

# CYRILLIC MANUSCRIPT HERITAGE

HILANDAR RESEARCH LIBRARY  
RESOURCE CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL SLAVIC STUDIES

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## Table of Contents

Director's Desk 2-3, 5

Kalamazoo Conference / Welcome Ryan 4

New Director of OSU Libraries /  
**Exploring Istanbul** by Kevin Bloomfield 6

**Kopitar's Legacy** by M.A. Johnson 7

**The Annals of Time** by E. A. Olagoke 8

**"Hands On" at the HRL** by Tom Elvins 9

MSSI 2015 Participants 10-11

**Exegesis** by Maria Ivanova / **Letter** from  
Vlada Stanković 12

2015 Highlights / Veder Collection 13

Kasinec Bequest / New Donor Wall 14

Donor Recognition 15



THE OHIO STATE  
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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

# Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage December 2015

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Founded in 1984, the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS), a center of the College of Arts and Sciences, is dedicated to the promotion of medieval Slavic studies. It is associated with the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures, and it provides broad interdisciplinary research and academic opportunities for students, graduate students, faculty, and visiting researchers.

The RCMSS has close ties and shares space with the Hilandar Research Library (HRL). Both developed as an outgrowth of the original Hilandar Research Project (1969-1984). RCMSS is a non-national oriented center that promotes Cyrillic-based research. The Center strives to accomplish its goals through the support of HRL preservation and access activities, research, stipends and travel, occasional acquisitions of HRL materials, publication support, and sponsoring conferences, lectures, workshops, etc.

**We gratefully acknowledge the Monks of Hilandar Monastery for making it possible for us to share their heritage.**

*\*Cover Image: Hodigetria Mosaic Icon. 12th century. Stefan Nemanja, Grand Župan of Serbia and founder of the Nemanjić Dynasty, canonized as St. Simeon, is said to have brought the icon to Mount Athos after he took monastic vows in 1198. This is the personal icon of St. Simeon and/or the icon before which he died. The icon is in the Treasury of Hilandar Monastery. Image scan is from a set of slides donated to the Hilandar Research Library by A. Dean McKenzie, Professor Emeritus of Art History at the University of Oregon.*

## From the Director's Desk

Dr. Predrag Matejic



This has been a productive year for the Hilandar Research Library (HRL) and the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS) – so much so, that for the first time we will publish only one issue of *Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage* during this calendar year! Indeed, a year of several “firsts,” it began with a lengthy telephone interview in January with “Radio Belgrade” in

Serbia to talk about the work and resources of the HRL at The Ohio State University. The conversation aired in conjunction with the commemoration of Serbia's national saint, Saint Sava, whose feast day is celebrated by the Orthodox on January 27 (Old Style). **Alex Angelov** (MSSI 2006) from the College of William and Mary (Williamsburg, VA) researched early Bulgarian saints. Regrettably, **Vladan Bartula** (Univ. of East Sarajevo) had to postpone his January 2015 research visit (see *CMH* 36: 12).

On June 3, the HRL/RCMSS had its “First Annual Hilandar Lecture,” with **Engelina Smirnova** presenting “The Role of Icons in Byzantine and Russian Culture: Insights from the Icon Collection in the British Museum.” Dr. Smirnova, the world's leading expert on Russian icons, is a Professor of Art History at Moscow State University as well as a Senior Research Fellow of the Moscow Institute of Art Studies. Her lecture was co-sponsored by Ohio State's Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, the Center for the Study of Religion, the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, and the OSU Libraries. For their assistance and courtesy in facilitating the visit of Dr. Smirnova, we thank **Michael S. Flier** (Harvard University), **Raoul N. Smith** (MSSI 2013; Museum of Russian Icons, Clinton, MA), and especially **Isolde Thyrêt** and **Rodney Bohac** (Kent State University).

The 2015 Medieval Slavic Summer Institute (MSSI), held June 22-July 17, was the largest and most diverse of the eight institutes to date. Of these, three were from the OSU Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures (DSEELC); three were from the University of Cambridge (United Kingdom); two each from the University of Kansas and from Yale University; one each from the University of Calabria (Italy)/University of Geneva (Switzerland), Central European University (Budapest, Hungary), University of Granada (Spain), University of Toronto (Canada), Harvard University, and the University of Michigan. In addition to the primary series of lectures and hands-on exercises by **Daniel E. Collins** (DSEELC) and me, we also had the largest number of lectures or specialized workshops provided by guest speakers: **Jennifer Spock** (Eastern Kentucky University), and from the OSU Libraries – **Anna Arays** (Special Collections Cataloging), **Harry Campbell** (Conservator, Book and Paper), Dr. **Eric J. Johnson** (Head, Rare Books and Manuscripts Library), and **M. A. “Pasha” Johnson** (HRL Associate Curator). We are also grateful for the ‘above and beyond’ work to help organize, enhance, and assist the work of the MSSI that were provided



by **Jessi Jones** (RCMSS Program Coordinator) and **Nina Haviernikova** (RCMSS Graduate Associate [GA]). More information on MSSI 2015 and the participants can be found on pages 10-11 of this issue.

Several of our visitors also conducted research while here, including Dr. Smirnova, who examined the archives of the iconographer Pimen M. Sofronov, and Drs. Spock and Thyret, who researched pilgrimages and saints' lives, respectively.

We also had a brief research visit from **Vlada Stanković**, Associate



Predrag Matejic shows Vlada Stanković a facsimile of the *Marriage Certificate of the Empress Theophano* (from the year 972). Photo by M.A. Johnson

Professor in Byzantine Studies at the University of Belgrade and Willis F. Doney Member at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, who worked with the medieval Byzantine and Slavic edicts and chrysobulls on HRL microforms; and a return visit by the V. Rev. Dr. **Alexander Rentel**, Assistant Professor of Canon Law and Byzantine Studies and the John and Paraskeva Skvir Lecturer in Practical Theology at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary (NY), who utilized the HRL to identify early 14th-century watermarks in paper.

We had a longer research visit from **Marta Peña Escudero** (University of Granada, Spain), who examined Slavic manuscript texts and secondary sources related to her dissertation topic on instructions to princes on how to govern." She also participated in MSSI 2015. Marta's academic adviser **Matilde Casas Olea** is an alumna of our first MSSI in 1999. **Tatiana I. Afanas'eva**, from the Philological Faculty of St. Petersburg State Univer-

sity (Russia) was here for over a month researching the "Serbian Translation of the Euchologion of the 14th-Century." For two weeks in August, **Maria Ivanova** (University of Virginia) used our resources for her study of "Slavic Intellectual Thought in the 16th-17th Centuries."

In mid-October, former RCMSS GA **Daria Germanovna-Safronova** (MSSI 2008) arrived for three weeks to work on her dissertation, "Russian Orthodox Mission to Alaska: Theology of Enlightenment and Educational Centers of Bilingual Literacy and Learning." And finally, **Monica White** (MSSI 2001; and University of Nottingham, United Kingdom), arrived in December to research the "Byzantine Legacy and Rus'."

We always enjoy class visits. **David J. Birnbaum**, Professor and Chair of Slavic Languages & Literatures, University of Pittsburgh, brought his Medieval Rus' class for a "mini-MSSI" one Saturday in March. One of his students, **Tom Elvins**, was inspired to do an additional independent study with Pitt faculty member **Ljiljana Đurašković** (MSSI 2003; DSEELC PhD) for which he requested copies of several microfilmed edicts in Hilandar Monastery, even making a brief research visit to us in June. We congratulate Tom as the 2015 Midwest Slavic Association winner of the undergraduate prize for his student essay titled "In the Shadow of the Sword: The Evolution of St. Nicholas Icons within a Russian Context." Dan Collins brought his OSU "Medieval Moscow" class in late September and in December for an introduction to materials related to the course curriculum.

In May, RCMSS supported the initiatives organized by Pasha at the 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI). The first was an exhibit, "Selected 15th-18th Century Russian Manuscripts on Paper" from the HRL, prepared at the invitation of **Susan M. B. Steuer**, Head, Special Collections and Rare Book Room, Waldo Library, Western Michigan University. The second was a panel organized by Pasha that brought four MSSI alumnae to discuss manuscripts with which they worked while attending the MSSI: **Diana Dukhanova** (MSSI 2011), and MSSI 2013 participants **Gwyn Bourlakov**, **Hope Wilson**, and **Anna Arays**. Third was a roundtable where Dr. Eric J. Johnson presided and took part in the discussion with Pasha, Dan Collins, and me regarding

the preservation and access of manuscript materials, as well as the use of medieval manuscripts in teaching and learning, and current initiatives such as digitization, etc.

The annual International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo is attended by thousands of scholars, primarily Western European medievalists. The exhibit, panel, and roundtable offered an opportunity to share the unique Slavic resources of HRL/RCMSS with our Western European colleagues.

Pasha was also responsible for setting up a display of original Slavic manuscripts for "Popular Culture and the Deep Past, 2015: Tolkien Days," in the Ohio Union, on Saturday, Feb. 21st, an event sponsored by the OSU Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. In June she presented at the Rare Books and Manuscripts (RBMS) 2015 Preserve the Humanities! Special Collections as Liberal Arts Laboratory seminar "Bridging Borders between Special Collections and Area Studies: Affinities, Collaborations and Integrations," in California.

This fall, **Inés García de la Puente** (MSSI 2003) joined the OSU Slavic Department as assistant professor. We also welcomed **Ryan Perkins** (MSSI 2013) as an RCMSS graduate associate, sharing the 50% appointment with Nina Haviernikova.

In addition to research visits, we were pleased to welcome several

other visitors. The first was **Joseph Schallert** (University of Toronto), who gave the 18th Annual Kenneth E. Naylor Memorial Lecture in South Slavic Linguistics "Observations on the Lexicon of the Earliest Macedonian Vernacular Gospels (Konikovo and Kulakia Gospels)." (Cont'd on pg 5)



Joseph Schallert (right) talks with Dan Collins at the reception following his lecture. Photo by J. Jones

# The 2015 Kalamazoo Conference



Diana Dukhanova's presentation Photos by M.A. Johnson

This year, the Hilandar Research Library and the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies co-sponsored two sessions at the 50th Annual International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan, with the Western Michigan University Special Collections and Rare Book Department of the Waldo Library. The congress brings in over 3,000 scholars and includes more than 500 sessions with paper presentations, exhibits, and workshops over a 3-day period. RCMSS sponsored the travel for 5 scholars to participate in the conference. The panel, "Medieval Slavic Manuscripts I: Practical Slavic Codicology and Paleography," featured four MSSSI alumnae: **Diana Dukhanova** (Brown Univ.) presented "The Old

Church Slavonic Miscellany, the Rise of Print Culture, and the Jesuit Influence on Russian Orthodoxy: A Case Study"; **Anna Arays** (OSU Libraries) and **Hope Wilson** (OSU DSEELC) outlined "Bibliographic and Paleographic Methods for Describing Slavic Manuscripts"; and **Gwyn Bourlakov** (Univ. of Kansas) described "The Life of a Sixteenth-Century Balkan Church Service Book."

"Medieval Slavic Manuscripts II: Challenges and Trends in Preservation and Access (A Roundtable)" allowed Predrag Matejic, Daniel E. Collins, and M.A. "Pasha" Johnson to discuss the current trends and future of medieval Slavic manuscript studies, with presider Dr. Eric J. Johnson contributing remarks from his own experience with non-Slavic manuscripts.



SPEC.OSU.HRL.SMS.10, *Instructional Miscellany* on display, which contains the illuminated homily of Palladius the Monk "On the Second Coming"

Pasha curated an exhibit of HRL manuscripts also at the invitation of Sue Steuer, WMU Special Collections Librarian, which were on display in the Edwin and Mary Meader Room of the Waldo Library.



L to R: Hope Wilson, Marta Peña Escudero, Predrag Matejic, Anna Arays, and Gwyn Bourlakov pose for a picture after the panels.

## Welcome Ryan Perkins!

This year we are fortunate to have two part-time Graduate Associates! Nina Haviernikova continues her work with us, and we have a new addition, MSSSI 2013 alumnus **Ryan Perkins**. Ryan is a third-year PhD student in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures who focuses on laboratory phonology, psycholinguistics, and functional typology. He is a great addition to our team! We asked him to introduce himself and talk a little bit about his interests:

I grew up in Oregon, and attended the University of Oregon for my BA, where I double-majored in Linguistics and Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies (with a concentration in Slavic linguistics). I received my MA from the Slavic department at Ohio State in spring 2015, and I'm currently pursuing a PhD. I'm interested in sound systems: particularly, how they are structured, how people learn them, and how they can change. I participated in MSSSI 2013, which was a fantastic opportunity to engage with manuscripts and get first-hand experience identifying how they reflect sound changes.



Photo courtesy of OSU Opic



(Cont'd from pg 3)

**Johanna Nichols** (University of California, Berkeley) made a brief visit to the HRL/RCMSS before her presentation to the OSU Slavic Linguistics Forum on "Typological Perspective on the Balkan Sprachbund, Slavic, and Southwest Eurasia." **Christian Raffensperger** (Wittenberg University), author of the well-known *Reimagining Europe: Kievan Rus' in the Medieval World*, (Harvard University Press, 2012), dropped by in mid-October.

**Nina and Frances Roslovic** of Columbus came by to see the new "Donor Wall" in the foyer of the Jack and Jan Creighton Special Collections Reading Room (THO 105). This recent addition honors individuals, families, and institutions



Nina and Frances Roslovic  
Photo by J. Jones

that over the past 35-40 years have made especially noteworthy gifts-in-kind or monetary donations to Thompson Library Special Collections including the HRL (see pg. 14).

Among our other visitors, it



The Schmolls visit with Predrag in the HRL. Photo by J. Jones

was wonderful to see **Kathie and Phillip Schmoll** (Dresden, Germany), as well as to meet Dr. **Iuliia Korshunova**, Coordinator of the Murmansk Branch office, Kolarctic ENPI Cross-Border Cooperation.

RCMSS was pleased to support several conferences in 2015. These included the Midwest Slavic Conference (March 14-15, OSU), the Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (September 17-19, Memphis, TN), and the Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association (October 23-24, OSU).

In yet another first, I was honored to be invited to present the "Third Annual Father John Meyendorff Memorial Lecture" at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary on September 1st. This presentation, "Byzantium—the Slavs—and the Rise of the Russian Orthodox Church," was my first opportunity to visit this remarkable center, to meet many of the faculty and seminarians, and to be a witness to the spiritual life at this historic place of learning and culture. You may find the lecture here: [http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/svsvoices/third\\_annual\\_father\\_john\\_meyendorff\\_memorial\\_lecture#26262](http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/svsvoices/third_annual_father_john_meyendorff_memorial_lecture#26262). Prior to my lecture, His Beatitude Metropolitan **Tikhon** of the Orthodox Church in America and His Eminence Metropolitan **Joseph** of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese were given honorary doctor of divinity degrees.

The HRL/RCMSS have both been the recipients of continuing generosity. In addition to Mrs. Frances Roslovic, the **Ostich** family also directed their generous gift on behalf of the HRL to the Friends of the Libraries for the acquisition of books to be added to the HRL collections. We also received several hundred books from the collection of **Emilia Guergova-Veder**

and **William R. Veder**, most of which will be added to the HRL or Rare collections. Both scholars made several research visits and used our collections extensively in their presentations and publications. We were greatly saddened to hear of the passing of Emilia on April 27 this year.

**Edward Kasinec**, well-known cultural historian, bookman and the Emeritus Curator of the Slavic and Baltic Division at The New York Public Library, has been generous to the HRL, RCMSS, and the Slavic and East European collection at the OSU Libraries for more than 30 years. We have been privileged to be the recipients of advice, collaboration, and support from him since the time of the original Hilandar Research Project. Mr. Kasinec had already donated significant individual items to our collection since 2000, including impressive 17th- and 18th-century printed books. In 2005, he donated 900 volumes, largely consisting of finding aids, catalogs, and manuscript and library descriptions from his book studies collection. Most recently, he extended his generosity by making available another substantial portion of his personal collection. To the "E. Kasinec Collection of Finding Aids," we are in the process of adding over 1300 volumes of his "Russian and East Central European Book Studies Collection." We are honored that he has entrusted to us so much of his personal library, the best private library of its kind in the Western world. We are also honored that he has made a bequest to the HRL (see page 14). Edward Kasinec is

now resident scholar at the Harriman Institute (Columbia University) and a Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution.

A complete and lengthy list of people and institutions who made gift-in-kind and monetary donations to the HRL/RCMSS thus far in 2015 can be found at the end of this issue.

We lost several friends and donors this year. In addition to Emilia Guergova-Veder, we learned of the passing of **Danica Jekich** (Ann Arbor, MI, and Washington, D.C.), **Millie Kvocka** and **Sarah Medick** (Columbus), all of whom were early supporters of the Hilandar Research Project.

We also learned of the passing of **John A. Negulesco** who retired from OSU to live in Oregon. **Edward "Ned" Keenan**, Harvard historian, a guest speaker at our inaugural MSSI 1999, died in March. We will miss Dr. **Olga Karpov** (New York and Belgrade), who attended both the 4th (1978: OSU) and 5th (2002: Raška, Serbia) International Hilandar Conferences. She donated to the HRL her copy of the 1691 early Cyrillic (Moscow) edition of the December *Menaion*, to the best of our knowledge the only such copy in the Western world.

Вечна им памет – May their memories be eternal.



# New Leadership at OSU Libraries



Carol Pitts Diedrichs  
Photo courtesy OSU Libraries

After five years of dedicated leadership, we will miss **Carol Pitts Diedrichs**, Vice Provost and Director of OSU Libraries, who will retire in January 2016. We thank her for her past support and leadership and wish her well. We now welcome **Damon E. Jaggars**, former Associate Librarian for Collections and Services of Columbia University, who will become the Vice Provost and Director of OSU Libraries on February 1, 2016.



Damon E. Jaggars  
Photo courtesy OSU libraries

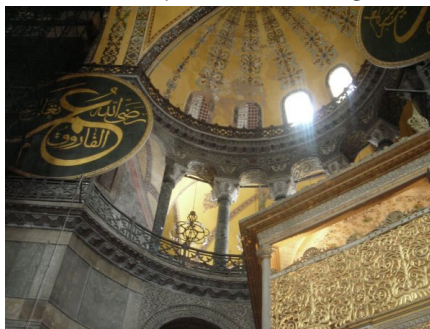
## Exploring the “World’s Desire”

By Kevin Bloomfield

*A former undergraduate student worker at the HRL, Kevin, is now a graduate student in the Classics Department at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.*

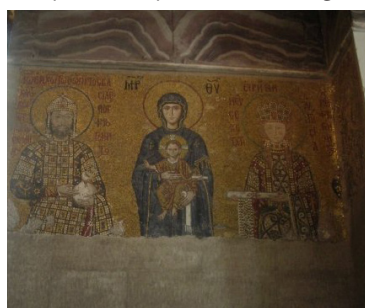


I recently took a trip to the City of the World’s Desire, known successively throughout the ages as Byzantion, Constantinople, Konstantiniyye, and finally, Istanbul. As a nascent Byzantinist, being able to see, and in many instances touch, the monuments and edifices, previous knowledge of which had solely been conveyed through books, was an irreplaceable experience. Many cities claim to be the point where East meets West, such as Venice, Budapest, or Vienna, but Istanbul is truly where the crossroads between Europe and Asia are located. Not only is Istanbul a literal gateway between the two continents, Asia is easily accessible either by car or metro, but it has served as a cultural mixing-pot for many centuries. As I walked through the city-streets, I saw a beautiful nineteenth-century cemetery with a mausoleum that contained the resting-places of most of the later Sultans; standing next to it was a Starbucks proudly advertising its mocha lattes. This juxtaposition of new and old could be seen on a macro level when comparing the winding, narrow streets of the Old City of Istanbul with the modern areas in the vicinity of Taksim Square across the Golden Horn in Galata. On just one side of the square, the heart of modern Istanbul, there were two corporations emblematic of American cultural reach, Starbucks and Burger King (disappointedly not named “Burger Sultan”); next to them were various pastry shops of the sort which would not have looked out of place in the Old City.

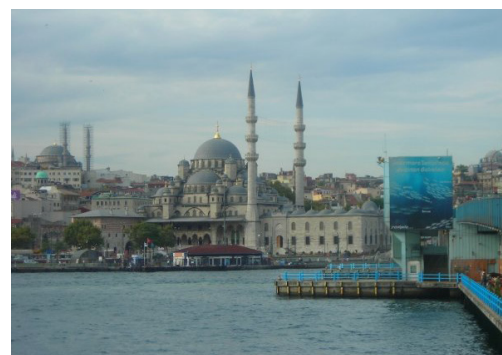


Walls inside Hagia Sophia  
All photos by J. Jones

Unquestionably my favorite sight in Istanbul was Hagia Sophia, located in the heart of the Old City. The church of Hagia Sophia is often translated incorrectly as ‘Saint Sophia’ but in actuality is ‘Holy Wisdom’. It was built by the Byzantines during the reign of Justinian I. Until the fall of Constantinople in 1453 to the Ottoman Turks, and with it the fall of the Byzantine Empire, Hagia Sophia was one of the premier Christian places of worship in not just the Orthodox world but in all of Christendom. When the Ottomans made Constantinople the capital of their burgeoning empire, they transformed the church into a mosque and added minarets to the exterior, among other changes. Now it is a museum open for the entire public, be they Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, etc. Hagia Sophia is a microcosm of the change that has swept over the City’s founding more than two-thousand years ago. When walking through the edifice, I saw grand mosaics of Jesus and various saints standing in close proximity to large medallions of elegant Arabic calligraphy proclaiming the glory of Allah or his Prophet. The degree to which cats had made their home in Hagia Sophia, and Istanbul as a whole, was certainly surprising.



Mosaic Panel in Hagia Sophia of the Theotokos, infant Jesus, Emperor John II Komnenos, and Empress Irene



Yeni Cami ‘New Mosque’ viewed from the Bosphorus Bridge

Of course, Hagia Sophia was not the only sight seen or museum visited, but I could not see even a fraction of all the sights in detail, and there remain many on my to-do list for any future trips to Istanbul and the surrounding vicinity. Istanbul and cities like it, Rome, Paris, Beijing, to name but a few, are filled with so many centuries of history they must be treated like old friends. One should visit them every so often to catch up and learn even when one thought everything had been discerned.



# Kopitar's Legacy of Slavic Manuscripts in Slovenia and Austria

By M.A. Johnson, HRL Associate Curator

Jernej Kopitar (1780-1844)—a Slovene linguist and philologist—served as curator of the Imperial Library in Vienna at a time when a third of the population in the Austro-Hungarian Empire were Slavs. Kopitar also acted as censor for Slavic, Albanian, Romanian, and Modern Greek publications. He felt strongly that the library's holdings should reflect the heritage of the Slavic population of the Empire, and proposed an ambitious plan to purchase thousands of manuscripts from Orthodox monasteries on Mount Athos. In the end, however, Kopitar acquired only a dozen Slavic Athonite manuscripts: eight from Hilandar Monastery and four from Zograf, which are preserved in the Austrian National Library (ÖNB). Kopitar's own personal collection of books, incunables and manuscripts was quite remarkable, and much of it is housed today in Slovenia's National and University Library (NUK).

I submitted a proposal to study Kopitar's manuscripts in Ljubljana to the OSU Center for Slavic and East European Studies' (CSEES) "Slovene Research Initiative," a month-long faculty exchange program made possible in part by an endowment from the Research Centre of the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU). I was able to schedule my research visit for September and decided to continue on to Vienna to view the ÖNB codices.

It was a wonderful month: I spent the days at NUK's Department of Manuscripts and Rare Books, working with parchment and paper Slavic codices from the 13th-19th centuries, and the evenings and weekends exploring the city. **Luka Vidmar** from ZRC SAZU gave me a comprehensive tour of the cultural history of Ljubljana, one of the highlights of which was a visit to the Seminary Library. My favorite bridge across the Ljubljanica River was easily *Zmajski most*. However, I did not have time to examine all 33 items in Kopitar's collection, and, unbelievable as it may seem, I did not ask to view the portion of *Codex Suprasliensis* that was in Kopitar's library when he died. I decided to leave that for my next visit. All too soon I had to leave Slovenia, and I traveled by train to spend ten days in Vienna.

I had written to the ÖNB Department of Manuscripts and Rare Books requesting to view the manuscripts where, in Gerhard Birkfellner's catalog (*Glagolitische und kyrillische Handschriften in Österreich*), it is noted that "J. Kopitar acquired the manuscript in 1827." Regrettably, five of the codices could not be viewed because of conservation concerns: Cod. Slav. 28, 34, and 35 from Hilandar, and Cod. Slav. 14 and 22 from Zograf. Even so, after years of working with microfilms of manuscripts from Hilandar and Zograf, I was finally able to handle and examine actual codices from the libraries of these two great Athonite monasteries. The seven range in date from the 14th to the 17th century, and the languages represented include Serbian, Moldavian, and East Slavic recensions of Church Slavonic. My first impression of each item registered a distinctive feature that underscored its importance to manuscript studies, for example: the illuminations of the Moldavian Gospels that belonged to Stephen, Voivode of Moldavia (1435-1504), viewable in the ÖNB image database ([http://www.bildarchivaustria.at/Pages/Search/Result.aspx?p\\_iPage=1&p\\_ItemID=1](http://www.bildarchivaustria.at/Pages/Search/Result.aspx?p_iPage=1&p_ItemID=1)); the complete colophon in the *Damianov Miscellany*; the scribal hand and later emendations in Cod. Slav. 42; and the contents of Cod. Slav. 9, which includes the works of Chernorizets Hrabr, Hilarion of Müglen, and the "Gospel of Nicodemus."



'Dragon Bridge,' Ljubljana, built in 1901 in honor of Hapsburg Emperor Franz Josef I, who reigned from 1848-1888.



Seminary Library in Ljubljana, Slovenia, founded in 1701 as the city's first scientific library open to the public. Photos by M.A. Johnson

It was an interesting reversal of roles to be a patron instead of the curator in a manuscripts library, and I am appreciative of the hospitality and assistance at NUK of **Marijan Rupert** and his staff, **Matjaž Lulik** and **Samo Kristan** (Manuscripts & Rare Books Department), and **Milan Štupar** and his assistant **Zoran Kuder** (Reproduction of Library Materials Department), as well as of that of the staff of the ÖNB. Thanks also to **Joe Brandesky**, **Yana Hashamova**, **Eileen Kunkler** (OSU CSEES), and **Oto Lothar** and **Luka Vidmar** (ZRC SAZU) for the opportunity to conduct research in Slovenia for a month and for their assistance. I am very grateful as well to the RCMSS/HRL for supporting my research and travel in both Slovenia and Austria.

# HRL Journal: Traversing the Annals of Time

By Ezekiel Abodale Olagoke

About three years ago, I had an interesting dialog about the intersection of East and West in the areas of culture, religion, and globalization with a colleague here at Waynesburg University (Waynesburg, Pennsylvania). The conversation would remind me of the statement made by Immanuel Kant after reading the work of David Hume, that “he awoke from his dogmatic slumber” regarding my own lack of exposure to the culture, religion and political experiences of the Slavic world. I began to read voraciously, taking as a starting point the Eastern Orthodox Church and the manifold forms in which it has had contact with Islam politically, militarily and to a large extent, the co-existence between the two which lasted for centuries. I grew up in Nigeria where religion and politics have had both a negative and a positive impact on a large segment of the population.

In search of commonalities and differences in interfaith dialog, I read extensively on the works of Gregory Palamas, culminating in the presentation of a paper in Thessaloniki, Greece, two years ago, on the issues of globalization, dialog, and other forms of inter-cultural dialog. A trip to Romania in the summer of 2014 shed more light on some of that country’s experiences in different political landscapes over millennia. Thus, when I was made aware by a Serbian priest here in Pennsylvania, Father **Rodney Torbic**, on the relevance of the Hilandar Research Library for some of the issues that have attracted my interest, I inquired, and Dr. Predrag Matejic and Jessi Jones faithfully welcomed me to the library from October 5-12, 2014. It was a very enriching experience for the following reasons:

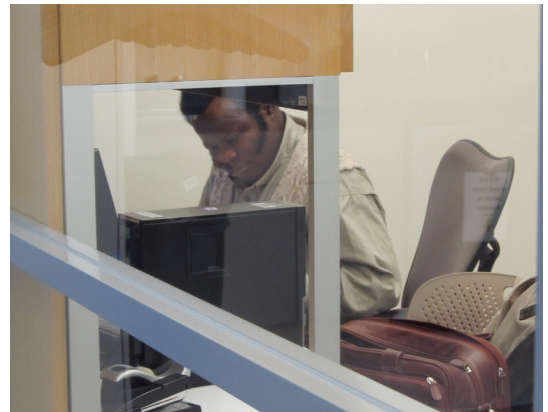
First, as a preliminary introduction, I had familiarized myself with some aspects of the Eastern Orthodox Church, reading works of Father **Mateja Matejic**, and Nicholai Velimirovich’s *Life of St. Sava* and his other works before and after his emigration to the United States. Authors, including **Kallistos Ware** (Oxford University), **Thomas Hopko**, Dumitru Stăniloae, Sophrony, and others, gave me some theological as well as historical and political foundations of the countries involved. I was able to synthesize these works more in line with the readings at the Hilandar Research Library during my stay.

Second, from a socio-political perspective, I was able to traverse from the ancient time researching about genocides, as well as in the former Yugoslavia, and other histories of genocide. Researching historical atrocities enabled me to connect with forms of genocide in some parts of Africa, more so in places like Rwanda and the Darfur region of Sudan. These readings remind me of the questions asked by theorists of the Frankfurt School of Critical Theory as to why humankind instead of being truly free is progressively sinking into new forms of barbarism. Echoes of where hatred and bigotry can lead also underscore the urgency of the task ahead to combine scholarship with praxis, more so in the part of the world that I am most familiar with: Nigeria, West Africa. Several books suggested to me during my research were particularly helpful and instructive.

Third, in the area of globalization, works that I was able to read in the library were helpful in further critical analysis of global concerns: poverty, religious wars, terrorism, and ethnic and racial tensions. Again, it reinforces my intellectual and theological kinship with Gregory Palamas as an initiator and forerunner of Christian-Islamic dialog. The significance of this cannot be overstated as recently, Nigeria elected a Muslim President with a Christian Vice President to run the affairs of state. The dialog and debate that eventually led to the success of the election, a first of its kind to remove a sitting President, have engaged scholars on both sides of the political debates.

Furthermore, I juxtaposed and integrated my readings with regional examples in the current class I am teaching on Minority Relations. I took a group of students to visit a mosque and an Orthodox Church in the Pittsburgh area. Most of these young people have never stepped inside any of these religious places of worship, and it is a rewarding experience to see how open they are to the need for inter-cultural and inter-religious dialog, and even more so post-9/11. In essence, my readings at the Hilandar Research Library have continued to reinforce my teaching and research here locally and nationally.

Fourth, on Wednesday night of my stay at OSU, Jessi suggested a lecture by Professor **Youssef Yacoubi**, Professor of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures at Ohio State. The title of the lecture was “Religions of the World, Past and Present.” It was very informative and instructive, especially with regards to my project of research at the Hilandar Research Library. I am hoping to present some areas of my work at the Orthodox Theological Association Conference taking place at Fordham University this summer. Finally, I want to express my profound gratitude to the entire staff at the Hilandar Library for the support and hospitality given to me during my stay. It was highly rewarding and well worth it.



Dr. Olagoke working in the Special Collections office  
Photo by J. Jones



# Getting “Hands On” at Hilandar Research Library

By Tom Elvins

On Saturday, March 28, 2015, students in Professor David J. Birnbaum's University of Pittsburgh graduate seminar on Medieval Rus' had the privilege of visiting the Hilandar Research Library (HRL) at OSU Libraries' Jack and Jan Creighton Special Collections Reading Room for a special workshop on medieval Slavic codicology, paleography, and the techniques of early manuscript making. Predrag Matejic, Curator of the HRL and director of Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, and his colleagues M.A. "Pasha" Johnson (Associate Curator of HRL), Jessi Jones (RCMSS Program Coordinator), and Nina Haviernikova (RCMSS Graduate Associate) welcomed us with lunch.

Dr. Eric J. Johnson, Curator of Early Books and Manuscripts for Ohio State's Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, one of the four Special Collections in Thompson Library, led the first workshop and focused his discussion primarily on the process



Dr. Eric J. Johnson explains to students how manuscripts are made. Photos by J. Jones

of making parchment, a medium made from treated animal skins that commonly served as the substrate for manuscript production. Drawing from contemporary productions as well as medieval exemplars, Dr. Johnson demonstrated the difficult and time-consuming procedure needed to turn animal hides into a usable writing surface. Students also learned about medieval practices of pricking and ruling, which allowed early book makers to produce ruled pages similar to the loose-leaf notebooks on every student's desk today. Several artifacts representing medieval parchment-making tools, such as a lead stylus and a bone scraper that had been recovered from the mud of the Thames River, offered a rare insight into the people and industry that labored at the challenge of book-making centuries ago.

Following the discussion of parchment production, Professor Predrag Matejic led the group in a seminar on medieval Slavic paleography, focusing on the challenge of deciphering manuscripts whose writing is often so ornate that individual words and letters can be difficult to discern. Dr.

Matejic assisted the group in working through the title lines of the *Life of St. Cyril and Methodius* in order to demonstrate an exemplar of the ornate Slavic alphabets prevalent in the medieval period. The Slavic manuscripts we examined from the Hilandar Research Library collection were all written on paper, which had gained increasing popularity after arriving in Europe in the wake of the Islamic conquests.

M. A. "Pasha" Johnson devoted her portion of the workshop to exploring techniques of medieval paper making. The group learned how medieval paper was formed from wood pulp that was extracted from a vat of boiling wood fiber with the use of a screen. The sheet of pulp was then removed from the screen, and left to dry in order to form a substrate fit for writing. The paper industry allowed for the faster production of manuscript-making materials than parchment, and allowed the paper-maker to incorporate a watermark, which aids scholars today in identifying the paper's origin in time and space. Using watermark albums, our group set out to identify sample watermark tracings taken from actual Hilandar Monastery paper codices, so as to shed light on the temporal and geographic origins of the paper used in these Athonite manuscripts.

After working with the OSU team, the group gained an appreciation for the complex and strenuous processes that early book-makers endured in order to produce their products. The Hilandar Research Library collection and staff offered a rare and welcome opportunity for our seminar to explore the physical methods of manuscript construction that underlie the texts we read in class, and to gain an appreciation of the early traditions of book-making that produced the corpus of medieval Slavic manuscripts surviving today.



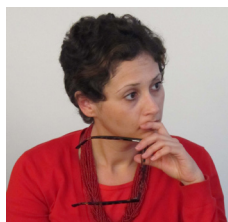
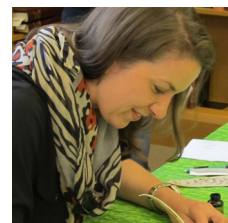
Students from the University of Pittsburgh's Medieval Rus' graduate seminar and their professor, David J. Birnbaum, enjoy a tour of Ohio State's Thompson Library.

# MSSI 2015



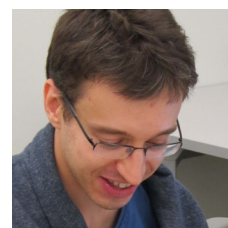
**Alexandre Benoit** (University of Toronto, Canada) is working on his doctoral dissertation, which analyzes the role of foreign policy in the legitimization and consolidation of the tsar's authority in the eyes of the people from the reign of Ivan IV to the rise of Michael Romanov.

**Alice Sullivan** (University of Michigan) is working on her dissertation in art history, "The Painted Fortified Monastic Churches of Moldavia: Bastions of Orthodoxy in a Post-Byzantine World." Her work centers on the ecclesiastical artistic production of Moldavia.



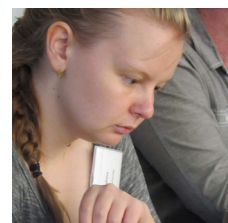
**Federica Candido** (University of Calabria, Italy / University of Geneva, Switzerland) aims to provide in her dissertation an overview of the cultural context in which St. Methodius of Olympus' *Symposion e peri Hagneias* was conceived, and, specifically, to classify the different roles of the women in the Christian communities of Asia Minor before the birth of monasticism.

**Marek Majer** (Harvard University) focuses his studies on historical Slavic and Indo-European linguistics. His research deals primarily with Proto-Slavic phonology, morphology and word-formation in an Indo-European context.



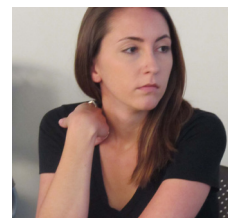
**Rosie Finlinson** (University of Cambridge) has been focusing her recent studies on the Muscovite period, in particular, the 16th and 17th centuries, and has been looking at hagiographies and hagiographical icons of several Murom saints, e.g., Iulianiia Lazarevskaiia, Petr and Fevroniia.

**Ana Kabakova** (The Ohio State University) studies the evolution of the revolutionary heroine, gender and sexuality in *Nu, Pogodi!* Her recollection of Eastern Orthodox church services from childhood piqued her interest in Old Church Slavonic and texts from later recensions of Church Slavonic.



**Josh Hodil** (Yale University) has examined the writings of Sigismund von Herberstein on early sixteenth-century Muscovy and the spread of the Orthodox faith among the Karelians in northwest Russia. His dissertation covers the intimate relationship between seventeenth-century Russia and the Baltic world, and particularly the major powers of Sweden and Denmark.

**Kayla Grumbles** (University of Kansas) is studying historical Slavic linguistics and has been inspired by her work on *Codex Zographensis*. She enjoyed the hands-on experience of working with original manuscripts and was particularly interested in researching the marginalia and inscriptions of her group's manuscript.







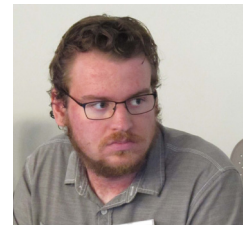
**Tanya Melnikova** (The Ohio State University) focuses on Cyrillic script as a cultural exponent. She has research experience in the development of the visual side of Cyrillic and has studied the shapes of Cyrillic graphemes. She views the development of Cyrillic through the influence of major historical events, including changes within the Orthodox Church and Peter the Great's reforms.

**Marta Peña Escudero** (University of Granada, Spain) is working on a doctoral dissertation in Slavic Studies that focuses on medieval Russian literature. Specifically, she is studying the origins of the genre "Mirrors for Princes" (*Specula Principum*) in Russian literature from the 11th to 13th centuries.



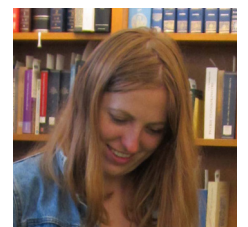
**Matt Menzenski** (University of Kansas) is researching the interactions between vowel alternations in Slavic verb stems. His past projects have included translations and critical editions of Old English poetry, using high-quality manuscript images. The MSSJ afforded him the opportunity to view original manuscript pages up close.

**Ryan Perkins** (The Ohio State University) is working on a specialization in historical linguistics. He is experienced in working with normalized OCS versions of passages from the Bible, as well as non-normalized (though transcribed) selections from the *Codex Zographensis*, the *Codex Marianus*, and the *Savvina kniga*.



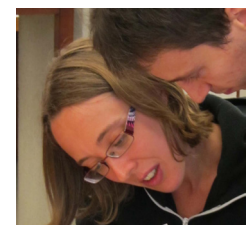
**Mariana Bodnaruk** (Central European University, Budapest) is focused on Church Slavonic translations of various types of Greek Byzantine texts, i.e., hagiographical, hymnographical, homiletic, historiographical and juridical, as well as Slavonic translations from Mount Athos. Her experience is in the field of late antique and early Byzantine history as well as early Slavic history.

**Ievgeniia Sakal** (Yale University) has studied the treatise of miracles published by the Kyievo-Pechers'ka Lavra in 1635 in Polish. She is now working on her dissertation, which focuses on comparing Church Slavonic original manuscripts with their modernized Polish translations and vernacular language versions.



**Nick Mayhew** (University of Cambridge) is investigating gender and sexuality in the Early Slavonic context for his dissertation. He has studied depictions of eunuchs in pre-Mongol East Slavonic sources, as well as *bratosotvorenje*, a rite of ceremonially sanctified kinship between two men existent in the Slavonic world in the 11th century.

**Katie Sykes** (University of Cambridge) has examined ideas about the nature of the human body in the hagiography and homiletics of pre-Mongol Rus'. Currently, she carries out morphological and syntactic tagging of medieval Slavonic texts using her knowledge of Old Church Slavonic.



# Examining Exegesis and Hermeneutics at HRL

By Maria Ivanova

From 1-15 August 2015, I conducted research at the Hilandar Research Library at The Ohio State University. The topic of my research is the “Early modern Eastern Slavic art of dissimulation.” While there are studies on dissimulation as a political, cultural, or theological phenomenon, I examine an interpretative potential of philosophical approach to dissimulation in general, which includes treating early modern Ruthenian concealment strategies from the point of view of the philosophy of language and theory of interpretation (exegesis and hermeneutics).



Dr. Ivanova, at work in the Special Collections Audio/Visual Room Photo by J. Jones

I am currently working on a series of articles devoted to the issue of concealment in Slavic thought of the 16th and 17th centuries. For the implementation of this project I needed access to some of the manuscript and early printed sources, which I either had accessed before (but needed to check particular quotations), or had not had access to at all. Due to the support of the RCMSS Fellowship, I got a chance to work with such materials on microfilm and microfiche. Of particular importance were the microforms from the collections in Uppsala (books belonging to Johann Sparwenfeld), as well as books printed by the Kyivan Lavra in the 1620s. I also worked with “The Catechism” by Szymon Budny, “The Homiliary Gospel” by Kyrilo Stavroveckyi, and Meletii Smotrycky’s “Grammar” reprinted in Moscow in 1648 (I had had a chance to work with the original 1619 edition, but needed the 1648 one for comparison).

Along with primary sources, for me it was also a unique opportunity to get access to rare or unknown secondary literature in English and several Slavic languages from the collections of the OSU libraries, the HRL in particular, as well as through OhioLink. All future publications resulting from my research stay will acknowledge HRL and RCMSS support.

I would like to thank all HRL and RCMSS Faculty and Staff for their help and support, as well as for demonstrating to me true standards of academic excellence. Dr. Predrag Matejic helped me to find necessary literature in Serbian and Croatian, and to place my research in a broader context of Slavic studies and adjacent fields. M.A. “Pasha” Johnson has been incredibly helpful not only in providing me with necessary catalogs and research tools, but also in finding, scanning, and ordering research articles and sources during and well beyond my stay in Columbus. Jessi Jones guided me through all administrative procedures regarding documentation, so that I never experienced any problems. Everyone was always extremely helpful in facilitating my research, which made my stay a truly fruitful experience.

## Letter from Dr. Vlada Stanković

Dear Dr. Matejić,

Allow me to express my deepest gratitude for an opportunity to conduct research at the Hilandar Research Library that you are heading at the Ohio State University. During my brief research stay in Columbus from March 29 to April 4, I have examined the 12th- and 13th-century edicts of Byzantine Emperors to the Hilandar Monastery from the HRL’s microfilm collection that has advanced significantly the work on my current project “Changes in Identity, Ideology and Position of Serbia as Witnessed by the Documents of the Hilandar Monastery (12th through 14th centuries)”. As a part of a broader work on the monograph “A History of Medieval Serbia”, a project that examines the crucial change in the balance of power in southeastern Europe in the late Middle Ages that occurred with the rise in might and status of medieval Serbia, I examined documents of the Hilandar Monastery, regardless of their provenience, purpose, and status of the person that had issued them. Thanks to a first-hand examination of the manuscripts on microfilm, I was able to solve many of the previous dilemmas I had regarding the content of the edicts and their trustworthiness, which stemmed from careless editions or inadequate descriptions of the manuscripts in question and the manuscript tradition, in general. I am especially grateful for having a chance to examine the very valuable collection of old, rare and unique books of the Hilandar Research Library. Thanking you again for hospitality, I am certain that we will continue mutually beneficial collaboration, especially considering plans for a broader medieval history of the Balkans and the project “Christian Culture in the Middle Ages” that I am directing at the University of Belgrade.

Yours sincerely,  
Vlada Stanković



# 2015 Highlights

Photo courtesy of SVOTS



On September 23, 2015, Predrag Matejic delivered the Third Annual Father John Meyendorff Memorial Lecture, speaking on “Byzantium, the Slavs, and the Russian Orthodox Church,” at St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary. Pictured above (l to r) are: Professor Predrag Matejic; The Very Reverend Dr. **Chad Hatfield**, Chancellor of St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary; His Beatitude, Metropolitan **Tikhon**, Archbishop of Washington and All America and Canada of the Orthodox Church in America; His Eminence, Metropolitan **Joseph**, Archbishop of New York and All North America of the Antiochian Orthodox Church; and The Very Reverend Dr. **John Behr**, Dean of St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary.



Predrag Matejic, Isolde Thyret, and Engelina S. Smirnova review the Pimen Sofronov archives in the HRL. Photo by N. Haviernikova



MSSl 2015 participants in front of Thompson Library (not pictured: levgeniia Sakal) Photo by N. Haviernikova

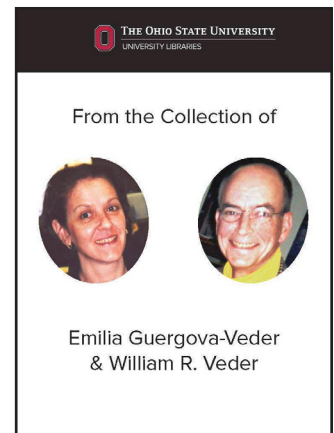
## HRL Acquires the Emilia Guergova-Veder & William R. Veder Collection

On April 27 of this year, Emilia Guergova-Veder passed away. Before returning to his native Netherlands, William Veder generously donated over 300 volumes of their joint library to the HRL. Many of these will join the numerous microfiche and microfilms of medieval Slavic manuscripts and dozens of books authored and/or donated previously by him and Emilia. The latest donation of books reflects their own histories and scholarly interests, including Orthodoxy, Patristics, Slavic linguistics, Slavic medieval literature, and Bulgarian literature.

WorldCat is the largest network of library content in the world (for more information please see <http://www.worldcat.org/whatis/>). It is a combined catalog of over 72,000 individual libraries and has over a billion records. Of the 133 books that will become part of the Hilandar Research Library or the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library (RBMS), 40 are unique, that is, not found in WorldCat. Another 51 books were considered rare, i.e., having fewer than 5 copies in WorldCat.

Among these unique and rare books are: the second volume of the *Bibliia* edition issued under Empress Elizabeth I (1784), *Minei* (1824), *Oktoih* (1896), *St. Ivan Rilski* (1917), *Compendium Theologiae Orientalis* (1939), *Chasoslov* (1941), *Akathist* (1946), *Vŭskrenik* (1949), *Simfoniia* [Concordance to the Old and New Testaments] (1960), *Epistles, Gospels and Tones of the Byzantine Liturgical Year* (1985), and *Stari manastir Jazak u Fruškoj gori* (1990).

Pasha and the OSU Libraries are designing a special bookplate to commemorate this latest donation of books. The bookplate will incorporate photos Pasha took of Emilia and William during one of their visits to the HRL in 2002. Pictured at right is a draft of the potential bookplate that will be pasted in the books or onto the call number streamers of books intended for the HRL and RBMS collections.



# Edward Kasinec Bequest

In order to provide for the continued enhancement and growth of the subject areas of his former private collections that are now part of the HRL and OSU Libraries, Edward Kasinec has made a generous future bequest – the **“Kasinec Family Endowed Acquisition Fund.”** The fund will be administered by the Associate Director for Special Collections and the Curator of the Hilandar Research Library and will be used for the purchase of antiquarian books, manuscripts, and reference materials relating to Slavonic, especially East Slavic, culture before 1800.

Photo courtesy of E. Kasinec

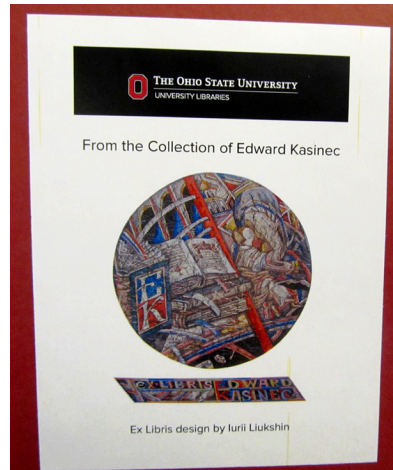
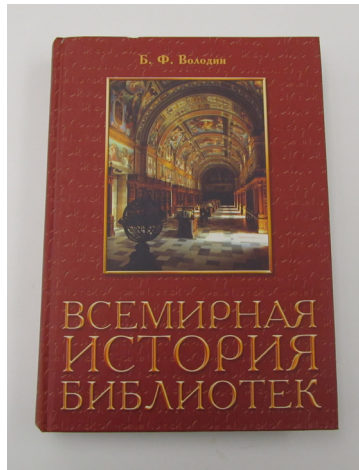


Photo on left: *Vsemirnaia istoria bibliotek* by B.F. Volodin (2004), one of 233 volumes we received this fall as part of the Kasinec donation.

Photo on right: inside cover of Volodin's book with the OSU Libraries' bookplate pasted in. The OSU design incorporates the the personal bookplate designed for Mr. Kasinec by Ukrainian artist **Iurii Liukshin**.

## Special Collections Donor Wall

*Special Collections at the Thompson Library is pleased to announce the installation of its Donor Wall. On September 10th the donor wall was placed in the foyer of the Jack and Jan Creighton Special Collections Reading Room (Thompson Library Room 105). It recognizes donors who have made especially noteworthy gifts-in-kind, and/or monetary donations to the HRL/RCMSS, Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, and the Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute.*





# Thank You for Your Generosity!

*With sincerest appreciation the HRL and RCMSS acknowledge  
the following donors for their generous support*

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Protinica Ljubica Matejic*

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Looking forward to the holidays. Wes Boomgaarden of Clintonville eyes the lights he hung at his home Dec. 1, 2013. (*Columbus Dispatch* photo by Eric Albrecht)

We would like to say a fond farewell to our friend and colleague **Wes Boomgaarden** who retired last year. Wes was the Head of Preservation & Reformatting and an Associate Professor at The Ohio State University, where he had been employed since 1984. He was instrumental in helping to preserve and store the HRL manuscripts on microform. We offer our congratu-

**Happy Holidays and Season's Greetings from us at  
the Hilandar Research Library and the Resource  
Center for Medieval Slavic Studies!**