Microfilm Exchange Promotes Preservation and Scholarship

A highly promising exchange between the Serb National Library in Belgrade and the Hilandar Research Library/Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies is now underway. The first three shipments of the exchange have already taken place, bringing to the HRL an additional 59 manuscripts on microfilm to add to its holdings. These microfilms are the first of what should grow to an exchange involving hundreds more manuscripts on microfilm.

This exchange is the culmination of years of discussion and planning. It is the direct result, however, of a visit made by Predrag Matejic, HRL Curator and RCMSS Director, to the Serb National Library and its Director, Sreten Ugrićić, in September 2004, and, most importantly, a later visit made by a small delegation from the Serb National Library, led by its Director for International Relations, Vesna Injac-Malbaša (see CMH 16:6).

In addition to the obvious reason for an exchange – the accessibility to mutually needed materials in both libraries – the HRL will share in the preservation responsibility for the microfilms received on exchange from the Serb National Library. When during World War II, on 6 April 1941, the Serb National Library burned to the ground, one of the largest South Slavic collections of manuscripts was lost. World War II was also responsible for the loss of other, smaller manuscript libraries. On the other

continued on page 3
We are already well into what I predict will be the busiest four to six months in our history. Preparations for this summer’s Medieval Slavic Summer Institute are underway, and we expect our ten participants to arrive by the last week in June. Following their departure, we will immediately begin “packing” the entire HRL and RCMSS in anticipation of our move to the temporary library facility at 600 Ackerman Road. For those who have not been to the Hilandar Research Library recently, you may not be aware that the move includes not only more than 5,000 volumes of the reference collection, the thousands of microfilms and microfiche volumes now in 11 cabinets, but several other file cabinets, all the microform readers and reader-printers, computers, and even all the bookshelves!

As we receive more specific information about our exact address, fax and telephone numbers, we will try and inform all our potential users. This will likely be done through our webpage <http://cmrs.osu.edu/rcmss/>. As noted earlier (see CMH 16), other than during the actual packing, the physical transportation, and the careful unpacking, we fully expect to continue and maintain all of our services and activities unabated and without significant change. Our first guest researcher in the new temporary HRL/RCMSS will be Iryna Dabravolskaya of Belarus, who is expected in early November for a research stay of two months. As part of her doctoral dissertation, Ms. Dabravolskaya will research the dissemination and reception of South Slavic saints’ lives in East Slavic areas.

Three Ohio State graduate students, MSSI participants Ljiljana Djurašković (2003) and Fr. • ivojin Jakovljević (1999), as well as Slavic 812 alumnus (see CMH 18: 2) Luke Menzies, are diligently pursuing research for their professional papers. Slavic 812 alumni J. Joshua Pennington and Andrew J. Kier successfully defended their masters theses, If the U Fits: “Yusage” in the Miroslav Gospel, and “...And Take the Knife...”: Four Non-Canonical Prayers from a Fifteenth-Century South Slavic Trebnik, respectively. All five, certainly in part due to the training and experience they received at the HRL, are successfully incorporating medieval Slavic resources into their academic program.

Recently, Mrs. Irene Enich of West Allis, Wisconsin, offered to the HRL the slide collection of her late husband, Steven, a prominent Serbian-American attorney. This collection of slides is extremely valuable, featuring various aspects of Yugoslav culture – in particular, churches and monasteries in the former Yugoslavia. The collection of nearly 5,000 slides is expected to arrive in the Hilandar Research Library by mid-June. This collection, which has been preserved under the best possible conditions, will continue to be so preserved at the HRL. It is also our intent to make the finding aid of the slide collection available for various potential research needs of students and scholars.

We offer our sincere congratulations to Professor Charles E. Gribble of the OSU Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures (DSEELL). The Executive Council of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences has awarded our colleague its highest distinction, the “Marin Drinov Badge of Honor,” for his overall contribution to Bulgarian Studies, for his work in making Bulgarian culture better known in the United States, and for his prominent role in fostering scholarly cooperation between the U.S. and Bulgaria.

May 20th was an occasion of both joy and sadness as we took part in a memorial tribute to Professor Leon I. Twarog, organized by Professor Daniel E. Collins, Chair of the DSEELL. This was an opportunity to once again acknowledge Dr. Twarog’s great contributions to Slavic studies at this university, as well as his crucial role in establishing the HRL and RCMSS.

Shortly after the passing of Dr. Twarog, we also mourned the death of Professor Rimvydas “Frank” Šilbajoris, a specialist in Russian (particularly Tolstoy) and Baltic literatures and one of the first five professors of the DSEELL.

Finally, in our close-knit “Hilandar” family, we were also deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs. Helen Tumbas (Elyria, Ohio), one of the initial supporters and a “Benefactor” of the Hilandar Research Project, the HRL, and RCMSS.

May their Memory be Eternal!

Plaques, awards, and memorabilia on display during the May 20th Memorial Service honoring Professor Leon I. Twarog.

CYRILLIC MANUSCRIPT HERITAGE

Director: Predrag Matejic
Assistant Curator: M. A. Johnson
Managing Editor: Helene Senecal
Media Consultant: Lorraine Abraham
Contributing Editor: Nataša Kaurin-Karača

Hilandar Research Library
Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies
The Ohio State University
225/227 Main Library
1858 Neil Avenue Mall
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1286
Telephone: 614-292-0634
Fax: 614-292-7859
E-mail: hilandar@osu.edu

Website address: www.cmrs.osu.edu/rcmss/
OSU Knowledge Bank, continued from page 1

The Knowledge Bank is structured along the lines of “communities” (e.g., the Hilandar Research Library) that consist of “collections” (e.g., the RCMSS/HRL biannual newsletter Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage <https://kb.osu.edu/dspace/handle/1811/5919>) and “sub-communities” (e.g., Polata knigopisnaia). Examples of other communities currently on the Knowledge Bank include: the Byrd Polar Research Center (collections: E-Publications, Polar Oral History Program, Technical Reports), East Asian Studies Center (sub-communities Early Modern Japan: an interdisciplinary journal and East Asian On-Line Books), and the Olentangy River Wetland Research Park (collection: Annual reports).

Although the OSU Knowledge Bank is operated by the University Libraries and CIO’s Office of Information Technology (OIT), the management and stewardship of materials housed online, for the most part, rest with the individual community: in this case, it is the Hilandar Research Library staff which uploads the files and determine the content of the metadata descriptions of the issues of Polata knigopisnaia and Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage (CMH).

Polata knigopisnaia (PK) was originally founded in 1978 by William R. Veder (University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands) and Mario Capaldo (University of Rome, Italy). They have generously made all past and future issues accessible freely via the Internet through the Hilandar Research Library and The Ohio State University Libraries, although all of the volumes remain the intellectual property of the PK Board of Editors, which is solely responsible for the content of the journal.

The volumes of PK on the Knowledge Bank are in the format of searchable .pdf files, so that if, for example, a scholar wanted to look for a form of the word тъпаканец (podvig”), which may be translated variously as ‘heroic deed or conduct,’ ‘competition’ or, in the religious sense ‘asceticism’) in a medieval text in order to trace the development of its meaning and usage, it is possible simply to open the document on the OSU Knowledge Bank of Janette Sampion and Sara Van Halsema’s Cosmas Presbyter: Homily Against the Bogumils. An Operational Edition, which comprises PK vol. 33, and “search” for the stem “podvig.” The search results “window” lists three instances; one may click on each example to view it in context: lines 152 and 2159 show the verbal forms тъпакане and тъпаканя, respectively, while line 2656 has an example of the noun form тъпак.

All future issues of PK will be available only in electronic format and accessible on the OSU Knowledge Bank. By autumn 2006 it is hoped that all eighteen back issues of Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage, as well as this issue, no. 19, will also be available in a downloadable .pdf document format in the CMH collection of the Hilandar Research Library community of the Knowledge Bank. The Knowledge Bank CMH issues, unlike the online version of the newsletter on the RCMSS/HRL Web site, retain the original formatting of the print version of the newsletter, yet include color photographs, where available.

Microfilm Exchange, continued from page 1

The Hilandar Research Library can do nothing to help assure the physical preservation of the actual Cyrillic manuscripts found in numerous countries: that responsibility is vested in those institutions and countries that own the manuscripts. Therefore, much of the discussion in late 2004 between the two institutions centered on the preservation measures the HRL follows with the microfilms of Cyrillic manuscripts available for research (see, for example, CMH 2: 6-7). A microfilm for which the HRL has been given care is preserved under optimum professional conditions, and will last and be available for at least 500 years. Over time, better preservation standards and means are certain to be developed. When that occurs, the HRL will certainly preserve these unique resources in the best way possible. It is the goal of the HRL to do all it can so that never again will the information and intellectual content inherent in a Cyrillic manuscript be forever lost to scholarship and posterity.

The Hilandar Research Library is pleased and honored not only to make the materials received in this microfilm exchange available to students and scholars in the HRL, but to preserve these microfilms for now and far into the future.
HRL Journal

In this feature, Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage asks researchers who have used the Hilandar Research Library in the past year, in person or by mail, to describe their experiences and work. Scholars who wish to contribute items may send them to CMH.

My Days at OSU’s Hilandar Research Library

BY DAVID GOLDFRANK

I first discovered this remarkable library when I was at OSU for the Fourth International Hilandar Conference in the summer of 1998. Though I was a newcomer to the premises, Predrag Matejic welcomed me like an old friend, set me up with one of the Volokolamsk microfilms that was useful for my second edition of Iosif Volotsky’s Monastic Rule (Cistercian Publications, 2000), and even gifted me with a copy of his invaluable, co-authored, two-volume catalogue of the Hilandar Monastery and other Balkan microfilm collections at the HRL.

I had no idea I would be back in five years as an annual visitor, but Cistercian Publications asked me to “do” Nil Sorsky, that is, produce a critical English translation of his works, as a companion to my Iosif. What existed in English, when I was ready to begin the project early in 2003, was woefully inadequate: Hélène Izwolsky’s abridged and free rendering of part of the corpus (found in Fedotov’s Treasury of Russian Spirituality) and Rev. George Maloney’s masquerade, which mixed some genuine text with a version of an explicated nineteenth-century Russian paraphrase of Nil’s Ustav. I figured that I could not only produce a genuine translation, but also, with the resources of HRL, do it right, that is, identify most of Nil’s Slavic sources.

At this time, Lindsey Hughes (University of London), my colleagues Catherine Evtuhov and Richard Stites and I were finishing our History of Russia textbook (Houghton Mifflin, 2004). But I was able to jump-start the project with the aid of a talented, native Russian speaker and first-rate undergraduate student in my Orthodox Culture course, Ilya Kharin (Georgetown CSAS, 2005, subsequently a graduate student in history at Princeton). HRL immediately helped by shipping to me photocopies of the best fourteenth- and fifteenth-century South Slavic versions of many of Nil’s key sources. By late July, moreover, we had a first-draft translation of our own.

Ilya and I then set out for a week of intensive source-searching at Hilandar, especially in the Russian Volokolamsk microfilms from the Eparkhial’nyi Fond, which, by agreement with the State Historical Museum (GIM), are illegal to distribute as photocopies, and so must be used at OSU. To Ilya goes the credit for discovering the value of texts that were appended to Nil’s autograph Predanie before his Ustav (Eparkh.349, ff. 15-16v), and quite a few of the sources.

We also took the occasion that week to attend services in Columbus’ subur-ban Serbian Orthodox sobor, where Predrag’s father, the Very Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic, the founder of the HRL/RCMSS, had been the pastor. It has an absolutely stunning iconostasis, in a flat, onion-domed wooden frame. Originally a gift of the court of Emperor Nicholas II to the Russian Orthodox sobor in Pittsburgh, it is on seemingly permanent loan as too small for the post-World War II enlarged Pittsburgh sobor. For anyone visiting the HRL (Columbus) through a weekend, I highly recommend attending the service at this most friendly and welcoming place. We also had the pleasure of experiencing, each in our own way, a familiar liturgy po-srbski on a day when parents brought their babies and tots for communion.

As almost all projects take longer than envisioned, I found that I needed almost three more non-sabbatical years to ready my manuscript. This included summer visits to the HRL for a week each in 2004 and 2005 and a quick return for two days in February 2006, mainly to seek out and check sources and some secondary material and scholarly help not readily available elsewhere. I don’t know if others have had this reaction, but I have always felt that when I am in the HRL, I am in the equivalent of four medieval Slavic monastery libraries, backed by a specialized reading room cum helpful staff of experts, itself backed up by the library of a first rate research university. Meanwhile, whenever I work at home, with HRL photocopies as well as dictionaries, Patrologia Graeca, and other materials on hand in my pos-sesion or that I have borrowed from Georgetown, my home office becomes for me my own “Little Hilandar.”

Overall, working at HRL on my Nil Sorsky: the Authentic Writings (forth-coming, Cistercian Publications, 2007 or 2008) has been a splendid experience. The atmosphere is familial, and the staff makes visitors feel especially welcome. I shall surely continue to craft research projects that take me back there.

Editor’s Note: David Goldfrank is a Professor of Russian History at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. He is an expert in medieval and early modern Russia, Russian intellectual history and foreign policy, and Eastern Europe.
HRL NEWS NOTES:

Special Collections Cataloger Works on HRL Holdings

Nataliya Oliynyk
Special Collections Cataloger for HRL

Nataliya Oliynyk, the new Special Collections Cataloger for the Hilandar Research Library, is a native of Sumy, a city in the northeast of Ukraine. She graduated from Sumy State Teacher’s University (Ukraine) with a degree in Foreign Languages (English and German) in 1994. After graduation, she began teaching English at Sumy National Agrarian University. She taught English to students of Finance, Economics and Law for 10 years (1994-2004). While teaching at the university, she coordinated and directed student exchanges and training programs to the United States, Australia and a number of European countries. Nataliya also managed the Ukrainian-Canadian Farm Project of extension courses for farmers. In 2003, she was appointed the vice-dean of the Department of International Cooperation. For two years (2002-2004) she headed the State Examination Board in English for Bachelor of Science graduates. As a delegate for the Department of International Cooperation, Nataliya had many opportunities to attend conferences and visit countries around the world. In 2004, she visited The Ohio State University and a year later became a staff member of the Ohio International Agricultural and Horticultural Intern program (OIAHIP), a foreign and domestic international student-exchange program sponsored by the OSU College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences. She found it to be a unique and wonderful opportunity working in an atmosphere of professionalism, respect and friendship.

Earlier this year, Nataliya began working for the Special Collections Cataloging Department of the OSU Libraries cataloging materials for the Libraries’ special collections, and in particular for the Hilandar Research Library. “I am proud and honored to work with the materials of this unique and rich collection using my language skills in Ukrainian, Russian, Polish, Bulgarian and other languages, and,” she concludes, “I find my work to be really challenging and exciting.”

The second volume of Acta Palaeoslavica (Heron Press, Sofia, Bulgaria), is dedicated to Angelina Mincheva, a professor of the Department of Cyrillic-Methodian Studies, Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski” University. A brief biography of Professor Mincheva is included in this journal, along with a comprehensive bibliography of her published works from 1953-2005. Thirty-two colleagues and students honor Professor Mincheva with articles on a variety of topics in linguistics, manuscript studies, paleography, and textology – ranging from Klimentina Ivanova’s Bulgarian article “On Angels and in Honor of Angelina (An Unstudied Text on the Unearthly Forces)” to Christian Voss’ German “‘Aegean Macedonian’ or ‘Belomorsk Bulgarian’: Research Perspectives on the East South Slavic Minority Language Group in Greece.”

Editor’s Note: Angelina Mincheva was a researcher in the HRL for one month during the summer of 1988.

BAN Library Deputy Director Visits Ohio State University Libraries

Sabina Aneva, Deputy Director and Chief Systems Librarian of the Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAN), was recently hosted by the Ohio State University Libraries, the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, and the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies. The purpose of her one-month visit was primarily to conduct research and to interact with and observe the Acquisitions and Cataloging operations of the OSU Libraries, including Special Collections’ Cataloging. In addition to her research, Professor Aneva presented a lecture in the Main Library on June 12th: Bulgarian Libraries: Once Again at the Crossroads, a discussion of Bulgarian libraries and their need to cope with the collapse of socialism, limited funding in a now free-market society, and coming to grips with the existence and potential of the Internet.

Professor Aneva arrived mid-May in the United States to attend and present papers at The First Monday 10th Anniversary Conference in Chicago (May 15-17) and The Fisher Forum on Book Arts, Culture and the Media in Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia: From Print to Digital held in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, from June 15-18. She was able to coordinate continued on page 6
Donation from Professor Miloš Velimirović

Dr. Miloš Velimirović, renowned professor of Byzantine Musicology, has generously donated over 100 books and article offprints to the Hilandar Research Library. Born and raised in Belgrade, Dr. Velimirović, with a doctorate from Harvard 1957, became the best known scholar of Byzantine music and hymnology in the United States. He had a lengthy and distinguished teaching career at Yale (1957-1969), Wisconsin (1969-1973); and, finally, the University of Virginia in Charlottesville (1973-1993). Winner of numerous awards, Dr. Velimirović had a Festschrift published in 2003 in honor of his 80th birthday (Moscow: Russian Church Music Center) and received an honorary doctorate from the National University in Athens in 2004.

Professor Velimirović has long-standing ties with both Hilandar Monastery and the original Hilandar Research Project at Ohio State. Most people do not know that, having seen the state of Hilandar Monastery’s old library,** in 1964 he was responsible for introducing to the monastic elders one of the monastery’s future great benefactors, John Thacher, the first Director of Dumbarton Oaks (Washington, D.C.), and a patron who was to do much to help Hilandar Monastery and Mount Athos in general.

It was also recently revealed that he was responsible for recommending funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities in support of the microfilming of Hilandar Monastery’s Slavic manuscripts. This crucial support made possible our completion of the majority of the microfilming in the monastery in 1971.

We are especially grateful that a portion of the personal library of this distinguished scholar with ties to both Hilandar Monastery and the Hilandar Research Project will now find a home in the Hilandar Research Library. In his honor, a bookplate has been designed for these valuable materials that incorporates an image of Hilandar Monastery, thus honoring his commitment to Hilandar in both the Old and the New World.

**Editor’s Note: It was at the walls of Hilandar Monastery’s “new” library that the fire of 4 March 2004 was halted.

Special Djelevich Bookplate

A personalized bookplate has been designed by the HRL staff to be included in the volumes of the “Jakša and Biljana Djelevich Serbian Library,” which was recently donated to the OSU Libraries by Mrs. Djelevich. The bookplate features the images of Jakša and Biljana Djelevich as well as the Serbian coat-of-arms.

**Editor’s Note:** As part of a Title II-c grant in 1987-1988, the HRL pioneered the cataloging of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microfilm in accordance with MARC and AACR2 standards.

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HRL News Notes, continued

research visits to both the OSU Libraries and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. during the time between the two conferences. A guided tour of the worldwide library cooperative, OCLC (Online Computer Library Center), headquartered in Dublin, Ohio, was also a part of her busy schedule.

Prof. Aneva has spent several years implementing the integrated library system ALEPH500 and adopting MARC21 and Anglo-American Cataloging Rules2 (AACR2) in the Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. She has written several papers on various subjects related to the library information sciences. During the last few years, her professional interests have focused on the bibliographic description of microfilms of medieval Slavic manuscripts in accordance with MARC21 and AACR2 standards.*

Professor Aneva is also interested in the creation and management of Digital Library collections, methods of preservation, and open access to information. An expert in the field of digital sciences, she has written articles and presented lectures at different forums, including: Digital Library – The Bulgarian Case (London, February 2005); The Exchange of Bibliographic Data in the Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Moscow, September 2005); and The Application of MARC.

*Editor’s Note: As part of a Title II-c grant in 1987-1988, the HRL pioneered the cataloging of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microfilm in accordance with MARC and AACR2 standards.

Photo by H. Senecal

Sabina Aneva, Deputy Director of the Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

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† In Memoriam

Following a brief illness, Dr. Slobodan G. Mileusnić (9 April 1947 – 22 November 2005) passed away in Belgrade. He is survived by his wife Marica, son Vuk, and daughter Milica.

He was the author of more than 500 publications, ranging from popular articles on Serbian and Serbian Orthodox culture to several studies on an area of his particular knowledge and research interest, “paper icons” (lithographic and woodcut prints of religious material of the 16th-19th centuries). In recent years, Dr. Mileusnić had dedicated much of his time and publication to the fate of the Serbian Orthodox cultural legacy in areas of the former Yugoslavia. Turbulent times, in particular during the past 15 years, had a dramatic, and largely negative, impact on this legacy. His recent publications served to draw attention to the fate of this legacy and to those responsible for its preservation as well as its willful destruction. Even-handed, he assigned blame to any involved, regardless of ethnic background.

In recent years, the HRL and RCMSS had several occasions on which to host Dr. Mileusnić, who attended and presented at both the 4th and 5th International Hilandar Conferences. He was also a researcher in the HRL on brief visits in 1998 and 2002.

In his capacity as Secretary to the Holy Synod of the Serbian Orthodox Church, and primarily as Curator of the Serbian Orthodox Church Museum (Belgrade), he worked with us to develop both short- and long-term plans for the better preservation of and access to the rich manuscript heritage that he oversaw and about which he cared so deeply.

It is our hope that we will continue these plans, the realization of which would be a fitting legacy for this intelligent, thoughtful, gentle and caring man and scholar.

May his Memory be Eternal!

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