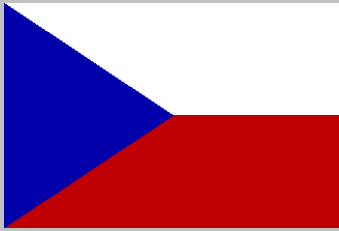


**CZECHOSLOVAK
STUDIES
ASSOCIATION**

**Newsletter of the Czechoslovak Studies
Association**

Volume 39 ▪ No. 2 ▪ FALL 2016



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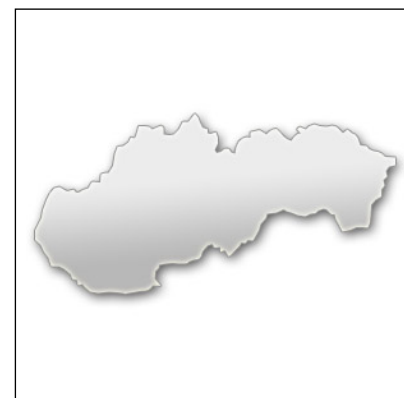
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“The Newsletter of the Czechoslovak Studies Association exists to express interests in the history of Czechoslovakia, its predecessor and successor states, and all its peoples within and without its historic boundaries.”

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From the Secretary-Treasurer

Dues remittance forms have been sent to the names on the membership roster in hard copy form. Please fill out the forms and return them with your dues as soon as possible. Members are reminded that forgetting to pay their dues will result in their names being dropped from the *Newsletter* mailing list, and that failure to pay for two consecutive years will result in loss of membership.

For your convenience we are including the Dues Remittance Form as an appendix to this newsletter (just in case you have mislaid the copy that was mailed to you!). If you are unsure what your dues payment status is, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer, Gregory Ference. His mailing address and email (gxference@salisbury.edu) are given on the Dues Remittance Form.

As always we are eager to welcome new members: if you know someone who might be interested in the activities of the CSA, please include their name and contact information on the remittance form, and the Secretary-Treasurer will reach out to them.

Conference Report: SVU World Congress, 2016 in Bratislava

The 28th World Congress of the Czechoslovak Society for Arts and Sciences (SVU) took place in Bratislava, September 1-4, 2016. Co-sponsored by the Vysoká škola zdravotníctva a sociálnej práce sv. Alžbety and the Slovak Academy of

Sciences, the conference included, in addition to plenary sessions and the SVU Valná hromada, twenty panels organized into four sessions.

Of interest to members of the CSA might be presentations by our very own Secretary-Treasurer, Gregory Ference, on “The Cleveland Agreement of 1915;” by Mila Šašková-Pierce on “Alice Masaryková, American Social Work, and Hull House,” and by CSA member Louis Reith on “The Double-Edged Mirror of Vítězslava Kaprálová’s Song, *Sbohem a šáteček* (Waving Farewell).” Additional interesting papers included presentations by Iva Knobloch of the Uměleckoprůmyslové museum in Prague on “The Czechoslovak Pavilion at the World’s Fair in New York 1939: Site of Frustration, Hope and Human Fate,” and by Anna Pravdová of the National Gallery of Art on “Czech Artists in the USA during the Second World War.” A fascinating explanation of the project “Socialism Realised,” of the Education Department of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes was presented by Karina Hoření and Ilana Seelinger (see a fuller description of this project in the separate article below).



Stanley Winters Distinguished Achievement Award goes to James Peterson

At its Washington, DC meeting in November, the Czechoslovak Studies Association formally presented (via the wonders of the internet) the Stanley Winters Distinguished Service Award to Professor James W. Peterson, longtime editor of the CSA Newsletter. The citation recorded his remarkable contributions to the CSA and its goals over a productive career:

James W. Peterson received his doctorate in Political Science from Indiana University in 1976 with his dissertation entitled "Political Leadership in Czechoslovakia, 1954-1966." Before receiving this degree, he served in the US army as a Czech language translator. Prior to his military service, he earned an MA at Indiana University and a BA at Cornell University.

After receiving his Ph.D., he began working at Valdosta State University in Georgia, becoming a full professor in 1992, where he taught undergraduates and also graduate students in an MPA program. He also served as the department head of the Political Science Department at VSU.

He authored numerous articles and books including his most recent, *American Foreign Policy: Alliance Politics in a Century of War* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2014). His other publications include *European Security, East and West: the Significance of the Missile Shield Proposal* (Pittsburgh, 2011), "American Newspaper Media Portrayal of the 1968 Prague Spring" and

"American Newspaper Media Portrayal of the 1989 Anti-Communist Revolution," both in *The Portrayal of Czechoslovakia in the American Print Media, 1938-1989*, edited by Gregory C. Ference, (East European Monographs, 2006).

Peterson has presented numerous papers at various academic conferences including AAASS/ASEES (sometimes with his brother William Peterson, also a CSA member), Southern Political Science Association; Midwest Slavic Association; Southern Conference for Slavic Studies; the American Political Science Association; and in the Czech Republic.

A long-time member of the Czechoslovak History Conference, now the Czechoslovak Studies Association, he has served as the editor of the Newsletter since 1988 until 2016, shortly after his recent retirement.

Stanley Z. Pech Prize for Best Article, 2014-2015, Goes to David Z. Scheffel

At the 1985 annual meeting in Washington, D. C., the CSA adopted a motion by Stanley Winters to create an award to be given every two years for an outstanding article published by a member of the Czechoslovak History Conference, now the Czechoslovak Studies Association. It was later determined to name the award in honor of Stanley Z. Pech.

For the 2016 competition, the committee received numerous submissions in English and Czech from multiple disciplines, among

them history, literature, political science and anthropology. The submissions represented works by experienced and young scholars who investigated Czech and Slovak topics from the perspective of culture, religion, gender, ethnicity and ecology.

Unfortunately, two strong contributions could not be considered due to the fact that the authors were not current members of the Czechoslovak Studies Association. Scholars should make an effort to maintain their CSA memberships not only to remain eligible to compete for awards, but also to continue the attention drawn to winning articles, which helps keep Czech and Slovak studies at the forefront of area research.



1617 Depiction of Velký Šariš (www.sanderusmaps.com)

This year's prize goes to David Z. Scheffel, for his "Belonging and Domesticated Ethnicity in Velký Šariš, Slovakia" *Romani Studies* 5, Vol. 25, No. 2 (2015), 115-149.

David Scheffel's investigation into the Roma minority of Velký Šariš complicates traditional understandings of historic Slovak-Roma relations. He makes an original, outstanding contribution to area scholarship and to a more nuanced understanding of Roma-Slovak relations.

Particularly striking is his use of the concepts of inclusion, integration and belonging as Roma operated in the Velký Šariš community over the past century, from the interwar republic to the post-communist Slovak state. Working with a decade of engaged fieldwork respectful of the subjects/Romani, the author argues that, rather than complying reflexively with administrative censures against their Roma neighbors, local citizens and authorities treated the minority differentially, accepting some as contributing members of their society and, thus, fellow Velký Šarišians. While certainly not enjoying "equal status" with Slovaks, the Roma in this eastern Slovak town were remarkably protected by local townspeople from discriminatory state diktats and even deportation during successive government regimes. Scheffel traces twentieth and twenty-first century Slovak-Roma relations in Velký Šariš to uncover the significant input and influence that local Roma contributed to the town's community. He also highlights the divisions among the local Roma themselves, between those who live in settlements (Bílovci), and the local, "town" Roma, where distinctions played out in terms of culture, class, and language: "As far as the town Roma are concerned, the Bílovci possess all the characteristics of an undesirable underclass that gives decent Gypsies a bad name. They accuse them of disorderly public conduct [*robía bordel*], excessive drinking, and an inability to speak proper Slovak."

These numerous stories and vignettes, witty, lucid and engaging style, and investment into written and oral sources are what make this essay a "must-read" for area scholars

who wish to probe deeper into the historic ties between Roma and their local Slovak communities, exploring ways peripheral communities such as the Roma can make claims for belonging.

Slovak Studies Association: Call for Nominations for Graduate Student Award

At its annual November 2017 meeting, during the ASEEEES conference, the Slovak Studies Association will award a prize for the best graduate student paper in the humanities and social sciences about Slovakia presented in 2014 or later. Submissions must be in English, but the conferences where the papers were presented may have taken place outside the English-speaking world. The authors are to be members in good standing of the SSA and must have been graduate students at the time they delivered the papers. Submissions may be either in hard copy or electronic form, and the review committee will not return any submitted items. **The deadline for postmarking submissions is 1 May 2017.** Send entries to Daniel E. Miller, Department of History, University of West Florida, 11000 University Parkway, Pensacola, FL 32514, USA, or miller-dem@CentralEuropeanObserver.com. Address any questions to Dr. Miller.



Exploring the History of Communism in Czechoslovakia through “Socialism Realised”

The Education Department of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes in Prague has been developing teaching materials for Czech and international (English language) use since 2014. They have now created an interactive website for teaching the history of Communism called “Socialism Realised,” which may be found at the URL: www.socialismrealised.eu (see also the report on the SVU Congress above).

In the words of the website creators, “This learning environment enables you to find and analyse multimedia content about the communist regimes in Europe. Using the Czechoslovak example, we describe the specifics of life in the Eastern bloc. The material here attempts to bring the experiences, thoughts, feelings and problems of people who lived during this era to life. Our aim is to reproduce the complexities and dilemmas of life under communism.”

The website contains links to instructional materials that include period movies, feature films, and archival documents, organized through connecting links using four “perspectives”—ideology, personal story, oppression, and memory; and seven “eras”—1950s show trials, 1960s collectivization of agriculture, 1968 Prague Spring, 1968 invasion, Normalization everyday life, Normalization dissidents, and 1989 regime collapse.

If this embarrassment of riches seems overwhelming, the creators of “Socialism

Realised” have included a webpage with thematic segments created by experts and teachers using the available resources of the site. They also welcome inquiries about lectures or programs for visiting students.

The contact person for those interested in pursuing potential use of the “Socialism Realised” site for teaching purposes is Karina Hoření (karina.horeni@ustrcr.cz).



News of the Membership

Hugh L. Agnew

Activities:

Presented a paper, “‘Za našich mladejch let bejval svět jako květ:’ Memories of an IREX year a decade after the Prague Spring,” at the ASEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Served as program chair for the SVU’s 28th World Congress in Bratislava, September 2016.

Muriel Blaive

Activities:

Presented a paper, “A Time Period When Nothing Happened? Studying, Representing, and Teaching ‘Non-Events’ in the History of Czechoslovak Socialism,” at the ASEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Jonathan Bolton

Activities:

Participated in a roundtable on “The Relevance of Václav Havel’s ‘The Power of

the Powerless' Today," at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

John Connelly

Activities:

Participated in the roundtable "Presidential Plenary I: On Whose Authority? How Area Studies Scholars Can Go Global, or Not," at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016

David L. Cooper

Activities:

Presented a paper, "How is Translation Like Forgery? What We Might Really Learn from Studying Pseudotranslation," at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016

Zdeněk David

Activities:

Presented a paper, "Jan Patočka's Assessment of European Civilization: from Exaltation to Disillusionment," at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016

Andrew M. Drozd

Activities:

Presented a paper, "Memories of Polemics Past: Koznyshev and the Hostile Critic in Anna Karenina," at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Robert K. Evanson

Activities:

Presented a paper, "Kicked Out of Czechoslovakia: The Fate of Postwar

German and Hungarian Refugees, Then & Now," at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Melissa Feinberg

Activities:

Presented a paper, "Battling the Big Lie with Our Truth: Emotion and Objectivity in Early Radio Free Europe Broadcasts," at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Gregory C. Ference

Activities:

Presented a paper, "The Cleveland Agreement of 1915," at the 28th World Congress of the SVU in Bratislava, September 2016.

Benjamin Frommer

Activities:

Participated in a roundtable, "Interpreting Inter marriage: Interethnic Families in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe and Eurasia," at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

David Gerlach

Activities:

Presented a paper, "Demanding Reparations, Denying Restitution: The Curious Case of Postwar Czechoslovakia," at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Cathleen M. Giustino

Activities:

Presented a paper, "'We Decorate Women of the Whole World:' Bijoux de Bohême and the Work of Female Bodies for

Czechoslovak Socialism,” at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Christopher Harwood

Activities:

Presented a paper, “The Problem of Fatherhood in Milan Kundera’s Fiction,” at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Presented a talk, “The Unbearable Weight of Paternity: The Problem of Fatherhood in Milan Kundera’s Fiction,” to the NYC chapter of the SVU, February 22, 2017.

Frank Henschel

Activities:

Received funding from the German Fritz-Thyssen Foundation for a two-year research project “Engineering Dis/ability in a Modern Society: Children’s Homes in Socialist Czechoslovakia.” The project is housed at the University of Bremen and supervised by Professor Martina Winkler. The project aims to analyze the creation and structure of facilities of residential care for “disabled” children by the Czechoslovak state after 1945/48 as well as the programs and concepts of special pedagogy, “defectology,” psychology or psychiatry and pediatrics in order to care for, educate, and rehabilitate these children.

During preliminary research on this topic, also funded by a grant from the Thyssen Foundation, reconstructed the legal and institutional development of state-run children’s homes in Czechoslovakia after 1945/48. This research led to publications noted below.

Frank would welcome exchanges of ideas and collaborations (workshops, ASEEEES-panels, publications) with other researchers in the field of the history of childhood and youth, history of sciences (especially psychology, pediatrics, pedagogy, defectology), social and family politics, dis/ability studies and related fields. Contact: fhensche@uni-bremen.de.

Publications:

“‘All Children Are Ours’—Children’s Homes in Socialist Czechoslovakia as Laboratories of Social Engineering,” *Bohemia* 56/1 (2016): 122-144.

Forthcoming publications:

“A Project of Social Engineering: Scientific Experts and the ‘Child-Issue’ in Socialist Czechoslovakia,” *Acta Historica Universitatis Silesianae Opaviensis*.

“Adoption, Foster Care and SOS-Children’s Villages in Socialist Czechoslovakia—Engineering Social Parenthood,” *Soudobé dějiny*.

Franks also contributed a chapter to a collective monograph about children and childhood in socialist Czechoslovakia, edited by Jiří Knapík (University of Opava), to be published shortly.

Karla Huebner

Activities:

Presented a paper, “The Interwar Czech Avant-Garde in Caricature and Cartoon,” at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Owen V. Johnson

Activities:

Presented a paper, “Light & Shadows: Living and Doing Research in Communist Czechoslovakia, 1972-1989,” at the ASEEEES Convention, Washington, DC, November 2016.

Rebekah Klein-Pejšová

Activities:

Presented a paper, “Making ‘Black Alijah’: Paths of Jewish Postwar Dispersion,” at the ASEEEES Convention, Washington, DC, November 2016.

Jacob Labendz

Activities:

Presented a paper, “Religious Spaces as Managed Sites of Czech-Jewish Ethnic Belonging in Communist Czechoslovakia,” at the ASEEEES Convention, Washington, DC, November 2016.

Jonathan L. Larson

Activities:

Participated in a roundtable, “Re-Narrativizing Heroism in Central and Eastern Europe,” at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Carol Skalnik Leff

Activities:

Presented a paper, “Contested History: The Politics of the Wartime Slovak State and the Slovak National Uprising in Post-Communist Slovakia,” at the ASEEEES Convention, Washington, DC, November 2016.

Marty Manor Mullins

Activities:

Presented a paper, “Postwar Policy toward Carpathian Germans and ‘Re-Slovakized’ Hungarians: Unusual Occurrences and Insincere Responses,” at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Job changes:

As of January 2017, Marty has been teaching at Flathead Community College in Kalispell, Montana.

Honors and recognitions:

Marty has been invited to give the Thomas Kukucka Memorial Lecture at the University of Pittsburgh in April, 2017.

James W. Peterson

Activities:

James’s paper (prepared with his brother, William J. Peterson), “Remembering the Czech Legion and the 1917 Battle of Zborov in the Poetry of Rudolf Medek,” was presented at the ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC, 2016, by the panel chair when family matters made it impossible for him to attend in person.

Honors and recognitions:

Received the Stanley B. Winters Distinguished Achievement award from the CSA at the November 2016 Convention of ASEEEES (see article above).

Francis D. Raška

Activities:

Presented a paper, “Reverend David G. Hathaway, His Bible Smuggling Activities

to Communist Europe, and Imprisonment in Communist Czechoslovakia (1972-1973),” at the ASEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Louis Reith

Activities:

Presented a paper, ““The Double-Edged Mirror of Vítězslava Kaprálová’s Song, *Sbohem a šáteček* (Waving Farewell).” at the 28th Congress of the SVU, Bratislava, September 2016.

John Luke Ryder

Activities:

Presented a paper, “The Slovak National Uprising of 1944 as a Transformation of Structures,” at the ASEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Leslie M. Waters

Activities:

Presented a paper, “Manufacturing Migration: Policy and Practice of the Slovak-Hungarian Population Exchange,” at the ASEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Deanna Gayle Wooley

Activities:

Presented a paper, ““We Were the Generation of Unspoken Assumptions:’ Generational Identity and the ‘Velvet Revolution’,” at the ASEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Kimberly Elman Zarecor

Activities:

Participated in a roundtable, “At Long Last: New Approaches and New Methodology on

The Stalinist Period in Czechoslovakia,” at the ASEEES Convention in Washington, DC, November 2016.

Presented her book *Manufacturing a Socialist Modernity: Housing in Czechoslovakia, 1945-1960* at the Czech Embassy, Washington, DC, in collaboration with the Slovak American Society of Washington, DC.

Honors and recognitions:

Was elected president of the Czechoslovak Studies Association, to begin her term in November 2016.

New Member

The Czechoslovak Studies Association is pleased to welcome a new member, **Suzanna Ivanič**. Suzanna is at the Faculty of History of the University of Cambridge, and specializes in Early Modern Central and Eastern Europe and material culture, in particular the religious material culture in Counter-Reformation Prague. She may be reached at sdi20@cam.ac.uk.

Summer Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The Summer Research Laboratory (SRL) on Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia is open to all scholars with research interests in the Russian, East European and Eurasian region for eight weeks during the summer months from June 12 until August 4. The SRL provides scholars access to the resources of the world renowned Slavic, East European,

and Eurasian collection within a flexible time frame where scholars have the opportunity to receive one-on-one research assistance from the librarians of the Slavic Reference Service (SRS).

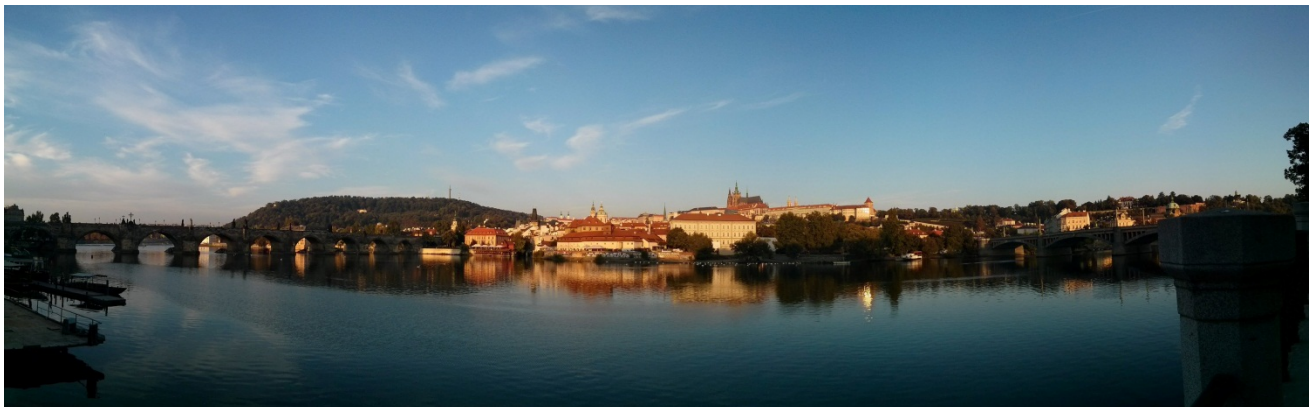
The deadline for grant funding is **March 15** and is fast approaching! REEEC will continue to receive applications for the Summer Research Lab after the grant deadline, but housing and travel funds will not be guaranteed.

For more information and to apply, please see the [REEEC SRL website](#).

This Space Reserved!

For news from *you*—your job and address changes, significant accomplishments, research projects and plans, publications and presentations, and any other information (such as interesting conferences attended or upcoming, work in various archives, libraries or other collections of source material and the like).

Updates can be sent either to the CSA President, Kimberly Elman Zarecor (zarecor@iastate.edu) or to Hugh Agnew (agnew@gwu.edu).



CZECHOSLOVAK STUDIES ASSOCIATION

DUES REMITTANCE, 2017

Dear CSA Member:

Your 2017 dues are now payable. Please complete the form below and return it with your dues to the Secretary-Treasurer by 15 April 2017. Persons who do not pay dues will have their names dropped from the *Newsletter* mailing list and will not receive the fall 2017 issue. Nonpayment of dues for two consecutive years will result in loss of membership.

The Czechoslovak Studies Association is eager to increase its membership. If you know persons who might qualify for membership in the Association list those persons' names and addresses or affiliations in the spaces provided on the back of this form. Thank you for this assistance.

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_____ Student (US\$5.00)

_____ Stanley Z. Pech Prize Fund Contribution

_____ CSA Book Prize Contribution

_____ CSA Sustaining Contribution

_____ Overseas Air Mail for *Newsletter* (US\$4.00)

_____ Overseas 10% discounted multi-year membership (includes air mail of
Newsletter): 5 years at US\$85.50 10 years at US\$171.00

_____ Total enclosed

Please make checks payable to the Czechoslovak Studies Association. **Dues must be paid in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank.**

****The CSA now has the ability to receive dues via PayPal. Please use the following email:
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MULTIPLE YEAR PAYMENTS ARE ACCEPTED.

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Please send this form and your payment by 15 April 2017 to:

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