Table of Contents

3 Recent Major Developments
   From the Director’s Desk

4 RCMSS Finds a New Host

4 RCMSS Advisory Council Profile:
   Yana Hashamova

5 2015 Medieval Slavic Summer Institute

6 Transitions: Staff Changes

6 Spotlight Story by Danka Adamović

7 Delving into the Liturgical Diataxis
   by the Very Rev. Dr. Alexander Rentel

7 Damaskin Research at the HRL
   by Olga M. Mladenova

9 MSSS Alumni Corner

9 In Memoriam: Dr. Allen M. Johnson

12 2015 Events Calendar

13 Recognizing Our Donors

14-15 Supporting the HRL/RCMSS
    Donation Tear-Outs

15 HRL/RCMSS Wordle

*The cover photo is from the HRL’s “Mount Athos Slide
Collection” and was taken in June of 1970 by Walt Craig (OSU
Department of Photography). Left to right: an unidentified man,
Father Petar, monk of Hilandar Monastery, and the V. Rev. Dr.
Mateja Matejic approaching the Skete of St. Andrew in Karyes,
Mount Athos.
Recent Major Developments

On June 30, 2014, Ivan Ilchev, the rector of the University of Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski,” signed an agreement with Archimandrite Amvrosii, abbot of Zograf Monastery, the Bulgarian Orthodox monastery on Mount Athos, to host the “Zograf Digital Research Library,” providing access to digital scans of Zograf’s manuscripts. The website, lav.uni-sofia.bg/zograf-flib/, offers descriptions and a bibliography of scholarly work related to the monastery’s 286 Slavic manuscripts, as well as information on related publications and projects. The digital images of the Zograf Monastery manuscripts at this time can only be accessed on site in the University Library of the University of Sofia.

We have a long history of scholarly interaction and cooperation with Bulgaria’s medieval Slavic scholars, many of whom have used our microfilms of 37 Zograf manuscripts and fragments (photographed in 1971). We are gratified by the prominently placed link to the HRL/RCMSS on the “Zograf Room” website, and we are elated that color digital images of all the Zograf Slavic codices are now available. Sincerest congratulations to our colleagues on a successful collaboration that has produced this invaluable resource of preservation and access to the medieval Slavic manuscript heritage!

The HRL/RCMSS invite all past and present scholars who have used our materials to visit http://go.osu.edu/hilandarbibliography and search the document posted there. We are compiling a comprehensive online bibliography of theses, dissertations, and published works that have been in some way enhanced by the resources of the HRL/RCMSS. In particular, we wish to list those works that used copies of manuscripts of Hilandar Monastery or other manuscript collections in the HRL. We do not wish to imply that these works would not have been possible without our resources, but simply that we helped in some way. Should any scholar consider that a given work of theirs does not belong on such a list, please let us know and we will immediately remove it. We will gladly receive any changes, additions or deletions. Please send any comments and corrections to hilandar@osu.edu.

This list was developed over time by our Graduate Research Associates Dongsoo Jeon, Nataša Kaurin-Karača, Dinissa Duvanova, Lauren Ressue, and Nina Haviernikova. We are indebted to Lyubomira Parpulova Gribble, former Assistant HRL Curator, for her substantial efforts to verify and locate the items in this bibliography.

We are pleased to announce finally the forthcoming publication of selected proceedings from the 5th International Hilandar Conference: Love of Learning and Devotion to God in Orthodox Monasteries, Volume Two. The conference took place in Raška, Serbia, September 2002. Volume 1 was published in 2006, and dedicated to the V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic. Volume 2 will be dedicated to Leon I. Twarog, who passed away shortly after the first volume was issued. Dr. Twarog was one of the “Four Founders” of the HRL/RCMSS and key to the establishment of all things Slavic at OSU.

On June 3, 2015, Engelina Sergeevna Smirnova, professor of History of Art at Moscow State University, will give a public lecture at Ohio State. Dr. Smirnova will be in the US to present the keynote speech at the Russian Icon Exhibit Conference at the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, MA. She last visited the HRL in 1997, and we look forward to her return!

From the Director’s Desk

I’d like to take this opportunity to once again thank all donors, past and present, for their support. I apologize to donors this year for my delay in sending personal acknowledgements for your generosity. In keeping with the current suggested guidelines of the university, you will notice that this issue contains a tear-out with instructions encouraging donations in support of the HRL/RCMSS. The RCMSS and HRL wish you the joys of the holidays and a bright and peaceful New Year!

Errata: The names of Tim Sanz and Paul Stann were inadvertently omitted from the list of “Graduate Research Associates” on page 156 of An Archival History of the Hilandar Research Project at The Ohio State University by Dr. Miroljub Joković (Raška, Serbia: Raška Škola, 2007).

The past few months have been a time of change and transition for the HRL/RCMSS. Lyubomira Parpulova Gribble, the HRL Assistant Curator for the past seven years, has left to spend more time with her family. Her spouse, Charles E. Gribble, noted Slavic linguist, former publisher, and professor emeritus of the OSU Slavic Department, continues to recuperate. We wish them the very best. Lauren Ressue, RCMSS GA, has moved to Washington D.C., where she will complete her dissertation. We welcome Nina Haviernikova as our new Graduate Associate.

The RCMSS itself, after 30 years of being affiliated with Ohio State’s Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (CMRS), is now affiliated with the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures (DSEELC). I would like to take this opportunity to thank Graeme Boone, current Director, and Nick Spitulski, current Program Coordinator of CMRS, on behalf of all CMRS Directors and Program Coordinators since 1984, beginning with Christian K. Zacher and Martha Coolidge, for their years of providing administrative assistance and support to RCMSS. We now look forward to the future and a strong relationship of mutual support with the DSEELC and its chairs. In this issue, we return to introducing our colleagues who serve on the RCMSS Advisory Board – appropriately, we begin with a profile of Yana Hashamova, Chair of DSEELC.

(Continued on p. 8, Director)
RCMSS Finds a New Host in the DSEELC!

Following discussions with Mark Shanda, Dean of the Division of Arts and Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences, and Yana Hashamova, Chair of the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures (DSEELC), it was announced this past September that RCMSS is now embedded in and represented by DSEELC. Dr. Hashamova explained that discussions with Dean Shanda considered that DSEELC is a more natural fit as an administrative host for the RCMSS. The RCMSS will continue to function as it always has and support students and scholars with their access and research needs regarding the medieval Slavic manuscript heritage.

Profile: DSEELC Chair

Yana Hashamova currently serves as both Chair of the DSEELC and Director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies. In addition, she is an associate faculty member in the departments of Comparative Studies, Women’s Studies, the Interdisciplinary Program of Film Studies, and the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. She has served on the RCMSS Advisory Council since 2011. Dr. Hashamova received her BA in Bulgarian Philology and MA in History and the Theory of Culture from Sofia University “St. Kliment Okhridski.” At the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, she obtained an MA and PhD in Slavic Languages and Literatures, as well as a second PhD in Comparative Literature (Film and Gender Studies). Her areas of expertise include Balkan and Russian film, literature and media; cultural studies, gender studies, and identity (ethno-national and religious) studies. Her most recent publication, Embracing Arms: Cultural Representations of Slavic and Balkan Women in War (CEU Press, 2012), co-edited with DSEELC colleague Helena Gosciło, includes Dr. Hashamova’s award-winning article “War Rape: (Re)defining Motherhood, Fatherhood, and Nationhood.”

Dr. Hashamova has taught at OSU for over thirteen years and is an energetic, creative, positive force and influence in the promotion of Slavic and East European studies locally, nationally, and internationally.

BACKGROUND

In 1969, the close collaboration of the V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic, first Director of the RCMSS, Leon I. Twarog, former Chair of DSEELC, Stanley J. Kahrl, first Director of CMRS, and Arthur E. Adams, former Dean of the College of Humanities, were critical to the founding of the HRL and RCMSS. The 45-year cooperation among the centers and departments in the College of Arts and Sciences continues to be mutually beneficial.
The Hilandar Research Library (HRL), the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS), and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures (DSEELC) at The Ohio State University will host a four-week intensive summer institute for qualified graduate students in Columbus, Ohio, June 22-July 17. The Medieval Slavic Summer Institute (MSSI) will offer lectures in two areas: Practical Slavic Palaeography and Readings in Church Slavonic. All lectures will be in English.

Manuscript material on microform from the Hilandar Research Library’s extensive holdings forms a large part of the lectures and exercises. There is also a program of lectures on related topics, and other activities. Applicants must be graduate students with a BA degree and with a reading knowledge of Cyrillic and of at least one Slavic language. Preference will be given to applicants with reading knowledge of Old Church Slavonic or some other pre-modern Slavic language.

The Hilandar Research Library, the largest repository of medieval Slavic Cyrillic texts on microform in the world, includes holdings from over 100 monastic, private, museum, and library collections in twenty-three countries. There are over 6,000 Cyrillic manuscripts on microform in the HRL, as well as over 1,000 Cyrillic early pre-1800 printed books on microform. The holdings range from the eleventh to twentieth centuries, with a particularly strong collection of manuscripts from the fourteenth to sixteenth centuries. About half of the manuscripts are East Slavic, with much of the remainder South Slavic in provenience.

For further information about the HRL and the RCMSS, visit our website at rcmss.osu.edu and see archived issues of Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage for accounts of MSSI 1999 (Vol. 6), MSSI 2001 (Vol. 10), MSSI 2003 (Vol. 14), MSSI 2006 (Vol. 20) MSSI 2008 (Vol. 24), MSSI 2011 (Vol. 30), and MSSI 2013 (Vol. 34). The DSEELC website address is slavic.osu.edu.

Deadline for Applications: February 20, 2015

To apply, please visit our website: rcmss.osu.edu/mssi

For more information on eligibility, housing, financial aid, and credit please contact the HRL and RCMSS at hilandar@osu.edu or write to us at:

HRL/RCMSS
119 OSU Thompson Library
1858 Neil Ave Mall
Columbus Oh 43210-1286
Re: MSSI Application
Transitions: Staff Changes for HRL/RCMSS

We thank Lyubomira P. Gribble, Assistant HRL Curator, for her seven years of service. We are indebted to Lyuba for all of her efforts in assisting researchers – particularly for going out of her way to make our international visitors feel welcome, for her research work, and for promoting the mission of the HRL/RCMSS.

Nataliya Chrisman, cataloger in the Special Collections Description and Access department, left the OSU Libraries in August 2014. Hired in 2006 (see CMH 19:5), Nataliya’s expert knowledge of Slavic and Western European languages made her a valuable asset to OSUL. Initially serving primarily as the cataloger of HRL materials, she also helped reduce the backlog of uncataloged Slavic and East European monographs and serials. Passionate about her work, Nataliya sat in on the palaeography lectures during MSSI 2006 in order to learn more about the HRL resources.

We wish both Nataliya and Lyuba all the best. They each hold a special place in the HRL/RCMSS family, and will always be remembered as a part of the HRL/RCMSS legacy.

We welcome Nina Haviernikova, our new GA. A native of Slovakia, she earned her MA from Comenius University in Bratislava. Prior to joining the DSEELC, Nina taught Czech and Slovak at Comenius University in Slovakia and at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in South Korea. Currently, she is pursuing her PhD in Slavic linguistics, focusing on language contact, dialect contact, and language change. Nina was a participant in MSSI 2011, which she found an exciting experience, since she is enthusiastic about both history and linguistics. Nina loves to travel and visit museums and art galleries, as well as to unwind by spending time with her wife, dog, and cats.

Revisiting My Heritage: A Trip “Home”

By Danka Adamović

I was very fortunate to be able to travel to the motherland this past summer and I would not have been able to do so without the hard work and support of my family and friends. This trip brought me amazing experiences and memories, which ranged from meeting my grandmother for the first time to losing my shoe in the Seine River.

My journey began in Paris, France, where I met up with my cousin Mara. Paris is a magical city; and I enjoyed the typical Parisian lifestyle of buying flowers at the local market and drinking wine on a terrace overlooking the city. Paris is filled with amazing architecture and history that photos could not capture. I never thought that I would be able to travel to France, let alone spend time in Paris! I was so grateful to have had my cousin take care of me during my visit there.

From Paris, I traveled to Serbia where I stayed with my father’s cousin, Ljiljana. My “aunt” lives in the town of Plandište in Vojvodina, part of greater Serbia, where the land is primarily flat. Here I experienced a typical day of a person living in a small town. This village had approximately 4,000 inhabitants and five main roads, a school, one café, one grocery store and a post office. This may sound a bit lifeless, but it was the complete opposite. I talked to locals, rode my bike to the center of the town, and picked plums in Ljiljana’s backyard. While in Serbia, I also visited the town where my father Nenad grew up, Smederevo.

(Continued on p. 11, Danka)
Delving into the Liturgical Diataxis

By the Very Rev. Dr. Alexander Rentel

I returned to the Hilandar Research Library this summer for the first time in over a decade. At first, I was disoriented by the new offices and the new configuration of materials. Quickly, though, the presence of Pasha and Predrag and the familiar intellectual discourse that can only be had at the HRL reoriented me to the fine work that can be and is done at OSU.

Years ago, when I began my doctoral studies in Rome at the Pontifical Oriental Institute, I received two summer stipends from the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, took a class on Slavic Palaeography taught by Predrag, and participated in various events that were held then. My work ranged from the long hours sitting in front of the microfilm machines, prowling through manuscript catalogs, and taking advantage of the focused collection of materials.

This time, I looked through similar materials, but above all I searched for a calmness and a climate conducive to research, something I am not able to find at my job as a professor at a very busy St. Vladimir’s Seminary in Yonkers, New York. While we have a wonderful library here with exceptionally capable and helpful librarians, HRL provided me an opportunity to root around for manuscript information and look through manuscript catalogs anew. HRL seems to be a unique place where such work can be done.

On this occasion, I was interested in finding an early Slavonic translation of the liturgical Diataxis, or Ustav, ascribed to the famous Byzantine churchman of the fourteenth century, Philotheos Kokkinos, abbot of the Great Lavra, disciple of Gregory Palamas, and twice Patriarch of Constantinople. While many copies of this Diataxis text type in both its Greek and Slavic versions indicate that Philotheos Kokkinos wrote it, many others, including some of the earliest and securely datable copies, indicate nothing in regard to authorship, neither his nor anyone else’s.

Utilizing the collection at OSU and the HRL, as well as books graciously acquired for me by the HRL staff via Interlibrary Loan, I investigated different avenues of research on this text, which led to the identification of an early Slavonic translation of the text, ascribed to John Chrysostom and entitled “On repentance,” which was present in a vernacular re-narration in the Lovech Damaskin (Младенова & Велчева 2013: 76), thus bringing the total number of known copies of this archaic version of the text to four. The original of the microfilm I saw at the HRL is preserved at the Research Library of the St. Petersburg State University in Russia.

So, when later in 2013 I was confronted with an overwhelming task – the identification of the

(Continued on p. 10, Rentel)

Damaskin Research at the HRL

By Olga M. Mladenova

It was around 2000 when I first started to appreciate the value of vernacular “damaskins” – the largely Bulgarian religious handwritten miscellanies, stemming from the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries – as linguistic primary sources. My virtual acquaintance with the Hilandar Research Library took place soon after that, in 2003, when my former student, Kevin Bray, then in the University of Toronto MA program in Slavic Studies, participated in the third biennial Medieval Slavic Summer Institute organized by the Hilandar Research Library and the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies. I asked Kevin to check whether it would be possible to obtain copies of two microfilms of damaskins from the Hilandar monastery collection: HM.SMS.200 and 683. Pasha mailed me a large box of photocopies and I could see that HM.SMS.200 was a manuscript of the kind produced in the eighteenth century in Iosif Bradford’s circle of followers, whereas HM.SMS.683 was a late copy of the vernacular seventeenth-century damaskins of the so-called First Group, studied by Evgeniia Demina. I used data from HM.SMS.683 in two publications: Mladenova 2004 and 2007.

Judging by the online catalogue, I had exhausted the HRL’s holdings. This impression was radically modified when I had a chance to briefly visit the HRL in person. This happened in March 2013 when I was invited to The Ohio State University to present the annual Kenneth E. Naylor Memorial Lecture in South Slavic Linguistics. That is when I realized that there was much more of interest to me at the HRL than I would have known had I used only the online catalogue. In a matter of minutes I found another copy of an archaic text, ascribed to John Chrysostom and entitled “On repentance,” which was present in a vernacular re-narration in the Lovech Damaskin (Младенова & Велчева 2013: 76), thus bringing the total number of known copies of this archaic version of the text to four. The original of the microfilm I saw at the HRL is preserved at the Research Library of the St. Petersburg State University in Russia.

So, when later in 2013 I was confronted with an overwhelming task – the identification of the

(Continued on p. 10, Mladenova)
Our RCMSS Program Coordinator, Jessi, having successfully navigated a myriad of training sessions, has now assisted her first two visiting researchers. The V. Rev. Dr. Alexander Rentel, Assistant Professor of Canon Law and Byzantine Studies and The John and Paraskeva Skvir Lecturer in Practical Theology at St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary, researched 14th-century liturgical manuscripts on microform for a week. It was his most recent visit in a series of interactions over the past 15 years that began with graduate courses and dissertation research stipends in 1997 and 1998, and continues now with on-going research for teaching and future publications. Dr. Abolade “Ezekiel” Olagoke, a native of Nigeria, who received his Ph.D. from the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado and now teaches sociology at Waynesburg University, came for several days in October. Ezekiel was directed to us by his parish priest, the V. Rev. Rodney Torbic of the St. George Serbian Orthodox parish in Carmichaels, PA. He had a variety of research questions, among them, the history of Eastern Orthodoxy and Serbian Orthodoxy, and the attributes and expressions of sainthood among Serbian medieval saints.

Between these two visits, in September, Bogdan and Nataša Damjanović of Canada introduced their eldest son, Nikola, to the resources at the HRL/RCMSS. Nikola, 15, was looking for topics for a special writing competition for high school students in Canada. After reviewing numerous scans of slides and considering various possibilities, he chose the “architecture of Hilandar Monastery” as a potential topic. Nikola is well-known in fencing circles and has been praised for his accomplishments in both the English and Serbian press. At Cleveland State in September, he won a silver medal for his fencing, and has since won Gold!

Jessi will soon make the practical arrangements for future visitors who will come to conduct research from Serbia, Bulgaria, Russia, and the US. We also look forward to a return visit from Nikola and his father to examine images and materials on the architecture of Hilandar Monastery.

We continue to receive numerous and much appreciated gifts-in-kind from donors and researchers throughout the world. Of the several recently received, I would like to highlight gifts from my father, the V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic, Edward Kasinec, formerly of The New York Public Library and now at Columbia University, Alex Rabinovich, a New York antiquarian book dealer, and William R. Veder.

We congratulate William, one of our staunchest supporters and frequent researchers, on the occasion of his 70th birthday. In his honor, a festschrift was published by the University of Shumen (Bulgaria): Filologiia i tekstologiia–Iubileen sbornik v chest na 70-godishninata na prof. Uliiam Feder (Shumen, 2014).

And finally, it is with much sadness that I note the passing of Pasha’s father, Dr. Allen M. Johnson of New Orleans on October 17th. Dr. Johnson was proficient in several Slavic languages and had a profound and lengthy interest in Slavic history and culture, receiving degrees from Harvard College and Tulane University. Among the many areas of activity in which he distinguished himself over the years, he was also a newspaper reporter and public relations director. From our first issue of Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage (1997), we have benefitted from his interest and editorial expertise. We express our sincerest condolences to his wife, Marjorie, to Pasha, and to his entire family. Please also see “In Memoriam” on the next page.
MSSI Alumni Corner

MSSI 1999 alumnus Bojan Belić (PhD, Slavic Linguistics, OSU, 2005), a Senior Lecturer and Languages Coordinator for the Dept. of Slavic Languages & Literatures at the University of Washington, received this year’s Award for Excellence in Post-Secondary Teaching from the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL). Bojan was a standout instructor at OSU, and winner of the university-wide Graduate Associate Teaching Award in 2002. We offer him our warmest congratulations!

Yulia Mikhailova, MSSI 2006 (PhD, History, University of New Mexico, 2013), adjunct professor in the Dept. of Communication, Liberal Arts, Social Sciences at New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology, won the 2013 ASEEES Graduate Student Essay Prize for “‘Christians and Pagans’ in the Chronicles of Pre-Mongolian Rus: Beyond the Dichotomy of ‘Good Us’ and ‘Bad Them.’” It has been published in Geschichte der Slavia Asiatica: quellenkundliche Probleme (Leipzig University Press, 2013). Yulia was also awarded the 2014 Tom L. Popejoy Dissertation Prize. Her Power and Property Relations in Rus and Latin Europe: A Comparative Analysis was deemed “excellence at the highest academic and technical level, good literary form, and general human interest.” Praise of Yulia’s work is well deserved!

MSSI 2013 alumna Anna Arays received dual masters’ degrees (Library Science and Russian & East European Studies) in June from Indiana University. Her thesis Revolution in Reverse: Early Printing and Manuscript Practices in Russia as Agents of Change received the David Armstrong Memorial Research Paper Award from IU’s Russian and East European Institute, and the Esther L. Kinsley Master’s Thesis Award. Anna is now as a Special Collections Cataloging Associate in the OSU Thompson Library. Our congratulations to Anna, and we are very pleased to have her working with us!

At the 46th Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), San Antonio, TX (Nov. 20-23, 2014), there were several MSSI alumni sightings: the Very Rev. Dr. Živojin Jakovljević and Doug Rogers (1999); Ariann Stern-Gottschalk (2001); Gwyn Bourlakov and Anastasia Kostetskaya (2013). We also congratulate both Victor A. Friedman (University of Chicago), the first Kenneth E. Naylor lecturer (1998), for receiving the ASEEES Award for Distinguished Contributions to Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies; and former RCMSS GRA Dinissa Duvanova (Lehigh University), winner of the Ed A. Hewett Book Prize for her 2013 book, Building Business in Post-Communist Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia: Collective Good, Selective Incentives, and Predatory States (Cambridge University Press).

In Memoriam: Dr. Allen M. Johnson (1923-2014)

In 2005, Hurricane Katrina brought devastation and upheaval to the people and region of New Orleans. Some members of Pasha’s family took refuge in Columbus, and it was then that her “Hilandar family” finally met her parents, Allen and Marjorie Johnson, longtime fans of the HRL/RCMSS (see CMH 18:9).

Dr. Johnson had a passion for knowledge. He received an AB in Slavic Languages & Literatures from Harvard College at a time when the Slavic department consisted of “Samuel Hazzard Cross’s desk in Widener Library.” The faculty then also included Francis J. Whitfield, Leonid Strakhovsky, Georgii Znamensky, and Waclaw Lednicki. Allen completed his degree within 3 years to serve with the Navy during WWII. He attended the University of the Philippines in Manila (1945), and, while working as reporter for the Rome Daily American, received a laureato in Italian literature (1949) at the University of Rome. A reporter in St. Louis and New Orleans, he later moved into public relations, and completed an MA in Slavic Languages & Literatures from Tulane, writing a thesis that compared Chekhov to post-Impressionists van Gogh and Manet (1970). He taught Russian for several years in the New Orleans area, and was the first scholar from the South to attend the one-month Russian Teachers’ Seminar at Moscow State University (1975). When Tulane cut its doctoral program in Slavic, he switched to history, and studied with Branko Mikasinovich, Dragan Milivojević, Dmytro Nalywayko, Walter Sablinsky, Victor Youritzen et al. His doctoral dissertation (2000) was the result of 30 years’ research on dispatches filed by three journalists for Western newspapers reporting from the Soviet Union in the crucial period of 1921-1934. His passion for truth and for understanding the world around him is a legacy conveyed to his family, colleagues, friends, and acquaintances. May his memory be eternal!
research concerning the possible Philothean authorship, long asserted and assumed by scholars, but also the possibility that the Diataxis text type ante-dates him. To do this research in the best and easiest way possible, the highly technical, highly specialized materials from the HRL were consulted. But, of course, the HRL is not only books. When you are stuck on fine points of Byzantine or Slavic matters, no one is better to have at hand than Predrag. No one is better finding that information just on this one manuscript from Zographou in the microfilm collection – which catalog do I need? – than Pasha, who will ruthlessly track it down for you.

I left after a week with more information taken in than I thought I would have. I am still processing it all a month or so after my visit. There are photocopies that I have yet to closely exam. The materials are there and the work is yet to be done. I am so grateful for the HRL and the work that they do and the assistance they provide.

HM.SMS.193, ff. 24v-25r. Beginning of John the Baptist’s questions to Abraham, an apocryphal text also known from copies in six other vernacular damskins

Being the earliest known vernacular manuscript of the damaskin type kept at the library of Hilandar Monastery, HM.SMS.193 confirms the multistranded connections of the Hilandar monks with the cultural processes in the Bulgarian lands during the eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries.

References
While traveling to Smederevo, we drove through Šumadija, where I witnessed some breathtaking scenery of bright flowers, mountains, and the greenest grass I have ever seen. Serbia’s landscape was definitely a sight to see. My entire life my father has always talked about the Smederevska tvrdava, Smederevo Fortress, which in essence was a castle in his backyard. My father’s apartment overlooked the fortress, which he once viewed as a playground. Not only was Smederevo beautiful for its fortress, but the center of the town has a Serbian Orthodox Church. The church is dedicated to St. George, and was built in the 19th century. It was perhaps one of the most alluring pieces of architecture I have ever seen. It was here that I met my grandmother, Baba Desa, for the first time!

After Serbia, I was lucky enough to travel to the Adriatic coast to the country of Montenegro (Crna Gora). In the Serbian language, Crna Gora literally translates into “Black Mountain” and I never knew why until I arrived. Everywhere you look you see mountains; it was incredible. In Montenegro, I was lucky enough to have cousins my age and to be able to embark on adventures that a typical American might never experience: from jumping off cliffs into the Adriatic Sea to dancing on Jaz Plaža which is considered one of the prettiest beaches in Montenegro. Montenegro also holds a lot of history that many are not aware of. I traveled to Kotor’s old town (Stari Grad), where I saw one of the oldest Serbian Orthodox churches in the world. It was seeing things like this that made me appreciate my religion and culture a lot more.

My last stop was in Banja Luka, Bosnia, where my mother, Borka, was born. Here, I met relatives and experienced a normal day on a farm that consisted of taking a picture with the cows and indulging in true ethnic food in the valley. I was also fortunate enough to visit the cities of Sarajevo and Mostar.

In Sarajevo, I came across several Serbian Orthodox churches. The first was the Cathedral Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos. What was so amazing about Sarajevo was how accepting the city was when it came to other religions and cultures. Not only were there mosques and Orthodox churches, there were Catholic cathedrals as well. The Church of the Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel, built in the 16th century, was the last and probably most majestic church I came across. In Sarajevo not only did I see medieval Orthodox churches, but I was also able to experience the beautiful architecture and history the city preserves.

The last city that left a significant mark on my heart was Mostar. The city is known for the old bridge (stari most), which is one of the oldest and most renowned landmarks in the Balkans. This city’s population consists primarily of Croatian Catholics and Bosnian Muslims and seems to hold some of the strongest Islamic influences found in the Balkans. There is still so much visible influence from the Ottoman Empire in the Balkans. This was particularly evident in Mostar when I walk through the old town, where even the things that were being sold had a very strong Turkish influence.

Seeing the culture and historical parts of the Balkans was truly a wonderful and unforgettable experience. After my five-week adventure throughout Europe, I have come to the realization that people seem generally happier there. It was so pleasant to be able to connect to my extended family in such a loving way. Even meeting them for the first time, it still seemed like I had known them my entire life. I made great friends on my trip and although it was hard to leave, I am very fortunate to be able to keep in touch with everyone.
2015 Events Calendar

January, Ohio State
Visiting Scholar to HRL/RCMSS: Vladan Bartula
University of East Sarajevo

March 5-7, University of Kentucky
Southern Conference on Slavic Studies (SCSS)
Lexington, KY, static.sewanee.edu/scss

March 6, Ohio State
18th Annual Kenneth E. Naylor Memorial Lecture in South Slavic Linguistics by
Joseph Schallert (University of Toronto)
4:00pm, OSU Thompson Library, 11th Floor

March 13-15, Ohio State
Midwest Slavic Conference, Columbus OH
slaviccenter.osu.edu/

May 14-17, Western Michigan University
The 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI
wmich.edu/medieval/congress/

June, Ohio State
Visiting Scholar to HRL/RCMSS: Tatiana Afanasyeva, St. Petersburg State University

June 3, Ohio State
Lecture by Engelina Sergeevna Smirnova

June 11-13, Clinton, MA
Conference at the Museum of Russian Icons
museumofrussianicons.org/en/

June 22-July 17, Ohio State
Medieval Slavic Summer Institute
rcmss.osu.edu/mssi

September 18-19, Rhodes College
6th Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (ASEC), Memphis, TN

November 19-22, Philadelphia, PA
47th Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), aseees.org/convention

Sue Steuer, Head of Special Collections and Rare Books in the Waldo Library at Western Michigan University (WMU), invited the HRL to mount an exhibit of original medieval Slavic manuscripts in the Edwin and Mary Meader Rare Book Room during the 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 14-17, 2015. In conjunction with this exhibit, HRL and RCMSS will co-sponsor a panel and roundtable with WMU’s Special Collections and Rare Books. MSSI alumnae Diana Dukhanova (2011), Anna Arays, and Hope Wilson (2013) will present on the HRL manuscripts that will be on display. Gwyn Bourlakov (2013) will talk about a 16th-century Serbian manuscript discovered at the University of Kansas.

Eric J. Johnson (Curator, Early Rare Books & Manuscripts, OSUL) will moderate the roundtable discussion by Predrag Matejic, Daniel E. Collins (DSEELC), and M.A. “Pasha” Johnson, on preserving medieval Slavic manuscripts through microform, digitization, cataloging, etc., and the use of the manuscript materials in teaching.
Thank You for Your Generosity!

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

**Contributions to the Hilandar Endowment Fund**

Lorraine Netretić Abraham  
Abingdon, Virginia

Sally Ann Arsenovich  
Buchanan, Michigan

John R. Barns  
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania

Milana K. Bizic  
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania

Vida Matejic Bowen  
Reynoldsburg, Ohio  
Matching Gift: Battelle Memorial Institute

Milica Matejic Brust  
Columbus, Ohio  
Matching Gift: Battelle Memorial Institute

Daniel Enright Collins  
Columbus, Ohio

Pauline Dickey  
Columbus, Ohio

Susan Catherine Hatten  
Columbus, Ohio

M.A. Johnson  
Columbus, Ohio  
“In Memory of Allen M. Johnson”

Sharon (Fullerton) Maliska  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida  
Gift through Friends of the Library

Predrag Matejic  
Dublin, Ohio

Michael John Sarris  
Columbus, Ohio

Daniel Brian Vukmer  
Worthington, Ohio  
Gift to Bishop Nikolai Velimirovich Fund

**Gifts In Kind to the Hilandar Research Library**

- Austria  
  Mihailo Popović

- Bulgaria  
  Khristo Andreev  
  Diana Atanasova-Pencheva  
  Margaret Dimitrova  
  Marija Yovcheva  
  Dian Zheliazkov

- Canada  
  Olga M. Mladenova

- Czech Republic  
  Isabel Arranz del Riego  
  Mario Rodríguez Polo

- Russia  
  Tatiana G. Popova

- Serbia  
  Very Rev. Radomir Nikčević  
  Danica Petrović  
  Mirjana Živojinović  
  Centre for Advanced Medieval Studies  
  Zadužbina Manastira Hilandara

- United States  
  Edward J. Kasinec  
  V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejč  
  Predrag Matejč  
  Andrei A. Orlov  
  Alex Rabinovich  
  Kim Tanner  
  William R. Veder  
  Litchfield Minnesota Public Library  
  Slavic & Eurasian Studies Collection, University of Kansas Libraries  
  Woodrow Wilson Center
While serving in the dual role as the Curator of the Hilandar Research Library (HRL) and the Director of the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS), I do not often make direct requests through this newsletter for donations and support, whether monetary or through the gifts of books or other material.

Yet we value and greatly appreciate donations as they help us to do the work we do and provide the services we provide as both a special collection and a university center. In response to requests from several readers and donors, here I describe ways in which donations may be made to support the HRL and RCMSS.

CASH
Cash is often the most convenient way to give. It is fully deductible provided deductions are itemized.

NEW ENDOWMENTS
Once established, an endowment fund is a dependable and perpetual source of support, since the principal is invested and only a percentage of the earnings from that principal are spent each year. All endowments at Ohio State are held by the OSU Foundation. $50,000 is needed to establish a named or restricted endowment. Donors may establish their own fund or contribute to endowments that already have been established. For example, the HRL has at this time no separate endowment fund specific to its needs as a special collection of the OSU Libraries. Such a fund could be established.

GIFTS IN KIND
The HRL receives many gifts in kind. A “gift in kind” is a physical piece, an actual book, or manuscript, lithograph, etc., that falls within the priorities of the Collection Development Policy of the HRL. These collection priorities are largely focused on microfilms of medieval Slavic Cyrillic manuscripts, facsimiles of such manuscripts, reference books on medieval Slavic (especially Cyrillic) culture, and related material. Gifts in kind may be one item, or several, or even several hundred. No matter the number of the gifts in kind, two things need to be stressed from the outset. We cannot give or suggest appraisals for the value of the gifts in kind, and accepting them is often a lengthy process of communication between the HRL and the donor.

SUPPORT FOR EXISTING ENDOWMENTS
Contributions may be made to any of the endowments that benefit RCMSS or HRL. The Hilandar Endowment Fund #603182 was established in the early 1980s and generates annual income to support research in the HRL. This endowment is now held by the College of Arts and Sciences. The annual income supports research visits, conference and travel in support of the HRL and RCMSS; teaching, especially related to manuscripts and Eastern Orthodox culture; conferences such as the international series of Hilandar conferences; and many other necessary activities. For HRL, for example, the endowment income provides occasional money for purchases of special material, usually manuscript related, or it may support outreach activities, special lectures, and exhibits of HRL material, or similar purposes. Many other endowments exist that honor noted Serbians such as the Nikola Tesla and Mihajlo Pupin Memorial Endowment Funds or the Papich Family Endowment Fund.

HONORARY AND MEMORIAL GIFTS
Honoring a family member, friend, colleague or faculty member with a gift is a good way to pay tribute to a loved one. At times you may have noticed that among the gifts listed in the newsletter several such gifts have been made.

PLEDGES
Pledges enable a donor to plan a personal giving program that is convenient and tax wise. Terms are flexible and at the option of the donor.

SECURITIES
Stock certificates may be used for outright gifts or pledge payments. Certificates may be reassigned directly to the OSU foundation or may be transferred through the owner’s broker. The mean value of the date of transfer determines the value of a gift.

MATCHING GIFTS
Matching gifts are a way for certain individuals to increase the amount (and potential impact) of their gift. Many employers sponsor matching gift programs. If your company has such a program, please enclose a Matching Gift Form from your employer.
GIFT PLANNING AND BEQUESTS

Often it may be preferable from an estate and tax perspective to consider long-term gift planning as the best way to make a gift. This can be accomplished through charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities, charitable lead trusts and bequests.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For Gifts to the RCMSS and the Hilandar Endowment #603182: contact the Development and Alumni Relations Office of the College of Arts and Sciences and mention the Hilandar Endowment, http://artsandsciences.osu.edu/directory#Development.
YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT
Fund # __________

through an annual pledge of:
☐ $3,000*  ☐ $1,000  ☐ $500

Other $ ____________ for ____________ years
*President’s Club

☐ Bill me  ☐ Monthly  ☐ Quarterly  ☐ Annually
☐ This is a one-time gift of $ ____________
☐ Enclosed is my payment in full
☐ I would like more information about naming
opportunities.
☐ I would like more information about estate
and planned giving.

Please phone me at: (____) ____________

Payment Options: To make a gift or pledge
return this form to the address on the reverse
side.

☐ Check payable to The Ohio State University
☐ Credit card payment

☐ Master Card  ☐ Visa  ☐ Discover

Exp. date______________________________

Signature______________________________

________________________________________
16-digit account number

My employer will match my gift.

Name of Employer _______________________

Phone (___) ____________________________
Dear Friends,

Please consider a gift or donation – each and every gift makes a tangible difference and all gifts are tax deductible as permitted by law. For a detailed description on how to support us, please see pages 14-15.

For Gifts to the RCMSS and the Hilandar Endowment Fund #603182: contact Elizabeth Burns at 614-292-2197 or email at Burns.217@osu.edu.

For gifts and donations to the HRL, you may contact the Libraries’ Development Office at 614.688.4313 or email Gay Jackson (Jackson.676@osu.edu).

All gifts through June 2016 support the University’s BUT FOR OHIO STATE CAMPAIGN

Checks can be mailed to RCMSS/HRL

Mail to:

HRL and RCMSS
The Ohio State University
119 Thompson Library
1858 Neil Avenue Mall
Columbus OH, 43210-1286

HILANDAR RESEARCH LIBRARY
RESOURCE CENTER FOR
MEDIEVAL SLAVIC STUDIES