

SOCIETY FOR SLOVENE STUDIES

Fact Sheet
2020

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www.slovenestudies.com

MISSION STATEMENT. The Society for Slovene Studies (SSS) is a non-profit scholarly organization dedicated to fostering closer communication among scholars of Slovene studies, interested laypersons, and the general public, to promoting the dissemination of well-documented, verifiable syntheses, new knowledge, and original insights pertaining to Slovene studies through the organization of meetings and conferences, and to preparing noteworthy scholarly work for publication.

HISTORY. Founded in 1973 as a society of academics committed to the promotion of Slovene studies in the United States and Canada, the Society for Slovene Studies is today an internationally recognized association of scholars with members in many countries of the world, dedicated to investigating Slovene culture; furthering interest in Slovene culture outside its native realm; generating scholarly research; and integrating the results of that research into broader scholarly syntheses. Initially based at the Institute on East Central Europe of Columbia University (1973–83), the SSS moved to the Center for Slavic and East European Studies of The Ohio State University (1983–90), and then to the Russian and East European Institute of Indiana University (1990–91) and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures of the same university (1991–95). From 1995–99 the SSS’s center was in the Department Modern Languages and Comparative Studies, the University of Alberta, from where it moved for two years to Indiana University (1999–2001), six years at Syracuse University (2001–2007), then at Bowling Green State University (2007–2012), at Bowdoin College (2012–16), and now at the University of Washington in Seattle. Since 1976 the SSS has been affiliated with the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES, formerly AAASS) and participates in its national and international programs. In 1991 the Society also became an associate member of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) and takes part in its conferences and activities.

ACTIVITIES. The SSS organizes conferences, meetings, and panel sessions at the annual conventions of ASEEES, AATSEEL, their regional affiliates, and other scholarly groups. The SSS celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary in 1998 with special programs at both the AAASS Convention in Boca Raton, Florida, 24–27 September, and the AATSEEL Convention in San Francisco, 28–30 December. At the November 2008 AAASS convention in Philadelphia, the SSS marked its thirty-fifth anniversary. The SSS met in conjunction with the ASEEES in Washington, D.C., 17–20 November 2011, and in New Orleans, 15–18 November 2012. In April 2013, the SSS observed its fortieth anniversary during the Association for the Study of Nationalities convention at Columbia University. The SSS met at the ASEEES convention in Boston, 21–24 November 2013, and 20–23 November 2014 in San Antonio, 19–22 November 2015 in Philadelphia, 17–

20 November 2016 in Washington, 9–12 November 2017 in Chicago, 6–9 December 2018 in Boston, and 23–26 November 2019 in San Francisco. It will next meet virtually on 5-8 November 2020 as part of the program of the ASEES annual national convention.

FUTURE CENTER FOR SLOVENE STUDIES: The SSS has a long-term project for establishing a research center for Slovene Studies in the U.S. The project is entitled “Bringing Slovenia to North America,” an aspiration first espoused by SSS co-founder, the late Rado L. Lenček of Columbia University. The SSS has recently entered into a partnership with Ohio State University and the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts to begin a Slovene studies initiative based at OSU. Information on the project is available from SSS President Michael Biggins.

PUBLICATIONS. The earlier publications of the SSS included the SSS Newsletter (1973–78) and four volumes of Papers in Slovene Studies (1975–78). Since 1979, the Society’s principal publishing endeavor has been Slovene Studies: Journal of the Society for Slovene Studies, which is designed to be a forum for the expression of a variety of scholarly viewpoints on problems of Slovene literature, linguistics, history, ethnography, indeed all areas in the Slovene social sciences, humanities and fine arts. In Slovene Studies are also published occasional translations from Slovene to English, and reviews of recent scholarly books on a wide range of subjects. Over the past decade, the following volumes/numbers have been published: volume 29.1–2 (2007), volume 30.1 (January 2008), volume 30.2 (November 2008), volume 31.1–2 (2009), volume 32.1–2 (2010), volume 33.1 (November 2011), volume 33.2 (April 2011), volume 34.1–2 (November 2012), volume 35.1 (June 2013), volume 35.2 (November 2013), volume 36 (2014), volume 37 (2015), volume 38 (2016), volume 39 (2017), volume 40 (August 2018). Volume 41 (2019), and most recently Volume 42.1 (May 2020).

The SSS also publishes a twice-yearly newsletter, SSS Letter and materials, including current book reviews, to its website (www.slovenestudies.com) on an occasional basis.

The Rado L. Lenček Graduate Student Prize. This award was established to stimulate interest in Slovene matters among young scholars of any nationality residing outside Slovenia. Papers which were authored while a graduate student, and submitted for consideration within two years of last registration, qualify for this award. The deadline for submission of graduate papers is 1 October 2019 (see: www.slovenestudies.com).

The Joseph Velikonja Undergraduate Essay Prize. Students in any discipline at any accredited college or university in the United States or Canada interested in Slovene studies may apply, provided that they are either currently registered as undergraduates at the time of application, or within six months of their last registration as an undergraduate. The deadline for submission of undergraduate papers is 1 October 2019 (see: www.slovenestudies.com).

SOURCES OF SUPPORT, ANNUAL DUES, TAX-DEDUCTIBLE STATUS. The Society for Slovene Studies is a non-profit organization, relying for its existence and support wholly and completely on its members. The ANNUAL DUES are \$20.00 (students \$10.00); payment entitles members to receive all the SSS publications of the year. Please contact Treasurer Timothy Pogačar, Shatzel Hall 203, Bowling Green SU, Bowling Green, OH 43403.

The SSS PRINTING FUND provides supplementary funds for printing scholarly works. The fund is financed from tax-deductible contributions to the SSS and from the net proceeds from the sale of the publications themselves.

The SSS CENTER FUND is for a future center of Slovene Studies (see above).

In 1983, the SSS received a bequest from the estate of Mary Molek and a few years later also from John Nielsen; these formed the nucleus of an SSS Endowment Fund, which has since been increased through other bequests.

The SSS Fact Sheet was initially prepared at the University of Alberta by Tom M. S. Priestly. Subsequent editions have been prepared by William Derbyshire, David F. Stermole, Metod M. Milač, and Timothy Pogačar.