I have for I am unsure from the site as to your gender. At present, I am floundering around looking for connections and information concerning my husband's grand-mother who was an early feminist from Budapest. Her name was **Eugenia Miskolczy Meller**. You can find her in association of WILPF of which she would have been a foundation member. We are researching her life intending to write her biography and are what one terms independent researchers. A large portion of the research has been made but there must be more that will help tie up many loose ends. Would you consider putting some sort of notice in a newsletter for us, please? We anxiously await your early response with much interest. Thank you. **Laszlo and Pauline Strasser**. (palastra@homemail.com.au)

If you can provide them with some guidance or ideas, please contact them directly.

b. **Alfred Reisch**, who now lives in Hungary will be doing research in the USA in the Fall 2007 and Winter 2008. His research topic is "The West's Secret Marshall Plan for the Mind. Book Mailings to Eastern Europe during the Cold War."

Dr. Reisch would like to participate in the AAASS conference in November 2007, and as you all know, to get financing for conference participation, he must be a presenter. If anyone cannot make it and this topic would fit into an already accepted panel, please let me know (glanzs@stjohns.edu) so that we can inform Wendy Walker at the AAASS organizing committee. You can also contact Alfred Reisch directly at areisch@freemail.hu.

2. Publications, presentations by our members

Tibor Frank was the editor of the *Gyarmatokból impérium*, published by Gondolat Kiadó, Budapest 2007.

_____ : Az amerikai Kongresszus és a bevándorlás korlátozás politikái, in Tibor Frank's (Editor), *Gyarmatokból impérium*, Budapest: Gondolat Kiadó, 2007. pp. 104-133

Katalin Kádár Lynn, George Creel és Magyarország in Tibor Frank's *Gyarmatokból impérium*, Budapest: Gondolat Kiadó, 2007. pp. 134-158

Károly Nagy with Béla K. Király and Lee Congdon, *1956: The Hungarian Revolution and War for Independence*, Atlantic Research and Hungarian Academy of Science, Budapest, 2006, 956 p.

_____, (editor): *Significant Documents of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956*, Atlantic Research, Budapest, 2006.

_____, “Éjjel-nappal minden hullámhosszon. Történelemhamisítás 1956-ról magyarországi tankönyvekben évtizedeken át” (Fraudulent Historiography of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution for Thirty-Three Years in Hungarian Textbooks), *Hitel*, 2006. október.

_____, “Tisztázzunk fogalmakat!” (Let us Clarify Some Concepts), Kiss Anna beszélgetése Nagy Károllyal, *Hitel*, 2006. december.

Robert Nemes, Hungary’s Anti-Semitic Provinces: Violence and Ritual Murder in the 1880s, in *Slavic Review*, Spring 2007, 20-45.

György Csepeli reviewed **Beverly James’s** *Imagining Postcommunism: Visual Narratives of Hungary’s 1956 Revolution* in *Slavic Review*, Spring 2007.

Lee Congdon reviewed Andras Bozoki and Miklos Sukosd, *Anarchism in Hungary: Theory, History, Legacies* in *Slavic Review*, Spring 2007.

Raphael Vago and Roni Stauber, (editors), *The Roma—A Minority in Europe, Historical, Political and Social Perspectives*, Budapest, HU: CEU Press, 200 pages, 2007.

Tom Sakmyster has published “J. Peters (Goldberger Sándor) és az amerikai kommunista mozgalom,” *Századok*, no. 1 (2007), pp. 185-202.

_____, Miklós Horthy: Ungarn, 1920-1944. This is a revised and expanded edition of the English language version of the biography published in 1995, Forthcoming from Edition Steinbauer, Vienna.

Ivan Sanders, “Esterházy Péter mint tananyag,” *Élet és Irodalom*, 2007, március 30.

<http://www.es.hu/pd/display.asp?channel=FEUILLETON0713&article=2007-0401-2234-44LNTY>

_____, interviewed György Konrád at the Hungarian Culture Center on April 26, 2007.

Istán Deák was György Konrád’s interlocutor about his biography at Columbia U. on April 25, 2007.

Zsuzsa Csergő was the guest speaker at the Institute for European Studies, Rutgers U., NJ. on Monday, April 23, 2007. Her talk was titled “TALK OF THE NATION: Language and Conflict in Romania and Slovakia.”

Steven B. Várdy and Agnes H. Várdy: *Stalin’s Gulag: The Hungarian Experience*. Naples, Italy: U. of Oriental Studies of Naples, 2007. 207 pp. \$16.95

Agnes H. Várdy, *My Italian Summer*. A novel. Infinity Publishing Inc, 2006, 265 pp. \$15.95.

At the 32nd AHEA conference in NYC:

Julia Bock: “*The Treatment’: The Fate of Hungarian Jewish Health Professionals in the First Half of the 20th Century*”

Edit Nagy: “*Hungarian Social-democrats in the Economic Sabotage Trials, 1945-1956*”

Andrew Felkay: “*Pendulum Politics in Hungary: Shifting of Political Power from 1989 to 2006*”

Barnabás Rácz: “*Voting Patterns on Hungarian Parliamentary Elections in 2002-2006*”

Catherine Portuges: “*Hungarian Jews on Screen*”

Alice Freifeld: “*Empress Elisabeth as Hungarian Queen*”

Károly Nagy: “*Contributions of American Hungarians to the 50th Anniversary Commemorations of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution -- Some Examples*”

Brigit Farley and Mária Farkas: “*The Revival of Trianon Commemoration in Hungary since 1989*”

Emese Ivan: “*Welcome Aboard, Hungary! A New Member of the PGA Europe*”

Andrew P. Fodor: “*Poetry and Science, Hungarians’ and Others’ Perspectives*”

3. Call for papers

a. Special issue of Comparative Literature Studies, Literary Forms and Human Rights, guest edited by Sophia A. McClennen and Joseph R. Slaughter. "Literary Forms and Human Rights":

This thematic issue of *Comparative Literature Studies* (<http://www.cl-studies.org/>) guest edited by Sophia A. McClennen (sam50@psu.edu) and Joseph Slaughter (jrs272@columbia.edu) explores the relationship between literary forms and human rights. The editors seek essays that offer comparative perspectives on how human rights discourse and literary forms are interrelated.

Recent literary criticism has begun to underscore some of the historical, formal, and ideological intersections of human rights and the humanities. For this special issue of *Comparative Literature Studies*, we seek innovative essays that explore the relationships between forms of storytelling, literary representation, cultural narratives, and human rights (understood as law, discourse, and/or practice). **Submissions are due to the editors 15 February 2008.** Issue to appear in the fall 2008. Please send inquiries, questions or comments at any time to either of the editors. Manuscript specifics: Articles should not exceed 9,000 words. All manuscripts should follow the guidelines for scholarly writing set forth in the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

b. Genre: International Journal of Literature and the Arts

<http://www.csulb.edu/depts/complit/genre/> published at California State University Long Beach invites submissions for an issue on Women, Sexuality, and Early Modern Studies. We welcome submissions of papers on a full range of topics addressing writings by and about women and the feminine in the medieval and renaissance periods, including interchanges between East and West. Papers can be devoted (but not limited) to: medieval and early modern female authors and/or figures, depictions of the feminine in medieval and renaissance European and/or other literatures, contemporary invocations of medieval femininity, women and hagiography, religious education and women, women and the arts, women in courtly poetry, in sufi literature, or in medieval Islam; feminist women in the Thousand and One Nights, mothers, daughters, and matriarchy. Papers with comparative topics and methodologies are especially welcome. All papers should follow the MLA Modern Language Association of America style with parenthetical sources and a works cited but without footnotes or end notes and be no longer than 5000 words. **Deadline of receipt of papers is 15 May 2007.** Send papers to genrejournal@gmail.com (attention F. Elizabeth Dahab).

c. 6th MESEA (<http://www.mesea.org>) conference 25-28 June 2008, Leiden University, The Netherlands. Abstracts of papers are invited for the conference "Migration Matters: Immigration, Homelands, and Border Crossings in Europe and the Americas": Largely driven by economics, migration today is a global and globalizing phenomenon that renders national borders obsolete and calls into question the viability of nation states and national identities. Yet precisely because it undermines national structures, migration also has contributed to the reinvention of the historically highly problematic concept of "homelands" and the reconstruction of increasingly impenetrable borders. It is, moreover, in local situations and contexts that the impact of global migration is experienced, debated, and contested most directly and urgently. This conference, then, aims to focus on the ways in which migration matters locally as well as transnationally and globally, in the realms of politics and culture, history and sociology, economics and law, language, literature and the arts in Europe and the Americas. Inter/transnational and inter/transdisciplinary proposals and panels will be given preference. Please submit three hard copies of a 300-word abstract (including a maximum of five keywords) or full panel proposals (including a description of the panel, chair, respondents, and individual abstracts) as well as an electronic copy to MESEA's Program Director, Yiorgos Kalogeras kalogera@enl.auth.gr, Department of English, Aristotle University, 54124 Thessaloniki, Greece by **15 November 2007**.

d. Journal of Humanities Special Issue: "'Inter' after Theory": The past decade has seen a growing consensus across the humanities that the high tide of influence for radical literary and cultural theory has passed. Although none of the various strands of postmodern discourse have been refuted per se, there has been a general feeling of theoretical ennui circling through the profession, a Zeitgeist which has been given institutional recognition by books such as *Theory's Empire* and *After Theory*, and special issues of leading journals such as *Critical Inquiry*. Irreducible to simple discursive exhaustion or vogueish hunts for the "postpostmodern," the waning enthusiasm for doctrinaire theory seems in part a consequence of the success of the theoretical canon in dismantling all that is dismantlable. Please send submissions by email to jh@ncu.edu.tw no later than **1 July 2007**.

4. Books, publications, websites of possible interest

a. All issues of *Nyugat* is available online at <http://epa.oszk.hu/00000/00022/nyugat.htm>

b. The University of Texas' library has a wonderful collection of maps online that you may be able to use in class at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/europe.html>.

c. The Roma—A Minority in Europe, Historical, Political and Social Perspectives, edited by Roni Stauber, Stephen Roth Institute, Tel Aviv University and **Raphael Vago**, Cummings Center for Russian and East European Studies and Stephen Roth Institute, Tel Aviv University. Budapest, HU: CEU Press, 200 pages
963-7326-86-3 / 978-963-7326-86-8 cloth \$34.95 / €26.95 / £17.95

The situation of the Roma in Europe, especially in the former communist states, is one of the more important human rights issues on the agenda of the international community, especially in the Euro-Atlantic bodies of integration. Within European states that have Roma populations there is a growing awareness that the matter must be confronted, and that there is a need for a concentrated

effort to solve social problems and ease tensions between the Roma and the European nations among which they dwell.

d. A Biographical Dictionary of Women's Movements and Feminisms, Central, Eastern, and South Eastern Europe, 19th and 20th Centuries. Editors: Francisca de Haan is Professor of Gender Studies at the Central European University in Budapest, Krassimira Daskalova teaches Modern European Cultural History at the Faculty of Philosophy, St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia, Bulgaria. Budapest, HU: CEU Press, 698 pages, 2006.

ISBN 963 7326 39 1 / 978-963-7326-39-4 cloth \$69.95 / € 58.95 / £39.95

Contains 150 expertly-researched biographical portraits (with pictures) of women and men, who were active in, or part of, women's movements and feminisms in 22 countries in Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries. Thus it challenges the widely-held belief that there was no feminism in this part of Europe. The biographical portraits not only show that feminists existed here, but also that they were widespread and diverse, and included Romanian princesses, Serbian philosophers and peasants, Latvian and Slovakian novelists, Albanian teachers, Hungarian Catholic social workers, Austrian factory workers, Bulgarian feminist scientists and socialist feminists, Russian radicals and philanthropists, Turkish republican leftist political activists and nationalists, internationally recognized Greek feminist leaders, and so on-women, and some men, from all walks of life. Their stories together constitute a rich tapestry of feminist activity, rejecting the notion that either there was no feminism here, or that it was 'imported from the West.' Women in every society and in every generation protest gender injustice, and any suggestion to the contrary is a denial of the intelligence and human agency of countless women and men, including those featured in this Biographical Dictionary. The biographies not only provide a window onto the historical background of contemporary feminism (thus giving present-day women's movements the 'historical support' that they need and are entitled to), in some cases they demonstrate explicitly the historical continuities between feminisms past and present.

e. Post-Communist Economies and Western Trade Discrimination: Are NMEs Our Enemies? by Cynthia M. Horne.

The author examines the United States and European Union's use of anti-dumping laws to demonstrate that discriminatory treatment persists even a decade after the end of the Cold War. She argues that lingering Cold War beliefs about the trade threat posed by Communist countries continue to affect the method of implementing these trade remedy laws.

f. *The Sarmatian Review* is a scholarly journal on the history, culture, and society of Central and Eastern Europe, with strong attention to Poland, the post-Soviet period, and American ethnic issues. *The Sarmatian Review* is published three times a year in January, April, and September.

<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~sarmatia/>

g. The Cold War International History Project was established at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C., in 1991 with the generous support of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

The Project supports the full and prompt release of historical materials by governments on all sides of the Cold War, and seeks to accelerate the process of integrating new sources, materials and perspectives from the former "Communist bloc" with the historiography of the Cold War which has been written over the past few decades largely by Western scholars reliant on Western archival sources. It also seeks to transcend barriers of language, geography, and regional

specialization to create new links among scholars interested in Cold War history.

Among the activities undertaken by the Project to promote this aim are a periodic Bulletin and other publications to disseminate new findings, views, and activities pertaining to Cold War history; a fellowship program for young historians from the former Communist bloc countries to conduct archival research and study Cold War history in the United States; and international scholarly meetings, conferences, and seminars.

http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=topics.home&topic_id=1409

The Center's Working Paper # 54 titled the "Evolution and Revolution: Sino-Hungarian Relations and the 1956 Revolution" is by Péter Vámos, a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of History of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=topics.item&news_id=213536

Drawing on newly available Hungarian and Chinese archival documents, Vámos examines a still controversial aspect of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution—China's role in the Soviet decision-making during October and November 1956. Arguing against the claim that Chinese pressure was critical in convincing Soviet leaders to intervene militarily in Hungary, Vámos notes that the commonly accepted narrative—namely that Mao Zedong realized the true "counter-revolutionary" character of the Hungarian events, and thus exerted Chinese influence in order to persuade a weak Khrushchev to intervene militarily—is not supported by the documentary record. Vámos argues that this legend only came into existence in the 1960s, with the attempt by Chinese propagandists to conceal evidence of Chinese subservience to the Soviet Union during the 1950s. Placing special attention on how the Hungarian events influenced Chinese policy-making and propaganda, Vámos concludes that Beijing's interest in the Hungarian events was primarily focused on drawing lessons for use domestically, and that in 1956, the Chinese government was not prepared for an open confrontation with Moscow over the Hungarian issue.

Under the heading of Document Reader several Hungary related documents are posted.

http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=topics.documents&doc_id=188014&group_id=187963



From the AAASS:

The AAASS Directory of Members is now available online in the members-only area, at www.aaassmembers.org. Members can search by name to locate colleagues' contact information, affiliation, e-mail address, positions, specializations, countries and periods of interest, and last degree earned. Current and last year's AAASS members are included in the directory.

To access the directory, log in to the members-only site, at www.aaassmembers.org, and choose Directory Listing from the Services menu. To obtain a user name and password for accessing our members-only site, or to have your user name and password resent to you, follow the request link at www.aaassmembers.org.

The directory lists each member's office contact information, if available. If you would like to

make your home contact information available in the directory, or if you would like to be excluded from the directory entirely, please contact us or log into the members-only area to adjust your directory preferences.

The online membership directory will continually remain current, and is intended to replace the previous format, a printed directory published every few years. The 2003 Directory of Members, printed in late 2004, will be the last print edition.

Although the online directory currently only allows for searching by name, in the future the AAASS will be adding the ability to search by discipline, country/region of interest, and location of residence.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments about the new directory.

Sincerely,

Luke Zentner
Membership Coordinator

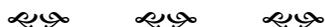


From the American Historical Association:

The 2008 Annual Meeting will be held January 3–6, 2008 in Washington, D.C. with events scheduled in the Marriott Wardman Park (1,100 rooms, headquarters), Omni Shoreham (800 rooms, co-headquarters), and the Hilton Washington (800 rooms). **Housing for the AHA Annual Meeting will open in September.** The AHA has reserved substantial blocks of rooms at the Marriott, Omni, and Hilton. Rates will be \$109 single and \$139 double, and will be available three days before and after the January 3-6 meeting dates. Taxes are 14.5 percent per room, per night. **Sharon K. Tune**, Convention Director, American Historical Association, 400 A Street S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003 (202.544.2422 ext. 101; fax 202.544.8307 email: stune@historians.org (<http://www.historians.org/annual>))



Don't forget to let your students know that the Hungarian language summer school in Debrecen is running again this year. More information can be found at: <http://www.nyariegyetem.hu/>



Have a great summer!

Susan