

HSA

Hungarian Studies Association

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January 2008

NEWSLETTER

Election results:

The election results are the following: for vice-president: Paul Hanebrink, to the executive committee: Judith Fai-Podlipnik and Emese Ivan; and I have been reelected as secretary/treasurer. Thank you. Congratulations to the others!

Thus the current board -members are:

President: Alice Freifeld, U. of Florida, Term: 2008-2009. Email: freifeld@history.ufl.edu

Vice-President: Paul Hanebrink*, Rutgers U. Term: 2008-2009. Email: hanebrin@history.rutgers.edu

Secretary-Treasurer: Susan Glanz, St. John's U. Term: 2008-2009. Email: glanzs@stjohns.edu

Executive Committee:

Emese Ivan, Ball State U., Term: 2008-2009. Email: eivan@bsu.edu

Judith Fai-Podlipnik, U of Southern Louisiana, Term: 2008-2009. Email: jfai-podlipnik@selu.edu

Edit Nagy, U. of Florida, Term: 2007-2008. Email: nagyedit@yahoo.com

John Swanson, Utica Coll., Term: 2007-2008. Email: jswanson@utica.edu

According to our by-laws on January 1, 2010, Paul Hanebrink, our current VP, will automatically assume the position of the president.



1. Call for papers:

1. The **33rd Annual Conference of the American Hungarian Educators' Association**, sponsored by the AHEA and Duquesne University, will be held at Duquesne U., in Pittsburgh, PA. The conference's title: "Hungarian Identity in an Intercultural World" and the conference organizers welcome paper proposals on any aspect of Hungarian Studies which deal with intercultural and multicultural studies. The conference will be held on **May 8-10, 2008** in Pittsburgh, PA.

Please send proposals to the chairs named below:

Cultural Studies: **Louise Vasvari** (louise.vasvari@sunysb.edu);

Education: **Judith Kesserü Némethy** (jn2@nyu.edu)

History: **Peter Pastor** (pastorp@mail.montclair.edu)

Literature: **Enikő M. Basa** (eniko.basa@verizon.net)

Music/Folklore: **Kálmán Magyar** (magyar@magyar.org) and **Judy Olson** (JudyOlson@aol.com)

Political Science/Economics: **Susan Glanz** (glanzs@stjohns.edu)

Science and Science History: **István Turcsányi** (iturtsanyi@yahoo.com) or to **István Sohar** (sohar@cabm.rutgers.edu)

Proposals must include the title of the paper, a 200-word abstract, must reach the chairs by January 20, 2008. For more information visit the organization's website at <http://hungaria.org/hal/ahea/>.

2. **5th Global Conference on War, Virtual War and Human Security** to be held on 5th –7th May, 2008 Budapest, Hungary. For further information visit the conference’s website: <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ptb/wvw/wvw5/cfp.html>.

3. A conference titled “**Just Images - Ethics and the Cinematic**” to be held in Tel Aviv, Israel from June 3rd – 5th, 2008. The conference is organized by the Tel Aviv University’s Film & T.V. Department. **Deadline for abstracts/proposals: February 1, 2008.** For further information visit the organizer’s website: <http://www.tau.ac.il/~cineconf/>.

4. “**The Viennese Café as an Urban Site of Cultural Exchange**” will be held on 17-18 November, 2008 in London, United Kingdom. **Website:** <http://www.rca.ac.uk/viennacafe/conference.html>. This conference will focus on the complexities of the Viennese café as an urban space and aims to redefine our understanding not only of Viennese modernism, but also of modernity more generally and the role of the café in the city. **Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 15 January 2008.**

5. **The 7th International Conference on Social Science Methodology** will be held in Naples, Italy on Sep. 1-5, 2008. **Application deadline is: February 17, 2008.** The conference’s website: <http://www.rc332008.unina.it/callfor.html>

6. The annual conference of the **Canadian Association of Slavists** is meeting this year on May 31- June 2, 2008 at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia. Please go to the CAS website at <http://www.ualberta.ca/~csp/cas/conference.html> to find panel, paper and round table proposal forms, or send an email to Megan Swift, Co-Chair, Program Committee at maswift@uvic.ca. **The deadline is Feb. 1** for all proposals.



2. Publications and presentations by our members:

István Deák: will be a presenter at the symposium on “*The Hungarian Crown in the Cold War*” on January 17th, 2008, at the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, DC.

_____ : “Retribution against Heads of State and Prime Ministers,” *Logos*, 2007, 8 pp, http://www.logosjournal.com/issue_6.3/deak.htm

_____ : Introduction to Tibor Glant’s, Remember Hungary 1956: Essays on the Hungarian Revolution and War of Independence in American Memory (Wayne, N. J.: Center for Hungarian Studies and Publications, 2007), pp. xvii-xxv.

_____ : “Did the Revolution Have to Fail?” [Hungary in 1956], *The New York Review of Books*, March 1, April 26, June 28, 2007

_____ : “Fatefulness” [on George Konrád]. *The New Republic*, April 2, 2007.

_____ : “The Deciders” [on Ian Kershaw’s *Fateful Choices: The Decisions that Changed the World*], *The New Republic*, Oct. 22, 2007.

_____ : Kasztner’s Train [on Anna Porter’s, *The True Story of the Holocaust*] *The Toronto Globe and Mail*, Sept. 22, 2007.

Public Lectures:

_____ : The historiography of 1956. Historical Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, May 11, 2007.

_____ : Post-WWII Purges in Europe. Central European Univ. Budapest, May 8, 2007

_____ : The revolutions of 1848. Benedictine Gimnázium at Pannonhalma, Hung., May 11, 2007

_____ : The Hungarian Educational System and the Scientists, John von Neumann Conference at Princeton University, Oct. 5, 2007

Charles Gáti will be a presenter at the symposium on “*The Hungarian Crown in the Cold War*” on January 17th, 2008, at the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, DC.

Catherine Portuges, “Central European Twins: Psychoanalysis and Cinema in Ildikó Enyedi's *My Twentieth Century*” *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, Vol. 27, No. 4. (1 September 2007), pp. 525-539.

Várdy Béla és Várdy-Huszár Ágnes: Magyarok a Gulag rabszolgatáborokban [Hungarians in the Gulag Slave Labor Camps] (Budapest: Kairosz Kiadó, 2007), 366 pp.

_____ : Stalin's Gulag: The Hungarian Experience. (Naples, Italy: Univesita degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale, 2007), 207 pp.

In the twentieth-century there were two giant state-sponsored institutions of mass murder: the Nazi-inspired Holocaust, and the Bolshevik-inspired Gulag. The former was Hitler's effort to exterminate the Jews of Europe, and eventually of the whole world; while the latter was Stalin's mission to annihilate indiscriminately anyone who may in any way oppose his plans for world domination, but not before utilizing their labor for transforming a primitive agricultural state into an industrialized superpower.

In the decades following World War II, the whole world learned about the Holocaust and the extermination of six million persons simply for being “different,” e.g., Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals, and political rivals. At the same time, however, very few people became aware of its Soviet counterpart, the system of slave labor camps known as the Gulag. The latter system had transformed tens of millions of innocent people from free citizens into exploited slaves, and produced so many deaths that their number exceeded by far the number of Hitler's victims.

True, following the publication of Alexander Solzhenitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago* in the 1970s, awareness about the existence and nature of the Soviet Gulag had spread far and wide. But, this was hardly true about its victims from some of the smaller occupied satellite states, whose citizens had also been subjected to such modern forms of slavery and mass extermination. Among them was Hungary, which also lost several hundreds of thousands of its citizens to that man-eating Moloch. Knowledge about the Gulag, however, was suppressed everywhere. Not even those who survived and were repatriated were permitted to speak about its horrors. Thus, only recently was this topic challenged by a few Hungarian and Western scholars, among them the US scholars, Professors S. B. Várdy and A. H. Várdy of Duquesne University. We are happy and honored that we were among the first to publish some of the results of their research in English in our yearbook, *Studi Finno-Ugrici*. And we are also glad to see that these studies will now appear in the form of a separate volume, making them available both to university students and to the reading public. We wish them well and hope that they will continue their research; and while doing so, they will favor us with additional original studies on this very worthy topic, which represents one of the pinnacles of man's inhumanity to man.

Prof. Dr. Amedeo Di Francesco
Università degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale
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The books can be ordered from the authors: 5740 Aylesboro Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217, USA. E-mail: Svardy@aol.com. Tel/Fax: (412) 422-7176.

Price: English volume: \$17.00; Hungarian volume: \$22.00 (in the USA & in Canada, the price includes postage.)



4. Books of possible interest published in Hungary:

Popély Árpád, Stefan Sutaj és Szarka László, szerk., *Benes-dekrétumok és a magyar háttér 1945-1948*, (ford.: Halász Iván et al.) Budapest; Attraktor Kiadó, 366 old., 3600 Ft.

Tófalvi Zoltán: 1956 erdélyi mártírjai I.A Szoboszlai csoport pere

_____, 1956 erdélyi mártírjai II. Az érmihályfalvi csoport
Mentor Kiadó, Romania <http://www.kortaronline.hu/0112/tofalvi.htm>

Dr. Tóth László, A Magyar királyi honvédség egyenruhái 1926-1945, Budapest: HUNIFORM Könyvek.

Sólyom Ildikó, ÖSSZETÖRT... SZÉTSZAKADT... ELILLANT... I-II. - A SÓLYOM TÁBORNOK-PER
UTÓÉLETE, Budapest: HM HADTÖRTÉNETI INTÉZET ÉS MÚZEUM.

Gerő András (szerk.), A Monarchia kora – ma. Budapest: Új Mandátum Kiadó.

KOR-KÉPEK 1948-1955, Megjelent az MTI gondozásában.

A Magyar Távirati Iroda Kor-képek címmel 2004-ben indított fényképalbum-sorozatának negyedik kötete novemberben jelenik meg. A sorozatnyitó Kor-képek 1945-1947 albumot az 1938-1945-ös korszakot átfogó kötet követte, s tavaly az 1956-os évre esett a választás az ötvenedik évforduló okán. A sorozat felvállalt célja az, hogy évről-évre folyamatosan és kronologikusan átfogó válogatást adjon közre a Magyarországra vonatkozó digitalizált történelmi fotók legjavából. A mostani, negyedik kötet időhorizontja az 1948-1955 időszak, evvel teljessé téve a kiadványt 1938-tól 1956-ig bezárólag. Az érdeklődő külföldi olvasóra gondolva idén is lefordítottuk angolra és németre a képaláírásokat, valamint az előszót, továbbá Rainer M. János korszak megértését segítő történelmi bevezetőjét.



The Paris-based **Joseph Károlyi Foundation** asked us to share with you their program for 2008. The Foundation plans an International history seminar on “Reconciliation and multiperspectivity in History teaching” at Fehérvárcsurgó on March 28-29, 2008. Their other programs at Fehérvárcsurgó are: on June 6-8th, 4th European Flower and Art of Garden show will be organized with France and Slovenia as guests. On June 19: “Cembalissimo” festival: Cembalo concert in the mansion chapel and conference upon music-therapy by Prof Sonnleitner; and on July 25 there will be an outdoor candle light concert. On August 29th, in the series a new “Painting and music” exhibition will be opened in cooperation with the *Fondation Hippocrène* and there will also be a candlelit concert in the mansion chapel. On September 20-21st the European Heritage days will be celebrated. In October a meeting is planned on the theme of “Sociology of architecture”, and for November 14, 2008 a Saint Elisabeth’s day traditional candle light concert in the mansion chapel is currently in the organizational phase.

The Foundation can be contacted in Hungary (Petőfi u. 2., H-8052 Fehérvárcsurgó)

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I thought you might be interested in the following article, which appeared in the January 11, 2008 issue of *Inside Higher Ed* (<http://www.insidehighered.com>)

State Appropriations Are Up ... for Now

If you work at a public college or university, and it seems like budgets have been a little looser or raises a little more generous this year or last, don't get used to it.

State appropriations for higher education are indeed healthy for the 2008 fiscal year, up 7.5 percent, the largest percentage increase in a decade, according to a report being released today by the [Center for the Study of Education Policy](#), at Illinois State University. But other studies released in the last month — not to mention grim budget forecasts in such states as California — suggest that this may be a peak year in terms of state support going up.

Total state support for higher education this year is currently projected to be \$77,504,009,000, according to the study. That figure is based on state operating support, so it excludes funds for facilities, or funds that are provided by students through tuition. The Illinois State study — which includes state by state totals, many of which include individual colleges — is considered the definitive analysis of what states are spending on higher education.

Over the last decade, the percentage change in total state support has fallen as low as a 2.1% decrease, but has been creeping back up.

Annual Percentage Change in State Appropriations for Higher Education, 1998-2008

Fiscal Year	Change From Previous Year
2008	+7.5%
2007	+7.1%
2006	+6.0%
2005	+3.8%
2004	-2.1%
2003	+1.2%
2002	+4.6%
2001	+7.0%
2000	+7.1%
1999	+6.5%
1998	+6.0%

State appropriations levels for higher education reflect many factors. But with many states having increasing percentages of their budgets set aside for various items (typically not higher education), it becomes unlikely that public colleges will receive substantial increases in years that the total budget picture isn't healthy.

“Nobody knows for sure, but I would predict that this is probably the calm before the storm,” said James C. Palmer, who directs the research project at Illinois State. “I think the uptick we saw in ‘08 nationwide indicates that at the end of fiscal ‘07, the fiscal engines of many states had just enough oomph in them to increase higher education appropriations and allow higher ed to some extent to climb out of the recession we experienced earlier in the decade.”

Evidence abounds that tighter times are ahead. A study by the National Governors Association and the National Association of State Budget Officers warns of “significant deterioration” of state budgets. Similar projections were released by the National Conference of State Legislatures. Kentucky is already cutting budgets for colleges (and other state entities) and higher education leaders fear worse cuts for the next fiscal year, *The Lexington Herald-Leader* reported.

In California, the news was bad on Thursday for next year’s higher education budget. While materials released by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger suggested that more money would be going to higher education, university officials said that the governor was actually seeking to cut more than \$1 billion from their budgets and those of community colleges. University officials were releasing statements of concern about the budget plan — but it remains a long way from being enacted.

This year’s totals have a clear regional tilt, with the percentage increases in the Southwest and Rocky Mountain states at twice the rate for New England or the Mid-Atlantic states. Over a two-year period, however, the Southeast saw the most growth, and the Great Lakes states the least. (An important caveat is that some of the regions where the growth is the greatest also are experiencing particularly rapid enrollment growth.)

One and Two-Year Percentage Increases in State Appropriations for Higher Education, by Region, for 2008

Region	1-year increase	2-year increase	Region	1-year increase	2-year increase
New England	+4.4%	+11.4%	Mid-Atlantic	+5.3%	+12.1%
Great Lakes	+4.9%	+8.4%	Plains	+8.7%	+12.9%
Southeast	+8.9%	+21.5%	Southwest	+11.1%	+19.5%
Rocky Mountain	+10.3%	+18.5%	Far West	+6.5%	+17.4%

In terms of individual states, North Dakota has the largest one-year percentage increase this year (19.1 percent). Only two other states had percentage increases above 15 percent: Louisiana at 15.8 percent and Mississippi at 15.4 percent. Only one state this year showed a decrease: Rhode Island, which saw state support fall by 1.2 percent. But two states saw increases of less than 1 percent — Michigan at 0.1 percent and Virginia at 0.9 percent.

The Web site of the Illinois State center features state reports, with data broken down in some cases by institution. The state totals follow.

State Appropriations for Higher Education, Fiscal 2008

State	2008 Appropriation	1-Year % Change	State	2008 Appropriation	1-Year % Change
Alabama	\$1,936,513,000	+14.9%	Alaska	\$294,270,000	+3.6%
Arizona	\$1,267,786,000	+14.6%	Arkansas	\$857,955,000	+9.3%
California	\$11,062,155,000	+5.7%	Colorado	\$737,724,000	+8.2%
Connecticut	\$989,436,000	+7.1%	Delaware	\$243,130,000	+4.2%
Florida	\$3,766,280,000	+2.9%	Georgia	\$2,410,676,000	+9.4%
Hawaii	\$554,292,000	+10.1%	Idaho	\$398,660,000	+9.5%
Illinois	\$2,919,547,000	+4.8%	Indiana	\$1,528,494,000	+4.9%
Iowa	\$881,031,000	+9.5%	Kansas	\$825,698,000	+4.7%
Kentucky	\$1,342,354,000	+7.1%	Louisiana	\$1,656,927,000	+15.8%
Maine	\$274,767,000	+6.1%	Maryland	\$1,573,339,000	+9.5%

Massachusetts	\$1,051,518,000	+2.1%	Michigan	\$2,043,409,000	+0.1%
Minnesota	\$1,577,102,000	+12.6%	Mississippi	\$1,043,246,000	+15.4%
Missouri	\$934,957,000	+4.4%	Montana	\$189,506,000	+11.8
Nebraska	\$616,042,000	+6.9%	Nevada	\$641,459,000	+7.3%
New Hampshire	\$133,607,000	+7.8%	New Jersey	\$2,040,132,000	+2.7%
New Mexico	\$961,418,000	+11.6%	New York	\$5,136,537,000	+6.8%
North Carolina	\$3,745,630,000	+10.5%	North Dakota	\$256,838,000	+19.1%
Ohio	\$2,377,796,000	+7.7%	Oklahoma	\$1,015,150,000	+6.2%
Oregon	\$720,365,000	+10.9%	Pennsylvania	\$2,193,274,000	+1.8%
Rhode Island	\$180,177,000	-1.2%	South Carolina	\$974,912,000	+13.4%
South Dakota	\$187,693,000	+6.7%	Tennessee	\$1,361,977,000	+8.6%
Texas	\$6,058,375,000	+11.2%	Utah	\$798,257,000	+13.2%
Vermont	\$88,195,000	+3.5%	Virginia	\$1,870,633,000	+0.9%
Washington	\$1,787,124,000	+9.6%	West Virginia	\$445,184,000	+14.3%
Wisconsin	\$1,271,724,000	+8.2%	Wyoming	\$280,738,000	+8.3%
TOTAL				\$77,504,009,000	+7.5%

SOURCE: Illinois State University Center for the Study of Education Policy



.... and an article from the January 6, 2008 issue of *The New York Times*

A Swashbuckling Violinist, Fresh From the 1700s

By ROBERTA HERSHENSON

ONE of the most fascinating figures of the 18th century was the Chevalier de Saint-Georges, a composer, violinist, fencing champion and military hero whose fame spanned continents. That he was black, born in 1745 to a white planter and his slave mistress in Guadeloupe, not only shaped his life in France but has fed a growing interest in him today.

Though Saint-Georges's life reads like a Hollywood screenplay, it was his musical talent that most interested **Gabriel Banat**, a concert violinist and musicologist whose biography, "The Chevalier de Saint-Georges: Virtuoso of the Sword and the Bow," was published by Pendragon Press in 2006.

"He's not a Mozart, but his innovative violin technique makes him a bridge between Italian virtuosos like Vivaldi and Locatelli and Beethoven in his violin writing," Mr. Banat said in an interview in his home here. "He did a lot for the violin in bringing Italian virtuoso technique to the great masters."

Saint-Georges, who died in 1799, wrote 14 violin concertos, 8 symphony concertantes and 5 operas, among other works. (His second symphony will be performed on April 12 and 13 by the Stamford Symphony Orchestra at the Palace Theater in Stamford.)

Mr. Banat, who had an acclaimed solo career before becoming a 23-year member of the New York Philharmonic, considers Saint-Georges the first significant black classical composer. Now retired, Mr. Banat, 81, has spent years researching and writing about Saint-Georges, who made music in the court of Marie Antoinette and went on to lead a regiment of black soldiers in the French Revolution.

Born as Joseph Boulogne, Saint-Georges took part of his title from his father, George Bologne de Saint-Georges, and became a chevalier when he was appointed a Versailles guard-on-horseback by Louis XV.

Known for his striking looks, sweet temperament and swashbuckling ventures, he became the subject of a 19th-century romance novel that spawned distortions of his life in later biographies, according to Mr. Banat. Some of the more innocuous errors about him, Mr. Banat notes in the preface to his biography, include “the year of his birth, the identity of his father, the spelling of his family name and the place where he spent his childhood.” Mr. Banat said that legends of Saint-Georges being a “ladykiller” and Marie Antoinette’s lover were “tinged with racism” because of their insinuations about black male sexuality. Nor, he said, was Saint-Georges the queen’s music teacher.

Mr. Banat said he first heard of Saint-Georges in the 1970s while browsing in the New York Public Library for new material for his recitals. “I picked up a score and said, ‘Who is this lovely Saint-Georges?’ ” he recalled.

Mr. Banat said he wanted to delve deeper, especially after learning of the composer’s difficulties as a person of mixed race — Saint-Georges could not marry within his social group, and although he led a prestigious orchestra that gave the premieres of several Haydn symphonies, he was denied the position of director of the Paris Opera. “As a young Jewish boy violinist, I had to fight against discrimination, and I felt empathy for him,” said Mr. Banat, who was born in Romania, trained as a violinist in Hungary and spent much of World War II in hiding before coming to the United States in 1946.

Although Mr. Banat’s book was published more than a year ago, Saint-Georges is still on his mind. “Chevalier,” a film about Saint-Georges, is now in development by Griot Pictures Entertainment and is scheduled to start production later this year. Mr. Banat says he is concerned about how the composer will be portrayed.

Thomas Hopkins, the film’s producer, said the movie would take some liberties as a biopic, but that it would not “overstate the historical facts.” “It’s not a documentary,” he said, noting that the story was mainly about “a guy who was born an aristocrat and became a revolutionary.”



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

I wish everyone a healthy and happy new year!

Susan