

HSA
HUNGARIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION
www.hungarianstudies.info

September 2014

NEWSLETTER

You should have received by now, the reminder from the ASEEEES that the registration deadline for the annual conference is slowly approaching. (The dates for the conference are Thursday, November 20 – Sunday, November 23 @ San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter.) The conference program is posted at <http://www.aseees.org/convention/program>. The deadline for changes to the final Convention program is **Sept. 5**.

If someone from your panel or roundtable has dropped out, and you do not have a replacement, please let me know. I may know of person/s looking to present at the conference. (glanzs@stjohns.edu). Thank you.



Elections:

The terms of two executive board members, Edit Nagy's and Leslie Water's will expire at the end of this calendar year, as will the Secretary-Treasurer's (Susan Glanz). If you would like to nominate someone or yourself, please forward the nomination to me. Elections will be held online towards the end of this year.



Publications/presentations by our members:

Marguerite DeHuszar Allen's "Making Relations, Breaking Relations: Political, Economic, and Cultural Relations between France and Hungary 1905–1910 and the Revue de Hongrie" will appear in *East Central Europe* probably next year in 2015.

Holly Case's interview with Andrew Romay (Bandi) is at <http://ecepastandpresent.blogspot.com/2014/05/extended-profile-andrew-romay.html> and her interview with Miklós Müller, a doctor, head of the Biochemical Parasitology at the Rockefeller U., historian, and an art collector and philanthropist is at <http://ecepastandpresent.blogspot.com/2014/08/the-life-and-career-of-miklos-muller.html>

Catherine Portuges was an invited participant, "Fractures and Crises in Hungarian Cinema" Conference on Cinema/Media in Transnational Perspectives, New York University Abu Dhabi Institute, May 11-13, 2014.

Peter Pastor, Jim Niessen and Thomas Sakmyster were presenters at the NEH Summer Institute on "America's East Central Europeans: Migration and Memory" held at Columbia University in June 2014.

Rebekah Klein-Pejšová, Beyond the “Infamous Concentration Camps of the Old Monarchy”: Jewish Refugee Policy from Wartime Austria-Hungary to Interwar Czechoslovakia in the *Austrian History Yearbook*, Volume 45, April 2014, pp 150-166



News of possible interest:

a. **Zsigmond Móricz’s** first novel “Sárarany” was translated into English by Virginia L. Lewis. The book titled *Gold in the Mud: A Hungarian Peasant Novel* and is now available in paperback.

About *Gold in the Mud* (Sárarany, 1910): Torn between the torpid bliss of his home life and a seething quest for prosperity, Dani Turi, the peasant Don Juan and leader of Kiskara village, follows his urge to break the bonds of his low social status, only to find his path barred by the aristocratic landowners bent on maintaining their centuries-long hold on the reins of power. Zsigmond Móricz (1879-1942), one of Hungary’s greatest novelists and the first to portray the peasant classes with full regard for their human aspirations, reveals in this riveting narrative his mastery in drawing complex characters and evoking the unique atmosphere of rural Hungary.

b. **Petőfi Irodalmi Múzeum**(Petőfi Museum of Literature) has an online digital library of literature. The site is continuously updated. The address is: <http://www.pim.hu/object.04aa4dcc-0064-4919-a2be-0f33dbec8ed8.ivy>

c. ***Fate of Hungarian Books/Papers- Looking for donations***

As stated in the closing declaration of its third meeting, the Hungarian Diaspora Council decided to launch the Mikes Kelemen Program, which focuses on preserving the diaspora’s material heritage, collecting its elements in a systematic manner, transferring them to Hungary and making provisions for their appropriate utilization. The program was established with the cooperation of the State Secretariat for Hungarian Communities Abroad of the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice and the National Széchényi Library.

Books, documents and other material heritage related to Hungary may be delivered to storage facilities between 1 January and 30 September 2014. The storage facility in New Brunswick can be reached at *57 Veronica Avenue, Somerset, NJ 08873*. They will then be transferred to Hungary, where the National Széchényi Library will take care of them.

Donations will mainly be distributed to libraries and schools in the Carpathian Basin. Furthermore, the plan is to support public collections located in Hungary and the Carpathian Basin, which already include a significant emigrant collection.

If you have further questions concerning the program, contact: mikesprogram@kim.gov.hu

More information: <http://www.nemzetiregiszter.hu/mikes-kelemen-program-en>

Storage facility in New Brunswick +1 732-763-4885

Those living on the East Coast of the USA can contact: István Hegedüs.

Email: istvanhegedus86@gmail.com, T: 732 763 4885.

d. **The BBC has announced** it will collaborate with four British universities to offer online courses about World War I, beginning in October.

The courses will be offered for free as Massive Open Online Courses, or MOOCs, on a FutureLearn platform. They will be taught by the Universities of Glasgow, Birmingham, Leeds and the Open University (which owns FutureLearn) and will focus on trauma and memory, heroism in industrialized warfare, early military aviation and how the war — and the ensuing peace — changed the world.

e. To mark the centenary of WWI, the **German** government has digitized and made freely available 700,000 documents related to the war on the [website of the Federal Archive](#). The material includes audio recordings, films, and photos in addition to an array of personal and governmental documents. Records of politicians, military and civilian authorities, propaganda films, and even personal letters from the front are all part of the newly accessible treasure trove.

<http://ersterweltkrieg.bundesarchiv.de/>

f. A Hungarian site is at <http://elsovilaghaboru.com/tortenete/>

g. **Post-doc research grant**

The University Bocconi/ Milan issued a two-year post-doc research grant. More information and the application form can be found at

http://www.unibocconi.eu/wps/wcm/connect/bocconi/sitopubblico_en/navigation+tree/home/faculty/faculty+recruiting/post-doc+grants

h. On the website the German Historical Institute, Washington DC the first results of the research project *Immigrant Entrepreneurship: German-American Business Biographies, 1720 to the Present* are accessible. <http://www.immigrantentrepreneurship.org>

h. **FRED Database**

Short for Federal Reserve Economic Data, FRED is an online database of more than 45,000 economic data time series from over 40 national, international, public, and private sources. FRED, created and maintained by Research Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, goes far beyond simply providing data: It combines data with a powerful mix of tools that help the user understand, interact with, display, and disseminate the data. In essence, FRED helps users tell their data stories.

While FRED has traditionally offered only current data, it is now also offering historical data with the recent addition of the NBER Macrohistory Database. These 3036 series cover the pre-WWI and interwar economies, including production, construction, employment, money, prices, asset market transactions, foreign trade, and government activity. Although most data series cover the United States, there is a limited number of series representing data for the United Kingdom, Germany, and France.

FRED is available at <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/>, and the NBER Macrohistory Database is at <http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/release?rid=257/>.

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis also hosts FRASER, a vast collection of digitized

documents about the economic history of the United States, and particularly of the Federal Reserve System. Visit FRASER at <http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/>.

i. Nándorfehérvár 1456-os ostromát mutatja be, térképpel az eseményeket feldolgozó látványos animációs film amelyet a [Történelmi Animációs Egyesület](http://www.origo.hu/tudomany/tortenelem/20140722-nandorfehervari-diadal-csata-1456-animacio-teljes-verzio.html) készítette. A film megnevezhető: <http://www.origo.hu/tudomany/tortenelem/20140722-nandorfehervari-diadal-csata-1456-animacio-teljes-verzio.html>

j. Two interesting and useful Hungarian websites (in Hungarian):

A.) <http://www.archivnet.hu> where various historic documents can be found. It is worth bookmarking.

B.) <http://urbface.com/index.html> which provides historical background information to buildings and spaces in Budapest.

k. New books of possible interest from the CEU Press

DEFICIT AND DEBT IN TRANSITION -THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF PUBLIC FINANCES IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE. *Edited by István Benczes (Corvinus University), Budapest.*

The adjustment problems of public finance in countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) are often misunderstood and misinterpreted by western scholars. This book contributes to the bridging of the gap between what is being thought by external observers and what the actual public finance reality is, as described by competent local scholars. Popular political economy research has remained biased towards advanced countries and has neglected developing and transition economies. Publications on CEE countries' public finances seem to be reluctant to apply the conceptual framework of standard political economy to these countries because of the assumption that CEE economies are *different* from their Western peers. But is this really the case? Are CEE economies so much different that none of the well-known "Western" political economy concepts or models can be applied to the analysis of fiscal performance in the region? Benczes demonstrates that they can be safely applied in the context of CEE economies as well.

REMEMBERING COMMUNISM - PRIVATE AND PUBLIC RECOLLECTIONS OF LIVED EXPERIENCE IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE. *Edited by Maria Todorova, Augusta Dimou and Stefan Troebst.*

This collection of essays examines the formation and transformation of the memory of communism in the post-communist period. The majority of the articles focus on memory practices in the post-Stalinist era in Bulgaria and Romania, with occasional references to the cases of Poland and the German Democratic Republic. Based on an interdisciplinary approach, including history, anthropology, cultural studies and sociology, the volume examines the mechanisms and processes that influence, determine and mint the private and public memory of communism in the post-1989 era. The common denominator to all essays is the emphasis on the process of remembering in the present, and the modalities by means of which the present perspective shapes processes of remembering, including practices of commemoration and representation of the past. Major thematic blocks revisit specific practices in communism such as popular culture and everyday life, childhood, labor, the secret police, and the perception of "the system".

Ildikó Barna and Andrea Pető - POLITICAL JUSTICE IN BUDAPEST AFTER WWII.

In Hungary, which fell under Soviet influence at the end of WWII, those who had participated in the wartime atrocities were tried by so called people's courts. This book analyses this process in an objective, quantitative way, contributing to the present timely discussion on the Hungarian war guilt. The authors apply a special focus on the gender aspect of the trials. Political justice had a specific nature in Hungary. War criminals began to be brought to trial while fighting was still underway in the western part of the country, well before the Nuremberg trials. Not only crimes committed

during the war were tried in the same frame but also post-war ones. As far as the post-war period is concerned, legal proceedings regarding these crimes were most often launched on the basis of Act VII of 1946. This act of law concerned “the criminal law protection of the democratic constitutional order and the republic” and its basic aim was to facilitate the creation of a communist dictatorship and to deal with perceived or real enemies of the regime.

Leonid Smilovitsky. **JEWISH LIFE IN BELARUS -THE FINAL DECADE OF THE STALIN REGIME, 1944–1953.**

Jewish life in Belarus in the years after World War II was long an enigma. Officially it was held to be as being non-existent, and in the ideological atmosphere of the time research on the matter was impossible. Jewish community life had been wiped out by the Nazis, and information on its revival was suppressed by the communists. For more than half a century the truth about Jewish life during this period was sealed in inaccessible archives. The Jews of Belarus preferred to keep silent rather than expose themselves to the animosity of the authorities. Although the fate of Belarusian Jews before and during the war has now been amply studied, this book is one of the first attempts to study Jewish life in Belarus during the last decade of Stalin’s rule.

Katherine Verdery. **SECRETS AND TRUTHS - ETHNOGRAPHY IN THE ARCHIVE OF ROMANIA’S SECRET POLICE**

Nothing in Soviet-style communism was as shrouded in mystery as its secret police. Its paid employees were known to few and their actual numbers remain uncertain. Its files were inaccessible, even to most party members. With the end of communism, many of the newly established governments—among them Romania’s—opened their secret police archives. From those files, especially her own voluminous one, as well as her personal memories and interviews with acquaintances that turned out to be informers, the author has carried out historical ethnography of the Romanian Securitate. The book is not only of historical interest but has implications for understanding the rapidly developing “security state” of the neoliberal present.

Jeffrey Taylor. **IN SEARCH OF THE BUDAPEST SECESSION - THE ARTIST PROLETARIAT AND THE MODERNISM’S RISE IN THE HUNGARIAN ART MARKET, 1800–1914.**

This important work by American historian Jeffrey Taylor, who spent the last two decades in Hungary and earned his PhD at Central European University in Budapest, serves to detail the nineteenth-century origin of the art market in a Central European nation as its economy was shifting from total dependence on agriculture to a mixed industrial/agricultural model during the Industrial Revolution. The creation of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy in 1867 provided Hungary with a measure of equality with Austria, initiating a period when the social and cultural development of Hungary and its newly emerging professional and merchant classes provided a new marketplace, which while bourgeois in nature nevertheless brought “art” to a greater portion of the population. Taylor provides us with a fascinating history, beginning in eighteen hundred, of the art market of Hungary, of the rise of modernism and its conflict with traditional elements.

1. From Eastern European Monographs distributed by Columbia U. Press
Petr Vorel. **From the Silver Czech Tolar to a Worldwide Dollar: The Birth of the Dollar and its Journey of Monetary Circulation in Europe and the World from the 16th to the 20th Century.**

This publication may be of especial interest for American readers in that, perhaps for the first time, the complex power and political relationships existing in Central Europe at the beginning of the early modern period, which led to the emergence of the dollar, are clearly explained. It goes on to explain the relationships that existed between the different thaler currencies that were involved in the development of the European currency systems right up to modern times and explains the reasons why the term "dollar" was used in the late 18th Century, at the time of the founding of the United States of America. This book offers a very specific perspective on the common historical roots of the contemporary Euro-American civilization and contains significant new information not only for historians concerned with economic and

political history, but that is also of importance for numismatists and collectors. The text is illustrated by 84 color photographs of coins and paper currency.

m. Old Hungarian photos at <http://ritkanlathatotortenelem.blog.hu/>
Old films -

http://ritkanlathatotortenelem.blog.hu/2014/08/21/tortenelmunk_pillanatai_a_20_szazadbol



Call for papers:

a. **Business History Conference (BHC) and the European Business History Association (EBHA)** annual conference will be held in Miami, Florida, on June 24-27, 2015.

The theme of the meeting will be **“Inequalities: Winners and Losers in Business.”** The deadline for receipt of all proposals is **1 October 2014**. Acceptance emails will be sent in January 2015. Presenters are expected to submit abstracts of their papers for posting on the BHC website.

What does business have to do with inequality? Contemporary answers have ranged from “everything” to “nothing.” The call for proposals for the 2015 joint meeting of the Business History Conference ([BHC](#)) and the European Business History Association (EBHA) challenges business historians of all stripes to historicize the economic, political, cultural, and social processes by which inequality has taken hold, ebbing and flowing over time. Business is central to those processes. The very word “inequality” suggests injustice and unfairness, subjugation and lack of opportunity.

b. **PLAYTHINGS IN EARLY MODERNITY: PARTY GAMES, WORD GAMES, MIND GAMES (edited collection)**

Contributions are sought for an interdisciplinary collection of essays to be edited by Allison Levy and published by Ashgate Publishing Co. in the new book series, *Cultures of Play, 1300-1700* (see <http://www.ashgate.com/default.aspx?page=5166>; series editor Bret Rothstein). Dedicated to early modern playfulness, this series serves two purposes.

1. First, it recounts the history of wit, humor, and games, from jokes and sermons, for instance, to backgammon and blind man’s bluff.
2. Second, in addressing its topic – ludic culture – broadly, *Cultures of Play* also provides a forum for reconceptualizing the play elements of early modern economic, political, religious, and social life.

Within this framework, **PLAYTHINGS IN EARLY MODERNITY: PARTY GAMES, WORD GAMES, MIND GAMES** emphasizes the rules of the game(s) as well as the breaking of those rules: playmates and game changers, teammates and tricksters, matchmakers and deal breakers, gamblers and grifters, scripts and ventriloquism, charades and masquerades, game pieces and pawns. Thus, a ‘plaything’ is understood as both an object and a person, and play, in early modern Europe (1300-1700), is treated not merely as a pastime, a leisurely pursuit, but also as a pivotal part of daily life, a strategic psychosocial endeavor:

- Why do we play games – with and upon each other as well as ourselves?
- Who are the winners, and who are the losers?

- Desirable essays will also consider the *spaces* of play: from the stage to the street, from the pulpit to the piazza, from the bedroom to the brothel: What happens when players go ‘out of bounds,’ or when games go ‘too far’?

We seek new and innovative scholarship at the nexus of material culture/the study of objects, performance studies, and game theory. We welcome proposals from a wide range of disciplines, including gender studies, childhood studies, history, languages and literature, theater history, religious studies, the history and philosophy of science, philosophy, psychology, and the history of art and visual culture.

PLAYTHINGS IN EARLY MODERNITY: PARTY GAMES, WORD GAMES, MIND GAMES will be an illustrated volume, with individual contributors responsible for any permission and/or art acquisition fees. Final essays, of approximately 8,000 words (incl. notes), and all accompanying b&w illustrations/permissions will be **due no later than January 15, 2015**.

For **consideration**, please send an abstract (max. 500 words), a preliminary list of illustrations (if applicable), and a CV to Allison Levy (allisonlevy2@gmail.com or playthingsvolume@gmail.com) by **September 15, 2014**.

c. The **International Institute of Social and Economic Sciences** will hold its 15th International Academic Conference to be held in April 14-17, 2015 in Rome, Italy, in Starhotels Metropole. <http://www.iises.net/conferences/rome-conference-april-14-17-2015/call-for-papers/>
<http://www.iises.net/economics-finance-conferences/rome-economics-finance-conference-april-14-17-2015/>

d. The 2015 sites for the conferences hosted by the **Clute Institute** are:
Maui, Hawaii in January 4-8, 2015,
San Juan, Puerto Rico in March 22-26, 2015,
London, United Kingdom in June 7–11, 2015.

For more information visit their website: <http://www.cluteinstitute.com/>

e. **West East Institute’s** Multidisciplinary Conference on Education and Humanities will be held in Barcelona, Spain from the 18th to 21st January 2015. Deadline for abstracts/proposals: December 15, 2014. For more information, visit: <http://www.westeasinstitute.com/barcelonaedu2>

e. Please see below for the information and links for the ASEEEES Regional Affiliates' conferences:

The **Midwest Slavic Association's 2015 Conference** will be held at OSU March 13- 15, 2015.

The 52nd **Southern Conference on Slavic Studies (SCSS)** will be held in Lexington, Kentucky from **March 5-7, 2015**.

a. **22nd International Conference of Europeanists will be held at** the Sciences Po, Paris, France (July 8-10, 2015). **Application Deadline:** 10 October, 2014.

Contact: juan.diez@uc3m.es

In many historical moments, Europe’s futures have seemed not simply open and uncertain, but replete with contradiction. Similarly, in contemporary Europe, the responses of both ordinary Europeans and the continent’s collective institutions to the challenges posed by crisis again constitute a series of contradictions—many of which reiterate large questions from Europe’s past, while also affecting the ability of social forces to

imagine possible futures.

Today, Europe is a space within which the principle of social solidarity appears firmly rooted, yet also one in which the politics of austerity threaten to erode welfare state commitments. It is a context in which supra-national institutions and transnational social connections have progressed far, but also the scene of substantial efforts to reassert nationalism. It is a setting in which many are disenchanted with mainstream politics, yet also challenged by the possible growth of new movements. These and other tensions manifest themselves in individual lives, social relations, institutions, and collective projects.

Thus, for its 2015 conference, the Council for European Studies (CES) invites proposals for panels, roundtables, book discussions, and individual papers that examine such opposing tendencies and, facing forward, consider the many potential futures emerging from the European crisis. We encourage proposals in the widest range of disciplines, and, in particular, proposals that combine disciplines, nationalities, and generations. Although it is not mandatory that papers be related to the conference theme, papers that do so are especially welcome. The Committee will accept only two submissions per person as attendees may only present in a maximum of two sessions.

We strongly encourage participants to submit their proposals as part of an organized panel. Full panel proposals will be given top priority in the selection process by the Program Committee. Participants may find it useful to connect with like-minded scholars through the growing number of [CES Research Networks](#).

Participants will be notified of the Committee's decisions by December 18, 2014. Information on how to submit will be posted on the Council's website and disseminated through its newsletter. To subscribe to the CES newsletter, [join the CES mailing list](#) today.

For more information, please visit: <https://councilforeuropeanstudies.org/conferences/2015-ces-conference>.



Please, do not forget to pay your annual dues. You can now pay through Paypal by clicking or by copying and pasting this link into your browser: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=3EQBTH9C7X9YU

Thank you!

Susan