Business Meeting:

The HSA Business Meeting at the ASEEES (Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, formerly known as the AAASS) Convention will be held on Friday, November 18, 2011 at 6:30-7:30 pm in the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC. Light refreshments will be served.

Elections:

The terms of the vice president (Emese Ivan), the secretary/treasurer (Susan Glanz) and two members of the executive committee, (Steve Jobbitt, and Catherine Portuges) expire this December. If you are interested in serving or would like to nominate someone or yourself, please email me (glanzs@stjohns.edu). Each elected member will serve two years, 2012-2013. We will conduct the elections in early November.

Awards:

If you would like to nominate an article, for our 2011 article award, please contact the members of the committee (Paul Hanebrink [hanebrin@history.rutgers.edu], Arpad von Klimo [klimo@pitt.edu] and S. Bela Vardy [svardy@aol.com]). The award will be given at the ASEEES convention in Washington, November 2011.

Miscellaneous announcements:

1. Participation at the 43rd annual ASEEES conference in Washington, DC.


Paper presenters in order of listing in the preliminary program:

Robert Nemes, Colgate U. “Up in Smoke and Down the Drain? The Reputation of Hungarian Tobacco and Wine in the Nineteenth Century”

Graydon (Jack) Tunstall, U of South Florida. “The Austro-Hungarian Defeat in the Siege of Premysl”
Katalin Kádár-Lynn, ELTE Budapest (Hungary). “Tibor Eckhardt’s Wartime Service in Transylvania, 1915-1918”
Peter Pastor, Montclair State U. “Background to the US-Hungarian Peace Treaty of August 29, 1921”
Zsolt Nagy, UNC at Chapel Hill. “Small Country—Big Screen: Cinema, Image, and Interwar Hungarian Cultural Diplomacy”
Andrew Felkay, Kutztown U. “The Gathering Storm Clouds Before the ‘56 Revolution”
Zsuzsanna Magdo, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. “Towards a Godless Romania: Atheism and the Socialist Nation under Ceausescu”
Tibor Frank, Eotvos Lorand U (Hungary). “The Scientists”
Catherine Portuges, U of Massachusetts, Amherst. “The Filmmakers”
Tom Sakmyster, U of Cincinnati. “The Communists”
Marguerite DeHuszar Allen, Northwestern U. “Pre-WWI Hungary 1910-1914 and the Revue de Hongrie”
Bela Bodo, Missouri State U. “Anatomy of a Pogrom”
Virag Rab, U of Pécs (Hungary). “Financial Dilemmas in the 1920s”
Susan Glanz, St. John’s U. “Labor Market and the State”
Emese Ivan, St. John’s U. “Walking the E-line: The Sport Authorities and the Promotion of Active Lifestyle through Hiking”

2. Publications by our members:


“Hungary, 101: Seven Ways to Avoid a Revolution and Soviet Invasion of Romania,” *Cold War History*, vol. 10, no. 1 (February 2010), pp. 81-106.


3. Books of possible interest:


*The Siege of Sziget* by Miklós Zrinyi, Translated by László Körössy with an introduction by
http://cuapress.cua.edu/BOOKS/viewbook.cfm?Book=ZRSS


From Hungary:
Cieger András, Politikai korrupció a Monarchia Magyarországán, Budapest: Napvilág Kiadó KFT. 2011.


Héthy Lajos, Civil beszéd vagy "párt-beszéd"? Az érdekegyeztetés ma, Budapest: Napvilág Kiadó KFT. 2010.

Interesting website: Encyclopaedia Humana Hungarica, www.ehumana.hu

4. Call for papers and/or conference announcements:

a. Historic Famagusta: A Millennium in Words and Images

The Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies (CEMS) at Central European University in Budapest and The School of Art, Design and Media (ADM) at Singapore’s Nanyang Technological University, is pleased to announce Historic Famagusta: A Millennium in Words and Images, a conference will be held on October 5-6, 2012 at Central European University, Budapest. Those wishing to participate should contact the conference organizers as soon as possible to register interest. Abstracts of 200-250 words should be sent via e-mail). In October (2011) successful candidates will be notified a full year in advance of the conference (October 2012). Specific, thematically aligned papers will also be selected for an edited book of the same name. Email: michaeljkwalsh@hotmail.com
Visit the website at http://www.ceu.hu/node/21109

b. East-West cultural exchanges during the Cold War
Cultural exchange in the Cold War has in recent years received growing attention, but research is still very scattered. This conference aims to bring together research concerning cultural exchanges from the East and the West. Furthermore, theoretical discussion about the still rather vague definition of the cultural Cold War is encouraged. **The deadline for proposals is 1 December 2011.** Email: eastwestculture@gmail.com
Visit the website at [http://culturalcoldwar.blogspot.com/](http://culturalcoldwar.blogspot.com/)

c. **"Everyday life in the socialist city"** - **Session at the 11th International Conference on Urban History "Cities and Societies in Comparative Perspective"** to be held on Prague, 29 August – 1 September 2012

Since the 1970s, the notion of ‘everyday life’ in social sciences has been strongly associated with studies and theorizations of the ordinary, routine, daily practices and situations. In the urban context, such repeated and seemingly insignificant actions and trajectories help to (re)produce or transform urban spaces and their meanings, often in very creative ways.

Our session aims at opening the questions about the character of everyday life in the specific context of "socialist" cities in the Central and Eastern Europe. We wish to discuss examples from various cities and countries, explaining the specific activities, relationships, rhythms and trajectories that the urban users developed in these cities, to reflect the differences and similarities of these patterns with the forms appearing in the cities in the rest of Europe, and to follow the changes in everyday life along the period of state socialism.

Email: jana.noskova@iach.cz

d. **13th Global Conference, Perspectives on Evil and Human Wickedness, to be held 15th March - 17th March 2012, Prague, Czech Republic.**

Hitler. Spitzer. Torquemada. Weiner. Genghis Khan. Lucrecia Borgia. Ronald Reagan. Ivan the Terrible. Bill Clinton. What do all these people have in common? They are all considered “evil” by a few, some, many, or all others who know anything about them. Why? What makes them evil? Or even just plain old “wicked?” What makes them not-evil or not-wicked? How does the label “evil” or “wicked” change our estimation of them? How has the use of those labels for these folk — and others — changed over time? How will the use of these labels continue to evolve?

Further, is evil an all-or-nothing term? Is some one either evil or not evil? Is it a term reserved for use in relation to ’special cases’? Serial killers? Paedophiles? Mothers who kill their children? Children who kill other children? Is it only people who can be evil? Can animals be evil? Can countries or nations be evil?

Email: evil13@inter-disciplinary.net

This panel will address the translation of resistance literature. Since this literature is usually intended for a local audience and is written in the local language of the resistance, should it be translated into other languages? Does translation benefit the resistance or does it come as a detriment to it? Speakers are encouraged to draw upon their own experiences in translating resistance literature if possible. Please submit 250-300 word abstract to Riham Alhossary (ralhoss1@binghamton.edu) This call for papers is for the NeMLA 2012 Convention which will take place in Rochester, NY; March 15-18-2012. Please note: A publishing house is interested in publishing a volume on this topic. Email: ralhoss1@binghamton.edu

f. World History Bulletin special issue on teaching and learning world history, Spring 2012

As historians and teachers, we are all too aware of the notion held by students, policy-makers, and the public that history is something that has little bearing on the present or the future. And while we know these perceptions hold little value, connecting the immediate present and future to the past is something easily lost in our daily classroom interactions. In an effort to shed light on the opportunities to expose vital connections between past and present, the World History Bulletin invites essays (3,000-4,000 words) and lesson plans centered on how we might better and more directly integrate the historical origins of contemporary global issues into our classrooms.

Contributions might focus on the historical origins of global events or processes such as popular uprisings, genocide, global capitalism and economic recession, or climate change. Other possibilities include some of the more cumbersome subjects to broach with high school and undergraduate students, such as how religious, Orientalist, or exceptionalist systems of knowledge and perceptions shape media and popular representations of other cultures and global events. Still others might reconcile how to best integrate contemporary global issues with the standard chronological approach to history. We also invite contributions from the “learning” side of world history: what do a knowledge of world history and an ability to connect it to the present do in terms of student outcomes? How do we teach world history, and how do we measure in meaningful ways the extent of student learning? Do competing systems of knowledge (from Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs) produce different ways of teaching and learning the global past?

If relevant, contributors are encouraged to include in their narratives examples of critical thinking questions, primary source documents, readings, films, news sources, assignments, or any other means of instruction that might further the goal of more closely linking the past and present and assessing students’ understanding of these connections. Please send questions and/or submissions along with a C.V. to Clif Stratton by December 15, 2011 at clif.stratton@wsu.edu

g. Call for article submissions about the year 1937 in Soviet History. In commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the height of the Great Terror in the USSR, "The Historian," a peer-reviewed academic journal published since 1938, is interested in submissions on the year 1937 in Soviet (Russian-Ukrainian-Kazak, etc.) history, for a special issue to be published in 2012.

Any treatment of the significance of 1937 (such as its place in current post-Soviet memory) or on the actual course of events, as they unfolded from the Politburo at the top to
the "Lenin's-Path" collective farm at the bottom will be considered for publication. Contributions in Russian, German or French will be considered as well, as long as authors agree to have their articles translated into English in our offices.

Please be so kind to follow the most recent Chicago Style of referencing in writing your essay, and please send your essay as an attachment in MSWord to historian@cas.usf.edu.

Sincerely,
Kees Boterbloem
Editor, "The Historian" historian@cas.usf.edu

h. The 2012 annual meeting of the Business History Conference (BHC) will take place March 29-31 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the Hyatt Regency Penn's Landing. The theme for the conference is “Business and the State.” Please see the call for papers at http://www.thebhc.org/annmeet/call12.html. Potential presenters may submit proposals either for individual papers or for entire panels. Individual paper proposals should include a one-page (300 word) abstract and a one-page curriculum vitae (CV). The abstract should summarize the argument of the paper, the sources on which it is based, and its relationship to existing scholarship. The deadline for receipt of all proposals is October 1, 2011. Acceptance letters will be sent by December 15, 2011.


Proposals for presentations on any aspect of economic or business history are welcome. The EBHS conference offers participants an opportunity for intellectual interchange within a collegial interdisciplinary group of scholars from around the world (a typical mix of participants includes around half from economics departments and half from history departments). The society prides itself on being welcoming toward new members and offers reduced conference fees for graduate students and early career researchers (four years or less since doctorate earned). Papers presented at the conference may be submitted for consideration by the EBHS’s peer-reviewed journal, Essays in Economic and Business History, edited by Janice Traflet (Bucknell University).

The society seeks proposals for individual papers and/or for panel sessions. Proposals should include
- an abstract of no more than 500 words
- a brief curriculum vita
- postal and email addresses and telephone and fax numbers.

Panel proposals should also suggest a title and a panel chair. Submissions are welcome from graduate students and non-academic affiliates. The deadline for submission of proposals is January 15, 2012.

If you have further questions about the meeting or organization please contact:
Lynne P. Doti (Chapman University)
2011-2012 President, Economic and Business Historical Society
ldoti@chapman.edu

j. IJAS Conference in Las Vegas at UNLV. There are 4 tracks: social sciences and humanities, business and economics, teaching and education and technology and science.
Submit your abstract through the online submission form (above) by January 25, 2012. The conference will be held during March 13-16, 2012. Email your formatted manuscript after your online submission is accepted and before April 7, 2012. The proceedings and journal will be published in October 2012. For more information, visit: http://www.internationaljournal.org/vegas.html


Not Guilty ... and Not Long Employed

August 25, 2011

A Georgia jury has acquitted Frank J. Rybicki, assistant professor of mass media at Valdosta State University, of battery charges related to his shutting the laptop of a student in one of his classes in March.

Rybicki denied hurting the student's finger, as she alleged, but said that professors have every right to shut a laptop when a student violates class rules or is rude by surfing the Web rather than using a laptop to take notes. Valdosta State, which removed Rybicki from teaching duties (but didn't change his salary) after the incident, has cleared him to return to teaching. However, in July, before his trial, the university informed Rybicki that this academic year would be his last. Asked if he was being punished for the crime for which he was arrested (and of which he was subsequently acquitted), he said that "I think that's pretty obvious."

Still, Rybicki said he was pleased that he would be able to teach in the year ahead, and that a jury had rejected the charges. And he said he was thrilled that students had turned out to support him at the trial and online, on the Team Rybicki page on Facebook, which has now adjusted its illustration to feature the words "NOT GUILTY." Many students have been arguing since the spring that an outstanding professor was having his career destroyed unfairly.

Exact details of the incident have been disputed, and the university has declined to comment on why it suspended Rybicki from teaching after the arrest -- even when so many students backed him. In April, when he was first interviewed by Inside Higher Ed, he said he couldn't discuss the incident except to say that he had never hurt a student.

In an interview Tuesday, he said that when he became aware that the student was using her laptop for non-course-related work, he "went to put the laptop down, she tried to pull it away from me, and she claimed that her finger got stuck." Rybicki said that he "didn't see the finger get stuck," and doesn't remember that. But he said that the point that most helped him at trial was that nobody was able to offer evidence that he intended to hurt his student's finger. (Rybicki has never named the student, and a woman with the name cited in some Web commentary as the student in the case has not responded to questions about the incident.)

Rybicki said he thought the real issue in the case was the right of a professor to maintain the classroom as a learning environment. He said that he realizes that some students disagree, and tell him things like "I paid for this class so I should do what I want." But Rybicki said that what a student pays for is "for me to teach," and that means setting some standards in the classroom.
"Students need to realize that even if they pay tuition, they are in a class with other students, in a class that is being guided by professionals," he said. "I'm 'old school,' I guess," he said.

Rybicki's future at Valdosta is unclear. He has been in a tenure-track position, but he received a letter in July from the provost, stating that he would not receive a contract for the 2012-13 academic year. He said that he is considering his options.

A spokeswoman for Valdosta declined to comment on why Rybicki received the letter, saying that the university does not discuss confidential personnel matters. She confirmed that, in the wake of his acquittal, he is being assigned courses once again.

Asked about the university's policy on student laptop use in class, the spokeswoman said that it was the same as it was in March: "at the discretion of the individual faculty member."

— Scott Jaschik

6. Please, do not forget to pay your annual dues. Make checks ($25) payable to HSA. Thank you!

Susan