

# HSA Hungarian Studies Association

Sep 2005

## Newsletter

In the last Newsletter I included a copy of our correspondence with the Hungarian authorities regarding access to the archives, and letters written by Alice Freifeld to András Bozóki, Minister of Culture. Below is the letter I received from the Ministry of Culture.

### COURTESY TRANSLATION

Mrs. Susan Glanz  
President, AHEA,  
USA.

Dear Madam,

Budapest  
03 June 2005

On behalf of Minister András Bozóki dr., as deputy state secretary overseeing the field of archives, I would like to inform you of the following in connection with the contents of your letter regarding your research carried out in Hungarian archives.

I would like to call your attention to the fact that before you, only Dr. Alice Freifeld has complained about restrictions affecting American scholars researching 20th century Hungarian archive sources, no similar case has occurred in the past. I do not find the opinion of Hungarian researchers visiting the United States as being authoritative because I have no precise information regarding their knowledge of Hungarian and international legislation. Contrary to this, I received the letter written to you by professor Rudolf Tőkés in this subject, which makes observations in opposition to the standpoint maintained by you.

In connection with your request referring to equal evaluation I would like to give you a short summary of the principles of the Hungarian legislation relating to the research of protected personal data. The possibility of researching documents containing protected personal data is regulated by act LXIII of 1992 on the Protection of Personal Data and the Publicity of Data of Common Concern (hereinafter 'data protection act'), and act LXVI of 1995 on Public Records, Public Archives, and the Protection of Documents in Private Archives (hereinafter 'archives act'). The provisions referred to in the data protection act state that personal data may only be passed on to a data administrator or data processor (researcher in this case) in a third country if those affected have expressly approved of this or it is made possible by law, and if the appropriate level of protection is ensured for the personal data in the third country during the administration or processing of the data provided.

With respect to that the Republic of Hungary is a member state European Union and as such applies the European Data Protection Directive, the conditions of access to protected personal data are different for the citizens of the member states of the European Union and for the citizens of third countries, outside of the European Union -- the United States of America in this case. In the interest of moderating this restricting provision of the data protection act article 24/A paragraph 3 of the archives act authorizes the Government of the Republic of Hungary to conclude data protection agreements on providing foreign academic institutes with copies of archival material containing personal data before the end of the protection time set down by law for the purpose of presenting the results of research carried out in connection with historical events. A condition of the provision of data on the basis of the archives act and the data protection agreement is the assertion of the right to object of those affected, the exercising of which right is regulated by Ministry of Cultural Heritage decree 4/2002. (II. 15.) NKÖM.

I would like to call your attention to the fact that in recent years the Government of the Republic of Hungary has concluded two data protection agreements; one of them in 2003 precisely with the government of your home country in the subject of the protection of the personal data contained in the Holocaust documents kept in archives in Hungary and passed on to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Due to this I do not agree with your complaint about the disadvantageous discrimination of American researchers. It turns out from the above, that a data protection agreement can only be concluded for a precisely determined group of documents and only by the governments of the countries affected. The closed data protection legislation based on international obligation does not provide the opportunity for archives nor for their supervisory bodies to make individual evaluations. However, the archives act provides the opportunity for you to carry out your research -- on the documents containing protected personal data -- with anonymous copies made at your own expense. In closing I would like to remind you of the fact that the protection of personal data is classified as a human right in the European Union, and article 8 of the treaty relating to the protection of human rights and fundamental civil liberties is valid for it. This states the right to respect for private life and family life, which also extends to private and personal information and data. Freedom of academic research is also a civil liberty, but exercising this right may not involve the encroachment of other civil liberties. The principle of freedom of information is identical to the principle of self-determination of information and its realization in a balanced way is ensured by the legal provisions mentioned above.

Please acknowledge my reply.

Regards,  
Erika Koncz



We received very sad news from Hungary, the tragic death of **István György Tóth** (1956-2005).

István György Tóth was one of the founding members of the History Department. He passed away on Thursday, 14 July 2005, suddenly and tragically, on his way back home to Budapest from the Twentieth International Congress of Historical Sciences in Sydney.

TIGY, as friends and colleagues have known him was a scholar of the highest international acclaim, and a popular and successful teacher, in the field of early-modern social and cultural history. Having earned a degree and later his PhD from Eötvös University in Budapest, he worked as a research fellow, more recently as head of department at the Institute of History of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, while also teaching at several universities in Hungary and Europe for a shorter or longer period of time – at CEU this means since the very beginning. He has published pioneering articles and books on a wide variety of topics, from the history of literacy in Hungary and Central Europe, through the history of everyday life, to Catholic missionary activity in the Protestant and Ottoman territories of Central and Southeastern Europe. His latest achievement, perhaps the dearest to himself, was editing a multi-author survey of the whole of the History of Hungary, intended both for a Hungarian and an international readership. Just last year he was conferred the title of Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences at an unusually early age for historians. He served on many international boards, and had a reputation for his organizational skills and efficiency, as well as his sociability.

In a department like ours, much devoted to theoretical exploration and risk-taking, his hardly paralleled anchorage in the knowledge of sources has never failed to make a sobering effect when needed: seeking and applying innovative approaches himself, at the same time he has always had both feet firmly on the ground. While in many other ways too, István was a pragmatist, he was also a historian whose scholarship permeated his attitudes to the problems of the day and his judgment about situations, people, and life in general. He brought for us, colleagues and students, history to life. He also knew how to enjoy life, and how to share such enjoyment with others – whether as Santa Claus for CEU children (as some of us still remember from the early days of the university); as a convivial fellow with a characteristic sense of humor over dinner table; or as a

guide of field trips, or even as a committee member, who would predictably season his scholarly accounts, evaluations and comments with tokens of his unmistakable irony. Travel was one of his passions – one which he often combined with academic pleasures. It is still hard to believe that from the latest journey on which these were combined, he never returned. Lately, he has been speaking with fondness and enthusiasm about the growing intellectual companionship between himself and his son Olivér, just coming of age. Sadly, they are now both deprived of the experience of this strongest of ties reaching full blossom.

Farewell, István. All these things will be painfully remembered. But when zero week starts in September 2005, the History Department will not, cannot be the same. We stand in incomprehension and anger, confronted with the unacceptable. But we stand with you, and with your beloved ones in their grief and mourning.

László Kontler  
Head, History Department

A scholarship fund is being set up in **István György Tóth's honor**. If you would like to contribute, send checks to Magyar Államkincstár, 1054 Budapest, Hold utca 4.  
IBAN: HU 67 1003 2000 0173 8904 0000 0000.  
SWIFT: HUST HUHB.



**Please mark it in your calendar!**

**Our Business Meeting at the 2005 AAASS convention** will be held on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at 8 am at the Hermitage room of the Grand America Hotel in Salt Lake City. If you are attending the convention, please come to the meeting. Light breakfast will be served.

The convention's preliminary program can be found at <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~aaass/>.

Digital resources workshop is being planned to precede the regular sessions of the AAASS Convention on November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:45 am to 12:15 pm. Details are available at [www.library.uiuc.edu/spx/BnD/index.htm#Resources](http://www.library.uiuc.edu/spx/BnD/index.htm#Resources).



## Awards

As you all remember, last year we postponed awarding our biennial article prize. At the last business meeting in Boston an article award committee was formed; its members are Paul Hanebrink, ([hanebrin@history.rutgers.edu](mailto:hanebrin@history.rutgers.edu)), Árpád von Klimo ([aklimo@zedat.fu-berlin.de](mailto:aklimo@zedat.fu-berlin.de)) and Steven B. Vardy ([Svardy@aol.com](mailto:Svardy@aol.com)). The suggestion was made and accepted, that the award be given to young scholars.

If you would like to nominate an article for this award please contact the members of the committee.



## Elections

Four positions on our Executive committee will become vacant on January 2006. The vacant positions will be that of the vice president (as Katalin Fabian will automatically assume the role of the President on January 1, 2006), two board members terms expire (Mario Fenyo's and Beverly James') and so will mine, as secretary/treasurer. If you would like to serve or would like to nominate someone, please write to me. ([glanzs@stjohns.edu](mailto:glanzs@stjohns.edu)) We will conduct elections in November.



## Call for papers

1. Following the publication of **Imre Kertész and Holocaust Literature** (Ed. Louise O. Vasvari and Steven Totosy de Zepetnek. Purdue UP, 2005), papers in Holocaust studies are invited for a volume in the Purdue University Press series of Books in Comparative Cultural Studies (<http://clcwebjournal.lib.purdue.edu/ccs-purdue.html> & <http://www.thepress.purdue.edu/series/compstudies.asp>.) Edited by Steven Totosy de Zepetnek and Louise O. Vasvari, the volume is intended to cover a wide range of scholarship about the Holocaust in disciplines of the humanities and social sciences. Articles should not exceed 6000 words and they should use no end notes or footnotes; citations follow the MLA guide for parenthetical citations and include a list of works cited; for the style guide of books in the series see <http://clcwebjournal.lib.purdue.edu/ccs-purdue.html>. **The deadline of receipt of papers** (in an attachment via e-mail only) to; [lvasvari@pipeline.com](mailto:lvasvari@pipeline.com) and [clcweb@purdue.edu](mailto:clcweb@purdue.edu) is **31 January 2006**.

## 2. “Jewish intellectual women in Europe: gendering history, politics and culture”.

This is a conference and book project of the Central European University, Department of Gender Studies in cooperation with the Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Milano-Bicocca, supported by the Hanadiv Foundation, London.

The focus of the project will be considered in a conference devoted to gender, politics and Jewish tradition in Europe, through the example of European women activists.

The aim of the project is to develop a useful comparative analysis of gender, political identity and religious heritage, based on the study of activities and works produced by Jewish intellectual women in the interwar and the post-Shoah period. In particular, Hannah Arendt shall be considered as representative of the German tradition, while Zefora Lombroso, Sara Nathan, Amelia Rosselli, Gina Lombroso and Laura Orvieto shall indicate a specific liberal Italian Jewish tradition. Eugenia Miskolczy, Cecile and Laura Polanyi, and Edith Bruck shall be taken as an example of a Hungarian tradition and Käthe Leichter of an Austrian heritage that has been neglected after WWII.

We are calling for papers to contribute to the conference and the planned volume on European Jewish intellectual women’s contribution to feminist theory in general and the redefinition of progressive politics in their European country in particular. Proposals addressing gender and memory of Jewish female intellectuals are encouraged. Yet it should go beyond the description of life stories and analyze the ways in which subjectivity and agency were constructed in their particular context.

The methodological approach is to use gender as a fundamental category organizing Jewish life and politics in the shaping of ethnic/ religious identities among Jews and in the differentiation with the “majority” of the population. This can be a valuable contribution as it creates the possibility to rethink the basic concepts within Jewish Studies, such as spirituality, community, and/or political activism in European countries.

By working across disciplines and exchanging experiences the participants of the project can better understand the complex linkage between gender, Judaism and political identity. The collaboration among scholars and researchers from different countries of Europe and the comparison of the results of their different analysis will provide a more comprehensive gendered picture of Jewish life as well as the construction of both nation states and Europe.

The working language of the conference is English. Please send an 800-words summary of the proposed paper by **October 16, 2005** to Andrea Peto [petoand@t-online.hu](mailto:petoand@t-online.hu) and Marina Calloni [marina.calloni@unimib.it](mailto:marina.calloni@unimib.it).

3. The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Atlantic Slavic Conference will be hosted by Fordham U., Lincoln Center, NYC on April 1, 2006. For more information contact Mary Theis at [theis@kutztown.edu](mailto:theis@kutztown.edu).



## Reports from members:

**Dr. Várdy Béla és dr. Várdy Huszár Ágnes** (a pittsburghi Duquesne University tanárai) szerzőségében, a budapesti *Valóság* című folyóirat 2005. márciusi és áprilisi számában jelent meg a "Magyar rabszolgák a Gulag táborokban" című két részes tanulmány, amely összefoglalja annak a több százezer magyarnak a sorsát, akik a második világháború utolsó hónapjaiban kerültek a Szovjetunió kényszermunkatáborába, ahol jelentős részük el is pusztult. Ez a tanulmány mintegy bevezetője annak a tervezett könyvnek, amely részben már kiadott dokumentumok és emlékiratok, és részben pedig még életben levő volt a Gulagok interjúi alapján készül. Lásd: [www.valosagonline.hu](http://www.valosagonline.hu)

**Peter Hidas'** article "Kilátás a követségről: Velics László Görögországban 1939–44" is published in *Múlt és Jövő*, 2005/2

**Alfonz Lengyel** reported that he is on a document collecting tour in China. He is preparing an exhibition in Sarasota, FL. titled "The Rise and Fall of Jewish Settlement in China".

**Gábor Vermes'** article was published in *AETAS* 20, no.1-2 (2005) under the title, "Tradicionalizmus és a modernitás hajnala a 18-ik századi Magyarországon."



**Interesting websites** that you might want to bookmark:

Soviet archives <http://psi.ece.jhu.edu/%7ekaplan/IRUSS/BUK/GBARC/buk.html>

A Hungarian history portal: <http://www.mult-kor.hu/>

The website of *História*, the journal: <http://www.historia.hu/>

*The Hungarian Quarterly*: <http://www.hungarianquarterly.com/>

*Múlt és Jövő* (Past and Future), a Hungarian publishing house: [www.multesjovo.hu](http://www.multesjovo.hu)

Please visit and let your students know of the website of the **Forum Minority Research Institute** in Samorin, Slovakia. (<http://www.foruminst.sk>) The goal of the Institute is to examine political, economic, cultural, social, institutional and other circumstances of Slovakia's ethnic Hungarian population. It documents the changes of ethnic Hungarian culture from 1918 up to the present. The website lists the Institute's current projects, publications and hosts database of Hungarian publications in Slovakia. The Institute can also host researchers doing minority research in Slovakia. For further information you can directly contact Dr. Peter Huncik, the Institute's founder at P.O.Box 52, Parková 4, 931 01 Šamorín, Slovakia. tel.:031-590 2790, fax: 031-560 2712. Email: [forum@foruminst.sk](mailto:forum@foruminst.sk)

The New York Public Library opened its free Digital Gallery at <http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/index.cfm>

Michael Brewer of the U. of Arizona Library has created a website with resources devoted to the question of transliteration/translation at <http://dizzy.library.arizona.edu/users/brewerm/sil/lib/transcription.html>



Many of you probably heard of the debate going on in Hungary about the destruction of documents by the Széchényi library. The article below is from the July 20, 2005 issue of HVG (*Heti Világgazdaság*).

**Mi volt a kosárban?** (2005. Julius 20.)

"Tisztázó beszélgetés" fogadja lapzártánk után Bozóki András kulturális miniszter Monok Istvánt, a nemzeti könyvtár, a Széchényi főigazgatóját, akinek arról kell számot adnia, miért semmisítettek meg a közelmúltban nagy mennyiségben régi dokumentumokat.

Fertőzöttek voltak vagy sem azok a dokumentumok, amelyeket az Országos Széchényi Könyvtár (OSZK) június végén megsemmisített - ez az a kérdés, amelynek eldöntése felvetheti az intézmény vezetőinek felelősségét. Ha ugyanis fertőzöttek voltak, akkor jogosan semmisítették meg az anyagot, ha viszont nem, akkor akár indokolatlanul is kárba veshettek pótolhatatlan értékek.

Az ügyben azonnali kérdést intézett július elején a kulturális tárca képviselőjéhez a parlamentben Mécs Imre országgyűlési képviselő. A tárca képviselője, Vass Lajos politikai államtitkár az Állami Népegészségügyi és Tisztiorvosi Szolgálat (ÁNTSZ) szakvéleményét idézte, mondván, "itt van nálam a jegyzőkönyv, ez tartalmazza, hogy az anyag fertőzött, azt kérték, hogy az anyagot azonnal égessék el".

A HVG birtokában lévő jegyzőkönyv azonban nem csupán ezt tartalmazza. A felmérést a Johan Béla Országos Epidemiológiai Központ bakteriológiai osztályának mikrobiológiai felderítő csoportja végezte, s ők világosan különbséget tettek két dokumentumcsoport között: egy, általuk "kenyeres" műanyag kosárnak nevezett dobozban találtak penészgombával fertőzött anyagot, míg a többi, fonott kosárban (a könyvtár dolgozói szerint mintegy nyolcvan ilyen volt) csak porosat. Az egykosárnyi penészgombás dokumentum légmentes befedését javasolták a légúti fertőzések elkerülése érdekében, majd ezután étetéssel történő megsemmisítést írtak elő. A többi dokumentumot azonban a szakértők szerint csak le kellett volna porolni, ehhez maszk és szemüveg viselését ajánlották, "egyéb védőfelszerelésre nincs szükség" - írták jelentésükben.

A könyvtár vezetése azonban az egész anyag megsemmisítése mellett döntött, anélkül hogy szakszerűen feltárták volna, milyen értéket képez a hetven éve feldolgozatlanul heverő, egyes vélemények szerint valószínűleg ritkaságszámba menő gyűjtemény. A felháborodást látva a Nemzeti Kulturális Örökség Minisztériuma (NKÖM) vizsgálatot indított, s megpróbálta körbejárni, mi is történt valójában. A vizsgálat nyomán kiderült, hogy a megsemmisítés zúzdában történt, ami önmagában kizárja, hogy a dokumentumok fertőzöttek lettek volna, hiszen azokat - szabályosan eljárva - csak étetéssel lehetett volna "hatástalanítani". A bizottság megállapítása szerint az anyagot a Herkules Recycling Bt. semmisítette meg, amelynek vezetője a sajtóban úgy nyilatkozott, hogy ők csak az újrahasznosításban érdekeltek, veszélyes anyagokkal nem foglalkoztak. Monok István főigazgató erre úgy reagált, hogy az étetést egy másik cég, a Perratox Kft. végezte.

"Nem dolgoztunk az idén az OSZK-nak" - mondta a HVG kérdésére Udvardy László, a kft tulajdonosa. Az anyagot azonban ismerte, hiszen 2000-ben a könyvtár az ő cégét kérte fel a dokumentumok sterilizálására, rovarok elleni fertőtlenítésére. Addig ugyanis egy pesti vizes pincében tárolták azokat, s mielőtt a budai Várban lévő könyvtáráépületbe szállították volna, egy részüket megsemmisítették, a megmenthetőnek ítélteteket pedig Törökbálinton, egy külső raktárban rendbe hozatták. A cégvezető állította, hogy az általuk sterilizált anyagok "nem voltak sem penészesek, sem fertőzöttek". A munka befejezése után a dokumentumok a Vár egyik száraz helyiségébe kerültek. A ládákból tárolt anyagot egy évvel később fonott kosarakba pakolták át, de ekkor sem mutatkozott fertőzésre utaló jel.

A dokumentumok értékét ma már nem lehet felbecsülni, hiszen megsemmisültek. Kisebbségben könyvek, nagyrészt olyan, a 19. század végétől az 1950-es évekig terjedő időszakban keletkezett kisnyomtatványoknak nevezett pár lapos anyagok voltak, amelyeket egyesületek, vallási vagy civil szervezetek, cégek adtak ki. A vizsgálóbizottság megállapítása szerint az anyag nem került az OSZK állományába, nem képezte a gyűjtemény részét. Dörnyei Sándor, a könyvtár régi dolgozója szerint azonban a dokumentumok kötelempéldányként jutottak a könyvtárba, egy példányban, s általában rájuk került a könyvtár pecsétje is. Feldolgozásukra azonban nem került sor, hiszen a kisnyomtatványok - például képeslapok, gyászjelentések - katalogizálása roppant időigényes. A könyvtáros elmondása szerint egyébként korábban ebből az anyagból válogatták ki az OSZK jelenlegi kisnyomtatványtárában megtalálható s a kutatók által keresett gyászjelentések, képeslapok egy részét is. A könyvtár mindig számon tartotta ezt az anyagot mint restanciát, elképzelhető, hogy Monok a megsemmisítéssel akarta egyszerűen megoldani a problémát. Korábban ugyanis többször felvetődött, hogy fel

kellene dolgozni a hátralékot, de se pénz, se ember nem akadt rá. 1989-ben például a könyvtár egyik főosztályvezetője, Ferenczy Endréné sürgette egy jelentésében, hogy az "elsőrendű, forrásértékű gyűjteményt" rendezni és hozzáférhetővé kellene tenni. Nem sokkal a megsemmisítés előtt pár darabot egyébként könyvtárosoknak sikerült kimenteniük, amelyek közül az egyik dokumentumról, egy egyesületi évkönyvről kiderült, hogy hiányzik az OSZK könyvállományából.

A minisztériumi vizsgálat megállapításai szerint "az OSZK vezetősége nem járt el kellő gondossággal az anyag kezelését és további sorsát illetően", ám ma már nem állapítható meg, mennyire voltak egyediek a megsemmisített anyagok. Azt azonban megállapították, "hogy a főigazgató mindvégig fertőzött anyagról beszélt, de az ÁNTSZ jelentése ezt nem támasztja alá, és lehetséges, hogy nem fertőzött anyagot is megsemmisítettek". Tették ezt ráadásul a vizsgálat szerint szinte írásos nyom nélkül. A tényfeltáró bizottság legalábbis nem találta semmilyen nyomát a megsemmisítésre vonatkozó írásos utasításnak.



### **Books of possible interest**

Michael Babcock, Ph.D., *The Night Attila Died: Solving the Murder of Attila the Hun*, Berkley Books, Penguin Group USA. ([www.attilabook.com](http://www.attilabook.com)) (\$23.95)

In *The Night Attila Died*, Michael Babcock, Ph.D., noted philologist and recognized authority on the life and legend of Attila, makes a stunning revelation: "The Scourge of God" died as he lived....*Attila was murdered*. Using careful analysis of textual and historical evidence, Babcock lays out his argument like a skilled trial lawyer. He puts the reader in the jury box as he presents the evidence pointing to an assassination plot and subsequent cover-up, orchestrated by Attila's chief rival, Marcian, emperor of the Eastern Roman Empire. In this intriguing book, Babcock succeeds not only in solving an ancient murder mystery; he stirs the stilled waters of history—and rewrites it for the next fifteen hundred years.

Julian Rubinstein, *Ballad of the Whiskey Robber: A True Story of Bank Heists, Ice Hockey, Transylvanian Pelt Smuggling, Moonlighting Detectives, and Broken Hearts*, Little Brown & Co. (\$23.95)

This story of a bank robber who captured a nation's sympathy in post-Communist Hungary is a rollicking tale told with glee and flair. Attila Ambrus sneaked over the border from Romania into Hungary in the waning days of Communist rule. After talking his way onto a Hungarian hockey team, he turned to robbery to make some cash in the Wild West atmosphere of the early 1990s in Eastern Europe. As journalist Rubinstein shows, Ambrus was quite good at it. Taking advantage of poor police work, he took in millions in Hungarian currency and became a headline-grabber. He managed to stay at large for several years while continuing in his role as a back-up goalie on the ice. Rubinstein has a knack for telling a good story, and he captures well both Ambrus's appeal and the atmosphere of the first few years of capitalism in Hungary. Along the way, he introduces readers to memorable characters in addition to the appealing, alcoholic protagonist: the women Ambrus attracts and a Budapest detective driven out of office by the crime spree. While Rubinstein (whose work has been collected in *Best American Crime Writing*) overwrites at times, he has a rootin'-tootin' style that's a perfect fit for this Jesse James–like tale, which has the chance to be a sleeper that transcends nonfiction categories.

Szabolcs Szita, **Trading In Lives?** Operations of the Jewish Relief and Rescue Committee in Budapest, 1944-1945. CEU Press, 2005. (cloth \$41.95)

Set in the tumultuous moments of 1944-45 Budapest, this work discusses the operations of the Budapest Relief and Rescue Committee. Drawing out the contradictions and complexities of the mass deportations of Hungarian Jews during the final phase of World War II, Szita suggests that in the Hungarian context, a commerce in lives ensued, where prominent Zionists like Dr. Rezső Kasztner negotiated with the higher echelons of the SS, trying to garner the freedom of Hungarian Jews. Szita's portrait of the controversial Kasztner is a more sympathetic rendition of a powerful Zionist leader who was later assassinated in Israel for his dealings with Nazi leaders. Szita reveals a story of interweaving personalities and conflicts during arguably the most tragic moment in European history. The



author's extensive research is a tremendous contribution to a field of study that has been much ignored by scholarship-the Hungarian holocaust and the trade in human lives.

Vojtech Mastny, Malcolm Byrne, eds., *A Cardboard Castle? An Inside History of the Warsaw Pact*. CEU Press, 2005. (cloth \$75.00)

This is the first book to document, analyze, and interpret the history of the Warsaw Pact based on the archives of the alliance itself. As suggested by the title, the Soviet bloc military machine that held the West in awe for most of the Cold War does not appear from the inside as formidable as outsiders often believed, nor were its strengths and weaknesses the same at different times in its surprisingly long history, extending for almost half a century. Most of the 193 documents included in the book were top secret and have only recently been obtained from Eastern European archives by the PHP project. The majority of the documents was translated specifically for this volume and has never appeared in English before.

Angus Bancroft, *Roma and Gypsy-Travellers in Europe, Modernity, Race, Space and Exclusion*, 2005. Ashgate Publishing.

Brigit Plau-Effinger, *Development of Culture, Welfare States and Women's Employment in Europe*. 2005. Ashgate Publishing.

Owen Worth, *Hegemony, International Political Economy and Post-Communist Russia*, 2005. Ashgate Publishing.

Lansford, T., Tashev, B., eds, *Old Europe, New Europe and the US, Renegotiating Transatlantic Security in the Post 9/11 Era*. 2005. Ashgate Publishing.

Roger Kanet, ed., *The New Security Environment: The Impact on Russia, Central and Eastern Europe*. 2005. Ashgate Publishing.

Dorota Maslowska, (translated by Benjamin Paloff) *Snow White and Russian Red*. Grove/Atlantic Inc. 2005. (The book paints a portrait of marginalized, fatalistic post-communist youth.)



#### **Miscellaneous news:**

**East European Studies (EES)** at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC would like to bring your attention to the next deadline for the Short-Term Scholar Grant Competition is December 1, 2005. Applicants will be notified approximately one month later. For more details please look at the website: [www.wilsoncenter.org/ees](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/ees). Completed applications should be mailed to the: East European Studies, The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, One Woodrow Wilson Plaza, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20004-3027.

An interdisciplinary conference exploring the effects of the Holocaust on the present and on the way in which the present understands, defines and/or represents that past, titled **Trajectories of Memory: Intergenerational Representations of the Holocaust in History and the Arts**, will be held on the 23 March 2006 in Bowling Green. The deadline for abstracts/proposals is October 15, 2005. Enquiries: [bgriech@bgnet.bgsu.edu](mailto:bgriech@bgnet.bgsu.edu).

**40th International Congress on the History of Medicine** will be held from August 26-30, 2006 in Budapest, Hungary. Deadline for abstracts/proposals: November 15, 2005. For more information please visit <http://www.ishm2006.hu> website.



**Have a great semester!**

Susan