

News in Hungarian Studies

The Newsletter of the Hungarian Studies Association of Canada

Executive for 2012-14

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Chair of Planning and Nominations Committee: Oliver Botar, obotar@cc.umanitoba.ca

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Liaison with AHEA: Eniko Molnar Basa, eniko.basa@verizon.net

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2014 Conference Local Arrangements Coordinator: Elizabeth Vlossak, evlossak@brocku.ca

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Update on the 2014 HSAC conference at Brock University

Preparations for the 29th annual conference of HSAC are well in hand and we are working on the final details of the program. As you know, the conference will be held in conjunction with the Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences at Brock University, St Catharines, Ontario from May 24th- May 26th 2014. As in the last few years, the conference will start at 6 pm on the evening of Saturday, May 24th and continue on the next two days, finishing at around 5pm on Monday May 26th. We ask participants to ensure that they can stay for the duration of the whole conference.

For the opening of the conference we are happy to announce a reading and discussion with award-winning Hungarian- Canadian author and Professor of English, Tamas Dobozy of Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo. Entitled "The Mingling of Borders: a Dialogue with Tamas Dobozy", the event will start at 6 pm on Saturday, May 24th (the location of this and other conference events has not yet been decided but we will confirm the location and the final program details in our next Newsletter in early April). This opening event is open to all Congress delegates and the general public and is being advertised on the Calendar of Congress Events at: <http://congress2014.ca/program/events/mingling-borders-dialogue-tamas-dobozy>

The reading/discussion will be followed by a reception for conference participants. As usual, we will have our annual dinner on the evening of Sunday May 25th. Again, the location will be announced in the next Newsletter by which time the final conference program will also be available. We are pleased to note that several of our international speakers from last year's conference found our company and the conference congenial enough to return this year and they will be participating in our 2014 program as well. In addition, we have a number of

graduate students and new presenters on the program. All in all, we hope this will be another successful and interesting conference. We are working on the details of the program now and will be sending along a draft to you as soon as we can. The program will also be on our own website and the Congress website soon.

Registration and other useful information

Please note that online registration on the Congress website at www.congress2014.ca has been open since mid-January and all information associated with registration, accommodations, and travel arrangements is available on the website. All participants to Congress and our conference need to be registered and the easiest way of doing that is online, although the website provides information about other options. **Note that there is a reduced rate for registrations before March 31st.** (Full fee is \$165 but student, retired, or unemployed fee is \$60. After March the 31st, fees go up to \$199 and \$80 respectively). In addition to the Congress charges, registration fees include an “association fee” which we have set at a modest \$25 to help us cover a part of the other conference costs such as coffee breaks, rental of rooms, audio-visual equipment, and the opening reception on the first evening. Thus participants certainly recoup this \$25 association fee.

This \$25 fee is quite separate from the annual Membership Fee which all members are reminded to please send in to our Treasurer Margit Lovrics at the earliest opportunity. **Our membership year is the calendar year and so the 2014 fees are now due.** If you are renewing your existing membership you can simply send a cheque to Margit to 75 Graydon Hall Drive, Suite 1804, Don Mills, ON., M3A 3M5. Fees have not changed since last year and are listed on the membership application form on this page of the HSAC website:

http://www.hungarianstudies.org/APPLICATION_FOR_MEMBERSHIP.pdf . If you are a new member, you can print the form, fill it in and send it with your cheque or (international) money order to Margit at the address provided. If you have questions regarding membership, please write to her: margitlovrics@gmail.com . Membership fee includes subscription to the *Hungarian Studies Review*, the journal of our association. If necessary, international conference participants can pay their HSAC membership dues in cash in person at the conference.

As in past years, the University will be offering President’s receptions for Congress participants; this year our assigned reception is on May 25th from 5-7pm. The Federation for Humanities and Social Sciences will also be offering wine and cheese receptions this year at the Congress Expo (registration and publishers’ display area) from 4-5 pm on May 25th and 26th. We will attempt to leave time for conference participants to attend these.

You may want to browse the Congress website for other programs of interest. Among these would be some of the “Big Thinking” lectures by well-known Canadians, wine tasting, and other events offered. You can check the calendar of events listing at <http://congress2014.ca/program/events-calendar>

Accommodation and travel information is also available on the Congress website, with details at this page: <http://congress2014.ca/plan-your-trip> . Accommodation in university residences can be booked online and is definitely advised since hotels are a long way from the campus and cost a lot more. The earlier you can make your accommodation reservation, the better. University residence accommodation includes breakfast. Information on travel and local travel (such as shuttle buses between airports and campus, etc.) is now also available at that same link.

In our last Newsletter we suggested that some of you may wish to visit the Niagara region in general from St Catharines and rent a car for doing that. **Furthermore, I would like to ask those of our members in the Greater Toronto area or from Eastern Ontario and the US to let me know if you might be able and willing to offer rides to participants coming from further afield: perhaps pick someone up from Pearson International Airport in**

Toronto and drive them to Brock (or vice-versa) or provide accommodation in or near Toronto for a night or two to our visiting international speakers. Please get in touch with me and let me know what you can offer (judyyoung@drache.ca). And if you are one of those international speakers, please let me know if you have questions or requests. We will try to be as helpful as we can.

Elections and Nominations. Please note that this year we will have elections for some members of the Executive. According to our by-laws, the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary are up for election every two years. The President and Vice-President may be re-elected for two consecutive terms of 2 years; the Treasurer and Secretary may be re-elected for more than two terms. This means that the current President, Agatha Schwartz, may not be re-elected as she has done two terms but the other elected officers may continue in their role for another term of 2 years if they are nominated and elected by the AGM. Other members of the Executive Committee such as the Chairs of other Committees, the Members-at-Large, and the AHEA Liaison may be nominated and appointed or re-appointed by the AGM. The Chair of the Nominations Committee is Oliver Botar and members are encouraged to send him the names of individuals they would like to nominate for the above positions. He has also been reaching out to the membership and current officers. Nominated individuals must be members of HSAC in good standing and must have agreed to being nominated. In addition, nominations may be made from the floor at the AGM provided the person nominated has agreed to his/her name being put forward. You can see the names and e-mail addresses of the current Executive at the top of this Newsletter, including that of Oliver.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Local Arrangements Coordinator, Elizabeth Vlossak of the Department of History, Brock University for her helpful advice and participation in making arrangements for us. She is looking around for an appropriate location for our annual dinner now.



News and Events of Interest to Members

- The second issue of the 2013 volume (Vol. XL, No. 2) of ***Hungarian Studies Review (HSR)*** was mailed to members in December 2013 and the 2014 special double issue (Vol. XLI, Nos 1-2) on “Gender and Nation in Hungary Since 1919” guest edited by Judith Szapor and Agatha Schwartz is being mailed now. Some overseas members and subscribers may receive a digital version as mailing costs have risen steeply, and those members living in Hungary may receive their printed version from the Hungarian National Library (OSZK) which has agreed to mail copies out for us there. Both these issues will soon be available on our website www.hungarianstudies.org.
- "**Sensing the Future: Moholy-Nagy, Media and the Arts**" is an exhibition devoted to the media art of László Moholy-Nagy, **curated by HSAC member Oliver Botar**. In fact, Oliver has given at least one paper on this subject to our members as he was conducting research for the project. The show opens in Winnipeg at *Plug In* Institute of Contemporary Art on March 7th 2014 and includes a good many works never before seen in Canada or even North America. The show will then move on to the Bauhaus-Archiv, Museum fuer Gestaltung in Berlin, where it will be on view from October 7th 2014 to January 12th, 2015. A catalogue (in both German and English editions) will appear in time for the opening in Berlin,

published by Lars Mueller of Zurich. Oliver has kindly offered to give us a “virtual” tour of the Winnipeg exhibition at our conference at Brock University.

Oliver also announces the appearance of the facsimile re-issue of the rare 1936 publication *telehor*, the sole issue published of this Brno journal, an issue entirely devoted to the work of László Moholy-Nagy. Oliver's co-editor was the University of Vienna professor Klemens Gruber, who also co-wrote the accompanying essay with Oliver. The original publication appeared in four languages (English, French, Czech and German) but this re-issue has the text translated into four other languages, Hungarian, Russian, Spanish, and Mandarin. So far there have been book launch events in Budapest, Pécs, Vienna, Prague and Berlin, and more are planned in Brno, Moscow, Paris, New York and Shanghai.

- **AHEA’s annual conference is taking place May 8-10th, 2014** at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. The overall theme is “Turning Points in Hungarian Life and History.” Detailed information including submitted papers and a general overview of the conference is provided on the AHEA website: <http://ahea.net/conferences/2014>. Also on the website is the AHEA E-Journal’s latest volume, <http://ahea.net/e-journal/volume-6-2013>. The issue is dedicated to polyglot linguist and literary translator Adam Makkai and includes an article on Ármin Vámbéry by HSAC member and editor of *HSR* Nandor Dreisziger as well as some review articles by and about other HSAC members.
- The **January 2014 newsletter of the Hungarian Studies Association (HSA)**, USA, can be found on their website at: <http://www.hungarianstudies.info/news/2013-07.pdf>
- **Call for abstracts of articles** for a new journal, the *Hungarian Historical Review* published by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. The **deadline for submission is very soon: February 28th** so it may be too late for any of you to submit an abstract but at least you should know about the existence of this journal. The theme for the issue is “Religion in Social Relations.” Proposals should be submitted to the organizers by email: hunghist@btk.mta.hu. For more information on the journal: www.hunghist.org
- **Call for Papers** for a special 2014 cluster issue of the AHEA E-Journal on “Space, Place and the Making of Modern Hungary.” Focusing on the broad but rich analytical categories of space and place, this 2014 Thematic Cluster explores the various—and often contested—ways that modern Hungary has been constructed not just as a physical territory, but also as an interconnected set of social, political, cultural, and even moral ideas. Whether this is understood in terms of landscape, geography, territoriality, or sites of national and regional memory, notions of space and place have played—and continue to play—a central role in the making and re-making of Hungary. Recognizing that an interdisciplinary approach is the most profitable way to explore questions of space and place, this Cluster will bring together the perspectives of scholars working in diverse fields both inside and outside of Hungary, and in so doing will provide a unique opportunity to explore current research across multiple disciplines and scholarly communities. **Deadline for submissions is June 30th 2014.** For guidelines and other details please contact the co-editor Steve Jobbitt (sjobbitt@lakeheadu.ca).
- **Call for papers:** for publication in a thematic issue entitled “War and Life Writing”. Ed. Louise O. Vasvári and I-Chun Wang. *CLCWeb: Comparative Literature and Culture* 17.2 (June 2015): <http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/clcweb/> (Purdue University Press ISSN 1481-4374). Throughout history, humans share(d) similar experiences in war: they narrate their experiences and document suffering, trauma, dislocation, memory, etc. Life writing on war is often about (im)migration, separation, and dreams of return. The guest editors of the thematic issue on War and Life Writing invite studies on life

writing in all its forms: auto/biography, memoir, testimony, diaries, letters, works in media other than print, as well as visual representation of war from all periods of human history. The preferred theoretical background of work is comparative literature and (comparative) cultural studies. For the style of the journal consult <http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/clcweblibrary/clcwebstyleguide/> Articles published in the journal are double-blind peer reviewed and indexed. Please submit papers by **31 December 2014** to Louise O. Vasvári (Stony Brook University) at louise.vasvari@stonybrook.edu and to I-Chun Wang (National Sun Yat-sen University) aticwang@faculty.nsysu.edu.tw

- Florida Gulf Coast University's Centre for Judaic, Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Fort Myers has an international conference on "**The Holocaust in Hungary 70 Years On; New Perspectives**" March 16-18, 2014. For the conference program see <http://www.fgcu.edu/HC/Conference/schedule-of-events.html>
- An inaugural **interdisciplinary conference related to Hungary** is being hosted by the Hungarian Cultural Association and the Department of Central Eurasian Studies on **April 5-6th 2014 at Indiana University**, Bloomington. Economist and Visiting Fulbright Scholar István Benczes will deliver the keynote address. For more information, write to the organizers, Jason Vincz, jvincz@indiana.edu or Lynn Hooker, lhooker@indiana.edu
- **The Balassi Institute** is once again offering scholarships for research and courses of study in a variety of fields/ disciplines in Hungary, including summer school language courses. Information about these scholarship opportunities can be found in English: <http://www.scholarship.hu/Englishsite/tabid/184/language/en-EN/Default.aspx> and here: <http://www.scholarship.hu/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=72ygUOxJzl%3d&tabid=184&language=hu-HU> In Hungarian here: <http://www.scholarship.hu/96sztB6ndADjkBClfB6ldiekszA1mA1ra/tabid/81/language/hu-HU/Default.aspx> and here: <http://www.scholarship.hu/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=vuAzoNjN1d4%3d&tabid=81&language=hu-HU> Note that applications must be submitted both online and by mail; the deadline is **April 7th 2014**.