

Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage



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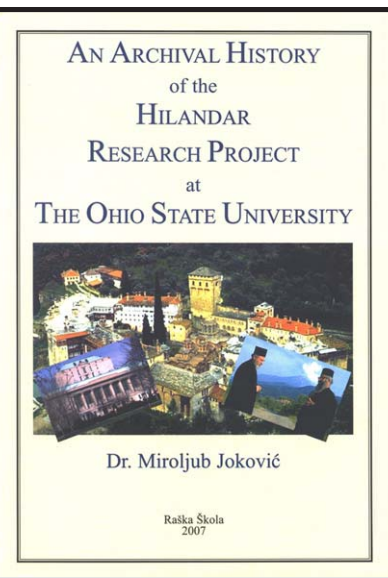
THE HILANDAR RESEARCH LIBRARY
THE RESOURCE CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL SLAVIC STUDIES

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Illustrated Archival History of HRL/RCMSS Recently Published

Prof. Dr. **Miroljub Joković**, organizer of the Fifth International Hilandar Conference in Raška, Serbia (2002), has authored *An Archival History of the Hilandar Research Project at The Ohio State University*, which was translated from the forthcoming Serbian edition by former RCMSS Graduate Research Associate, **Nataša Kaurin-Karača**. This impressive hardbound English edition has just been published (Belgrade: Raška Škola, 2007) and is now available.

Based on archives and photographs (see selected images on page 11) of the Hilandar Research Project, the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, and the Hilandar Research Library, the 168-page book describes and illustrates the early history of the Hilandar Research Project, and brings to light many of the people, factors, and institutions that together made this unique academic endeavor possible. Special attention is given to the crucial role of the monks of Hilandar Monastery, who initiated the project, especially to Father **Mitrofan Mišulić**, and to the close relationship the monks had with the V. Rev. Dr. **Mateja Matejic** and the "Hilandar Room" at the OSU Main Library. The care and planning at Ohio State, in particular by Professors **Mateja Matejic** and



Cover of *An Archival History of the Hilandar Research Project*

Leon I. Twarog, are credited with the continuing success of the initial Project.

The second half of the book discusses the history and evolution of the original Hilandar Research Project into the Hilandar Research Library and the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, as well as new initiatives (e.g., *Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage*, the biennial Medieval Slavic Summer Institute, and the RCMSS/HRL website) and the role that these academic institutions continue to play locally, nationally, and in the world today.

The original Serbian edition of this work will be available later in 2007. For questions or the opportunity to receive a copy, please contact us at <hilandar@osu.edu> or at (614)292-0634.

Iconographer's Extensive Library and Collection Arrive at the HRL

In early February, most of the personal library, archives and collections of the noted 20th-century Russian iconographer of Old Belief, **Pimen M. Sofronov** (1898-1973), arrived in the Hilandar Research Library. Sofronov worked and taught throughout much of Europe, training iconographers for the Serbian Orthodox Church (Russian émigrés and Serbs) in the 1930s, and producing many commissioned works for Varnava, Patriarch of the Serbian Orthodox Church (1920-1937), as well as the Serbian Royal Family.

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Director's Desk

Dr. Predrag Matejic



The first few months of this year began with a flurry of activities and excitement. The front page of this newsletter highlights the two most significant accomplishments: the publication of

An Archival History of the Hilandar Research Project and the acquisition of the Pimen M. Sofronov Collection.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to **Mirosljub Joković**, who compiled and authored the *History*, as well as to **Nataša Kaurin-Karača**, who translated it from Serbian to English. Their efforts have made a lasting contribution to the HRL and RCMSS. In my opinion, the book is an affirmation of the trust given to the Hilandar Research Project and The Ohio State University, as well as later to the HRL and RCMSS by the monks of Hilandar, by the curators and administrators of collections of which we have copies, and by the many donors who encouraged and made possible past and continuing endeavors. I also hope the book will serve as a continuing promise on our own part, and that it will always remind those who administer the HRL, RCMSS, OSU Libraries and College of Humanities, of the goals and purposes for which, in essence, we exist: to preserve, make accessible, and promote knowledge of the Slavic medieval past.

The Sofronov collection is both a marvel and a challenge. Having reviewed more carefully over a third of the collection, I am surprised by the uniqueness of many of the items. There is a special thrill in holding a book apparently not found in any other U.S. library, or only in one or two libraries in the world. This collection has dozens if not hundreds of such books.

I also believe I am beginning to get a better understanding of Sofronov, who was an iconographer clearly passionate about his faith and his calling, but also interested in all aspects of art: from illustrations in children's books to the history and expression of iconography and

religious art in all cultures. The books in Pimen Sofronov's library will enhance not only the HRL, but several other collections of the OSU Libraries, including Rare Books and Manuscripts, the Theater Research Institute, and even the Medical Heritage Library. When cataloged, however, each will be linked to him and his library, thus preserving his collection at Ohio State in the "virtual world" of computerized cataloging and information services.

Sofronov's non-book collection is also substantial. His numerous drawings and sketches, collection of old documents and endpapers, pictures, correspondence and archives, will continue to be a treasure to scholars. These items will also present special challenges, as they are often complicated in their uniqueness; for example, cataloging an 18th-century document that the artist then pricked with a needle in such a manner as to create an iconographic image, and finally used the blank surface of the back of the document on which to sketch in charcoal.

The challenge is not simply the cataloging. Many of the materials also need preservation treatment. Some of the rarest books and materials, for example, will need to be cleaned and/or de-acidified in order to stabilize the items and prevent the eventual destruction of the paper in them. It will only be after such measures are taken that the materials will be able to be safely used by future scholars.

As an indication that life is getting back to normal, the HRL has been "re-discovered" by scholars, eager to do research, but who have been politely waiting for us to settle into our new temporary location at Ackerman. We have recently had several researchers: **William R. Veder**, now concluding his research of a Saratov manuscript; **Jennifer B. Spock**, who continues work on Northern Russian monasteries; **Jos Schaeken** (the Netherlands) made a preliminary courtesy visit; and **Elizabeth M. Hawthorne**, who shares her special research interests in this issue of *CMH*. Most recently, **Adelina Angusheva** (Bulgaria, England) arrived from Yale to consult some Saratov Service Books (*Menaia*) as well as present a paper at the 3rd Southeast European Studies Asso-

ciation (SEESA) Conference, held 26-29 April. Also taking part in the conference were a number of Practical Slavic Palaeography alumni: **Bojan Belić** (University of Washington), **Andy Kier** and **Josh Pennington** (OSU), and **Boris Todorov** (UCLA). The Slavic Department and the HRL were also well represented, including a paper by **Daniel E. Collins**, and a poignant presentation by **M. A. Johnson**, *Dr. Naylor: A Student's Perspective*, recalling OSU professor of South Slavic linguistics **Kenneth E. Naylor**, in whose memory a portion of this conference was held. **Brian D. Joseph** (OSU) presented the *Tenth Annual Kenneth E. Naylor Memorial Lecture* "Why We Need History in Doing Balkan Linguistics."

We will continue to host research visits this summer and throughout the remainder of the year. Already planned are visits by **Joseph Ross** (Notre Dame) to research early Cyrillic printed books and cataloging practices, **Natalia V. Jensen** (University of Kansas) for research on "Parish Priests and Popular Education in Late Imperial Russia," **Radu Paun** (Institute of South-East European Studies, New Europe College, Romania) for research on "Mount Athos and Romanian 'Traveling Books' in the Balkan Orthodox World, 16th-18th Centuries," **Jennifer B. Spock** (Eastern

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CYRILLIC MANUSCRIPT HERITAGE

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Medieval Manuscripts Open House Exhibit

By Steven Galbraith

Curator of Early Modern Books and Manuscripts

Complementing the continued growth of medieval studies at The Ohio State University are medieval manuscript collections housed at the University Libraries. Readers of *Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage* are familiar with the extensive collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microform housed at the Hilandar Research Library. Augmenting the Hilandar holdings are primary materials held at the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, including twelve complete manuscript books and a collection of over 900 manuscript leaves. These collections are enhanced by high-quality facsimiles of major books such as the *Book of Kells* and the *Ellesmere Chaucer*, as well as the recent acquisition of two microfilm sets: British Literary Manuscripts from the British Library, The Medieval Age, c.1150-c.1500, and British Literary Manuscripts from Cambridge University Library, The Medieval Age, c.1150-c.1500.

Photo by M. A. Johnson



Steve Galbraith (left) encourages students and faculty at the Open House to handle and examine OSUL's manuscript treasures.

Despite the strength of the collections held collectively at the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library and Hilandar Research Library, medieval materials at Ohio State remain relatively underused. In an effort to introduce the local scholarly community to the primary resources held at Ohio State, Predrag Matejic and I co-hosted a "Medieval Manuscripts Open House Exhibit" for students and faculty interested in medieval manuscript studies. Held at Hilandar's new quarters in the Ackerman Library, the exhibit featured a selection of the manuscript books held at the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, an assortment of leaves, and several examples of HRL's medieval Slavic manuscripts. Participating in the event were more than a dozen scholars, including undergraduates, graduate students, and professors. In response to the attendees' various levels of experience with rare books and manuscripts, Predrag opened the event with an introduction to handling rare materials. Following his lead, attendees were encouraged to examine the books that lay before them. As the participants grew comfortable working with the materials, Predrag and I talked briefly about our collections before inviting everyone to explore the materials on display.

At the heart of the exhibit were highlights from the Rare Books and Manuscripts collection of medieval manuscript books. One of the books that caught the eye of several participants was *La Vie de madame Sainte Katherine, dicte en vers francois*, a late fourteenth- or early fifteenth-century life of Saint Catherine of Alexandria. The book opens with a striking, colored illumination of the saint (SPEC.MS.FR.1, Fig. 1). Another book of interest was an early fourteenth-century prayer book created for a Cardinal named Gottius Battaglia. Although measuring only 9 cm, the manuscript is elegantly illustrated, a fine example of a personalized, pocket prayer book. The frontispiece bears Battaglia's coat of arms, which appropriately portrays a colorful image of a Cardinal (SPEC.MS.LAT.13, Fig. 2). Other books included popular medieval theological works, such as a fourteenth-century manuscript of Bernardus Guidonis's *Speculum sanctorale*. Unique to our collection for its Bohemian origin and contemporary deerskin binding, it also contains a peculiar bookmark created from extra string pulled from the endband at the head of the book. Attached to the end of the string are circular scraps of vellum that have been fashioned into a wheel (SPEC.MS.LAT.6). To view a finding aid for our collection of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscript Books, see: http://library.osu.edu/wikis/library/index.php/Medieval_Manuscript_Books.

Also on display were selections from Ohio State's collection of over 900 manuscript leaves, which came to the library by way of the Wexner Center for the Arts. This "gathering of leaves," as a recent exhibit referred to them, is a diverse collection dating from the twelfth to the sixteenth century with widespread origins including Belgium, England, Flanders, France, Germany, India, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia,

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Photo by S. Galbraith

Fig. 1. An illuminated portrait of Saint Catherine of Alexandria, c. 1400 (SPEC.MS.FR.1)

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.

Elizabeth C. Clarke and the American Kindergarten in Bulgaria

By Elizabeth M. Hawthorne

Perhaps the story begins with the arrival of James Franklin and Isabella Clarke in European Turkey in the mid-nineteenth century, where they represented the American Missionary Board with the primary purpose of converting the local population to their faith. James and Isabella had three children — William (who later became a missionary in Bulgaria like his father), James, and Elizabeth C. Clarke, whose story most engages me.

The missionaries were not overly successful in acquiring converts, but they did establish educational programs, some of which continue even today, e.g., Robert College in Turkey, and the American School for Boys and the American School for Girls — which merged and later became the American College of Sofia.

I first learned about Elizabeth Clarke when I served as Dean of the National College of Education. Elizabeth, called “Lizzie” by her family, had studied with the founder of the college, Elizabeth Harrison, as the 19th century drew to a close. Lizzie was sent to study with Elizabeth Harrison for the express purpose of learning about the “American kindergarten.” Ms. Harrison, along with Susan Blow and several others, was internationally recognized as a leader in the kindergarten movement. She was also associated with Jane Addams of Hull House renown.

Elizabeth Clarke became known to us at the National College because Penka Kassabova (her protégé and successor at the Kindergarten and the teacher training institute Lizzie initially founded on behalf of the Mission) contacted the National College of Education about 100 years after Elizabeth Clarke left Chicago. Penka had run the school and the teacher training institute from 1934, when Ms. Clarke retired, until 1942, when the Nazis demanded that she fire her Jewish teachers or close the school. The school was closed. After the end of Communism in Bulgaria, Penka called the president of the university of which the College was a part, National-Louis University, and asked for help in re-establishing the “American Kindergarten” in Bulgaria.

The school responded and three Bulgarian women studied at the College to prepare to return and work with the Association that sponsored them: the *Penka Kassabova—Elizabeth Clarke Early Childhood Association*, led by a remarkable woman, Dr. Raina (Reni) Zaharieva, a former student of Ms. Kassabova.

Photo by H. Senecal



Elizabeth M. Hawthorne examines Clarke papers in the HRL, Ackerman Library Room 6065

The Kindergarten was the first of its kind in Bulgaria and set a standard for education in a democratic society only a few years after the end of Ottoman Turkish domination of Bulgaria. The school promoted a philosophy of independence of thought and action in the children. Of particular interest to me is the wisdom Lizzie showed in creating the teacher training institute so that a growing cadre of well-schooled educators of young children would be able to promote their ideas throughout the country.

As a student of Higher Education Studies, I was particularly interested in Ms. Clarke’s experiences in beginning and sustaining the teacher training institute and what little I have since learned about her continues to nurture my desire to learn more. I am particularly interested in the establishment of an “American” institution in a foreign country — something that is a growing phenomenon in higher education today.

I was very excited when I learned about the Hilandar Research Library at The Ohio State University and its collection of copies of the Clarke Family Missionary Archives. It was fascinating to delve into the lives of these remarkably adventurous and dedicated people; and it was a rare privilege to spend a week at Hilandar working with Dr. Predrag Matejic, “Pasha” Johnson and Helene Senecal, who were the most remarkable hosts and research colleagues.

But the search goes on — very little of “Lizzie” was evident in the family papers that were predominately those of her father and her missionary brother, William.

I learned that Elizabeth attended Mt. Holyoke College and left in 1888 before graduating in order to care for her family (her mother was not well and died in 1891). Elizabeth adopted three Bulgarian children whom she raised — one of whom, Boris, along with his wife, Raina, were sociology students at The Ohio State University.

Colleagues in Bulgaria are seeking other sources for me and I am also planning to sort through the archives at the National College of Education. I am continuing to look for information on Lizzie and welcome any guidance, advice, and documents! I am especially grateful to Hilandar for the generosity of spirit they showed me during my visit.

We have collected several boxes of books for the school we hope to help re-establish in Bulgaria. “Hilandar/OSU” has generously offered to facilitate their transport. Should you wish to help defray these costs, please send a donation directly to them. A colleague and I have also applied for non-profit status on behalf of

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HRL Journal, American Kindergarden, continued from page 4



Elizabeth "Lizzie" Clarke. Photo courtesy of Penka Kassabova—Elizabeth Clarke Early Childhood Association in Bulgaria.

the *Elizabeth Clarke—Penka Kassabova Early Childhood Association (USA)*, which is now pending. In the meantime, donations may be made c/o Elizabeth M. Hawthorne, Kaplan University, 550 West Van Buren, 7th Floor, Chicago, IL 60607.

Editor's Note: *Dr. Elizabeth M. Hawthorne is Assistant Dean of Faculty, Higher Education Studies, at Kaplan University.*

Editor's Note: *The HRL was contacted in 1982 shortly after the death of Professor James F. Clarke, the "dean" of Bulgarian studies (especially historical) in the United States, and a direct descendant of the Clarke missionary family. His widow, Esther N. Clarke, generously made the "Clarke Family Missionary Archives" available for copying and access in the HRL. The archives are an invaluable tool and eyewitness testimony in better understanding the transition from the medieval era to the "Bulgarian National Enlightenment" and to the establishment of the first Bulgarian modern state.*

Mrs. Clarke also made the HRL a gift of a rare late eighteenth-/early nineteenth-century Slavic manuscript, one of only a few original copies of the Istoriiia Slaveno-Bolgarskaia by the monk Paisii of Hilandar Monastery.

Tracing Byzantine Rhetorical Sources of the Sermons of Gregory Camblak

By Adelina Angusheva-Tihanov

In April 2007, I spent almost a week at the HRL/RCMSS working with microfilms of manuscripts from the Saratov State University and Hilandar Monastery collections. At the new HRL premises, which though different, have kept the wonderful atmosphere of the former, well-known quarters in the OSU Main Library, I was happy to see again the miracle-working trinity — Predrag, Helene and Pasha, and to make the acquaintance of RCMSS's new GRA, Beth Pellows.

Tracing the Byzantine rhetorical sources of Gregory Camblak's liturgical sermons, I tried to juxtapose his works to a number of Greek texts already translated and in circulation in the Slavic tradition, in order to understand better what prompted the appearance of his new sermons, and Camblak's strategies in their compilation. Late medieval Slavic panegyric manuscripts display a specific feature that can be found as early as the 11th century in the Byzantine milieu — clusters of several sermons, dedicated to one and the same feast, were assembled under the date of the celebration. I worked with a number of Hilandar and Saratov codices containing such clusters to learn more about the context against which Camblak's works must be considered. I also studied several Hilandar hesychastic ascetic miscellanies that gave me further insight to the selection of the topics and the structure of two of Camblak's Lenten sermons.

Once again HRL proved to be an exciting place to work and to discover the Slavic past: one of the most interesting manuscripts I examined was a lavishly decorated Saratov manuscript with hagiographical apocalyptic narratives (e.g., the Life of St. Basil the New). Not by chance, in this post-medieval version of a "comic book" the devils' dialogues were written upside down in the illustrations. The large

illuminated panels meticulously followed the text and disclosed late- and post-medieval ways of imagining the "other world." Curiously enough, magic and divination were hardly mentioned among the sins leading to Hell, but several sexual practices were discussed at length.

My recent trip to OSU was also a time for revisiting a manuscript I worked with during my first stay there in spring 1999



Photo by M. A. Johnson

Adelina Angusheva-Tihanov in front of Mack Hall on the OSU Main Campus

(see *CMH* 6, page 8): A simple calculation of the number of Miracles of the Tolga icon suggests that the author of the alphabetical canon, copied in the same text, had added a couple of miraculous workings in order to fit the number of miracles to the number of the letters in the alphabetical acrostic.

While in Columbus, I also presented a paper entitled "South Slavic Representations of a Woman's Body and their Byzantine Context" at the Third Southeast European Studies Association (SEESA) Conference — a good occasion to meet colleagues and friends and discuss new developments in the field.

Editor's Note: *Adelina Angusheva-Tihanov teaches in the Department of European Languages and Cultures at the University of Lancaster, England. In January, she accompanied her husband, Galin Tihanov, to Yale University where he was a visiting professor in comparative literature during the spring semester.*

HRL Journal, continued from page 5

Scholar Finds HRL Contains “Rich Collection of Materials”

By Ivan Biliarsky

In July 2006 I had the opportunity, and pleasure to work for several days in the Hilandar Research Library. It was thought I might be the last visiting scholar to be able to research so in the “old” Hilandar Research Library!

Although I have never before visited this library, I had heard much about it as a research center that has become one of the greatest centers and focal points in the world for the study of medieval Slavic manuscripts and culture. While I had heard all of this, my actual visit to Columbus proved that first-hand impressions are far superior to second-hand knowledge. I focus here on three important aspects of my personal experience.

In the first place, I would like to emphasize the wonderful atmosphere in this scholarly institution, both by means of its setting and the people who work there. I had already had the opportunity to meet the Director – Professor Predrag Matejic – whose research was known to me from the time I prepared my doctoral thesis. I had also already met Mary Allen Johnson and Helene Senecal. For all of us, they were simply Predrag, Pasha, and Helene. I anticipated, but feel it important to now underscore, the extremely friendly atmosphere in the Hilandar Library. This is a milieu that not only meets one’s research needs, but which also strives to make a foreigner feel at home even when home is thousands of miles away.

Of course, the most important aspect of a library is its collection. In that sense, the Hilandar Research Library is an exceptional place. It gives one the possibility to work (through microfilm) with manuscripts that are rarely accessible or even completely inaccessible to the researcher.

This collection, however, has importance for the future, too. This is a treasure that preserves our heritage from the caprices of fate. One should experience it first hand in order to best appreciate its richness.



Photo by M. A. Johnson

Ivan Biliarsky in the HRL, William Oxley Thompson Memorial “Main” Library, Room 227

During my brief stay in Columbus, I was able to find and study some very interesting materials concerning certain marginalia as well as to obtain copies of some texts of particular importance to my research. I sincerely hope that some of the results will be published soon.

To conclude, I would like to underline that the Hilandar Research Library has not only a very rich microfilmed manuscript collection, but also a rich collection of scholarly literature, both monographs and periodicals, in print and in microform. These are necessary research tools for every scholar, but especially appreciated by those in countries where some of these tools cannot now be found.

I want to thank the staff of the Hilandar Research Library for the opportunity to work in its collection. I would also commend and recommend to my academic colleagues the especially wonderful and stimulating creative atmosphere found there. May you have continuing success!

Editor’s Note: Ivan Biliarsky is the author of several books and numerous articles. He is a Senior Research Fellow of the Institute of History of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and an Associate Professor of History and Law at the College of Law, Varna University. He has lectured at several universities and is the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships in France, Germany, Greece, Scotland, Switzerland, and the United States.

Open House, continued from page 3

and Spain. Although manuscript leaves present limited potential for scholarship, the variety found in Ohio State’s collection offers a treasure of examples that can be used to teach paleography and manuscript production. Moreover, a great many of the leaves are ornately illustrated, providing fine examples of manuscript decoration. To view a finding aid for our Ohio State’s collection of manuscript leaves, see: <http://library.osu.edu/sites/rarebooks/finding/mrmss0311.html>.

Overall, the Open House Exhibit was a success. Faculty and students discovered teaching materials and potential research projects. Michael Van Dussen, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of English, unraveled the mystery behind the curious bookmark found in *Speculum sanctorale* and hopes to publish his findings in the near future. In response to the positive participant feedback, the Rare Books and



Photo by S. Galbraith

Fig. 2. An opening from Cardinal Gottius Battaglia’s prayer book (1338) featuring his coat of arms (SPEC.MS.LAT.13)

Manuscript Library and the Hilandar Research Library plan to hold similar events in the future.

Editor’s Note: Steven Galbraith, Visiting Professor in the Department of English and Curator of Early Modern Books and Manuscripts, will be leaving OSU to take up the position of Curator of Books at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. in July 2007.

RCMSS/HRL NEWS NOTES:

Second ASEC Conference to be held at Ohio State

The Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture, Inc., (ASEC) announces its second biennial conference to take place in Columbus, Ohio, 5-6 October 2007, and is pleased to invite papers for its multi-disciplinary conference on the theme "Centers and Peripheries: Interaction and Exchange in the Social, Cultural, Historical, and Regional Situations of Eastern Christianity."

Papers may deal with any historical period or with contemporary issues and come from all disciplines including anthropology, cultural studies, history, literary criticism, linguistics, sociology and religious studies. The conference aims to explore the interactions between and among different religiously-defined communities within the Eastern Christian traditions, and the interactions and exchange between Eastern Christian communities and other religious groups and traditions.

Conference sessions will be held at the Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center with accommodations at the nearby Holiday Inn on the Lane. The conference will include two days of panels plus a keynote address. Proposals for panels of three presenters plus chair/discussant are preferred, but individual papers are also encouraged. Please send panel and paper proposals with abstracts of 100-200 words for each paper, and a short c.v. for each participant to Jennifer Spock (jennifer.spock@eku.edu). **Proposals must be received by June 30, 2007.**

Registration is \$40 and participants must be members of ASEC, Inc., by the time of the conference. Fees are waived for students and faculty of The Ohio State University with current university identification. Dues are a mere \$10 per annum (\$5 for graduate students); dues (made

out to ASEC, Inc.) for 2006 and 2007 may be sent to Lucien Frary, Rider University, 2083 Lawrence Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

The conference is co-sponsored by ASEC, Inc., and The Ohio State University's Center for Slavic and East European Studies, Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, the Hilandar Research Library, the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, and the Center for the Study of Religion.

For more information contact Nikolaos Chrissidis (chrissidisn1@southernct.edu) or Jennifer Spock (jennifer.spock@eku.edu).

Literacy, Enlightenment and the Slavs

By Predrag Matejic

I am literate. When a Slav began to learn the Slavic alphabet at the end of the ninth century, the words that stood for the first three letters ("a, b, v") of the alphabet were "az," "buky," "vede," in the same way that some of us once learned "a is for apple," etc. And by saying the names of (words representing) the first three letters of the Slavic alphabet, a Slav was essentially saying the sentence: "I letters know," that is, *I am literate.*

This is one of the historical facts that were shared with the audience at a lecture I gave at St. Stevan of Dechani Serbian Orthodox Church (Columbus, Ohio) on April 1st. Also illustrated were the unique characteristic features of the first Slavic alphabet. This was an alphabet designed and fashioned to appropriately reflect the sounds of late ninth-century Slavic speech while at the same time bringing the Slavs to Christianity. Probably once called "Cyril's/Cyrillic" but now known as "Glagolitic," the first Slavic alphabet and its history are favorite topics, and



Photo by Stoyan Bojanin

Predrag Matejic addresses members of St. Stevan of Dechani Serbian Orthodox Church

feature prominently in lectures I give in various academic contexts.

It was a pleasure to share the wonder of the achievements of Saints Cyril and Methodius and the cultural legacy they engendered, as well as to put that achievement in the historical context of Early Christianity. As I grow to even better understand this legacy, it continues to be a focus of my scholarship and teaching.

If interested, this lecture can be found and accessed on the website of the Eastern Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church, <http://www.easterndioocese.org/archives_2007.html> under the heading of "Archived News" for April 3, 2007.

University of Wales Offers Post Graduate Degree in Orthodox Studies

The University of Wales, Lampeter, announces the establishment of a new postgraduate program in Orthodox Studies. A small team of academics has joined to institute a Master of Theology in Orthodox Studies, which is offered on site and also through distance learning both as a full-time (1-2 years) as well as a part-time program (3-5 years). With two Orthodox theologians on staff (Dr. Andreas Andreopoulos and Dr. Augustine Casiday), the

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Sofronov Collection, *continued* from page 1

The 42 boxes, primarily of books, also include sketches for icons, an icon of St. Nicholas that Sofronov painted in the 1960s, and a portrait of Sofronov by A. Tolstoy (circa 1935).



Pimen M. Sofronov by A. Tolstoy

Many of the books are quite rare and represent valuable additions to the HRL and other OSU special collections. The correspondence, photographs of his work, articles on his exhibitions, and, of course, sketches of icon models and patterns, will provide valuable insights to the creativity and work of this renowned master of iconography and calligraphy, who also collected original documents and old paper, the backs of which he often used to make his sketches.

We are especially grateful to **Roy Robson**, professor at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, and to **Jeff Holdeman**, who received his doctorate from Ohio State, and is now a lecturer in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Indiana University, both of whom were acquainted with Sofronov's library and the Old Believer community of Millville, New Jersey. They contacted the HRL when it became known that the small community was seeking to assure continued care of this important library and collection. We would like to thank again the Library Committee and **George McCloskey**, former president of the board, of the St. Nicholas Old Orthodox Church of Millville, for facilitating HRL's receipt of these materials.

The HRL purchased almost all of the library, while most of the art and related materials of the Sofronov collection were donated to the HRL by St. Nicholas' Church. A number of other items, primarily icons, also found their way to museums, other Old Believer communities, and to art patrons.

We are excited and honored to add this valuable material to the HRL collections, where it can be preserved and made accessible. For more information, please see the article on Pimen Sofronov by **Roy Robson** that follows.

Pimen Maksimovich Sofronov: A Biographical Sketch

By Roy R. Robson, Ph.D.

Pimen Maksimovich Sofronov was the most influential iconographer of the Russian emigration. He was first championed by Ivan Nikiforovich Zavoloko, who described Sofronov's work in his magazine *Rodnaia Starina* in 1927 and 1928. During his long career, Sofronov worked in Estonia, Latvia, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, France, Italy, and the United States. His patrons included Old Believer communities, the Serbian royal family, the Serbian Orthodox Church, Pope Pius XI, the Icon Society of Paris, and many others.

European Career: Sofronov was born to Old Believer parents in 1898 near Lake Peipus in the Estonian region of the Russian empire. He lost his father early, but at the age of twelve found a mentor in Gavril Efimovich Frolov, the noted iconographer. Working first as apprentice then as a colleague, Sofronov collaborated with Frolov for two decades. After Frolov's death in 1930, Sofronov came to symbolize the Old Believer tradition of iconography.

Sofronov trained an entire generation of iconographers. In the early 1930s, he taught at the Icon Society in Paris and

at the Kondakov Institute in Prague. He created and ran a school of iconography for the Serbian Orthodox Church, which lasted until the outbreak of World War II. The French Icon Association praised his "excellent results, having trained many new painters of Orthodox Icons among the Russian refugees." A letter from the Kondakov Institute called Sofronov a "unique artist."

While teaching in Yugoslavia, Sofronov received major commissions from the Serbian Patriarch Varnava and the Serbian Royal Family. These included adorning the Patriarch's personal chapel.

By the beginning of World War II, his fame had spread across Europe. In 1939, Sofronov was invited to the Vatican by Alcide De Gasperi, then secretary of the Vatican Library. In Rome, Sofronov painted a 55-panel iconostasis designed as the centerpiece of a Vatican exhibition. Expressing his sadness that the exhibition was put off because of the war, Cardinal Tisserant wrote to Sofronov that "the admirable holy figures in your composition inspire a feeling of devotion by their faultless and delicate execution." The Vatican helped to shield Sofronov from being expelled by the fascist government in Italy. Sofronov exhibited his works at the Vatican in 1940 and 1941.

American Career: In 1947, Sofronov was invited to teach iconography at the Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Monastery in Jordanville, New York. Archbishop Vitaly called him "an outstanding, indispensable specialist" who should be given a visa by the United States government. As a result, Sofronov moved to the USA. A subsequent resolution of the U.S. Congress gave special permission for Sofronov's permanent immigration.

Sofronov painted many churches in America and continued to teach iconography. Most notably, in San Francisco he painted the tomb of Archbishop John Maksimovich, later canonized as St. John of Shanghai and San Francisco. Sofronov had a number of personal shows in 1966-67, including San Francisco, Los Angeles, and two in New York City. One of these was at the Nicholas Roerich Museum.

Throughout this period, Sofronov lived alone in Millville, New Jersey, but kept up correspondence with I. N. Zavo-

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Sofronov: A Biographical Sketch, *continued from page 8*

loko and other Old Believers in the Baltic Republics. The inside of his home looked like that of a nineteenth-century Russian intellectual rather than a twentieth-century American. Sofronov amassed a large library devoted to the Old Belief, history, art, and iconography. His art collection

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A commemorative bookplate in OSU colors of scarlet and gray, designed by HRL staff, incorporates Pimen Sofronov's own logo in blue, which appeared on his business cards and letterhead: the Evangelist Luke, patron saint of Iconography, is depicted receiving divine inspiration while working at his easel.

included his own works and those of his expatriate Russian colleagues—Anatolii P. Baev, Vadim D. Falileev, Gavril E. Frolov, Gregory Maltzoff, Dmitrii S. Stelletsky, and others. His icon corner resembled an Old Believer chapel and he collected Russian samovars. Though immensely influential to twentieth-century iconography, Sofronov remained, as he called himself, “a child of the olden times, not a modern man.”

At his death in 1973, Sofronov willed his books and art to the St. Nicholas Old Orthodox Church of Millville, New Jersey, which built the P. M. Sofronov Library.

Director's Desk, *continued from page 2*

Kentucky) for research of monastic *Rules* with emphasis on the *Rule of Solovki Monastery*, and **Patricia González Almarचा** (MSSI 2006), who, in addition to conducting research in the HRL from August to December 2007, will be studying and consulting with **Daniel E. Collins**, chair of the OSU Department of Slavic (DSEELL).

We also continue actively teaching and providing outreach opportunities to the campus community. **Steven Galbraith**, of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, an OSUL Special Collection, organized an opportunity for Ohio State graduate students interested in the research of rare books and manuscripts to visit and view original sources from Rare and HRL (see page 3).

A second such outreach program was initiated for History of Art undergraduate students by **Leni Anderson** and **Jessica Palm**, president of the History of Art Undergraduate Society (HAUS). **Lisa Iacobellis**, Assistant Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, hosted and coordinated this open house, sharing a number of artistically interesting items from the Rare, HRL, and Avant Garde collections.

Accepting an invitation of church president **David Kos**, I gave a brief presentation at St. Stevan of Dechani Serbian Orthodox Church on “Saints Cyril and Methodius and their Gift of Enlightenment.” (See page 7.)

Finally, of the many thoughtful donations and gifts-in-kind that we received over the past few months, I would like to especially acknowledge the gift of **William R. Veder**, a rare edition (Pochaev, 1812) of an Old Believer *Tsvetnik*, and the gifts of Mrs. **Pola Fotitch Triandis**. Earlier, Mrs. Fotitch Triandis donated the personal archives of her father, **Konstantin Fotitch**, the last royal Yugoslav ambassador to the United States, as well as two eighteenth-century maps. She has now most recently donated three framed early prints pertaining to Balkan and Serbian history, as well as an excellent edition by Michael Pupin (Serbian Orthodox Church), published as volume I of *South Slav Monuments* (London, 1918).

HRL News Notes, *continued from page 7*

Department of Theology and Religious Studies can also offer research degrees (MPhil and PhD) in Orthodox Theology. These degrees are also available through distance learning.

One of the oldest universities in the United Kingdom, the University of Wales, Lampeter, has had a strong theological orientation since its foundation. The Department of Theology and Religious Studies is currently the largest in the UK; one of the most accomplished academically, the department is developing dynamically as a place of theological research and teaching. The tradition and the theology of the Orthodox Church is one of the constituent bodies of its theological culture. In addition to the academic program, an Orthodox liturgical community is being formed in Lampeter with the assistance of the nearby priests.

For further information regarding the postgraduate program go to <http://www.lamp.ac.uk/trs/Postgraduate/Degrees/MTh_orthodox_studies.htm>.

Congratulations!

HRL/RCMSS is pleased to announce that **Dr. Tania Ivanova-Sullivan** has accepted a position as Visiting Assistant Professor of Russian at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque starting Autumn 2007, where she will be teaching Russian language, culture and linguistics in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. Tania worked in the HRL/RCMSS as a graduate research associate during academic year 2000-2001. In recent years, she often stopped in to the HRL to work on research projects or just to say hello. We will miss her friendly visits, but wish Tania, and husband Neal, all the best in her new job and in their new home!

We also congratulate **Andrea Sims**, MSSI 2001, who has accepted the position of assistant professor of Slavic Linguistics in the DSEELL. Andrea will complete her two-year postdoctoral fellowship at Northwestern University and commence teaching at OSU in Autumn 2008.

Contributions To The Hilandar Endowment Fund

With sincerest appreciation the HRL and RCMS acknowledge the following individuals for their generous support:

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** HRL would like to apologize for inadvertently excluding Ms. Maliska from the donor's list in Volume 19 of Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage.*

Gifts in Kind

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Angel Nikolov
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Alex Rabinovich
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William R. Veder
UNITED STATES

Recent Bibliography



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An Archival History of the Hilandar Research Project at The Ohio State University

Selected Images

Photo by MAJ, July 2003



Graduate Research Associate 2001-2006
Nataša Kaurin-Karača in the Hilandar Research Library, 225 Main Library



Saints Simeon and Sava Holding the "Three-Handed Mother of God" Icon above Hilandar Monastery. Original Lithograph dated 1818.

Donated to the "Hilandar Room" by University of Wisconsin Prof. Michael Boro Petrovich in 1978



Photo by MAJ, Sept. 2002

Professor Dr. Miroljub Joković

Photo by M. Matejic, July 1971



Chrysostom and Predrag in Hilandar Monastery



L to R: Former GRAs Lorraine (Abraham) Netretić, Jennifer Anderson, Victor Boldewskul with Center Coordinator Helene Senecal

Photo by MAJ, Jan. 2000



V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic and Fr. Mitrofan at the Opening Ceremony of the Fourth International Hilandar Conference

Photo by MAJ, 14 Aug. 1998



Ohio State and Guest Faculty and Clergy at the Hilandar Room Dedication, 2 December 1978



Academician Dimitrije Bogdanović and V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic in Hilandar

Photo by P. Matejic, July 1971



Father Matejic, Monks Mitrofan and Joakim in Hilandar Monastery

Photo by Walt Craig, May 1970

ПОЛАТА КЪЗНИГОПИСНАНА



POLATA KNIGOPISNAIA—AN INFORMATION BULLETIN DEVOTED
TO THE STUDY OF EARLY SLAVIC BOOKS, TEXTS AND LITERATURES—
COLUMBUS, OHIO, DECEMBER 2007, № 38

Polata Knigopisnaia, an international journal of Early Slavic books, texts, and literatures, is a serial focused primarily on the study of Early Slavic manuscripts and material texts. Publication began September 1978 under the editorship of **William R. Veder** and **Mario Capaldo**; from 2006 it has been available exclusively on-line at The Ohio State University Knowledge Bank: <<https://kb.osu.edu/dspace/handle/1811/6399>>.

The new editors of *Polata Knigopisnaia*, **Cristiano Diddi** (University of Salerno), **M. A.**

Johnson (HRL/OSU), and **Robert Romanchuk** (Florida State University), have adopted an editorial-board peer review system for contributions from 2007 forward. All contributions that the editors consider fit the scope and criteria of *PK* will be reviewed anonymously by two members of the editorial board. The editorial board of *Polata Knigopisnaia* includes: **David J. Birnbaum** (University of Pittsburgh), **Daniel E. Collins** (OSU), **Predrag Matejic** (HRL/OSU), **Aleksander Naumow** (Venice University “Ca’ Foscari”), **Jennifer B. Spock** (Eastern Kentucky University), and **Julia Verkholantsev** (University of Pennsylvania).

The editors of *Polata Knigopisnaia* are issuing a call for papers to appear in vol. 38 (2007). *PK* publishes scholarly articles, editions, indexes, and bibliographical and review essays related to Early Slavic texts, manuscripts, and early printed books, and their historical and cultural contexts. Authors considering submitting an article are encouraged to contact an editor to discuss length and subject matter, and to obtain a style sheet.

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