HRL’s Slavic Medieval Heritage Exhibit
Fruits of Devotion on Display

The Slavic Medieval Heritage Exhibit *Fruits of Devotion* celebrates the approaching 30th anniversary of the establishment of curatorship of the Hilandar Research Library and is on display from September 7 to December 30 in the Thompson Library Gallery. The theme of the exhibit, “Fruits of Devotion,” was inspired by the words of Father Mitrofan, monk and elder of Hilandar Monastery, speaking at the dedication of the original “Hilandar Room” at the OSU Libraries on 2 December 1978: *These manuscripts are fruits of devotion. They were written out of devotion. They were used with devotion. They were preserved in Hilandar Monastery out of devotion. And, I can testify to this as an eyewitness, they were microfilmed with devotion...*

The images in the gallery greet visitors as they reach the historic ground floor of the Thompson Library, whether arriving from the “campus oval” side or the new Neil Avenue side via the elegant staircase. Large 4- x 8-foot panels with striking images from Hilandar Monastery greet passersby, inviting them to enter the gallery and experience the world of medieval Slavic culture. The walls of the gallery, two essentially of glass and two of stone and plaster, surround eight display cases that hold dozens of books and manuscripts of the Hilandar Research Library. Most are on public exhibit for the first time. Certain of these, as far as we know, can be seen or found in no other library.

Each case represents its own individual story: the first original Slavic alphabet, Glagolitic; facsimiles of 10th-century Greek manuscripts and the relationship of early Cyrillic to Greek; early original printed Cyrillic books of the 17th and 18th centuries, together with original manuscripts of the same age; later books and manuscripts, and their relationship to each other, as well as to earlier cultures, and even to other cultures; and the continuing legacy. Together the cases shape several larger stories of changes and stability of the culture and its interaction over time in creating the lasting manuscript legacy of both the original Slavic alphabets that the Hilandar Research Library preserves and to which it provides access.

Surrounding the texts are images of icons and Hilandar Monastery taken by several different photographers, original iconographic art by Pimen M. Sofronov, and even a set of vestments. The oldest original item dates to the time of Columbus’ discovery of America, the most recent, to a unique small booklet of icon models and patterns, which is the only

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The past few months have been especially busy, but also immensely rewarding. The 2011 MSSI was unique, as it was the first to take advantage of the enhanced teaching and research opportunities in the special collections’ complex in the renovated Thompson Library. Joining us at the opening of the MSSI at our celebratory luncheon were several OSU guests, including Lisa Carter (Associate Director for Special Collections and Area Studies, OSU Libraries), Lance Erikson (Associate Director, Center for Slavic and East European Studies), Helena Goscio (Chair, Department of Slavic and East Europeans Languages and Cultures), and Sarah-Grace Heller (Associate Director and Student Advisor, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies).

Daniel E. Collins and I are grateful to guest lecturers Jenn Spock (Eastern Kentucky University), David Birnbaum (University of Pittsburgh), and Eric Johnson (Associate Curator, Rare Books and Manuscripts, OSU), who shared their knowledge and expertise. The 2011 MSSI was also very nicely featured in the third (Autumn 2011) issue of the OSU Libraries revised newsletter, folio (http://library.osu.edu/news/newsletter/).

The exhibit “Fruits of Devotion: Slavic Medieval Heritage” opened September 7 and will be available in the Thompson Library Gallery until December 30. Only the first group to request an exhibit tour included several participants in the Fourth Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (ASEC), October 7-8. The conference brought many friends and colleagues to campus, including Eugene Clay, Lucien Frary, David Goldfrank, John-Paul Himka, Scott Kenworthy, Donald Ostrowski, Jerry Pankhurst, Mario Polo, Nicolas Prevelakis, Amy Slagle, and Jenn Spock. This was also an opportunity to meet several others, including the 2011 ASEC keynote speaker, Reverend Dr. John Chryssavgis.

Yet another group was brought to campus on October 27 by one of our leading benefactors, Alex Machaske, who is also Honorary Consul for the Republic of Serbia and the former president and publisher of The Plain Dealer. While he escorted a government delegation led by Ivica Dačić, Minister of the Interior and Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia, to the Ohio Statehouse and then later to meet with OSU President E. Gordon Gee, a group of 16 leading business people visited the exhibit and Thompson Library (see p. 5 in this issue for more details).

A group from the OSU Retirees Association came on December 9 for a presentation on both the history of the HRL and the exhibit. This event was organized by Rai Goerler, former Assistant and Acting Director of the OSU Libraries and now a member of the Alumni Association’s Cultural Committee.

Finally, the exhibit was the focus of the second of the OSU Libraries’ “visual literacy” discussions. Led by Amanda Glubizzi, OSU Fine Arts Librarian, the visual imagery, and especially the numerous icons in the exhibit, were discussed in greater detail, with other cultural aspects and background related to Hilandar Monastery provided by me.

On November 4, we held a reception to celebrate the exhibit. Carol Pitts Diedrichs, Director of OSU Libraries, provided kind remarks, reviewing in brief the history of the Hilandar Research Library and the contributions and legacy of my father, as well as my own. I then described the exhibit as a set of interrelated and inter-engaged stories that separately and together told part of the remarkable story of literacy and culture among the Slavs as reflected by their original alphabets, Glagolitic and Cyrillic. All were especially pleased that my father was present. Numerous reception guests, both from the university and the public, took this opportunity to also view the exhibit. See also page 6 in this issue.

Research of our materials has continued unabated since the MSSI ended at the

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The Early Days of the Hilandar Research Library
By Sharon (Fullerton) Maliska

Imagine me, a young graduate student working in the OSU Libraries Technical Services Department, when Dr. Leon Twarog came and asked whether I would consider getting a Master of Library Sciences degree so that I could start work as a Slavic cataloger after one of the librarians retired! Since jobs in Slavic studies were already not plentiful, it seemed a great opportunity. I needed to enroll at Kent State University, the only Ohio university that offered an M.L.S. I took Saturday classes at their Kent-OSU extension M.L.S. program for two years, finished up with a leave of absence to study at the actual Kent campus, and graduated with an M.L.S. A couple of months later, I started to work as a Faculty Librarian cataloging titles in all the Slavic and East European languages. It was a great challenge and I enjoyed it.

During this time, Dr. Twarog and Dr. Mateja Matejic were working on a fantastic project: to microfilm for posterity and thereby make available to the world’s medieval Slavic researchers the manuscript collection of the Hilandar Monastery on Mt. Athos in Greece. They convinced the Director of Libraries to give them a room for the microfilm research collection and bought microfilm readers. Fr. Mateja, sometimes accompanied by his son Predrag, had made several trips to Mt. Athos and photographed hundreds of manuscripts. Since I had already written my thesis on Slavic paleography under Fr. Mateja and was continuing on my Ph.D., Dr. Twarog worked his magic to procure funds — half from OSU and half from a grant — to promote me to Hilandar Librarian in 1979. It was such an exciting time for me!

There was so much to be done, from polishing the wood bookcases lining the walls in the original Hilandar Room (now the approximate location of the office of the Director of Libraries) to cataloging the first groups of books and microfilms/microfiche that were being brought into the collection, to hosting foreign scholars and dignitaries, to assisting with research when I was but a novice myself. I even worked with an IBM engineer in Lexington, KY, to get them to make an IBM Selectric typewriter with an American Standard keyboard and extra keys with all Russian key caps especially for the Hilandar Room, because while I could touch-type English, I needed to look at keys to type in Russian. The IBM Selectric was the height of technology before personal computers. It had interchangeable “typing elements” (balls) so that one could type different languages and symbols with a single typewriter by simply changing the balls. It also had a correcting ribbon to “erase” mistakes. Computers were in their infancy — I had to type up cards for the old card catalog files. Most students today probably do not even know about those catalogs and their importance just a few decades ago!

While Dr. Twarog did his best to give the Hilandar Research Library publicity and to bring in private funds, I tried to integrate the Hilandar Room collection into the library’s technical processes. I worked on bibliographies of the microfilmed manuscripts, wrote the Hilandar Newsletter, assisted Fr. Mateja and guest researchers, and even made coffee for visitors.

In the beginning, we had only a few foreign scholars because most of the early interest in the manuscripts was among Iron Curtain countries and it was exceedingly difficult for those researchers to get permission to come here to study. One of the first researchers was a monk from Bulgaria. I can no longer remember his name, but I remember one special day — April 14, 1981 — when a TV was brought to the Hilandar Room. Several professors and the Bulgarian monk and I all watched as the first space shuttle, Columbia, came in for a landing. The Bulgarian was absolutely amazed that all America could watch this astonishing achievement, because the Russian space program was highly secret and only those successes that the Soviet government made public could be found in the newspapers in Eastern Europe. How times have changed! That was an extremely memorable occasion and one of great pride for me as an American.

I was happy that Dr. Predrag Matejic succeeded me as Hilandar Librarian. He

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HRL Journal

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

HRL Revisited – Another Dimension of Time

By Klimentina Ivanova

Two months seem rather a short time for in-depth, complex research. However, two months spent at The Ohio State University, more precisely, in the Hilandar Research Library, somehow acquire a different dimension of time for one who has an opportunity to do work there. My research of twenty years ago, when I first spent time in the “Hilandar Room,” those materials and new texts I discovered then, “fed” my scholarship for two decades – they are present in almost every article I have published since then.

I am truly happy when I consider how much I accomplished during my new eight-week sojourn in the HRL. Its collection of valuable books, microfilms/microfiche, as well as other materials, is much richer today. It is one thing to know this, another to experience it in person. Now, thanks to my second visit to the HRL, I am again “filled” with more new materials and, more importantly, new ideas.

The primary objective of my research project was to systematize the content of a certain type of South Slavic compendium organized according to the lunar calendar, i.e., according to the themes of the weeks of Lent, Holy Week, until the Sunday after Pentecost (All Saints’ Sunday). These calendar compendia (in Bulgarian, triodni panigiritsi) were characteristic for both the Bulgarian and the Serbian church service cycles during the whole of the pre-modern period. They contain works by the most authoritative Byzantine writers. Certain of these texts were first translated into Slavic by saints Cyril and Methodius, and others – by their disciples in Bulgaria in the ninth and tenth centuries. Content changes as well as certain new translations that followed revised principles of translation were introduced into these compendia in the fourteenth century.

A considerable portion of the new redaction of the “triadni panigiritsi” was accomplished on Mount Athos. The rich library of Hilandar monastery has preserved not one or two, but as many as 17 codices that include – complete or in part – texts of such manuscripts. Almost all are Serbian. They offer important evidence about the scope of South Slavic rhetorical texts during the medieval period.

My research on the Hilandar triodni panigiritsi will be the foundation of the reference compendium Bibliotheca Homiletika Balkano-Slavica on which I am presently working. The study will allow me to analyze in detail the textual history of the calendar compendia, to verify the chronology of their dissemination, and to sort out changes in their content that occurred over the course of several centuries. It is no exaggeration to say that the full description of the content of the Hilandar calendar compendia will allow me to outline almost the entire range of texts that belong to this important segment of the written legacy of the South Slavs.

While researching the panegyric texts in the Hilandar compendia, I discovered that a few embody and represent far older originals. The earliest of these surviving manuscripts Hilandar 384 – a parchment codex from the early 14th century, as well as the Panegyric copied by Monk Damian between 1360-1380, were related to the 10th-century Preslav redaction, while Hilandar 190 (1390-1400) also preserved works very rarely found in South Slavic.

The Hilandar compendia of the new redactions are no less important. Produced during the 14th century by hesychast men of letters, the new redactions are found in a wide range of Balkan Cyrillic codices. For example, research of Hilandar manuscript 404 (from the 1370/80s) revealed the process of expanding and enriching the content of the new version. Also, the large number of Serbian copies in the Hilandar library is clear evidence that they were in constant use. Moreover, even manuscripts of later date were found to faithfully follow older originals.

These observations and conclusions are only part of the work I managed to complete during my stay in HRL, where I also had the opportunity to work with other rich collections of the OSU Libraries. I appreciated the constant care and support of the staff of HRL and RCMS, which allowed me to productively use every minute spent in the Special Collections Reading Room. My consultations and discussions with Prof. Predrag Matejic and these hard-to-find editions, which he miraculously managed to find, were of par-

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Serbian Leaders Visit Thompson Library

A group of 16 business and industry leaders from Serbia visited the Thompson Library on October 27 while on an official visit to Ohio and Illinois. Among them were Svetlana Delić, Head of the President’s Office of the Belgrade Chamber of Commerce, Goran Jevtić, Secretary General of the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, Ješa Erčić, Assistant General Manager for “Serbian Railways,” Goran Jović, President of the Leskovac Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dragan Kršanin, Financial Manager of Tehnomarket d.o.o., Milorad N. Marković, President and CEO of Minel Koncern a.d. Beograd, and Biljana Vujičić, Executive Director and Director of Diaspora Branch of Agrobanka.

The visit to the “Fruits of Devotion” Exhibit and the Thompson Library was made at the suggestion of Alex Machaskee (Honorary Consul for the Republic of Serbia), and organized by Maureen Miller, Director of Communications at the OSU Office of International Affairs (OIA), assisted by Obrad Budić, also of the OIA, and Ruth Sesco, Program Coordinator, OSU Libraries. Pam McClung, Graphic Designer of the OSU Libraries, was the photographer.
Fruits of Devotion: Slavic Medieval Heritage
Exhibit Reception

The reception to celebrate the “Fruits of Devotion” exhibit was an opportunity to reflect on the beginnings of “Hilandar at OSU,” to remember and thank those whose vision and efforts made this possible, and to thank The Ohio State University and OSU administrators for their support over the years. In particular, it was an opportunity to acknowledge the support of the OSU Libraries’ administrators in providing a home for the original “Hilandar Room” (1978-1984), and as of 1984, the Hilandar Research Library. We especially thank Carol Pitts Diedrichs, Director of OSU Libraries, for her warm opening remarks, and Shannon Niemeyer, Program Assistant of the OSU Libraries, whose advice and support helped make this event a great success.
HRL Revisited, continued from page 4

In terms of the progress of my project, which before my arrival seemed almost impossible to complete, the two months in the HRL no longer seem to me like such a short period. Now I believe I can successfully continue and complete this project.

I would also like to share something that I find particularly important — I was not only delighted by the research conditions in HRL, but found much joy in my entire experience on the OSU campus. This was more fully appreciated and understood only after my visit ended as I recalled: the joy of mornings walking briskly toward the Thompson Library, the silhouette of which — impressive and emblematic — emerges at each day’s dawn; the joy of crossing the library lobby and seeing the gleaming combination of glass, metal, and rows of books, an atmosphere in which I felt immersed in knowledge; the joy of evenings leaving the library to be greeted by the luscious green of the Oval, the bushy tails of scurrying squirrels, the lively voices of young people, and seeing Mirror Lake with its fountain and its ducks, happy to get a bite of bread from my hand. I would like to sincerely thank all the people who made it possible for me to work in the Hilandar Research Library and The Ohio State University Libraries.

The Early Days, continued from page 3

Dr. Predrag Matejic and seeing the new facilities. While the collection has lost its unique special room, which I admit I felt sad about, the expansion of all the Special Collections into the main floor of the Thompson Library has given them a more visible and accessible venue for students and visitors. In the basement where I had spent several years toiling away typing catalog cards, there are now temperature-controlled cool storage areas with privileged coded access for the preservation of the microforms. The microform reading room offers a quiet place for research. The main floor gallery with changing exhibits publicizes and promotes the Hilandar collection along with other Special Collections. The beautifully restored Reading Room offers study space with the Hilandar reference collection in one place. The most amazing new feature to me is the conference room with high-tech equipment to project manuscript and book materials on a screen so that a class or group can study a rare work without endangering the document by passing it around during a lecture. The newly integrated Hilandar collection will offer scholars a valuable research facility and preserve the materials for the future. Over the past 40 years, Dr. Predrag Matejic and Dr. Mateja Matejic have brought the Hilandar collection from an obscure one-room facility to a world-renowned research library. They have brought the treasures of early Slavic manuscripts to the world and the world to the Ohio State University Libraries.

Director’s Desk, continued from page 2

end of June. Joining William Veder, Isolde Thyret, and Rob Bohac from the US were Klimentina Ivanova, University of Sofia, and later Svetlina Nikolova, Director of the Cyrillic-Methodian Research Centre of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Many microfilmed manuscripts were carefully researched, the results of which will be found in their future scholarly publications.

We have already been in contact with scholars who have asked to come to the HRL to research our materials in 2012. We expect to see Biljana Samardžić, Assistant Professor at the University in Eastern Sarajevo, who plans to research “Orthography and Language of the Medieval Serbs,” focusing on the 15th-16th centuries in particular. She expects to defend her dissertation on “Language of the Gorazde Imprints” prior to her arrival here in mid-summer.

Donations of valuable gifts-in-kind also continue. Of particular significance are two recently received groups of materials. One is a large set of microforms of medieval Slavic Cyrillic manuscripts and reference works from the University of Amsterdam. The other collection is the gift from the V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic. The several sets of books he has donated recently are of special significance. Many also are rare, and all are particularly appropriate to being a part of the Hilandar Research Library.

We were delighted by the surprise visit of former GRA, Dongsoo Jeon, who arrived accompanied by his wife, Kyunghee Li, and son David, passing through Columbus on the way to making campus visits. The visit of Sharon Fullerton Maliska was also especially meaningful. Sharon was the first Librarian of the Hilandar Room. In this issue she gives her own assessment of the past as we have grown from the first “Hilandar Room” to our most recent representation of the Hilandar Research Library in the renovated Thompson Library.

On November 10, this was posted for Carol Pitts Diedrichs, Director of the OSU Libraries: Hilandar... The Associate Curator position was approved for filling.... A search committee is being formed and recruitment underway. This news is of the greatest importance. It reflects the commitment of the OSU Libraries to the continued success of the Hilandar Research Library. Coming at this complex economic time, it is of particular importance. We look forward to the conclusion of this process and an announcement of the successful hiring of the Hilandar Associate Curator, a new faculty position of the OSU Libraries. See page 12 in this issue for further details.

Finally, please allow me to greet those of you who celebrate the Nativity with the greetings Christ is Born – Hristos se Rodi and wish all of you Happy Holidays!

Fruits of Devotion Exhibit, continued from page 1


More than forty years in the making, the exhibit is the culmination of that work to preserve and make accessible on microfilm the medieval manuscript heritage of Hilandar Monastery that began with an invitation from its monks, a trip to Mount Athos and the past, and that leap in 1969 into the waters surrounding Mount Athos in order to bring the monastery’s invitation back to Ohio State. Although unclear at the time, the leap was also a leap into the future, where this collection became the heart of more than one hundred other such collections, and where the first few sample photographed manuscript pages grew to several million pages on microfilm and microfiche and a library of several thousand reference volumes.
Michael Furman received his bachelor’s degree in English and Philosophy from Louisiana State University prior to coming to The Ohio State University. In the Spring of 2011, Michael received his Master’s in Slavic Languages and Literature and is currently pursuing doctoral work at The Ohio State University. There his research has largely concerned an investigation into speech acts, namely the way that people communicate meaning beyond the explicit things that they say. The Medieval Slavic Summer Institute has allowed him to broaden his research interests to include historically significant documents and foster a further appreciation for the art and science of paleography.

Diana Dukhanova is a third-year graduate student in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Brown University in Providence, RI. She holds an MA in Comparative Literature from Dartmouth College and a BA in Liberal Arts from Hampshire College. Her main academic interests are religion and gender in Russian literature and culture, particularly the relationship between the official theology of the Russian Orthodox Church and the treatment of religious themes by poets, writers and philosophers from the early modern period to the present. Her hands-on education at MSSSI 2011 has been invaluable in her quest to gain in-depth understanding of medieval Russian religious history through the study of manuscripts. Diana is currently working on a paper based on the Hilandar manuscript which she and her group studied this summer. She can honestly say that MSSSI was one of the best academic experiences of her life!

Shelley Cade is a native of Spartanburg, South Carolina. After graduating magna cum laude from the University of South Carolina and completing a U.S. Department of State Critical Languages Scholarship in Astrakhan’, Russia, in 2008, she accepted a Distinguished University Fellowship at The Ohio State University in the Department of Slavic and Eastern European Languages and Literatures. Upon completing her Master of Arts degree in Slavic Linguistics in 2010, Shelley continued her studies at Ohio State in DSEELL’s doctoral program. Though she has since departed academia, she satisfies her need to interact with old Slavic materials through programs such as the Hilandar Research Library’s Medieval Slavic Summer Institute. Shelley currently lives in Bloomington, Indiana, with her husband and two cats while planning her move into library science.

Monica Vickers is a second-year MA student in the Slavic department at OSU. She received a BA from the University of Pittsburgh in Russian and Religious Studies in 2007. Currently her research interests include historical linguistics and second language acquisition. During the 2011 MSSSI she particularly enjoyed the chance to work with actual medieval manuscripts, become more familiar with the resources in the Hilandar Research Library, and learn Old Church Slavonic. She hopes the valuable experiences of the MSSSI will be a starting point for future work with Slavic manuscripts. In fact, she is presently researching the text of the Proglas in Hilandar Slavic manuscript 23 as her thesis topic.

Nina Gilbetič is a doctoral student in Rome, Italy, at the Pontifical Oriental Institute. Her specialization is the history of Christian Liturgical History and Theology, focusing on the medieval Slavs. She defended her MA thesis “Liturgical Theology of Alexander Schmemann and Joseph Ratzinger,” at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas, also in Rome. She is now researching medieval Serbian liturgical history, studying not only Balkan Slavic liturgical manuscripts, but also church art, architecture, and Balkan history in general. MSSSI 2011 provided Nina with an excellent opportunity to gain practical training. “Professors Collins and Matejic’s extensive knowledge, combined with their willingness to help with the MSSSI projects and with our independent research is one of a kind. I feel more equipped than ever to describe, date and analyze the Medieval Serbian manuscripts I am using for my doctoral research. I am convinced that anyone working in the field should participate in an MSSSI.”
MEDIEVAL SLAVIC SUMMER INSTITUTE 2011

Olga Greco received a BA in Comparative Literature and Classics from Brown University, and now works on her Comparative Literature PhD at the University of Michigan. Olga’s interests include narrative theory, translation theory and practice, and the relationship between history and literature, though her main focus is on the emergence and development of classical reception in Russian literature. She concluded that the MSSI, with its emphasis on working with original texts, proved to be a major contributor to her studies, providing both a chance to practice reading unedited Old Church Slavonic texts and to experience these texts in their material setting, rather than as excerpts in modern anthologies. “Professors Collins and Matejic are dedicated and caring instructors, and they made the MSSI not only practically useful, but also fun - the classes were a great opportunity to have fascinating dialogue about a field where one often struggles to find interlocutors.”

Edmund McCaffray received his BA in History from Middlebury College in 2009. While there, he also studied Russian extensively, participating in the school’s summer immersion program and spending a semester at Irkutsk State University in Russia. In the fall of 2010, he entered Arizona State University’s PhD program in History, focusing on Medieval Europe with Dr. Monica Green. His study in that area has recently expanded to include comparative questions about Medieval Eastern Europe and issues of world systems, cultural contact, colonization, language, and literacy. In addition to these research interests, he remains committed to pursuing fundamental questions of historiography and the relevance of cultural theory and continental philosophy to those questions.

Elena “Helen” Myers is a graduate student at The Ohio State University in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures. She has interests in Slavic historical linguistics, language contact, and translation. Her MA thesis will analyze the 11th-century Old Russian manuscript of the Sinaiskii Paterik. The knowledge and skills gained in the MSSI will help in ongoing research towards her PhD dissertation. She is grateful to Dr. Matejic and Dr. Collins for the very informative and engaging classes, and to all other staff members who were always very helpful and made this experience so exciting. She would strongly recommend participation in the future MSSI sessions to all scholars interested in the subject of Medieval Slavic studies.

Nina Havriernikova is a Slovak native who received a Master of Arts degree in Slovak Philology from Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia, in 2006, before becoming a language instructor at the Institute for Language and Academic Preparation at Comenius University. From 2007 to 2009 she worked as a full time lecturer of Slovak and Czech languages at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Yongin, South Korea. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Slavic Linguistics at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, where she is a Graduate Teaching Associate of Czech. Nina’s research interests include Slovak, language contact, lexicology and lexicography, and historical Slavic linguistics. She is the proud owner of a black miniature poodle, Lance, who responds to English as well as Slovak.

Leann Wilson is a doctoral student in the Department of History at the University of Michigan. She specializes in medieval and early modern Russian history and is currently developing a dissertation on the political culture of rumor and gossip during the Time of Troubles (1598-1613). Leann is grateful to the MSSI for providing her with a unique opportunity to hone her Old Church Slavonic and paleography reading skills before embarking on archival research. Thanks to the practical training of the MSSI, she is now equipped to handle (quite literally) whatever manuscripts the archives have to offer. Leann also appreciated the atmosphere of camaraderie fostered by the MSSI. Working in a field that sometimes feels obscure and isolating, it’s reassuring to know that there’s a cohort of highly-talented and collegial young Early Slavists out there.
Opening Day luncheon for MSSI participants with remarks from special guests

Professor Dan Collins reviews material to be discussed in his course Readings in Church Slavonic

Nina G., Nina H., Leann, and Monica collaborate on a group project

Michael Furman views an original manuscript

Predrag Matejic examines ornamentation with Edmund and Shelley

Dan and Predrag present Olga with MSSI Certificate

Cotton gloves may be worn to protect the original manuscripts used in the MSSI

Leann Wilson during presentation of her research project

Fr. Miroljub Ruzić, assistant Slavic curator, discusses the Slavic reference collection
Dan and Seleen Collins, along with son Peter, welcome guests to the July 4th celebration.

Olga, Monica, Leann, Michael, and Shelley get into the 4th of July spirit with sparklers!

The MSSI participants and staff appreciate the chance to get away from the rigors of the Institute.

Nina and Shelley participate in sparkler fun!

The MSSI participants and staff appreciate the chance to get away from the rigors of the Institute.

Seleen Collins with cookies and ice cream for all!

Predrag, Dan, Olga, Nina, Lyuba, and Elena enjoy the view from the backyard deck.

Diana, Olga, Leann, and Michael choose from a variety of items on the Mediterranean buffet.

Kitty hopes that Nina will share some of the goodies on her plate!
RCMSS/HRL Welcomes New Graduate Associate

Peter De Simone, RCMSS/HRL’s new graduate associate, participated in the 2008 MSSI and plans to complete his PhD in History in 2012. His academic and dissertation advisors are Dr. Nicholas Breyfogle, Dr. David Hoffman, Dr. Robin Judd, and Dr. Predrag Matejic. Peter’s current research interests and dissertation topic focuses on the very influential, yet historically neglected Rogozhskoe community of Old Believers (Old Ritualists) in Moscow during Late Imperial Russia and the community’s dual role as religious center for the Old Rite and major influence in Moscow’s industrialization and urbanization. History has been a lifelong passion and he came to OSU in order to pursue his goal of becoming a professor in history and to pass on his own love for history to future generations.

Peter considers it to be a huge honor to work alongside HRL Curator Predrag Matejic, not only in the MSSI, but also as one of his advisors who truly fostered and inspired his own interests in studying religious history. Peter concludes “It is very exciting to be able to work alongside Predrag and the staff at the HRL and RCMSS and I enjoy all of the hands-on work with the collections, as well as meeting guest researchers.” Peter spends most of his free time with his wife, Elizabeth, and son, Louis.

Search Underway: Hilandar Associate Curator

Excerpted from OSU Libraries job announcement:

The Ohio State University Libraries invites applications and nominations for the position of Associate Curator for its distinguished Hilandar Research Library (HRL) ... the premiere destination for research on the medieval Slavic world ...

The Associate Curator plays a key role in developing and exposing the unique and highly distinctive resources in the HRL. Assisting with deep and focused research, this position provides outreach and instruction on the use of primary sources, fragile materials and unique content to faculty, students and a sizable community of international scholars. This position will assess, articulate and collaboratively implement new discovery pathways to these ancient resources, making their valuable content available in the context of new research methodologies.

A Master’s Degree in Library and Information Sciences or equivalent education/experience is required. A master’s degree with a specialization in archives or a master’s degree in museum studies may be an alternative to the MLS. MA or PhD in Slavic & East European Languages & Literatures is desired. The incumbent must demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly and effectively with faculty, donors, students and others, particularly those whose primary language is not English. Experience processing special collections, especially Slavic Cyrillic primary source materials is desired. Working knowledge of Old Church Slavonic and at least one modern Slavic language, such as South or East Slavic is preferred. The successful candidate will have proven research experience in an academic library and/or special collections, with knowledge of practices relating to the identification, access, control, organization and digitization of manuscripts.

Additional information about The Ohio State University Libraries is available at http://library.osu.edu. Additional information and a position description are available at http://library.osu.edu/about/jobs/faculty together with information on how to apply.

Noted Scholar Shares Photographs / Essays on Russian Culture

William C. Brumfield, Professor of Russian at Tulane University, is well known for his works on Russian architecture and his photographs of Russian culture. In recognition of his many achievements, in 2006 he was inducted into the Russian Academy of the Arts. His two most recent contributions are “Gorokhovets: A place of fragile beauty” and “Vologda’s Cathedral of Divine Wisdom: Last of its kind.” For access to all his photographs and essays in this important series on Russian culture, you may visit http://rbth.ru/discovering_russia.

Dr. Brumfield was also a guest speaker at the 2001 Medieval Slavic Summer Institute.

Welcoming New Additions to the “Hilandar” Family!

Congratulations again to Helene Senecal, RCMSS Coordinator and Managing Editor of this newsletter, on the recent births of her newest grandchildren, Hayden Grace Senecal born May 15, 2011 and Leighton Helene Smith born November 16, 2011. We wish her and her entire extended family all the very best!
Contributions To The Hilandar Endowment Fund

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John and Maria Negulesco”

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**† Riccardo Picchio**
(1923-2011)

I was privileged to have been a Yale graduate student of Riccardo Picchio in 1978-1979. Despite its brevity, the experience was extraordinarily meaningful. He helped me learn to look at texts and cultures differently, to not just understand the meaning of the words, but the meaning of the meaning of the words and texts, and especially to recognize as significant those aspects that once linked and even continue to link now differing cultures, as well as those that may separate them. I have told students in paleography and manuscript culture classes, that all paleographers have a pedigree of sorts, from one or more mentors to themselves. Among mine, I have always proudly named Professor Picchio. May his memory be eternal…. P. Matejic

The following is an excerpt from a text by Professor Harvey Goldblatt, Chair of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Yale University, announcing the passing, quietly in his sleep, of Professor Picchio on August 13 of this year. Professor Goldblatt was the first North American graduate student of Professor Picchio at Yale, beginning there an academic relationship that continued as colleagues at Yale, collaborators on publications, and years of mutual respect.

Considered one of the truly outstanding and celebrated Slavists of his generation, Professor Picchio taught at Yale for almost two decades, from 1968 to 1986. Trained in the best traditions of the humanistic discipline by the “founding fathers” of Italian Slavistics, he drew upon the achievements of his teachers in his quest for new methodological principles that govern the literary and linguistic systems in the Slavic world. Nevertheless, it would be a grave mistake to view Professor Picchio “merely” as a product of Italian scholarship. His experiences and contacts in Bulgaria, Poland, France, and above all the United States left an indelible imprint on his approach to Slavic Studies. Professor Picchio was one of a kind, a scholar in whom one could find an exceptional capacity for critical synthesis, an ability to perceive large structures, and an exceedingly bold scholarly vision. His prodigious knowledge of the European cultural heritage and Slavic literary traditions was unparalleled. He devoted his entire life to fighting the evils of narrow chauvinism, ethnocentrism, and cultural sectarianism.