

# SOCIETY FOR SLOVENE STUDIES

## LETTER

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No. 77

[www.slovenestudies.com](http://www.slovenestudies.com)

October 2015

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1
THE SOCIETY AT ASEEEES CONVENTION IN PHILADELPHIA 2015	2
CALL FOR 2016 CONVENTION PAPERS	4
FROM THE TREASURER	5
SCHOLARSHIPS/PRIZES	5
MEMBERS NEWS	5
UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS	5
OF INTEREST TO SSS MEMBERS	6
SSS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL	6

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### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Autumn 2015**

The 2015 ASEEEES convention in Philadelphia is less than a month away! This year the Society for Slovene Studies business meeting will be held at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, Nov. 21. This meeting is open to all SSS members, so I hope many of you will be able to attend. As always, Society members will be involved in a wide array of interesting panels; see below for a full list, or check the online program accessible at the [ASEEEES website](http://www.aseees.org) ([www.aseees.org](http://www.aseees.org)). Like last year in San Antonio, we are going to try to organize an SSS social event, so stay tuned!

Next year's convention will be in Washington, D.C. The Society hopes to propose both a Young Scholars panel and a Senior Scholars panel. See below for the particulars, and for contact information for the panel organizers (Gregor Kranjc and Carole Rogel, respectively).

I am very pleased to announce that we have reached an agreement with the Scientific Research Center at the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC/SAZU) that allows the Society for Slovene Studies to send someone to Ljubljana every year under the auspices of the Slovene Research Initiative. As outlined in the SRI, ZRC/SAZU would provide housing and access to libraries and archives; they, in turn, would be able to send a second candidate annually to work at Ohio State University. (SSS members so chosen

would not have to be affiliated in any way with OSU.) The Executive Council is in the process of working out the guidelines and application procedure. These will be posted on the Society website when they are ready, and/or sent out through our list server. In any event, this will be one of the major topics for discussion at our business meeting in Philadelphia.

Speaking of the Slovene Research Initiative, I would like to sincerely thank my long-time friend and colleague Yana Hashamova, who has recently stepped down as director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies at OSU, for all she did to formulate the SRI and bring it to life. When I first broached the subject of the CSEES supporting Slovene studies in some way, she responded positively and with great enthusiasm, and then worked tirelessly to make it a reality. She gladly accepted input from several SSS members, and quickly established a great working relationship with Dr. Oto Luthar, director of ZRC/SAZU. All of us on the Executive Council are grateful to Yana for all she did, and look forward to working with her replacement, Dr. Joseph Brandesky, in the future.

Finally, please join me in congratulating longtime Society and Executive Council member Michael Biggins, who last spring was named the 2015 Janko Lavrin Laureate by the Society of Slovene Literary Translators! It was my great privilege to

be able to support Michael personally at the awards ceremony, which was held at Cankarjev Dom on June 11. And it was particularly special that so many other SSS members were able to attend, too!

Raymond Miller

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**THE SOCIETY AT ASEEEES CONVENTION  
THE PHILADELPHIA MARRIOTT  
DOWNTOWN, 19–22 November**

**Meetings, Slovene-Themed Panels & Yugoslav-Themed Panels that May Be of Interest**

**Thursday, 19 November**

**1:00–2:45 P.M.**, Meeting Room 301

*Aspects of Propaganda in Yugoslavia and Successor States: From Politics to Culture (1945–95)*

Chair:

Ivana Polic, Univ. of California – San Diego

Papers:

Nela Erdeljic, Karlovac Univ. of Applied Sciences, “The Usage of Music as a Propaganda Tool in Post-WW II Croatia”

Danijel Matijevic, Univ. of Toronto, “Propaganda and the Concretization of Intergroup Antagonism: The Case of Croatia in the Late 1980s and Early 1990s”

Ivana Polic, Univ. of California – San Diego, “Testing the Limits of Deception: Children as Propaganda Tools in Serbian and Croatian Media during the Yugoslav Wars (1991–95)”

Discussants:

Patrick H. Patterson, Univ. of California – San Diego

Carol S. Lilly, Univ. of Nebraska – Kearney

**Thursday, 19 November**

**1:00–2:45 P.M.**, Meeting Room 413

*Projecting Power in the Cold War: The Case of Tito’s Yugoslavia*

Chair:

Stephen Batalden, Arizona State Univ.

Papers:

Filip Erdeljic, New York Univ., “A Legitimate Threat: ‘Stalinists’ against a Federal Yugoslavia”

Madigan Fichter, New York Univ., “Yugoslavia and Islam: Protest and Identity”  
Robert Edward Niebuhr, Arizona State Univ., “Yugoslav Foreign Policy: Belgrade-Peking-Third World Triangle”

Discussant:

Larry Wolff, New York Univ.

**Thursday, 19 November**

**1:00–2:45 P.M.**, Meeting Room 413

*The Balkans and the Beginning of the Cold War*

Chair:

Jovana Babovic, Louisiana Technical Univ.

Papers:

Philip Tiemeyer, Philadelphia Univ., “The Tito-Stalin Split and Yugoslav Aviation’s Turn to the West and the Global South”

Jamie R. Horncastle, Simon Fraser Univ., “Once Again Comrades: Greek and Yugoslav Communist Party Relations, 1945–46”

Peter Milich, Ashford Univ./Washington Univ., “Poisoning the Balkan Wells: Anti-States and the Foundations of Cold War 1.0”

Discussant:

John E. Ashbrook, Sweet Briar College

**Thursday, 19 November**

**1:00–2:45 P.M.**, Grand Ballroom Salon B

*War and Society in the Occupied Western Balkans, 1915–45*

Chair:

Jelena Batinic, Stanford Univ.

Papers:

Jovana Lasic Knezevic, Stanford Univ., “The Serbian Intelligentsia in the Face of Habsburg Occupation during WW I”

Ana Antic, Univ. of London, “Re-education by Psychoanalysis: ‘Re-educating Political Opponents in the 1940s’”

Jelena Batinic, Stanford Univ., “Gender and Resistance during WW II: The Mobilization of Women in Tito’s Partisan Movement”

Discussant:

Carol S. Lilly, Univ. of Nebraska – Kearney

**Thursday, 19 November**

**1:00–2:45 P.M.**, Meeting Room 301

*Veterans and the Establishment of Facts in the Postwar: Examples from (former) Yugoslavia*

Chair:

Ulf Brunnbauer, Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (Germany)

Papers:

Danilo Sarenac, Institute of Contemporary History (Serbia), “Bitter Foes or Slavic Brothers? Veterans of the Great War in the Yugoslav Kingdom (1919–41)”

Julia King, Univ. of Regensburg, “To Acknowledge or to Disregard the Facts? Yugoslav Resistance Fighters of WW II and the Challenge of International Collective Memory of Veterans”

Vjeran Ivan Pavlakovic, Univ. of Rijeka, “Lost in the Fog of the Homeland: Veterans and Contested Narratives of Croatia’s War of Independence

Discussant:

John Paul Newman, National Univ. of Ireland – Maynooth

**Thursday, 19 November**

**1:00–2:45 P.M.**, Meeting Room 301

*Yugoslavia in the 1970s: A Step Before Withering Away* (roundtable)

Chairs:

Igor Duda, Univ. of Pula  
Juraj Dobrila, Univ. of Pula

Participants:

Tvrtko Jakovina, Univ. of Zagreb  
Ivo Lucic, Uppsala Univ.  
Andrej Milivojevic, Univ. of California - Berkeley

**Thursday, 19 November**

**3:00–4:45 P.M.**, Meeting Room 415

*Revisiting a Century of Slovene Literary Culture, 1914–2014: Žižek, Hemingway and the World War I Novels*

Chair:

Raymond Miller, Bowdoin College

Papers:

Gregor Kranjc, Brock Univ., “Farewell to Objectivity: The Use and Abuse of

Hemingway’s *A Farewell to Arms* in Slovene Contemporary Culture”

Kristina Helena Reardon, Univ. of Connecticut, “Remembering the Forgotten War: Writing History through the Slovene Dream-Image of World War I”

Kaitlyn Tucker, Univ. of Chicago, “Breaking the Silence: Žižek’s ‘Bolečine Razlike’ and the First Razdor”

Discussant:

Timothy Pogacar, Bowling Green State Univ.

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**Friday, 20 November**

**8:00–9:45 A.M.**, Meeting Room 415

*Facts of Fiction in Post-Yugoslav Culture(s): The Lost Wars for ‘Better Worlds’*

Chair:

Tatjana Aleksic, Univ. of Michigan

Papers:

Tatjana Rosic Ilic, Singidunum Univ., “Metaphor of Lost Reign: Policies of Paternity and Post-Yugoslav Cultural Space”

Tihomir Brajovic, Univ. of Belgrade, “‘Sacred Money’ and the ‘Animal Called Man’: A Paradoxical Critique of Liberalism in the Novel ‘The Woman from Sarajevo’”

Aleksandar Pavlovic, Union-Nikola Tesla Univ./Univ. of Belgrade, “Forging the Enemy: The Transformation of Common Serbian-Albanian Traits into Enmity and Political Hostility”

Discussants:

Marija Grujic, Institute of Literature and Art (Serbia)  
Radmila Gorup, Columbia Univ.

**Friday, 20 November**

**1:45–3:30 P.M.**, Grand Ballroom Salon K

*To The Center Via the Periphery (by Way of the Balkans)*

Chair:

Gail Kligman, Univ. of California – Los Angeles

Papers:

Max Bergholz, Concordia Univ., “Violence as a Generative Force: Rethinking ‘Ethnicity’ through a Bosnian Community”

Maria Todorova, Univ. of Illinois – Urbana,  
“Accommodating Bulgarian Social  
Democracy within the Socialist International”

Alex Stoyanov Toshkov, “The Reappearance  
of the European Peasantry in the Light of the  
Green International”

Discussant:

Ronald Grigor Suny, Univ. of Michigan

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**Saturday, 21 November**

**8:00–9:45 A.M. – Society for Slovene Studies  
business meeting, Meeting Room 310**

**Saturday, 21 November**

**3:45–5:30 P.M., Meeting Room 415**

*Mining Slovene Archives for New Insights into the  
Thought and Lives of Kopitar and Bartol*

Chair:

Robert G. Minnich, Univ. of Bergen

Papers:

M.A. Johnson, Ohio State Univ., “Jernej  
Kopitar’s Collection of Slavic Manuscripts:  
Primary Sources of Reform”

Raymond Miller, Bowdoin College, “The  
German Side to Jernej Kopitar’s Pan-  
Slavism”

Michael Biggins, Univ. of Washington, “The  
Vladimir Bartol Archives and the Making of a  
Slovene Literary Biography”

Discussants:

Timothy Pogacar, Bowling Green State Univ.

Kristina Reardon, Univ. of Connecticut

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**Sunday, 22 November**

**8:00–9:45 A.M., Meeting Room 410**

*Objects of (Counter-)Memory in Post-Yugoslav  
Cultural Spaces*

Chair:

Aida Vidan, Harvard Univ.

Papers:

Catherine Baker, Univ. of Hull, “Croatia’s  
Early 2000s as New Imagined Past: Croatian  
Patriotic Popular Music and Narratives of  
National Regeneration”

Maša Kolanovic, Univ. of Zagreb, “Repeating  
the End: Politics of Remembering Yugoslav  
Socialism in Postsocialist Literature and  
Culture”

Dijana Jelaca, St. John’s Univ., “Elusive  
Figures: Cinema’s Children, Traumatic  
Memory, and the Bosnian War”

Discussant:

Meta Mazaj, Univ. of Pennsylvania

Pavle Levi, Stanford Univ.

**Sunday, 22 November**

**10:00–11:45 A.M., Meeting Room 310**

*Practices of Nation Building Socialist Yugoslavia*

Chair:

Melissa Katherine Bokovoy, Univ. of New  
Mexico

Papers:

Iva Lucic, Uppsala Univ., “The Ambiguous  
Nation-Building Process of Bosnian Muslims  
in Socialist Yugoslavia”

Igor Duda, Juraj Dobrila, Univ. of Pula,  
“Tito’s Pioneers between Supranational and  
National Identities”

Discussant:

Vjeran Ivan Pavlakovic, Univ. Rijeka

Carol S. Lilly, Univ. of Nebraska – Kearney

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**CALL FOR 2016 CONVENTION PAPERS**

**Young Scholars Panel at the 2016 ASEES  
Convention in Washington, DC**

For the past fourteen 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 2016 meeting, please contact  
Gregor Kranjc ([gkranjc@brocku.ca](mailto:gkranjc@brocku.ca)) by 15  
December 2015.

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**Senior Scholars Panel in 2016**

Since the SSS celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in  
2013, “Old Timers” panels are becoming a  
tradition. We hope to offer a panel in 2016, 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 2016 convention should contact Carole Rogel ([rogel.1@osu.edu](mailto:rogel.1@osu.edu)) by 15 December.

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#### FROM THE TREASURER

##### Contributions to SSS Funds

##### Center Fund

Tim Pogačar

##### Endowment Fund

Paul Barbarich

##### Joseph Velikonja Undergraduate Student Prize

Karel Bonutti

##### New Members

Brian Baer (Kent, Ohio)

Daniel Gashler (Walton, New York)

Anne Takher (Portland, Oregon)

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#### SCHOLARSHIPS/PRIZES

##### Joseph Velikonja Undergraduate Prize

The submission deadline for the 2016 Undergraduate Essay Prize is 30 September 2016. The prize is \$500US. See the society's website for further details ([www.slovenestudies.com](http://www.slovenestudies.com))

##### The SSS Rado L. Lenček Graduate Prize

The submission deadline for the 2016 Graduate Student Prize was 30 September 2016. The prize is \$1,000US. See the society's website for further details ([www.slovenestudies.com](http://www.slovenestudies.com)).

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#### SLOVENE STUDIES: JOURNAL OF THE SSS

Back issues of the journal through vol. 32 (2010) are available on the University of Washington Libraries' ResearchWorks Journal Hosting website, linked to [www.slovenestudies.com](http://www.slovenestudies.com) (see publications). Volumes 33–34 will soon be posted.

Timothy Pogacar, editor  
Gregor Kranjc, book review editor

#### MEMBER NEWS

Izseljeniska Matica, Republic of Slovenia published Anna Valenčič Davis's novel *Petunia v čebulni gredi* (Petunia in an onion patch). Dr. Janja Žitnik Serafin of the Institute for Slovene Emigration and Migration ZRC SAZU presented the novel at the Društvo Slovenskih Pisateljev in Ljubljana on 1 July 2015. Ms. Valenčič Davis is a native of Toledo, Ohio and resides in Santiago, Chile, where she previously published the novel in Spanish translation (2002).

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SSS President Raymond Miller published an article about the Technical Museum of Slovenia in the most recent issue of *Strut and Axle*, the highly-regarded magazine of the Owl's Head Transportation Museum in Maine; and several poems from his translation (with Tatjana Jamnik) of the collection *Moss & Silver* (*Mah in srebro*) by Jure Detela (March 2015, British review *Poem*).

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#### UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

The 34<sup>th</sup> [Obdobja Symposium](#) will take place on 19–21 November 2015, devoted to “Grammar and Dictionary – Current Language Description” Details about this, past, and future symposia are at the website: [www.centerslo.net](http://www.centerslo.net).

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The 2016 [AATSEEL Conference](#) will be held on 7–10 January 2016 in Austin, Texas. The Society for Slovene Studies is an affiliate of AATSEEL. The association's address is [www.aatseel.org](http://www.aatseel.org).

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[Trafika Europe](#) hosts a seminar at American Comparative Literature Association ([ACLA](#)), Harvard University, 17–20 March 2016. “Exotic Europe” focuses on lesser known languages, minority and cultural narratives across Europe. See [www.acla.org](http://www.acla.org).

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The [Midwest Slavic Conference](#) will take place on 8–9 April 2016 at Ohio State University. See: [slaviccenter.osu.edu](http://slaviccenter.osu.edu).

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The [20th Biennial Conference on Balkan and South Slavic Linguistics, Literature and Folklore](#) will take place at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City on 28–30 April 2016. Questions and/or abstracts: [Jane Hacking](#) by November 15, 2015. See: [12trec.utah.edu](http://12trec.utah.edu).

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The **2016 ASEES 48th Annual Convention** will take place in Washington, DC at Marriott Wardman, 17–20 November 2016.

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For more institutional & affiliate ASEES member news see [www.asees.org/about/affiliate](http://www.asees.org/about/affiliate)

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## OF INTEREST TO SSS MEMBERS

### Slovenian Online Classes

Slovenian language distance courses are offered at Cleveland State University (Modern Languages).

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### On Slovenes in the Raba Region (HUN)

From Tibor Horvat and Joël Gerber, who created a bilingual website (German and English) about the history, culture and traditions of the Slovenes living in the Raba Region (Porabje) in Hungary:

“The project of our website enables us to discuss the eventful history and diverse culture of the Slovene Raba Region. Furthermore, Mr Horvat has an own, very personal connection to the Slovene Raba Region since he hails from Apátistvánfalva/Števanovci from his father’s side. Mr Horvat wanted to learn more about his Slovene roots and Mr Gerber was interested in the history and culture of Slovene minorities. While searching the internet for sources of information, we found some material in Hungarian and Slovenian, however, there was hardly any information available in English or other languages. We supposed that also many descendants of the Slovenes from the Raba Region, who cannot speak Slovenian, would be interested in learning more about their heritage. In 2005, we were the first to start making available to the general public extensive online information on the Slovene Raba Region. With our website, we want to make a contribution to the preservation of the cultural heritage of this minority, especially what history, culture and

traditions are concerned. It's our aim to introduce the Slovene population living in Porabje to a broader international public and to inform in particular the Slovenes from the Raba Region, and their descendants respectively, living in the English and German-speaking areas about their origin in their mother tongue. On our website, we introduce the seven villages of the Slovene Raba Region by giving information on cultural customs such as festive days, dances, popular belief, and regional cuisine and we made an English/German - Porabian (Porabščina, the local Slovenian dialect) dictionary. One of the most popular categories on our website is "Genealogy" which features photos of tombstones and is therefore a vast source for family research. Many people have already become enthusiastic about the Slovene Raba Region. Now it is your turn to go on an expedition to the fascinating Raba Region and to get to know the rich history, culture and customs of Porabje! We would appreciate it very much, if you could share your opinion in our guest book.”

More: [www.vendvidek.com](http://www.vendvidek.com)

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## SSS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

### Officers

President: Raymond Miller (Bowdoin College)

Secretary: Kristina Reardon (U of Connecticut)

Treasurer: Timothy Pogacar (Bowling Green SU)

Conference Program Coordinator: Veronica E. Aplenc (U of Pennsylvania)

Editor, *Slovene Studies*: Timothy Pogacar

Book Review Editor, *Slovene Studies*, Gregor Kranjc (Brock U)

Editor, *Letter*: Peter Rožič SJ (U of Ljubljana)

### Elected Members

Michael Biggins (U of Washington)

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, 155 West Main Street, apt. 309, Vernon, CT 06066, or at [kristina.reardon@gmail.com](mailto:kristina.reardon@gmail.com)