

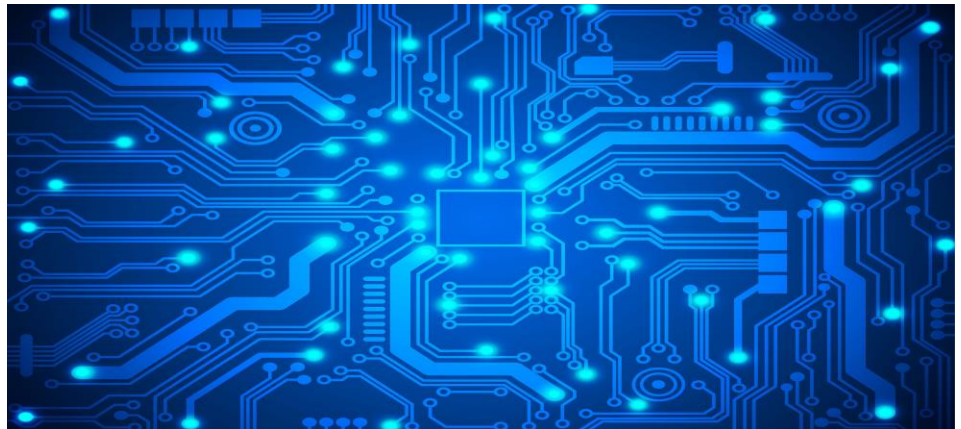
**CZECHOSLOVAK
STUDIES
ASSOCIATION**

**Newsletter of the Czechoslovak Studies
Association**

Volume 43 ▪ Nos. 1-2 ▪ SPRING-FALL 2020



The Annual Meeting of the Czechoslovak Studies Association will take place via Zoom on *Sunday, November 15*, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm in Virtual Convention Platform Room 2. CSA Vice President Jacob Labendz will be the host for the meeting



Also in this issue:

Minutes of the 2019 CSA General Meeting in San Francisco

Message from the President, Karla Huebner

Conferences and CFPs

News of the Membership

In Memoriam: Milan Fryšćák, Luďa Klusáková, Jan Křen, Barbara K. Reinfeld, Gerald Sabo, SJ

Sbohem a šáteček

**Karla Huebner
President**

**Jacob Ari Labendz
Vice President**

Officers-at-Large

**Muriel Blaive
Kateřina Čapková
Thomas Ort
Jindřich Toman**

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**OR
(especially during the
pandemic)**

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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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**Czechoslovak Studies
Association General Meeting
“at” the ASEES Convention
online**

November 4, 2019

The annual meeting of the Czechoslovak Studies Association will take place, following our usual practice, “at” the ASEES convention. Due to the pandemic the convention will not be in Washington, DC as originally planned, but online. Our meeting takes place on *Sunday, November 15* from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm, at online meeting room 2, with Vice President Jacob Ari Labendz as the meeting host.

The minutes of last year’s meeting are printed in this edition of the newsletter, along with the financial statement. Hard copies will be available at the meeting. The agenda will be distributed at the meeting, but as you recall from then CSA President Kimberly Zarecor’s message to the membership before the San Francisco meeting, the Czechoslovak Studies Association continues to face challenging times. These challenges have only been made more significant by the pandemic. We urge all CSA members to try to log in (in spite of Zoom fatigue many of may be feeling after teaching and meeting online since the lockdowns started) and contribute their ideas and concerns to the association’s leadership.

**Minutes of the Annual General
Meeting of the Czechoslovak
Studies Association**

**San Francisco, Marriott
Marquis**

Lacking a quorum, the meeting was called to order after a fifteen-minute delay at 7:00 pm by the President, Karla Huebner.

In the absence of newly-retired Secretary-Treasurer Gregory Ference, the financial report he prepared was presented by the outgoing President, Kimberly Elman Zarecor. The finances of the association continue to be in reasonably good shape, with an operating fund of some \$17,000 and nearly \$5,000 in the Pech Prize fund. Nevertheless, the two prize funds remain relatively weak and could use financial strengthening. For full details of the year ending November 6, 2019, see the complete statement printed in this newsletter.

After the financial report, the next order of business was a discussion of transition, membership, and finances. The new executive was introduced, consisting of Karla Huebner, President, Jacob Ari Labendz, Vice-President, and four at-large members: Muriel Blaive, Kateřina Čapková, Thomas Ort, and Jindřich Toman.

Membership rolls have been maintained for twenty years by Gregory Ference, and the CSA expressed its gratitude to him for his service. Kimberly Zarecor has compiled current membership data and updated the email list while the association explores the possibility of digitizing the database and membership/payment processes, though continuing to maintain a payment by check option would be important. Throughout this effort and in handing over accounts to Greg’s successor, every

effort will be made to continue to be IRS compliant.

In this transition, the association needs volunteers for three positions (assuming the decision to separate the functions of secretary from those of treasurer, which would require a bylaws change):

1. A *treasurer* who would manage the bank account, collect membership dues and contributions, pay out prize awards, and ideally help manage the leadership transition in general.
2. A *secretary* who would keep the minutes of meetings and maintain and update the bylaws as necessary, and
3. A *newsletter editor* (assuming the association continues to produce a newsletter in some form).

The interim newsletter editor, Hugh Agnew, reported that calendar year 2020 would be his final year as editor, a position he has held as interim since the resignation of James Peterson. The CSA expressed gratitude to both Jim and Hugh for the efforts on behalf of the newsletter.

Discussion followed on transitioning from a paper/electronic version of the newsletter to an all-online format, perhaps fed by social media (see further discussion below under social media). Many members still prefer to receive the newsletter in paper hardcopy form, and it was agreed to maintain this option for now. Karla Huebner and Daniel Miller, President of the Slovak Studies Association, have discussed the possibility of producing a joint

newsletter, which was introduced to the meeting as new business. Whether to send copies of the newsletter to people who have not paid their dues yet was discussed, without reaching a definitive decision.

On the issue of the society's presence on digital media, it was announced that a graduate student in the University of Toronto's MA program in digital humanities will take on a paid position as manager of the CSA's online and digital forum presence. The hope is that these online materials would be integrated into the compilation of the newsletter.

As announced in the Fall, 2019 issue of the newsletter, the CSA Book Prize awards were announced and presented. The prize went to Celia Donert for *The Rights of the Roma: The Struggle for Citizenship in Postwar Czechoslovakia* (Cambridge, 2017).

Honorable mention went to David Gerlach for *The Economy of Ethnic Cleansing: The Transformation of the German-Czech Borderlands after World War II* (Cambridge, 2017); and Roman David, *Communists and their Victims: The Quest for Justice in the Czech Republic* (University of Pennsylvania, 2018).

Next, in recognition of his selfless and long-running service in the post of Secretary-Treasurer, Gregory Ference was awarded the Stanley B. Winters Citation for Distinguished Service. Professor Winters had a long career in teaching and as a member of the Czechoslovak History Conference, now the Czechoslovak Studies Association.

For the full citation please see the Newsletter, Volume 42, No. 2.

The announcement of the annual Czech and Slovak Studies workshop scheduled for 2020 at the University of Pittsburgh was made, and details discussed. (See the story below about the cancellation of the workshop and its postponement to 2021).

The meeting took a moment to note recent publications (not necessarily by members) that would be of interest to the Czechoslovak Studies Association. Among the books mentioned were:

Robin Alison Remington and Robert K. Evanson, eds., *Globalization and Regime Change* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2020).

Jiří Hutečka, *Men Under Fire: Motivation, Morale, and Masculinity among Czech Soldiers in the Great War, 1914-1918* (Berghahn Books, 2019).

Prague and Beyond: Jews in the Bohemian Lands, an edited volume under production and funded by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation.

Victoria Schmidt, ed., *The Politics of Disability in Interwar and Socialist Czechoslovakia: Segregating in the Name of the Nation* (Amsterdam University, 2019).

Under new business, volunteers were solicited for the Pech Prize Committee, to determine the award the association gives every other year to the best article in the areas of its interest for the preceding two years. Hugh Agnew and Todd Huebner have agreed to serve on the Pech Prize Committee (see note

about the impact of the pandemic on the process and the request for the other volunteers to come forward below).

Discussion followed about the proposal to collaborate with the Slovak Studies Association (there is some membership overlap), especially in the proposed production of a joint newsletter (proposed title, *Lipa*). The newsletter should have editors from both scholarly associations and would maintain the independence of both groups. To that end, the affiliations of anyone mentioned in the newsletter would be indicated. The proposed process of deciding would be that the CSA and the SSA would compose a joint letter to be sent to both membership lists for discussion.

Further items of new business discussion included the need to review the bylaws in light of the suggestion to split the office of Secretary-Treasurer into its two functions. This would necessitate a bylaws change and it would be a good opportunity to review the entire bylaws to see if other amendments are needed. The meeting left it to the CSA executive to discuss and determine what, if any, bylaw revisions are needed at this time.

Sponsoring panels at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association also came up for discussion. Cynthia Paces recalled that this had been done with some success in the past and volunteered to contact the AHA to find out what steps to take to that end.

Finally, the president reiterated that we need volunteers for the Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor positions. There being no further discussion a motion to adjourned was presented and approved.

A Message from the President

I began my term as president of the Czechoslovak Studies Association last fall and so this is my first newsletter message. As you may know, I have been a member for many years and have been on the Book Prize committee several times; in following Kimberly Elman Zarecor, the first architectural historian to hold this position, I too bring a visual culture perspective as an art historian who also writes about gender, sexuality, and periodical studies. Our current vice president, Jacob Ari Labendz, brings additional breadth as a scholar of Judaic and Holocaust Studies. I believe that one of the strengths of our organization is the diversity of scholarly emphases within our membership, and I hope that during my term as president we can reach out to and attract many of the newer and up-and-coming scholars in the field.

We have had, sad to say, a somewhat unexpectedly bumpy path as an organization during this past year. With the retirements of longtime stalwarts Jim Peterson (newsletter) and Greg Ference (Secretary-Treasurer), both the previous board and the current board have struggled to find volunteers to take on these vital roles. Hugh Agnew has been filling in as interim newsletter editor for several years now but needs to step down, so I encourage you to consider volunteering for this position. Regarding the Secretary-Treasurer position, we are fortunate that Board member Thomas Ort has stepped up to be interim Secretary-Treasurer. But of course, just as we were gearing up to make some of these important changes and really get

rolling with membership renewals and recruitment, along came the global COVID-19 pandemic! Most of us have had to turn our energies toward remote teaching, to mentoring students who were in some cases turned out of their dorms, or who had family health crises, or were stuck far from home when flights began to be cancelled. For many of us, research ground to a halt due to travel restrictions, closures of libraries and archives, and stay-at-home orders. As a result, we made the decision (suggested by Greg Ference as outgoing Secretary-Treasurer) to have a dues holiday for 2020.

Problems of 2020 aside, where do we stand as an organization? In 2017, our then-president Kimberly Zarecor noted that Czechoslovak Studies is experiencing a period of transition. I believe we are still in this transition. Kimberly noted a set of positive, negative, and mixed factors affecting our field and organization. First, pre-COVID, North Americans experienced easier access to the Czech Republic and Slovakia while Czech and Slovak scholars likewise had better access to North American conferences and resources (inexpensive flights, online communication, new opportunities for international collaboration). There has also been re-emerging interest in the larger region in recent years due to developments relating to Brexit, neo-fascism, Russia's significance in European economics and defense, Central European responses to the refugee crisis, and now I would guess, specific national responses to COVID-19. On the other hand, there has been diminished funding for research in the region, especially as North American universities demand increased teaching

and service from faculty. In other words, while new possibilities exist for significant collaboration, there is dwindling support for participation. Finally, our membership has shifted. Many long-standing North American members have recently retired, but new members are joining from Europe as Czech and Slovak scholars are increasingly active in the international community. Therefore, what role do we see for CSA going forward? How should we be engaging with Czech and Slovak academic organizations? Kimberly posed these questions to the membership three years ago and they remain pertinent today. The newsletter, our annual membership meeting at ASEEEES, and our Facebook pages are excellent venues for discussion.

As we move forward into the 2020s, it is important for us to have a professional and well-functioning face to the world, and smooth communications. This has not always been easy for us to manage. Ana Herran is currently working with Vice President Jacob Labendz to improve our online presence. Ana will be creating a new site using WordPress, which integrates well with MailChimp. In addition to a Home page, we anticipate pages that include About (history and officer information); dues payment portal using PayPal; blog; community calendar with event submission portal; newsletter archive page; page with list of Pech Prize and Book Prize winners; Links/resources page. We can also install widgets that will stream content from our Facebook page. I am excited to have Ana on board as our Web designer.

Regarding the newsletter and its future, Hugh Agnew is stepping down as

interim editor, and I want to thank him for his efforts of the past few years. There has been discussion regarding whether to keep the same style of newsletter given the lack of a new volunteer to edit it. At the 2019 membership meeting in San Francisco, we discussed the possibility of producing a combined newsletter with the Slovak Studies Association, with two editors (one representing each organization). This is one possible path forward. Another option is to go more toward shorter, more frequent, email newsletters using MailChimp, or a mix of a big newsletter and small ones. Our organizational members and a percentage of our individual members want to receive a physical newsletter. At the same time, many individual members are content to receive an emailed newsletter. Whichever path forward we take, please contact the Board if you would be interested in editing and shaping the newsletter of the future!

As most of you know, the 2020 ASEEEES conference will be virtual via Zoom rather than in Washington, DC as previously planned. Our annual CSA membership meeting will be November 15 from 1:30 - 3:00 in Virtual Convention Platform Room 2. Jacob Labendz will be the Zoom Host for our meeting. I hope that the virtual nature of ASEEEES, plus the late-in-conference timing of our meeting, will make it possible for a particularly well attended meeting!

As CSA President, I hope that with Thomas Ort as interim Secretary-Treasurer, with Ana Herran's help in updating our online presence, and with a new newsletter editor, we can make a membership push in 2021 and keep the

CSA a valuable resource for scholars of Czechoslovak Studies. Our goal moving forward is to keep the organization meaningful to everyone and able to adapt to changing circumstances.

We were all disappointed when one of the ways the covid pandemic had an impact on us was the cancellation of the annual Workshop on Czech and Slovak Studies, which was to have been held in 2020 at the University of Pittsburgh. Therefore, we are delighted to include this happy news:



Call For Papers: Twentieth Annual Czech And Slovak Studies Workshop

March 18-21, 2021

The Twentieth Annual Czech and Slovak Studies Workshop *will be held virtually* at the University of Pittsburgh on March 18-21, 2021. The program committee welcomes proposals for papers on Czech and Slovak topics, broadly defined, in all disciplines. In the past, the areas of interest have been: anthropology, architecture, art, economics, education, film, geography, history, Jewish studies, linguistics, literature, music, philosophy, politics, religion, society, sociology, and theater. The Czech and Slovak Studies Workshop aims to bring together researchers, scientists, faculty members and advanced graduate students to exchange their experiences, research results, and ideas. New work in progress

is appropriate for our workshop format. Each speaker is typically allotted a 50-minute slot divided between a presentation and active discussion.

This year's keynote speaker will be **Pavol Demeš**, an internationally recognized NGO leader who opened German Marshall Fund (GMF) of the United States office in Bratislava, Slovak Republic, in 2000 in order to oversee GMF's activities in Central and Eastern Europe. Before joining GMF, Demeš was executive director of the Slovak Academic Information Agency – Service Center for the Third Sector, a Slovak NGO committed to enhancing civil society. Previously, he served his country as foreign policy advisor to the president of the Slovak Republic (1993-1997), minister of international relations (1991-1992), and director of the Department of Foreign Relations in the Ministry of Education (1990-1991).

The workshop is a collaboration of the University of Pittsburgh, the Czechoslovak Studies Association, and the Slovak Studies Association.

The deadline for submitting proposals is December 15, 2020.

Submissions should include:

- Name, institutional affiliation and contact details of each author (full mailing address, email address, daytime telephone)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Statement indicating in which years the applicant has previously submitted proposals to and/or participated in the Czech and Slovak Studies Workshop
- Presentation title
- Keywords

- An abstract of approximately 250 words, outlining the presentation Applications should be submitted by e-mail to Marcela Micháľková at the address: michalkova@pitt.edu.

Any questions can also be sent directly to Marcela at michalkova@pitt.edu.



An Upcoming Workshop That Should Interest the CSA Membership



Orel Beilinson of Yale University announces the tentative program of

Krúžok: A Working Group for Central and East European History, in which early-career scholars, most of them PhD students from both sides of the Atlantic, will present their work in progress. Themes range over Central and Eastern Europe but include Czech/Slovak topics among them.

Workshop sessions are open for attendance by scholars, and to join the mailing list, please email Professor Beilinson at orel.beilinson@yale.edu

Call for Proposals

25th Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN)

Online
Sponsored by the Harriman Institute
(Columbia University)
6-8 May 2021

****Proposal Deadline: 11 November 2020****

Proposals must be submitted to darel@uottawa.ca and darelasn2021@gmail.com.

The Association for the Study of Nationalities is proud to announce the return its Annual Convention. *The ASN 2021 Annual World Convention will take place entirely online on 6-8 May 2021.* Its 25th Anniversary, after an unforeseen hiatus forced upon us by the pandemic, will be celebrated with style.

Adapting to an Online Format: Key Points

*The scope of the Convention will be as large as previous Conventions held in person at Columbia University, i.e., between 150-170 panels/events running over three days.

*The panels, however, will be shorter: 90 minutes, instead of the usual 120 minutes.

*Most of the panels, as before, will be structured around presentations based on written papers. There will also be book panels, roundtables, film screenings and special events.

*Given the circumstances, in an effort to minimize technical problems, all panel chairs will be selected by the Convention Program Committee.

*Registered panelists and non-panelists will be able to attend any session they want. Registration and membership fees will be announced later. A few special events will be open to the general public without a registration wall.

*Applicants whose paper or panel proposal was accepted in 2020 can resubmit their application (or a revised version), using the updated application forms. The Convention will look favorably at these applications, without being able to make guarantees in advance that applicants will be on the program.

*The schedule will take into consideration the panelists' time zone.

*In the wake of the pandemic, ASN has successfully launched a new initiative – Virtual ASN (vASN). Events are planned throughout the year. The ASN

World Convention is entirely distinct from vASN.

The Convention

Over 150 Panels/Events in 11 Sections

Nationalism
Migration, Refugees, and Diasporas
Balkans
Central Europe
Ukraine
Russia
Caucasus
Eurasia (Central Asia and China)
Turkey and Greece
Book Panels
World Documentary Films

Thematic Sections:

Populism, Radicalism, Far Right
Historical and Political Memory
Political Violence
Nationalism and Race
Nationalism and the Pandemic

ASN Awards:

Best Doctoral Papers
Best Book on Nationalism (*Joseph Rothschild Award*)
Best Documentary Film
Best Article in Nationalities Papers (*Huttenbach Prize*)
The *Nationalities Papers* Photo Contest

The Scope of the Convention

The ASN Annual World Convention, which annually brings together 750+ scholars from 50+ countries, welcomes proposals on a wide range of topics related to nationalism, national identity, ethnicity, race, conflict and migration in regional sections of Central, Southern

and Eastern Europe or cross-regional sections in nationalism studies and migration/diaspora studies.

In addition to the thematic sections on populism/radicalism, memory, violence, nationalism and race, and nationalism and the pandemic, popular themes over the years have included gender, language, religion, EU integration/exit, security, nation-building, energy politics, parties and elections, youth, media, and civil society.

Disciplines represented include political science, history, anthropology, sociology, international studies, security studies, area studies, economics, geography, literature, and other fields of humanities and social sciences.

Prospective applicants can get a sense of the large thematic scope of ASN Convention papers and presentations by looking at the 2019 Final Program.

Applying to the Convention

To send a proposal, fill out a [Fact Sheet](#) online, download the relevant form below and send it by attachment to darel@uottawa.ca and darelasn2021@gmail.com.

Paper Proposal
Panel Proposal
Roundtable Proposal
Book Panel Proposal
Documentary Film Proposal

Each form can be downloaded at <https://www.asnconvention.com/proposals>.

Applying to the Convention: Key Points

*Only ONE paper proposal by applicant will be considered, whether as an individual paper proposal or as part of a panel proposal. If your name appears on more than one paper proposal, your applications will not be considered.

*Since the length of the panel will be shorter than usual (90 minutes), an individual paper proposal can only include the name of ONE author. If the paper was co-written, this will be acknowledged in the online program, but only the author whose name appears on the proposal will present. Panel proposals can only include single-authored papers.

•Proposals for panels, roundtables or book panels do NOT include a Chair. Exceptionally, the Convention Program Committee will select all the Chairs.

•Applicants can be on a maximum of TWO proposals (and only on ONE paper proposal). For example, you can submit an individual paper proposal and be discussant on a panel proposal, or participant in a roundtable or a book panel. If your name appears on more than TWO proposals, your applications will not be considered. This rule does not apply to a Documentary Film Proposal.

•Book panel proposals will be considered for monographs published in 2019, 2020 or early 2021. Co-authored book panel proposals will be considered. Edited volumes will not be considered.

•Documentary film proposals will be considered for films produced in 2019, 2020 or 2021.

•An international Program Committee is entrusted with the selection of proposals. Applicants will be notified by January 2021.

*Publishers and companies wishing to advertise in the Convention online program can contact ASN Executive Director Ryan Kreider at rk2780@columbia.edu.

The ASN Convention website is at <http://asnconvention.com>

The ASN website is at <http://nationalities.org>

To follow us on Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/Nationalities>

To follow us on Twitter, go to [@asn_org](https://twitter.com/asn_org)

We very much look forward to receiving your proposal!

Dominique Arel, ASN Convention Director

Lisa Koriouchkina, ASN Communications Director

Alexandra Wishart, ASN Convention Assistant Director

On behalf of the ASN Convention Program Committee and Organizing Committee

Deadline for proposals: 11 November 2020 (to be sent to both darel@uottawa.ca AND darelasn2021@gmail.com in a single attachment).

News of the Membership

Bruce Berglund

Presentations:

Presented on the ill-fated 1950 Czechoslovak national hockey team on the NPR program "Only a Game." The story, "Hockey, Politics and 'Treason'" was broadcast on March 14, 2020. It is available for you to listen at: <https://www.wbur.org/onlyagame/2020/03/13/czechoslovakia-hockey-treason-arrested>.

Publication:

Bruce's book, *The Fastest Game in the World: Hockey and the Globalization of Sports*, includes significant discussion of Czech and Slovak hockey. Forthcoming in December 2020 from the University of California Press.

<https://www.ucpress.edu/book/9780520303737/the-fastest-game-in-the-world>

Muriel Blaive

Presentation

Muriel gave an online Zoom presentation at the Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften at the Kunstuniversität Linz in Wien, on "The Czechoslovak Communist Regime: Contemporary Issues in Handling the Past."

Despite public demand, the political repression exerted under communism has gone largely unpunished. How is this possible? This lecture examines the historical, legal, and political context that led to this dissatisfying situation, as well as possible remedies.

Almost all political repression committed under communism has remained unpunished due to expired statutes of limitation (typically twenty years). The category of *crimes against*

humanity, however, which eliminates any statute of limitation because of its retroactive character, would appear as an ideal tool to restore a measure of justice. Why, then, have historians and jurists generally ignored it? This project analyzes the complex issues that such a resort would bring to the fore. It shows that the necessity of preserving the continuity of the state and of preventing the failure of the democratic process has overdetermined policies of dealing with the past. The minutiae of an elaborate judicial process, which were potentially explosive for the new elites, were sacrificed to the political success of the revolution.

Peter Bugge

Presentation

Peter received the Gratias Agit award from the Czech Foreign Ministry for promoting the good name of the Czech Republic. On that occasion, the English service of Czech Radio interviewed him. The interview (including a print transcript), is available at this link: <https://english.radio.cz/danish-historian-peter-bugge-his-fascination-czech-culture-and-memories-velvet-8698990>

Zdeněk David

Publications:

“Masaryk's Relation to the Austrian Philosophical Tradition: Brentano's Disciples and Johann Herbart,” *Comenius: Journal of Euro-American Civilization*, 6, no. 2 (2019), 151-169.

“A Unique Testament of Bohemian Utraquism: Pavel Bydžovský's 1554 Treatise on the English Martyrs,”

Bohemia: A Journal of History and Civilization in East Central Europe, 59 (2019), 2, 1- 21.

Andrew Drozd

Andrew notes that at the recent AATSEEL conference there was a discussion about setting up a listserv for discussion of Czech Studies (language and literature). His home institution, the University of Alabama, has approved setting up a listserv for that purpose, which is open to anyone interested.

To join, you just send a message to listserv@listserv.ua.edu, no subject is needed. In the first line type:

SUB Czech FirstName LastName

You should receive a confirmation message. To post to the list, send a message to Czech@listserv.ua.edu.

Frank Henschel

Frank, together with Martina Winkler (Eastern European History, U Kiel), Gabriela Dudeková Kováčová (Historický ústav SAV, Bratislava), Jan Randák (Ústav českých dějin - UK Praha) organized the Annual Conference of the Collegium Carolinum taking place from November 7-10 2019 in Fischbachau, Bavaria. The theme was “Childhoods in the Bohemian Lands and Slovakia in the 19th and 20th Century” and they had some 20 presentations and a lively debate about using childhood as an analytical category in historical research of the region or how to find and interpret sources from or about children. The results are currently collected and are being reviewed by the organizers in order to publish an edited volume by the

end of the year—as for the recent volumes of Collegium Carolinum editions all in English for an international audience.

Owen Johnson

Owen reports that he played the role of a passerby in an episode of “The Ernie Pyle Experiment,” a thirteen-part podcast series:

<https://indianapublicmedia.org/erniepilepodcast/episodes.php>.

Michael Kopanic

Michael published an article on Milan Rastislav Štefánik in *1914-1918 Online: International Encyclopedia of the First World War* https://encyclopedia.1914-1918-online.net/article/stefanik_milan_rastislav/?=1587452463

Kevin McNamara

Publications

Kevin’s 2016 book, *Dreams of a Great Small Nation*, will be published in Czech and Slovak versions by Slovart Publishing (Prague and Bratislava) in 2020 as *Velký Sen: Dvou Malých Národů. Československé legie v Rusku a vznik první republiky* (Czech), and *Velký Sen: Dvoch Malých Národov. Česko-slovenské légie v Rusku a vznik prvej republiky* (Slovak).

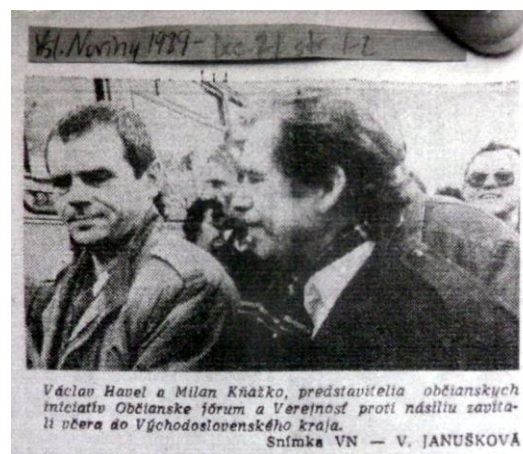
Kevin also contributed a forward, “A Slovak Unbound: The Global Impact of Štefánik’s Brief Life,” to the forthcoming English translation of a biography, *Milan Rastislav Štefánik: A Man of Iron Will* (Prebijem sa! Štefánik. Muž železnej vole), by Jozef Banáš,

translated by James Sutherland-Smith (New York, NY, and Bratislava, SK: Hybrid Global Publishing & Global Slovakia, 2020)

Marty Manor Mullins

Publication:

Marty’s article, “Forgotten Velvet: Understanding Eastern Slovakia’s 1989,” appeared in the journal *New Perspectives: Interdisciplinary Journal of Central and East European Politics and International Relations*, vol. 27, no. 3, (Winter 2019): 63-100.



By focusing on the experience of Eastern Slovakia during Czechoslovakia's 1989 Velvet Revolution, this article examines the motivations propelling local revolutionaries who opposed the Communist regime at great risk to themselves and their families. It asks what inspired those who countered the government 30 years ago and argues that, for many, ideological factors were the primary driver, rather than economic considerations. Free Download available at this link:

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/2336825X1902700304#>

Martin Nekola

Martin has been producing a series of interviews with Czechs and Slovaks abroad, called “Czechoslovak Talks,” (www.czechoslovaktalks.com/en). He is also collaborating with the founder of the project, Dr. Jaroslav Horky, whose law firm has been providing legal assistance to Czechs and Slovaks living in North America for twenty years. Together they have produced a short explanation of the Czech Citizenship Act and are providing free online consultation to Czech-Americans regarding citizenship questions. For more information contact the firm at info@ak-hp.cz

Jaroslav Pánek

Publications:

European Migration Crisis (An outline of the topic in 27 points), Pardubice, University of Pardubice 2018.

A History of the Czech Lands. Second enlarged edition, ed. by Jaroslav Pánek and Oldřich Tůma, Prague, Karolinum 2018.

“A New Image of the World at the Beginning of Modern Times (European Humanist Sebastian Münster and his *Cosmographia*),” *Comenius. Journal of Euro-American Civilization* 5 (2018), pp. 9-28.

“Arystokratka między bogactwem, bezsilnością i rozpaczą (Szlachcianka z Jednoty Braci Czeskich: model historiograficzny a rzeczywista postać),” in: *Świat kobiet w Czechach i w Polsce w średniowieczu i w epoce nowożytnej*,

eds. Wojciech Iwańczak et alii, Cracow 2018, pp. 581-596.

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“Dva české pokusy o uchopení evropských dějin (Výsledky a limity římských výzkumů Karla Stloukala a Josefa Matouška),” in: *Souboj mečů, idejí a charakterů. K životnímu jubileu prof. Ivana Šedivého*, eds. Jana Čechurová et alii, Prague 2019, pp. 183-198.

James Peterson

Jim reports that the book he co-authored with Jacek Lubecki in 2019 in hardcover just came out this spring in a paperback version. It is entitled *Defense policies of East-Central European countries after 1989: Creating stability in a time of uncertainty*, (Manchester University Press). The book covers defense policies of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia.

Peter Stein

Peter is one of our newer members. He notes: “I was a sociologist at the University of North Carolina's Institute on Aging conducting research and developing social policies for older workers. I retired and with my wife moved to DC to be closer to our family, especially 5 year old grandson Jackson.

I am currently a Survivor Volunteer at the USHMM in DC meeting groups of students and adult visitors to the museum and lecturing about the history of the Holocaust.

I recently published a memoir of my war experiences titled *A Boy's Journey: From Nazi-Occupied Prague to Freedom in America*. I grew up as a child of a Catholic mother and a Jewish father; my Dad was the only member of a large Jewish family to survive the Holocaust.”

The book has been reviewed by CSA member Chad Bryant, who wrote: “Peter Stein has produced a remarkable tale of Nazi occupation, the Holocaust and emigration that reimagines events from the perspective of a young boy. Part history, part memoir, *A Boy's Journey* is a touching, eloquent act of remembrance.”

Members Should Watch Out for This Award

The American Friends of the Documentation Center of Austrian Resistance/Vienna, supported by Center Austria: The Marshall Plan Center for European Studies at the University of

New Orleans present an annual award named in honor of Radomír Luža. The award is given for an outstanding work in the field of Austrian and/or Czechoslovak History in the 20th Century. This prize carries a cash award of \$1000.00 and seeks to encourage research in the abovementioned fields focusing on the fields Professor Radomír Luža worked in.

The award is announced at the German Studies Association meetings, and this year went to Rachel Appelbaum of Tufts University for her book *Empire of Friends: Soviet Power and Socialist Internationalism in Cold War Czechoslovakia* (Cornell University Press) and Abigail Weil, for her doctoral dissertation in Slavic Literature at Harvard University, “Man is Indestructible: Legend and Legitimacy in the Worlds of Jaroslav Hasek.”

CSA members who would be interested in submitting work for consideration should watch the website of the Center Austria at University of New Orleans (<https://www.centeraustria.org>) for an announcement of the next competition.

And Speaking of Prizes... Pech Prize Update

Due to the upheaval caused by the pandemic, the Pech Prize committee has not yet received and evaluated submissions for the award. Therefore, it seems best to extend the deliberation process through this academic year, and announce the winner in 2021. Articles should still be limited to the original years of submission, however. The winner could then be announced at the

next ASEEEES convention (let us hope, by then, to be face-to-face again).

Hugh Agnew and Todd Huebner would be grateful if the person(s) who volunteered to serve on the committee at the San Francisco general meeting would contact them (agnew@gwu.edu and/or thuebner@verizon.net).

In Memoriam

Sadly, we note the passing of several scholars known to many of us, some of whom were long-time members of the Czechoslovak Studies Association and its predecessor, the Czechoslovak History Conference.

Milan Fryšćák

We at New York University are very sorry to announce the passing of Professor Milan Fryšćák, longtime professor of Russian and Slavic Studies and our valued colleague.



Milan Fryšćák was born in Dobra near Frydek-Místek on June 27, 1932. He attended preparatory high school in Místek and received his B.A. from Palacky University in Olomouc in 1956. In the fall of 1957, he made a daring escape from Czechoslovakia when a ship on which he was travelling docked in Venice, Italy. He spent the next year and

a half as a political refugee in camps in Cremona and Naples before emigrating to Racine, Wisconsin, in 1959. In 1960 Fryščák began his studies at the University of California, Berkeley, where he obtained an M.A. in Slavic Languages and Linguistics in 1962. In 1964 he became an American citizen and started teaching in the Russian Language department of Wittenberg University. He received his PhD in Slavic Linguistics from The Ohio State University in 1969.

From 1971 until his retirement in 2008, Prof. Fryščák taught at New York University in the Department of Russian and Slavic Studies, where he served regularly as graduate advisor to Masters and PhD students. From the 1970s through the 1990s he spent the majority of his summers directing and teaching at the Russian School of Norwich University in Vermont.

In 1988 Prof. Fryščák was selected by IREX for an academic exchange between the United States and Czechoslovakia. After 31 years in exile, the exchange allowed him to reunite with his younger brother and other relatives.

Following the Velvet Revolution in 1989, Prof. Fryščák was instrumental in establishing some of the first scholarly exchanges between Charles University and NYU. He served as Director of NYU's Summer Program in Prague, lectured at Charles University, and taught in their Summer School of Slavonic Studies. In recognition of his efforts, on the occasion of the 650th anniversary of the founding of Charles University he was honored with the Charles University Memorial Medal ("Nummum Memorialem").

Prof. Fryščák was a leader and active participant in numerous Czech cultural and émigré organizations for over 40 years. He served for many years as President of the New York chapter of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences, in which capacity he organized three conferences held at NYU and Columbia University. He was the General Secretary of the Czech and Slovak Solidarity Council (which was until 1993 known as the Council of Free Czechoslovakia) and a member of the Management Committee of the American Fund for Czech and Slovak Relief. Until health issues prevented him from continuing, Prof. Fryščák remained very active in Czech-American organizations. (Adapted from the New York University Department of Slavic Studies obituary)

Lud'a Klusáková



With deep regret, we announce that in the early morning on April 8, 2020, our beloved colleague and TEMA+ Scientific Coordinator, Prof. PhDr. Lud'a Klusáková, CSc. passed away after a severe illness. She worked at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University, for more than 40 years and her endeavour significantly contributed to the forming

of the Institute of World History, its scientific and pedagogical accomplishments and expansion of international contacts.

Prof. Klusáková graduated from two programmes, History and French, at CUFA. Briefly, she worked as a research assistant at Archive of Charles University; from 1978 until the present, she worked at CUFA. In 2000, she became the director of the Seminar of World and Comparative History. She was expertly focused on the comparative study of cities' modernization, their image in culture, and the use of cultural heritage and history as a strategy of local and regional development.

She contributed to the Institute's engagement in eminent European research and educational projects, for example, our TEMA and TEMA+ (European Territories: Heritage and Development) Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree programmes. The French Government awarded her with the Order of Merit in Education, Science and Culture Chevalier de l'ordre des palmes académiques. Between 2010-2012, she was the President of the European Association for Urban History. In 2019, she was appointed the Foreign Member of Finnish Academy of Sciences for her exceptional scientific merits.

She was a person that with her unceasing energy repeatedly proved her research and organizational abilities, yet at the same time, she maintained a human and helpful approach to her colleagues and also students. She is dearly missed by all members of the TEMA+ programme, her students, the faculty, academia, and by many foreign colleagues from all

over the world, with whom she actively cooperated.

Without her, the TEMA and TEMA+ programmes would not have been possible.

Her memory and legacy will live on forever in our lives and in our hearts.

(By Professor Gábor Sonkoly, DSc TEMA+ Scientific Manager on behalf of all members of the TEMA(+) Consortium and programme.)

Jan Křen

On April 7, 2020, Jan Křen died of covid-19 at the hospital Na Bulovce. He would have turned 90 in the summer.



After the Second World War, Křen joined the KSČ, at the turn of the 40s and 50s he completed his historical studies. Until 1970 he worked as the chair of the Department of History at the Vysoká školá politická and at the Philosophical Faculty of Charles University. He focused on the history of the first Czechoslovak republic, the KSČ, and the Czechoslovak resistance during the Second World War.

During the “thaw” of the 60s he was one of the first Czech historians to take up

the topic of the expulsion of the Germans from Czechoslovakia after the Second World War. After his expulsion from the KSČ he worked as a laborer, and belongs among the founders of the dissident journal *Historické studie*.

During the 1980s one of Křen's most significant works was published by the exile press Sixty-Eight Publishers. That work was his *Konfliktní společenství. Češi a Němci 1780–1918*, which was later published also in Germany. He received the award "Magnesia Litera" in the educational literature category for his book *Dvě století střední Evropy* in 2009.

After the revolution of 1989, Křen was one of the founders of the Institute of International Studies at the newly established Faculty of Social Sciences of the Charles University, and was its first director. He was also one of the initiators and chair of the Czech-German Historians Commission and was involved in the Czech-German Foundation for the Future.

As a visiting professor, he taught at universities in Bremen, Berlin, and Marburg. In 2000, he was awarded the Grand Cross for Merit of the Order of Merit of the German Federal Republic. (Taken from Czech Radio <https://www.irozhlas.cz>, translated by HLA)

Barbara Kimmel Reinfeld

Barbara Kimmel Reinfeld, née Koháková, was born in Prague in 1935 and fled to the West with her family in 1948. They settled in America, where she completed her undergraduate education at Carleton College, and her M.A. and Ph.D. at Columbia University.



Her dissertation led to the publication of her book *Karel Havlíček (1821-1856): A National Liberation Leader of the Czech Renaissance* (1982). She also published on Františka Plamínková, Charlotte Masaryk, and Milada Horáková. She taught for many years at New York Institute of Technology in Old Westbury, NY, where she served as chair of the Department of Social Sciences. After her retirement from NYIT, she taught as an adjunct at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY. Her last course at Hofstra was part of a summer program in Prague in 2007, where I also taught, and I saw how thrilled she was to introduce her American students to her native land.

Barbara was the first woman to be president of the Czechoslovak Studies Association (Czechoslovak History Conference), holding the office from 1990-1992. In true Czech fashion, she engaged in various athletic pursuits, including tennis, swimming, rowing, and skiing. A long-time member of the Appalachian Mountain Club, she enjoyed hiking as well as traveling with them and with the Road Scholars. She passed away on January 12, following a long illness. She leaves behind two children and two grandchildren. (By Claire Nolte)

Gerald Sabo, SJ

Father Gerald Sabo, S.J., beloved member of the Jesuit community and Associate Professor of Slavic Languages and Literature, passed away suddenly on October 24, 2020. He was 75.



Father Sabo spent forty years teaching Slovak, Russian, and Eastern European Literature at JCU. A native of Connecticut, he joined the New England Province of the Society of Jesus in 1969 and was ordained a priest in 1980. He celebrated his 50th anniversary as a Jesuit last year.

He was an alumnus of Fairfield Prep and Fairfield University, both Jesuit institutions in Connecticut. He studied Theology at Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Massachusetts, now part of Boston College. He also earned a doctorate in Eastern European Languages at Yale, but modestly played down his Yale connection preferring to be called “Father” over “Doctor.”

Father Sabo transferred to the Midwest Province and joined our faculty in 1981. He was the last Jesuit at Schell House to have moved from Rodman Hall in 1997 and served as rector of Jesuit Community from 2007-2013. At the

time of his death, he was working on a magisterial history of Slovak Literature.

In an interview, Fr. Sabo explained the reason for his move to JCU, “I was very interested in teaching at John Carroll because it was a Jesuit school and was located in an area where there was a significant Slovak population, my ethnic background and part of my graduate Slavic languages and literatures specialization. I got my wish and came to John Carroll in August, 1981, and as they say, ‘the rest is history.’”

He loved John Carroll and was a fiercely loyal friend and devoted teacher. He knew generations of alumni and was always glad to hear from former students and parents. (Adapted from the John Carrol University obituary)

Sbohem a šáteček: Farewell from the Interim Editor

As 2020 winds down, for me it marks the end of five years as interim editor of the Newsletter of the Czechoslovak Studies Association. I am acutely aware of how haltingly I have followed in the professional footsteps blazoned by Owen Johnson and James Peterson. It has been a pleasure to feel connected to so many of you by trying to gather and format your activities, experiences and interests. But in the words of one of my favorite of Nezval’s verses (yes, in some ways I am an incurable romantic): “...bylo to překrásné a bylo toho dost.”

I wish my successor, whoever they may be, better organizational skills and as much fun as I have had – or more!

CZECHOSLOVAK STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Financial Statement

For the Period 6 November 2018 to 6 November 2019

BALANCES

6 November 2019

Cash Balances in:

Operating Fund (includes \$1,258 in Book Prize Funds)	\$17,332.44
Pech Fund	\$ 4,870.18

OPERATING FUND

Opening cash balance	\$ 16,012.76
Receipts for the period	\$ <u>3,623.68</u>
	\$ 19,636.44
Disbursements for the period	- \$ <u>2,304.00</u>
Closing cash balance	\$ 17,332.44

RECEIPTS FOR THE PERIOD

Dues & contributions (includes Book Fund [\$146]; Pech Fund [\$166]; University of Texas [\$1,700] & Slovak Studies Association [\$250] for the Czech Studies Workshop)	\$ 3,606.97
Interest	\$ <u>16.71</u>
TOTAL	\$ 3,623.68

EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS FOR THE PERIOD

Czech Studies Workshop (University of Texas [\$1,700], Slovak Studies Association [\$250], CSA [\$156 Includes \$6 in Money Orders])	\$ 2,106.00
Bank Service Charges	\$ 32.00
Transfers to Pech Fund	\$ <u>166.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,304.00

STANLEY Z. PECH PRIZE FUND

Opening cash balance	\$2,589.29
Contributions	\$ 166.00
Interest	+ \$ <u>2.74</u>
	\$2,758.03
Matured CD 9/21/19	+ \$ <u>2,312.15</u>
	\$5,070.18
Pech Prize	- \$ <u>200.00</u>
TOTAL	\$4,870.18