

SOCIETY FOR SLOVENE STUDIES

LETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, FALL 2017	1
THE SOCIETY AT THE ASEEEES CONVENTION, CHICAGO, IL	2
CALL FOR 2018 CONVENTION PAPERS	3
FROM THE TREASURER	4
SCHOLARSHIPS/PRIZES	5
MEMBER NEWS	5
UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS	5
SSS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL	6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, FALL 2017

As we approach the Society's and our parent organization's – the ASEEEES's - annual national conference taking place at the Chicago downtown Marriott Hotel 9–12 November, I'd like first of all to extend a heartfelt invitation to all our members and interested non-members in the greater Chicago area to come join us for part or all of this year's conference. You will have an opportunity to hear and visit with some of our most talented and promising young Slovenists, many of whom are in the process of completing their PhDs with dissertations that will break new ground on a variety of important Slovene topics; no less than four of them will present on their work at our annual Young Scholars Panel this Saturday during the 8:00–9:45 A.M. session. You can attend panels where other colleagues from the Society will present on topics ranging from Slovenia's response to the 2015 European refugee crisis, to Slovenia's foreign policy within the context of the EU, and the history of Slovenian film. And of course, you will be more than welcome to take part in the Society's annual business meeting, scheduled for Saturday, 11 November, from 1:00 to 2:45 P.M. We have plans for a very interactive

business meeting where we'll gather participants' input and ideas for directions that we as a Society can take to maximize our impact over the next several years.

On the next page we've listed Slovene-themed highlights from this year's ASEEEES conference program. You can view the entire program, with panels on topics ranging from the Balkans to the Baltics and the Russian Far East, by going to <http://www.aseees.org/convention>

So please, do come join us at the Chicago Marriott Downtown (540 N. Michigan Ave.) this Thursday through Sunday to learn about, discuss, debate and celebrate the enormously rich and complex heritage of a certain compact geographic and cultural space that we – not to mention some 350 million other, non-Slovenist North Americans – have so much to learn from.

We will be honored and delighted to welcome you there.

Michael Biggins
President, 2017–2020

THE SOCIETY AT THE ASEEEES
CONVENTION, CHICAGO, IL

9–12 November 2017

**Meetings, Slovene-Themed Panels & Select
Yugoslav- and Habsburg-Themed Panels of
Interest**

Thursday, 9 November, 1:00–2:45 P.M., Indiana
*Media and Film Coverage of Migrants and
Refugees in the Balkans*

Chair:

Tomislav Longinović, U Wisconsin/Madison

Presenters:

Sunnie Rucker-Chang, U Cincinnati, “Student
Migration and the Non-Aligned Movement in
Yugoslav Space”

Breda Luthar, U of Ljubljana, “Refugees and
Current TV Affairs Journalism: the
Epistemology of Conventions”

Yana Hashamova, Ohio State U, “(Mis-)
Information and (Mis-)Representation:
Western Media Coverage of the Refugees
Crisis in the Balkans, 2015-2016.”

Discussant:

Theodora Dragostinova (Ohio State U)

Thursday, 9 November, 1–2:45 P.M., River
North

*Revisiting the Wartime Archive: News
Perspectives on WWII in Yugoslavia*

Chair:

Mila Dragojević, Sewanee, U of the South

Presenters:

Emily Greble, Vanderbilt U,
“Reconceptualizing Anti-Communist
Violence in Postwar Yugoslavia”

Filip Erdeljac, New York U, “Neither
Collaboration nor Resistance: Serb Peasants
between the Dinaric Chetniks and Tito’s
Partisans”

James Robertson, Woodbury U, “Communion
and Revolution: the Vision of ‘Partizanstvo’
in the War Writings of Edvard Kocbek”

Thursday, 9 November, 3–4:45 P.M.,
Northwestern

*The Post-Yugoslav Generation and the Making of
a Yugoslav Art History*

Chair:

Ivana Bago, Duke U

Roundtable members:

Branislav Jakovljević, Stanford U

Jasmina Tumbas, U of Buffalo

Jelena Vesić, independent scholar

Bojana Videković, U of Waterloo

Saturday, 11 November, 8–9:45 A.M., Houston
Slovene literature since 1990
(SSS Young Scholars Panel)

Chair:

Timothy Pogacar, Bowling Green SU

Presenters:

Kristina Reardon, College of the Holy Cross,
“Flash Fiction in Contemporary Slovenia”

Olivia Hellewell, U of Nottingham, “Images
of Slovenia in Post-1991 Translated Fiction”

Cyrus Rodgers, U. of Washington, “Thy Own
Private Leviathan: Sanctification of Space in
Mate Dolenc with Reference to Hemingway”

Discussant:

Kaitlyn Tucker, U of Chicago

Saturday, November 11, 8-9:45 A.M., Indiana
*The Aesthetics of Ruins, Rubble and Massive
Construction Efforts in Yugoslav and Polish Film
in the Postwar Era*

Chair:

Alice Lovejoy, U of Minnesota

Presenters:

Veronica Aplenc, U of Pennsylvania,
“Architectural Ruin(s) in Socialist Modernity:
19th Century Buildings, New Single-Family
Houses and Political Self-Expressions in the
1977 Film *To so gadi*”

Joshua Malitsky, Indiana U, “Chronotopic
Logics and Nonfiction Film Ideologies:
Yugoslav Newsreels and Documentaries,
1945-1950”

Ewa Wampuszyc, UNC Chapel Hill, “Where
Has All the Rubble Gone: De-Aestheticizing
Warsaw’s Rubble in Postwar Non-Fiction
Film (1945-1956)”

Saturday, November 11, 10:00-11:45 A.M.,
Streeterville

*Social Revolution in the Habsburg Monarchy,
1914-1919*

Chair:

Tamara Scheer, U of Vienna

Presenters:

Rose Malloy, U of Chicago, "Of Barricades and Bands: Class, Nation and the May Day Riots in 1914 Trieste"
Kathryn Densford, George Washington U, "The Changing Social Landscape of the Provincial Home Front: Lower Austria and Moravia, 1914-1915"
Ke-chin Hsia, Indiana U, "Imperial Bureaucrats as Revolutionaries? Austrian Welfare Officials and the Revolution of 1918-1919"

James Gow, King's College, London, "Small States in the Not-So-New Europe: Sovereignty and Security"
Peter Rožič, U. of Ljubljana, "A Home-Grown Culture of European Foreign Policy? Small States' International Relations between the Demands (or Reality) of Domestic and EU Environments"

Discussant:
Charles Bukowski, Bradley University

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**Society for Slovene Studies business meeting
Saturday, November 11, 1:45 p.m. – 3:30 P.M.,
2nd River North**

**Saturday, November 11, 3:45–5:30 P.M.,
Dupage
(Post)-Yugoslav Disciplinary Transgressions
Chair:**

Miranda Jakisa, Princeton U

Papers:

Antje Postema, UC Berkeley, "In Search of a Format: Daša Drndić's Documentary Experimentation and (Post-) Yugoslav Literary History"
Vladislav Beronja, U of Texas/Austin, "Postsocialism and Critical Essay: the Case of Boris Buden"
Kaitlyn Tucker, U Chicago, "Polyphonic Problems: On the Diverse Philosophical History of the Journal *Problemi*"

Discussant:

Marina Antic, Indiana U

**Sunday, 12 November, 12–1:45 P.M., Chicago
Ballroom H.**

Slovenia, the Baltics and Beyond: Comparing Small State Foreign Policy in the EU

Chair:

Carole Rogel, Ohio State University

Papers:

Mark Cichock, U. of Texas, Arlington, "The Baltic States and Small-State Alliance Behavior: Sovereignty Constrained or Boundaries that Don't Chafe?"

**CALL FOR 2018 CONVENTION PAPERS
Young Scholars Panel at the 2018 ASEES
Convention in Boston, MA**

For the past fifteen years the SSS has sponsored a panel featuring younger scholars in Slovene Studies. The sessions have been well received and provide an opportunity for the Society to learn about new researchers in the field. If you are currently doing graduate work or have recently completed a graduate degree, and wish to prepare a paper for the 2017 meeting, please contact Gregor Kranjc (gkranjc@brocku.ca) by 15 December 2017.

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Senior Scholars Panel in 2018

Since the SSS celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2013, "Old Timers" panels are becoming a tradition. We hope to offer a panel in 2017, using R. Minnich's guidelines (U of Bergen):

The underlying thought is to mobilize long-term perspectives on developments in the study of Slovenia and the Slovenes by members of the society. We ask older members to reflect over how, in the course of their professional careers, their *respective* disciplines have adapted (theoretically and substantially) to transformations in the world of the Slovenes.

Anyone interested in preparing such a paper for the 2018 convention should contact Carole Rogel (rogel.1@osu.edu) by 15 December.

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FROM THE TREASURER

Contributions to SSS Funds: Contributions received June–November 2017 will be reported in the spring 2018 newsletter.

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Dues Notices: A second, reminder 2017 dues notice will be sent with annual meeting materials in December 2017.

Timothy Pogačar, treasurer

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News from the Slovene Research Initiative at Ohio State University

During the summer of 2017, Dr. W. Berry Lyons, a professor in the School of Earth Sciences at Ohio State, travelled to Slovenia for two weeks in July under the auspices of the Slovene Research Initiative (SRI). In collaboration with Dr. Matija Zorn, a faculty member from the Department of Physical Geography within the ZRC SAZU - Geografski inštitut Antona Melika (ZRC SAZU Anton Melik Institute of Geography), and Dr. Anne Carey, also at OSU, Dr. Lyons collected ice meltwater from several different locations within Slovenia, worked with Slovene and American colleagues to analyze samples, and presented a paper on the team's findings at the annual Geological Society of America (GSA) meeting in October 2017 in Seattle.

While in Slovenia, Dr. Lyons also gave two seminars on his Antarctic research to packed audiences. The three researchers intend to continue their collaborations beyond this initial exchange supported by SRI, seeking new funding for future projects and writing a publication on the outcomes of their research presented at the GSA annual meeting.

In March 2018, Dr. Theodora Dragostinova, professor of East European history at OSU, will travel to Slovenia to collaborate with Dr. Tanja Petrović of the ZRC SAZU - Inštitut za kulturne in spominske študije (ZRC SAZU - Institute for Culture and Memory Studies).

In December 2017, SRI once again held its annual Call for Proposals for its faculty exchange with the Znanstvenoraziskovalni center Slovenske akademije znanosti in umetnosti. Results of the

2017 competition will be announced in spring 2018.

Eileen Kunkler, Ohio State University

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Visit to the University of Washington by Minister for Slovenes Abroad Gorazd Žmavc

The UW community welcomed Gorazd Žmavc, the Republic of Slovenia's Minister for Slovenes Abroad, to the Seattle campus on Wednesday, October 18, 2017. About twenty-five UW students of Slovene, UW faculty alumni of the UW-University of Ljubljana Scholars Exchange, and members of the local Slovene-American community met with Minister Žmavc and two of his deputies at a reception in the Smith Room of Suzzallo Library. Our UW and Seattle area delegation stressed the value of online instruction in Slovene language originating out of Slovenia directed to the children of Slovene-American families; and advocated for expanding and replicating the broad-based partnership between the University of Ljubljana and UW that has existed since 1979 as a model for strategically diversifying Slovenia's academic, cultural and entrepreneurial presence throughout the U.S.

The reception was sponsored by the UW Libraries and Seattle's Slovenska miza, an organization bringing together local Slovenes, Slovene Americans and students and friends of Slovenia.

University of Washington Slovene Studies Endowment

The Slovene Studies Endowment at the University of Washington in Seattle continues to grow. We are happy to report a current endowment principal of just over \$146,000, as of early November 2017. Annual expendable revenues from this endowment now ensure that the UW-University of Ljubljana Scholars Exchange will continue to operate for many years to come.

Our target at this point is an endowment principal of \$300,000, which will make it possible for an expanded UW-Ljubljana exchange program to function in perpetuity, at the same time as we provide stipends for summer intensive Slovene language study and research in Ljubljana by UW students of Slovene. If you would like more information about the endowment and the wide

range of Slovene-American research collaboration it supports, or if you wish to contribute, I would be happy to hear from you at mbiggins@uw.edu

Michael Biggins, University of Washington

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SCHOLARSHIPS/PRIZES

Joseph Velikonja Undergraduate Prize

The submission deadline for the \$1,000US 2018 Undergraduate Essay Prize is 30 September 2018.

The SSS Rado L. Lenček Graduate Prize

The submission deadline for the 2018 Graduate Student Prize is 30 September 2018. The prize is \$1,000US. See the society’s website.

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SLOVENE STUDIES: JOURNAL OF THE SSS

On-line access to *Slovene Studies*: Volumes 37–39 will become available from the SSS website at the end of 2017.

The forthcoming volume 39 (2017) is devoted to Dennis Rusinow’s work in and scholarship on Carinthia.

Volume 40 (2018) will be published in two issues.

Timothy Pogacar, editor
Gregor Kranjc, book review editor

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MEMBER NEWS

Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures Selected to House Premier Journal

The Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures has been selected by the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages to house the [Slavic and East European Journal](#) (SEEJ), the oldest American Slavic academic journal and one of the premier American and Slavic journals. Yana Hashamova, professor and chair, is the journal’s editor; associate editor is Alexander Burry, associate professor and graduate studies chair of the department. (Oct 2017)

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

The 36th Obdobja Symposium will take place on 16–18 November 2017, devoted to “Slovene Literary Manuscripts from the Middle Ages to the Long Nineteenth Century” Details about this, past, and future symposia at www.centerslo.net.

The 2018 AATSEEL Conference will be held on 1–4 February 2018 in Washington DC. Visit: www.aatseel.org/cfp_main. The Society for Slovene Studies is an affiliate of AATSEEL.

The 2018 Midwest Slavic Conference at Ohio State University, 23–25 March 2018. [More here](#).

The 21st Biennial Conference on Balkan and South Slavic Linguistics, Literature and Folklore will take place at Montana State University Billings, Montana on 24–26 May 2018. [Questions and/or abstracts](#) by Nov 15.

The 54th Seminar of Slovene Language, Literature and Culture will take place during the summer of 2018. Details and registration: www.centerslo.net.

The Centre for Slovene is also organizing its annual, now **37th Summer School of Slovene Language** with various courses in 2018.

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The 2018 ASEES 50th Annual Convention will take place in Boston, MA at Boston Marriott Copley Place, 6–9 December 2018.

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For more institutional & affiliate ASEES member news see www.asees.org/about/affiliate

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SSS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Officers

President: Michael Biggins (U of Washington)
Secretary: Kristina Reardon (C of the Holy Cross)
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Conference Program Coordinator: Veronica E. Aplenc (U of Pennsylvania)
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Book Review Editor, *Slovene Studies*, Gregor Kranjc (Brock U)
Editor, *Letter*: Peter Rožič SJ (Jesuit European Social Centre)

Elected Members

Charles Bukowski (Bradley U)
Gregor Kranjc (Brock U)
Žarko Lazarević (Institute for Contemporary History, Ljubljana)

For further information regarding the Society for Slovene Studies, membership applications, journal subscriptions, and other details, contact: Kristina Reardon, secretary, Society for Slovene Studies, 148 Russell Street #3, Worcester, MA 01609, or at kristina.reardon@gmail.com
