HSA News & Notes

ASEEES Convention, Nov. 23-26, San Francisco
The annual convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) will be held on the theme of “Belief” at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis. See pages 2-3 for a list of panels relevant to Hungarian studies. For additional information about the convention, see: http://aseeess.org/convention.

Hungarian Studies Association Annual Meeting
A meeting of HSA will take place during the ASEEES convention on Sunday, November 24 from 6:45 to 8:15 pm at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific E. Come and meet fellow scholars engaged in Hungarian studies. This is an excellent opportunity for networking, socializing, sharing news, and learning about publication opportunities. Refreshments will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please do not forget to pay your annual dues of $25 through Paypal on our website (https://hungstudiesassoc.com/) or by check made out to HSA and mailed to: Jeffrey Pennington
ISEEES/University of California, Berkeley
260 Stephens Hall #2304
Berkeley, CA 94720-2304.
Institutional memberships are also now available for $100, payable by the same means.

Congratulations and many thanks to Jeffrey Pennington for agreeing to serve as HSA Treasurer. At the HSA annual meeting in December, 2018 it was decided to split secretary and treasurer duties between two persons. Mark Trotter will continue to serve as HSA Secretary.

The Fall 2019 newsletter will feature a list of books, articles, and other significant scholarly output by members that appeared in 2018. To have your publication included in the list, please email a full citation in Chicago style to HungStudiesAssoc@gmail.com or to Mark Trotter at martrott@indiana.edu. No book reviews, please.

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Selected Panels Relevant to Hungarian Studies at the 2019 ASEEES Convention

Full convention program with more information about panels and individual papers is available at: https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/aseees/aseeess19/index.php?click_key=3&obf_var=2421155&PHPSESSID=kde9h508hmvjv156e5jn1okou3

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23
“A Belief in Nation-States? The 1919 Peacemaking for East Central Europe at 100”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I
“A Relationship under Stress: Franco-Russian Relations from the Great Reforms to the July Crisis”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific E
“Collaboration and Tensions Across Opposite Systems of Belief. Communist Romania’s Cultural Relations and Ideological Contention with the West”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill B
“Consumption in Socialist Economics”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 1
“Global Imagination after Versailles: Alternative Histories of Social Science in Eastern Europe”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Nob Hill D
“Political and Economic Transformations in Post-Communist Countries”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill H
“Russian and East-Central European Exile Filmmakers Negotiating Jewish Identity in WW II and Postwar Hollywood”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 10
“The Politics of the Cold War Archives: Of Flaws and Glitches”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific F
“Continuities of Violence in Central & Eastern Europe, 1914-1945”
2:00 to 3:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 3
“Documenting Lives of Carpatho-Rusyns and Their Neighbors in Subcarpathian Rus’ and Beyond”
2:00 to 3:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Nob Hill D
2:00 to 3:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I
“Locating Eastern European Experimental Cinema in the Socialist-Era Cultural Landscape”
2:00 to 3:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 6
Roundtable: “Digital Migrations: Diasporas, Transnational Circulations, and Border Crossings through the Lens of Digital Humanities”
2:00 to 3:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill F

Mark Pittaway Article Prize, 2018

The Hungarian Studies Association awards the Mark Pittaway article prize in even years in recognition of the best article in Hungarian studies published in the preceding two years. The prize is awarded in memory of historian Mark Pittaway, author of The Workers’ State, who passed away unexpectedly in 2010. Nominations are especially encouraged of excellent pieces written by promising young scholars.


The honorable mention goes to Emily R. Gioielli’s “‘Home is Home No Longer’: Political Struggle in the Domestic Sphere in Post-Armistice Hungary, 1919-1922,” published in Aspasia, vol. 11 (March 2017): 54-70.

In 2019, the HSA will award its biennial book prize for the best book published in 2017 or 2018. The article prize will be awarded again in 2020 to an article published in 2018 or 2019. Details on nominations will appear in fall!
Selected Panels Relevant to Hungarian Studies at the 2019 ASEEES Convention (contd.)

2:00 to 3:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Nob Hill C

Roundtable: “Revolutions of 1989: What They Believed (Before and After) in Moscow, Berlin, Prague, and Budapest”
2:00 to 3:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 8

“Academic Freedom and Slavic Studies”
4:00 to 5:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 7

“Central and East Europe and the EU: What Next?”
4:00 to 5:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill A

“Colonialism and Transnational Histories of East Central Europe”
4:00 to 5:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill B

“Migrants and Refugees, to, from, and in the Balkans: Belief, Identity, Alterity, and Culture”
4:00 to 5:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 14

“Recent Research: Estonia, Romania & Hungary”
4:00 to 5:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Nob Hill D

“The Art of Belief. National Representation in Interwar Central Europe”
4:00 to 5:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific A

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

“Nationalism and the Growth of the Public Sphere in Habsburg Central Europe”
8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I

“Neoliberalism, Roman Catholicism, and the Collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe”
8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill B

“Belief in the Glagolitic Cultural Milieu – The Kvarner and Istria in Medieval and Early Modern Times”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra K

“Landscapes of Postwar Jewish and non-Jewish Hungarian Fates in Emigration and Accommodation”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra J

“Missing Diversity? Contemporary Discourses on Migrants and Minorities in the Visegrád States”

10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 14

“Administration Practices between Persistence and Change: Towards a Transitory and Entangled Perspective on the History of Habsburg Administration and Its Legacy”
12:30 to 2:15pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I

“Cinema and the Environment in Eastern Europe”
12:30 to 2:15pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 6

“Security Issues in Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic over a Century”
12:30 to 2:15pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill H

“A Nation Adrift: The 1944-1945 Wartime Diaries of Miksa Fenyo”
2:30 to 4:15pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra B

“Czechoslovakia Post WWII: The Key Years of 1948, 1968 and 1989”
2:30 to 4:15pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra J

“Cultural and Political Reinventions in 20th Century Hungary: Micro-Historical Approaches”
4:30 to 6:15pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra J

“The Politics of Cooperation and Competition in Central Europe’s Deeply Divided Societies”
4:30 to 6:15pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I

“Official Art Beyond Belief: Reexamining the Practice of Socialist Realism in the Visual Arts, 1933-1991”
4:30 to 6:15pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific A

Hungarian Studies Association Meeting
6:45 to 8:15pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific E

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

“Belief in One Nation, One Language”
8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra D

“Belief and Populism: A Troubled Relationship”
8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill A

“Beyond Belief: The Contours of Real Existing Post-Socialism in East Central Europe”
8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra J

“Cities of Sin, Sex, and Spectacle: Budapest, Vienna, and Warsaw in the Early 20th Century”
Selected Panels Relevant to Hungarian Studies at the 2019 ASEEES Convention (contd.)

8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I
“The Cultural Exchange in the Global Cold War”
8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific B

“Exhibitions as Spaces of Artistic Contact during the Cold War” 8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific A
“A Little Pub, a Little Grub, a Little Mug of Beer: Food and Drink in the Habsburg and Post-Habsburg World”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I

“Beyond Centre and Periphery. Mapping Transnational Spaces in Interwar Czechoslovakia”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra J

“Central European Intellectual History (1981-1991)”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific F

“Documentary Politics: Working Through Archives in 20th Century Central and Eastern Europe”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, B2, Golden Gate C3

“Russian Orthodoxy East and West”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, B2, Juniper

“Refugees and the Formation of Belief in Post World War I Eastern Europe”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill B

“Conflicts of Belief - Art, Feminism, Religion in Hungary and the USA in the early 1970s”
1:45 to 3:30pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra J

“About the Identity of Balkan Slavs”
3:45 to 5:30pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 14

“Creating for the State During Socialism: The Role of Artists’ Unions”
3:45 to 5:30pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific A

“(De)stabilizing Socialism: Technology and the Media in the Eastern Bloc and Émigré Networks”
3:45 to 5:30pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific F

“Legacies of Communism? Russia and Eastern Europe since 1989/91: A Reassessment”
3:45 to 5:30pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 8

“The Making of Law in Interwar Romania: Nation-State Building, Constitutionalism, and Land Reform”
3:45 to 5:30pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific B

8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, B2, Golden Gate C2

Roundtable: “1989” 3:45 to 5:30pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific H

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

“Conservative Turn to the Past? Memory Politics in Russia and Eastern Europe”
8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 3

“Who should study? -Governments, Universities and Social Mobility”
8:00 to 9:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I

“Belief in Democracy, Disbelief in Rule of Law? Legacies of Dissent and Revolutionary Outcomes in East-Central Europe, 1989-2019”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra J

“Imperial Russia in Transition: Social Science Approaches to Imperial Russian History”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra K

“Managing Ethnic Relations in Romania and Southeastern Europe”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 2, Foothill H

“Nationalizing Elites in Dynastic Empires: Russia, Hungary, Germany and Japan around 1900”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 2

“Paris 1919 and the East-European Contested Borderlands”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I

“The Imprints of Philanthropy: American Foundations in Eastern Europe during Communism”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific F

“Women Dissidents: Their Beliefs and Their Legacies”
10:00 to 11:45am, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, LB2, Salon 15

12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra J

“Central Europe between Appeasement and War, 1938-1939”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 5, Sierra I

“State Socialist Environmentalism: Experts and the Environment in Central Eastern Europe 1945 to 1990”
12:00 to 1:45pm, San Francisco Marriott Marquis, 4, Pacific F
A quick google search will reveal that opportunities to pursue graduate work in Hungarian Studies outside of Hungary are sparse. Although a handful of American institutions offer Hungarian language, culture, and historical studies to students, Indiana University (IU) in Bloomington, Indiana is the only one that offers two MA and PhD programs with a specialization in Hungarian Studies, through its Department of Central Eurasian Studies (CEUS).

Hungarian Studies at IU dates to 1943 when the university began service as a site for the Army Specialized Training Program to meet US wartime needs for training military personnel in Russian, Polish, Czech, Hungarian, Serbo-Croatian and Finnish. Although that program closed at the end of World War II, it laid the foundation for the IU Program in Uralic and Altaic Studies, which began to operate in 1956. That program received departmental status in 1965 as the Department of Uralic and Altaic Studies and was renamed the Department of Central Eurasian Studies in 1993. Now housed in IU’s Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies, CEUS continues to maintain a connection with the US government in the careers of many graduates. However, government service is just one among a variety of career paths chosen by CEUS graduates, who can be found in academia, the NGO sector, business, and journalism. As a department that trains area studies specialists, CEUS allows its students to choose their own research discipline and methodology—be it anthropology, sociology, history, political science, religious studies, or literary studies—while acquiring Baltic and Finnish, Central Asian, Hungarian, Iranian, Mongolian, Tibetan, or Turkish regional and linguistic expertise.

The Hungarian Studies program at CEUS is staffed by László Borhi, the Peter A. Kadas Chair of Central Eurasian Studies and Valéria Varga. A historian of Central and Eastern Europe and member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Professor Borhi regularly advises students of Hungarian history, politics, and culture. Language is an integral part of the program, and CEUS offers three full years of Hungarian language training during the academic year and first-year training during the summer under the expert instruction of Valéria Varga. Successful graduate
and undergraduate students can receive Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships to support their study of Hungarian language from three different Title VI centers on the IU campus: the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center (IAUNRC), the Russian and East European Institute (REEI), and the Center for the Study of Global Change. In the summer, graduate students can also apply for Title VIII fellowships to support their study of Hungarian at the first-year level on the IU campus or at more advanced levels in Hungary. In addition, under an agreement with the Budapest-based Balassi Institute, CEUS offers an annual fellowship to graduate students in Hungarian Studies.

IU students and faculty in Hungarian Studies can avail themselves of rich and varied extra-curricular programming supported by CEUS, IAUNRC, REEI, the IU Institute for European Studies, the IU Borns Jewish Studies Program, and the IU Hungarian Cultural Association (HCA), a student and local community organization. Notable recent guest speakers from Hungary have included Stefano Bottoni, Senior Research Fellow at the Research Center for the Humanities of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Éva Fodor, Associate Professor of Gender Studies and Pro-Rector for the Social Sciences and Humanities at the Central European University, Bálint Magyar, the former Hungarian Minister of Education, and László Szabó, the current Hungarian Ambassador to the United States. HCA spearheads the organization of commemorative events in connection with anniversaries of the Hungarian revolutions in 1848 and 1956 as well as graduate student conferences, sometimes in collaboration with the IU Romanian Studies Organization. It has also partnered with the Hungarian Consulate of Chicago in recent years to bring contemporary Hungarian films to campus. Last year, the HCA screened Volcano Island, Operation Stone, Terka Nova, Bond, Before Lunch, Kincsem, and the Academy Award winning Son of Saul to name but a few. The latter film was first screened at IU in 2017, an event that featured a post-screening interview with Géza Röhrig, who played the leading role in the film and returned to IU last year to participate in a public discussion of the Holocaust in film.

Named in honor of the late György Ránki, a leading authority on Hungarian economy and history, and established in 1979, the György Ránki Chair in Hungarian Studies relies on joint funding by IU and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences to support visiting professors from
Hungary and the organization of a conference or symposium, public lectures, and other events. Past Ránki Chair professors include cognitive psychologist Csaba Pléh, anthropologist Ágnes Fülemile, and the late Mihály Szegedy-Maszák, an internationally celebrated literary scholar. CEUS also awards an annual György Ránki Prize to students in good academic standing who demonstrate extraordinary commitment to Hungarian studies and show a commitment to spreading knowledge of Hungary on a local level. This past April, Erzsebet and Zsuzsanna Ránki established the György Ránki Scholarship, a gift that will provide financial support to the next generation of scholars specializing in Hungarian Studies, as well as additional support for the György Ránki Hungarian Chair.

Since 2011, IU and the Fulbright Commission in Hungary have supported a Visiting Fulbright Professor at IU for Hungarian social scientists specializing in Hungary and Central Europe. The position has been held most recently by Csongor Nagy, Professor of Law at University of Szeged, and Péter Krekó, Associate Professor of Social Psychology at Eötvös Loránd University of Sciences. The IU Department of Sociology also houses Hungarian doctoral students as short-term research fellows through the Gyula Rezler Scholar Program.

IU’s Hungarian collection is among the top three at university libraries in the United States. The IU Main Library has more than 30,000 volumes in the Hungarian language, nearly 4,000 volumes in Western languages about Hungarian topics, and subscriptions to 150 Hungarian serials. Materials in the Main Library include several donated research collections from Hungarian statesmen and scholars: the Aladár Szegedy-Maszák Collection, the Lajos Vincze Collection, the Louis Szathmáry Collection, the Paul Marer Collection, and 3,500 volumes donated by IU’s former György Ránki Hungarian Chair professors.

To learn more about IU’s unique and vibrant program in Hungarian Studies visit: http://www.indiana.edu/~ceus/.

Jessica Storey-Nagy is a PhD candidate in CEUS’s Hungarian Studies program. Her dissertation research explores political discourse and national identity building in Hungary.

Mark Trotter is Associate Director of the Russian and East European Institute. He serves as Secretary of the Hungarian Studies Association.