Specialists In Medieval Slavic Scheduled To Address MSSI 2001

The Guest Speakers Program planned for the Medieval Slavic Summer Institute 2001 reflects the diversity of this year’s MSSI participants. Our invited speakers will lecture on topics in medieval Russian architecture, Byzantino-Slavic musicology, the Old Believers in Russia and medieval political culture. This series of lectures is co-sponsored by the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures and the Center for Slavic and East European Studies. The lectures are free and open to the public.

Valerie A. Kivelson, History associate chair at the University of Michigan and a past director of its Center for Russian & East European Studies, will be the initial guest speaker scheduled to address the Medieval Slavic Summer Institute. Her lecture “Muscovite Concepts of Space, Territory and Property” will be presented on July 2nd at 4:00 p.m. in Room 122 of the William Oxley Thompson Memorial (Main) Library. The lecture will consider the idea that Muscovy had no concept of private property as well as reexamine a powerful bit of common wisdom that holds that the tsar was the ultimate owner of all property in Muscovy.

Professor Kivelson received her Ph.D. in Russian History from Stanford University in 1988 and was an instructor at St. Mary’s College of California before accepting a teaching position at the University of Michigan in 1989. She is the author of numerous publications reflecting her interest and research in early modern Russia, political culture - particularly the provincial gentry, witchcraft, and cartography. Her most recent work “Muscovite Citizenship: Rights without Freedom” is forthcoming in the Journal of Modern History. She also serves on the Executive Committee of the National Council on Eastern European and Eurasian Research.

William C. Brumfield will present a lecture entitled “Sacred Space in the Russian North” the evening of July 9th at 7:30 p.m. in Room 100, Mendenhall Laboratory, OSU campus. William Brumfield is professor of Slavic studies at Tulane University where he also lectures at the School of Architecture. In 1973 he earned his Ph.D. in Slavic Languages (specializing in 19th-century Russian literature and history) at the University of California/Berkeley. He was assistant professor at Harvard University (1974-80) and has held visiting appointments at the universities of Wisconsin and Virginia. He is author and photographer of a number of works on Russian architecture and often lectures on Russian architecture, photography and literature.

(Continued on page 3)
Preparations for the 2001 Medieval Slavic Summer Institute are well underway. This year, once again, we were able to select fourteen participants who are due to arrive at Ohio State by June 25 for four weeks of intensive study and training. On the front page we have highlighted four eminent scholars who will provide public lectures during the MSSSI. We are extremely pleased that scholars of this stature have agreed to enhance the experience of MSSSI participants, as well as that of the general public, with lectures on such diverse and interesting topics.

As featured in our last issue, we have been particularly busy with visiting scholars, some of whom (Victor Alexandrov) have recently left after making great strides in their research. From his report to the Central European University, we learned that the Saratov collection has once again produced a major surprise: Victor discovered a manuscript in Saratov long thought to have been lost! Others, such as the Bulgarian musicologist Svetlana Kujumdzhieva, continue to make progress here on their research. She has been joined in recent weeks by Ohio State’s Eve Levin (see CMH #8, p. 3), who is busy researching her forthcoming monograph on illness and medical knowledge in early modern Russia.

More recent visitors include Mariyana Tsibranska-Kostova of Bulgaria, who is researching penitential literature, especially in South Slavic manuscripts. Near the end of May, Mariana Dimitrova of Seattle will spend a week at the HRL studying early forms of music notation. A group of Russian architects was able to make a brief visit. It seemed an unexpected pleasure to them to find a library devoted to medieval Slavic Cyrillic manuscripts and culture here in the middle of Ohio!

I am very pleased to note that the small microfilming project in Tver (Russia) has just been completed. Thousands of additional pages of Cyrillic manuscripts on microfilm will soon be available for research in the HRL. In addition, we have purchased more sets of microfiche of medieval Slavic manuscripts in collections of Moscow State University that have been made available commercially. The efforts of Norman Ross Publishing, Inc., in this regard signify that we can substantially increase our holdings without the additional expenses of travel and negotiations. More significantly, it means we have more time and resources to devote to smaller and “at risk” collections. Manuscripts today often continue to be susceptible to damage or destruction.

A large portion of this issue of CMH is a summary of research opportunities, support possibilities and educational programs that the HRL and RCMSS offer. There has been a dramatic increase in both the number of research requests and reference questions that we now receive. We are pleased to have the opportunity to make our services more widely known and utilized and believe reiteration of what we offer would be very timely.

Visitors to the HRL will likely notice the new carpeting installed in the public areas of the first three floors of the “Main” Library. We are grateful that with the full cooperation of the OSU Libraries’ administration and all the workers involved, we were able to stay open and provide services throughout the entire time. The resulting improved ambiance is much appreciated!

Regrettably, Ms. Emily Tock, who was welcomed in our last issue, has for personal reasons resigned her position as Bibliographer for Slavic and East European Languages & Literatures. We wish her well in her future endeavors and look forward to this position being filled.

While South Korea, Mount Athos and Columbus are worlds apart, we were delighted to hear that Prof. Ju-Gwan Cho, a former graduate research associate of RCMSS and now the head of the Russian Department at Yonsei University in Seoul, was able to make a presentation of our slide-tape program at a conference in South Korea. We thank him for making this presentation and sharing information about us with his colleagues. We are also grateful to Dongsoo Jeon, another former graduate research associate, for providing the Korean translation and voice for the cassette tape containing the brief history. (The English text of our slide/tape presentation may be viewed on our website, along with the same images shown during this presentation).

Later this spring, we expect Professor Branimir Simić-Glavaški of the Serbian National University “Vuk Stefanovich Karadžić” to present a large donation on behalf of the designated fund of the same name which the Serbian National University has established as part of our overall Hilandar Endowment Fund. A ceremony is planned, with Ohio State administrators, representatives of the Ohio governor’s office, and RCMSS Advisory Council members in attendance.

On a final note, my father, the V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic was honored in his hometown of Smederevo, Yugoslavia, receiving the “golden key to the city” on May 3rd in a broadcast ceremony attended by three bishops and several hundred guests. This award, made in recognition of his numerous contributions, also recognizes the establishment and significance of the HRL and RCMSS, which would not have been possible without his efforts and dedication. Živeo – na mnogaja leta!

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**Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage**

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In his lecture/slide presentation, Professor Brumfield will focus on the Vologda province, the vast territory in northern Russia, which contains some of Russia’s most interesting historic architecture. Defined by water networks that carried much of Muscovy’s medieval trade, both to Western Europe and to Siberia, this area includes the towns of Vologda, Totma, and Velikii Ustiug. Their distinctive churches, with elaborate decoration, have in many cases been abandoned by the decline in the area’s economic and strategic importance. Yet what remains is all the more remarkable on the northern landscape, photographed for this lecture in both winter and summer. Also included are the monasteries at Ferapontovo and Kirillov.

Robert O. Crummey, professor emeritus (University of California/Davis) and expert in the Old Believer culture, is scheduled to deliver a lecture entitled “Old Believers: Past, Present and Future” July 12th at 4:00 p.m. in Room 122 of the William Oxley Thompson Memorial (Main) Library. Professor Crummey will lecture on the often closed micro-communities of Russian Old Believers. Despite hardships and even persecutions, these communities have persevered from the time of Peter the Great, adhering to their own practice of Russian Orthodoxy and, to a large degree, their own way of life (maintained even in far-flung communities outside of their homeland). Recent changes in the former Soviet Union have brought a revival of interest in and the activities of these unique and isolated communities. Professor Crummey, who has been privileged to live and work among Old Believers, is a foremost expert on their culture.

Professor Crummey received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1964 and has held academic positions at Yale University, Columbia University, and the University of California/Berkeley during his distinguished career. He also served as Dean of the College of Letters and Science at the University of California/Davis from 1990-94.

Svetlana Kujumdzhieva, a specialist in the field of Slavic and Byzantine medieval music, will present a lecture entitled “Viewing The Earliest Old Slavic Corpus Cantilenarum” July 16th at 4:00 p.m. in Room 122 of the William Oxley Thompson Memorial (Main) Library. Dr. Kujumdzhieva is a faculty member with the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Arts in Sofia, Bulgaria. She was awarded an Ohio State Postdoctoral Fellowship for the academic year 2000-2001 through the OSU School of Music. Her research mission while here at OSU is to examine retention and transmission tendencies in the evolution of Slavic music manuscripts of the Balkans.

Mariana Dimitrova arrives May 22nd for a seven-day research visit in the HRL. Professor Dimitrova began examining medieval neumatic manuscripts as a student at the Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) State Conservatory where she specialized in Russian Musical Palaeography. Later, in her native Bulgaria, she continued her studies in the field of Byzantine Chant, working mainly with fourteenth- and fifteenth-century notated Greek manuscripts. Professor Dimitrova received her doctoral degree from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for her research on prokeimenon, a psalm-based responsorial genre of chant.

In the HRL, she intends to view the microfilms of certain liturgical manuscripts—mostly Menaina from the Mount Sinai and the Hilandar Monastery collections—in an attempt to find musically arranged texts in them. If successful, she will be able to further her ongoing work on the early neumatic notation used in Slavic liturgical books.

Mariana Dimitrova currently resides in Washington state with her husband, Garnik Gukasyan, a violinist with the Spokane Symphony, and her two teenage children.
In this feature, Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage asks researchers who have used the Hilandar Research Library in the past year, either in person or by mail, to describe their experiences and work. Scholars who wish to contribute items may send them to CMH.

A Social History Of Volokolamsk Monastery

By Tom Dykstra

Until I arrived in Columbus, all of my dissertation research had been in published sources. I expected archival research to be of secondary importance for my topic—the social history of a Russian monastery in the sixteenth century—since the most important primary sources have already been published. Archival resources would certainly be needed to fill in some gaps but would not be likely to change substantially the picture one could obtain from published sources, making this a particularly good topic for someone such as myself who cannot spend months in Russian archives.

Given that limitation, I felt very fortunate to find in the U.S. a microfilmed copy of one of the major Russian archival collections related to Volokolamsk monastery. The most time I was able to arrange for my first visit to the Hilandar Research Library was 3½ days, and during that period I hoped to review at least 18 manuscripts relevant to my research. This would preclude a thorough examination of any given manuscript but would allow a quick overview that would tell me which of them would be worth closer examination in the future.

There were no surprises the first two days, as I went through manuscript after manuscript getting a general feel for the kinds of contents in them, how readable the script was, and any other salient characteristics. As I worked my way down from the most important to the least important, I came on the third day to two manuscripts I had ranked at a low priority for this trip because published editions of them existed, so that looking at the manuscripts might even be considered a work of idle curiosity. I was, however, curious enough to have brought Xerox copies of those editions with me to compare against the original.

These manuscripts record gifts in cash and in kind given to the monastery to pay for commemoration of the donors after their own death ("zapiskaia kniga") or for deceased relatives ("vkladnaia kniga"). They are among the most important documents for the social history of the monastery in this period since they record the names, donations, social classes, and other information about all of the major donors to the monastery and many of the minor ones; much of this information does not exist elsewhere. The historical importance of these documents has long been recognized and prompted their publication in full in 1906.

While reviewing these manuscripts I immediately began noticing discrepancies between the manuscript and the printed edition. Some were random errors—distressingly frequent—such as incorrectly transcribed names and numbers. In one case an entire folio of the manuscript had been overlooked! Even more distressing was a host of deliberate emendations made by the editor (that he made no notice of in his text at all), many of which were equally erroneous. In one representative case a date was arbitrarily moved 20 years into the future.

In the middle of a series of entries having dates ranging from 7093 to 7095 (1585-1587) the manuscript has one for 7074 (1566) right between the 7093s and the 7095s; the editor simply changed it to 7094 (1586). But, an attentive reading of the text reveals that 7074 makes sense: this individual did make a donation in 7094, but at that time the bookkeeper noted that the donor’s first contribution had been made 20 years earlier in 7074 when he joined the monastery. The reader of the printed edition would be led to believe that this person joined the monastery in 7094 and made both donations in that later year.

I also noticed that many marginal notations carrying vitally important information were entirely ignored by the printed edition’s editor. Likewise, changes in handwriting that could aid in determining relative ages of different parts of the manuscript went unremarked. In particular, many individual entries would record an initial donation and then years later, during the tenure of a different bookkeeper with obviously different handwriting, additional donations would be recorded—but the printed edition made no differentiation between original and supplement. Where the editor did attempt to make note of manuscript features in the printed edition, he did so inconsistently: entries that were crossed-out (signifying the donor’s death in the zapiskaia) were variously put in brackets, not noted as such at all, or even omitted entirely from the printed edition.

These are but a few of the kinds of misrepresentations I found in the printed edition of my most valuable sources, and upon my return to the University of Washington I formulated a plan for a rather different dissertation. I now intend to produce a source study of these two manuscripts—a critical edition, translation, and commentary. And I have a new appreciation both for the value of working with manuscripts even when published editions are available, and for the presence in the U.S. of a unique resource such as the HRL.

Tom Dykstra is a graduate student in the Department of History at the University of Washington, Seattle.
For drevniki and drevnitsy of Slavonic studies worldwide, the Hilandar Research Library in Ohio has long played an extraordinarily important role. I have had first-hand accounts of HRL’s wonderful resources and services from my Swedish colleagues, Per Ambrosiani of Stockholm and Alexander Peresvetoff-Morath of Lund, but it was only quite recently that I contacted HRL in connection with my own research.

During 1994-1998 I worked on a doctoral dissertation on Cyril of Turov’s (12th century) homiletic rhetoric. My aim was to provide a comprehensive account and analysis of Cyril’s rhetorical register against the background of the rhetorical homiletic practice inherited from Byzantium through translated texts.

A cardinal theme in the scholarship on Cyril has always been the question of literary sources. Source critical investigations have searched for concrete verbal correspondences between Cyril’s texts and Byzantine sermons within the extant corpus of Slavonic translations, but far less attention has been paid to the Turovian preacher’s rhetorical and stylistic sources of influence. My study of Cyril of Turov’s sermons convinced me that his homiletic rhetoric could only be understood in the light of a particular homiletic tradition represented by such Byzantine sermonists such as Leontius of Constantinople, Basil of Seleucia, Andrew of Crete, Proclus of Constantinople, Severian of Gabala, and others.

In Patristics and Byzantine studies, this corpus has attracted growing attention in recent decades. The “dramatic homilies” (as these texts are sometimes labeled) represent a monument to pseudepigraphy and, not surprisingly, a great many texts are falsely ascribed to John Chrysostom. A considerable number of the Greek pseudo-chrysostomica entered the Slavic lands in translations. Within the Slavic field, however, the scholarship on pseudo-Chrysostomian homilies is, regrettably, far behind. Thus, to what extent the “dramatic homilies” were known in Kiev Rus’ still awaits a more thorough analysis. During the revision of my dissertation, I became increasingly interested in the pseudo-chrysostomica slavica, and for the publication of my book [Verbal Celebrations: Kirill of Turov’s Homiletic Rhetoric and its Byzantine Sources, (Slavistische Veröffentlichungen 86), Munich: Harrassowitz, forthcoming in June 2001] I wrote a new chapter, intended as a preliminary venture into these issues, using Cyril of Turov’s homiletic corpus as a case study.

The last few years have seen the publication of two important catalogues of Slavonic homiletic manuscripts: T.V. Čtrorickaja (1994) and E. E. Granstrem et al. (1998). Unfortunately, neither of these takes into account recent patristic and Byzantine scholarship, and makes only limited use of the Clavis Patrum Graecorum (1983–1998). By combining the material gathered in the catalogues with what is now known about the Greek pseudo-chrysostomica, it is, however, possible to take a step further in the identification of Slavonic translations. Most important, I was able to consult several 14th-century collections of Lenten and Paschal-Pentecost homilies, available at HRL on microform: Hilandar Slavic manuscripts 384, 388, 389, 392, and 404. Through the generous assistance of the HRL, I not only received photocopies of the sermons I had identified before I contacted the HRL, but also a number of .jpeg files — in the form of attachments — of typed-up incipits and excipits of these codices, so that I could look at the full contents. As a result, I was able to identify and read a number of homilies that are of interest in the context of Cyril of Turov’s Paschal-Pentecost cycle of sermons. It is still too early to determine which particular texts might have been available to Cyril in late twelfth- (early thirteenth-?) century Turov, but it is quite clear that his homiletic rhetoric belongs to the tradition of “dramatic homilies.”
Saratov Collection Provides Missing Key

By William R. Veder

The study of manuscripts, early imprints and texts has suffered quite a beating over the past decade. Universities, striving to keep enrollment high against the demographic low tide, are making their programmes more attractive by eliminating notoriously difficult subjects such as source studies (save, of course, in the mother tongue). The study of Slavic manuscripts, in addition, has suffered from the end of the cold war even more than the military-industrial complex: it has lost the support the socialists regimes of Eastern Europe quite generously awarded to shaping the national history (the “Vukove dane”, colloquia “po starobulgaristika”, conferences “po istochnikovedenju Drevnej Rusi” and so forth, which formed its very nerve centers). The archives and libraries it draws from are suffering from underfunding, some are even locked, like the State Historical Museum in Moscow, which takes out of circulation the entire libraries of the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church, the Chudovskij monastery and a vast number of other collections.

In this perspective, it is a small miracle that the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, over the past decade, has managed to grow to the point that it now holds a number of Russian manuscripts on microfilm that is even larger than its original Athonite and Sinai stock. It now offers the most promising facilities for in-depth studies of texts, their migration and adaptation to new book contexts, which form an indispensable complement to the study of the production and utilization of manuscripts. Nowhere in the world can so many Slavic manuscripts of such varied provenance be compared without the intermediary of notes, which always tend to lack that crucial information not deemed important enough at first reading.

For some thirty years, one of the focuses of my research has been the venerable Izbornik of 1076, the third dated Slavic manuscript, written in or around Kiev between 1 March and 27 December 1076. Its opening and closing texts are perhaps the best examples of successful compilation from two or more extant texts available in the history of Slavic literature. Identifying their sources was no easy task, because all the efforts of earlier researchers had been invested in demonstrating their originality. But, by the time The Edicatory Prose of Kievan Rus (1994) was published, many of the puzzles had been solved. Only the text, “On the Merciful Sozomenus”, contained portions that defied ready identification.

By 1997, the RCMSS had acquired on microfilm part of the collection of manuscripts of the Saratov State University Library (a “spetskhran” of documents confiscated after the revolution), up to then completely inaccessible to research. In the fall of that year, working on Utrum in alterum abiturum erat? A Study of the Beginnings of Text Transmission in Church Slavic (1999), I immediately seized the opportunity to access it, and it rewarded me right away with three young copies of the Chronograph, nothing spectacular, of course, but for one fact: on the basis of a research topic “monastic miscellanies” I would not have been granted access to them in any library in Russia. And these three copies, together with MS Aronov 3 and my notes from Bulgaria, Russia and Ukraine, provided proof that the text “On the Script” was firmly anchored in the original content of the Chronograph. More important yet, I could now analyze this text as a text independent from and, to all probability, preceding the much more widely known treatise “On the Letters”, which tells the story of the Slavic alphabet and the books written in it. The Saratov collection also rewarded me with a splendid late 15th-cent. copy of a monastic miscellany, MS Saratov 45: It contains a short Zlatostruj (the early Slavic Readers’ Digest edition of the works of St. John Chrysostom), followed by selections from various very early Slavic books. Among them, I was able to identify not only the Izbornik of 1073, copied in Kiev for prince Sviatoslav Jaroslavich, but also the Scaliger Patericon, compiled at Preslav before 971, which had formed the starting point of my inquiries into the history of Church Slavic texts. But without doubt the most fascinating find was an excerpt from the hitherto unknown Slavic translation of the Life of St. Martin of Tours, and the realization that one sentence from this Life had been quoted in the final text of the Izbornik of 1076. The missing keystone!

The MS Saratov 45 is a rare example of a miscellany written in two columns to a page (as far as I have been able to establish, such MSS usually reflect the layout of very ancient originals). In the excerpts from the Scaliger Patericon, I have been able to find a number of discrepancies with the other two known MSS (Leiden, UB, Scal. 74 and Moscow, RGADA, MGAMID 603, both written in full-page layout), which testify to skipped lines of the original. Further comparison in situ, also with the Izbornik of 1073 and the Bychkov Zlatostruj, should no doubt provide sufficient data to reconstruct not only the text, but even the layout of at least three large codices that formed part of the original stock of the main (princely or metropolitan) library at Kiev in the early 11th century and give us some clues how they got there.

Nowhere in the world can one gain such a concrete view of the cultural and intellectual unity of Slavia Orthodoxa as here, near the banks of the Olentangy River.
HRL/RCMSS Research Opportunities

Increased interest in working with the resources of the Hilandar Research Library makes suitable a brief summary of the various programs and academic opportunities we offer. In the near future, this summary will be available on our website <http://www.cohums.ohio-state.edu/cmrs/rcmss/>, where it will be updated as new programs are undertaken. The website (specifically, portions of back issues of Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage), can provide helpful background information on other research as well as on the Medieval Slavic Summer Institute. For additional information, please contact us by email <hilandar@osu.edu>, telephone (614-292-0634), fax (614-292-7859) or regular mail.

Hours/Address: The Hilandar Research Library (HRL) and the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS) are generally open 9-5 EST, Monday-Friday, except for legal holidays. The RCMSS and HRL are located in 225/227 William Oxley Thompson Memorial (Main) Library, The Ohio State University, 1858 Neil Avenue Mall, Columbus, Ohio 43210-1286. Information about the collections of the HRL and how to access them online can be found through our webpage (click on the “Access and Collection Information” Button) or proceed directly to <http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu/OSU_profile/hilweb/library.htm>.

Visits: We encourage visits to this unique collection of the OSU Libraries. However, whether one intends to visit or to drop by to do research, it is always best to call ahead of time.

Reference requests: Should be directed to the HRL staff and may be sent by mail, email, fax or telephone. Priority is given to scholarly research requests.

Copy Requests: For research purposes only and should be directed to the HRL. Such requests may be sent by mail, email, fax or telephone. A user declaration must be completed and signed. Our individual agreements with the repositories of the original manuscripts may preclude us from providing either partial or complete copies of manuscripts. If copies can be made we may decide to provide either microfilm/fiche duplicates or paper printouts from the microforms.

Certain HRL microfilms/fiche are purchased copies from academic or commercial vendors and we can provide information for contacting the vendors for complete copies.

RESEARCH VISITS

Independent (not funded by RCMSS) research: Please coordinate all such visits with the HRL/RCMSS. If seeking outside funding to do research in the HRL, it is still necessary to contact the HRL/RCMSS as local housing as well as research space in the HRL can be at a premium, and adequate advance preparations need to be made. This is especially true for researchers seeking outside funding to do long-term research in the HRL or research during non-summer months.

RCMSS-supported research: RCMSS typically supports, either in part or fully, research and academic opportunities for graduate students and visiting scholars in the HRL. Typically, such opportunities are supported through RCMSS “Summer Stipend” Awards.

Applications should be directed to the “RCMSS Summer Stipend Committee” at the above address. Applications can be made at any time of the year and should include a brief description of purpose and either specific materials or types of resources needed at the HRL (i.e., primarily microfilms/microfiche of medieval/late medieval Slavic Cyrillic manuscripts). Applications should also include a brief curriculum vitae, the length of time requested and whether financial support is requested. Graduate students should also include a letter of reference, preferably from their advisor.

Eligibility: All who need access to microform resources of the HRL and who need to use these resources in the HRL are eligible. Junior and senior faculty/researchers as well as graduate students are eligible. RCMSS particularly prides itself on encouraging graduate students’ research. Awards are not limited to North American scholars only.

Duration: Awards are typically for 2 or 4 weeks. In rare situations 6 weeks or more may be awarded.

Support: Summer stipends typically cover the costs of travel, housing in Columbus, as well as per diem living expenses. The actual amounts awarded depend on specific circumstances (e.g., time of year, cost of housing) and may vary.

Other: a) Applicants who have such opportunities are also encouraged to apply to other agencies for support. b) The number of Summer Stipends awarded in any one year may vary. c) Summer stipends are not awarded during the time that the Medieval Slavic Summer Institute is in progress (see MSSI below). d) Receiving a summer stipend does not preclude subsequent applications, although priority is typically given to those who have not yet received such a stipend. e) Not receiving a stipend in any given year does not preclude subsequent applications for stipends.

MEDIEVAL SLAVIC SUMMER INSTITUTE

The Medieval Slavic Summer Institute (MSSI) is a biennial educational program, which the HRL and RCMSS, together with Ohio State’s Department of Slavic & East European Languages & Literatures offer for a four-week period during June and July. Participants in the MSSI are given the opportunity to attend accelerated course-work in Slavic 870 (“Practical Slavic Paleography”) and Slavic 812 (“Reading in Church Slavonic”). The materials and “hands-on” experience, including working with and describing Cyrillic manuscripts, are primarily developed from materials of the HRL.

Eligibility: Graduate students a) who have completed coursework in Old Church Slavonic, b) whose academic careers require a better understanding and work with primary Cyrillic manuscripts, and c) who are not in a position to receive such education in their local academic setting (i.e., graduate students not attending universities in countries with a strong tradition in Cyrillic paleography and manuscript studies).

Non-graduate students: While certain undergraduates may meet academic requirements and be theoretically qualified for consideration as participants in the MSSI, we do not encourage undergraduates to apply until they are graduate students and have a better understanding of their interests and needs and how the MSSI

(Continued on page 10)
Bulgarian Linguist Examines Hilandar Penitentials

By Mariyana Tsibranska-Kostova

I arrived in April 2001 for a six-week research visit. I have been aware of the Hilandar Research Library as a unique place in the world designed to promote versatile research on Slavic written heritage. Many Bulgarian scholars from different generations have enjoyed the professional chance of exploring Hilandar’s [the HRL’s] rich collections.

I have been working with Slavonic manuscripts for about 14 years. The first step was made back in 1987 when I graduated from the University of Sofia and I wrote my MA thesis on 16th-century Bulgarian hagiographic works. My supervisor, the eminent professor Angelina Mincheva encouraged my already almost-overwhelming interest in the Old Slavonic Language and in manuscripts. I continued working in this field by gradually enlarging the subject as a postgraduate student in the Section of History of the Bulgarian Language at the Institute for Bulgarian Language where I defended my Ph.D. on 16th-century South Slavic Cyrillic Printed Books. Since 1992, I have been working as a research associate in the Institute for Bulgarian Language at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. I have also taught Old Church Slavonic at the University of Plovdiv for the past eight years.

My current research is related to so-called penitential versions or varia epitimia of South Slavic origin found in different Canon Law miscellanies, liturgical books, and miscellanies with mixed content. In 2000, I published a book on the lexicon of texts of Canon Law, taking as a basis the first Slavonic translation from the 9th century of John the Scholastic’s Synagoge of 50 Titles, also known as “Methodius’ Nomocanon.” That work helped me to elucidate how important the relatively short juridical texts are and how rich and diverse their relationship is to the systematic Canon Law codices. I decided to expand on this topic and write a separate study on South Slavic Penitentials. I started with the earliest extant copy of this genre, the well-known “Orders of Holy Fathers” within the 11th-century Glagolitic Euchologium Sinaiticum. The text seems to reproduce a very old archetype, apparently based on a Latin original, that came into being in Moravia during the missionary activity of SS. Cyril and Methodius. The subsequent part of the study is represented by Penitentials of South Slavic or, broadly-speaking, of Balkan origin in which written sources of the 13th-18th centuries abound, such as versions attributed by the scribes to Basil the Great, John the Hermit, St. Peter and St. Paul, the holy fathers and others. Some of them bear traces of being translated into Slavonic very early. Sometimes the variety of content makes correlation among the textual parts of the manuscripts extremely complicated. The mixture of translated, compilative and original texts of different origin, of different provenance, leads to the textual complexity of every type of Canon law miscellany in general. Both historians and philologist have to be aware that in this case one deals with heterogeneous material and that an appropriate methodology should be applied. That is why the problem of identifying the textual redactions is among the most difficult. My goal is to focus on the textual typology, which links the East and the West of the Christian tradition, and on the diversity of types and forms. Some questions of language and terminology are also investigated.

The HRL collections offer an extremely challenging opportunity to collect material and explore such manuscripts and texts. My expectations have been confirmed at every step and it is sometimes difficult to resist the temptation of getting more and more information. In addition, the Main Library holdings of secondary sources and periodicals are readily available.

In the HRL, I encountered a most valuable scholarly spirit and atmosphere. No words can express my deepest gratitude and respect to all those people in the Hilandar Research Library who are engaged in keeping the spirit of Slavic Medieval Culture alive.
Father Eric Hollas, executive director of the Hill Monastic Manuscript Library at St. John’s University (Collegeville, Minnesota), was invited by The Ohio State University’s Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies to present two lectures this past February. The first, Preserving the Past to Meet the Needs of the Future: Electronic Projects at the Hill Monastic Manuscript Library, introduced the audience to Hill Monastic’s website <www.hmml.org> and the newly-created searchable online database of its microfilmed manuscript holdings. It is anticipated that all 90,000 brief catalog records will have been loaded into the database by summer 2001. Although the primary focus of the collection is Latin manuscripts on microform, it also includes a significant microfilm collection of manuscripts from Ethiopia, as well as of manuscripts in Armenian, Greek, Hebrew, Syriac, etc. Of particular interest to CMH readers may be the over 180 Cyrillic and Glagolitic manuscripts on microfilm from the Vienna National Library (described in Gerhard Birkfellner’s Glagolitische und kyrillische Handschriften in Österreich, Wien 1975).

The second lecture, The Saint John’s Bible: The Making of a Manuscript in the 21st Century, described the hand-written and hand-illuminated Bible commissioned by Saint John’s Abbey and University. This is the first Western manuscript of the Bible to be created in over 500 years. In the manuscript tradition of old, this codex will include features that reflect the specific time, place and language (English) of its creation: vegetal and zoomorphic ornamentation, for example, will represent flora and fauna indigenous to St. John’s University campus and Minnesota. The first of the seven volumes of this remarkable manuscript should be completed by spring 2001.

Paul Bushkovitch took time out of his busy schedule to investigate holdings in the HRL while on campus to present two Mershon Center-sponsored lectures, “Northern Europe in Crisis: from Britain to Russia” and “Peter the Great.” He also met informally with graduate students from the History department to discuss their research interests. Professor Bushkovitch received his doctorate from Columbia University, and has taught Russian history at Yale since 1975. He is the author of several books, including Religion and Society in Russia: the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries (Oxford, 1992), and the forthcoming Peter the Great: the Struggle for Power 1671-1725 (Cambridge, 2001) and Peter the Great (Rowman and Littlefield, 2001). He also edited with Maija Jansson and Nikolai Rogozin England and the North: the Russian Embassy of 1613-1614, volume 210, Memoirs of the American Philosophical Society (Philadelphia, 1994) for which the editors received the Society’s “John Frederick Lewis Award.” His work focuses on Russian history in the 15th through early 18th centuries, particularly on state and religion and their interactions with society.

Recently, business leaders from Niš (Serbia) and Sofia (Bulgaria) enjoyed an informative tour of the HRL. The delegates were here as participants in the “Resource Cities Program” designed to partner U.S. cities with cities in “developing and transitional countries” for purposes of sharing knowledge and developing beneficial long-term relationships. Last year the three cities, Niš, Sofia, and Columbus, agreed to act as “Resource Cities” to each other. During their stay, the leaders participated in extensive technical briefings and on-site visits, focusing on economic development, communication, public transportation, solid waste management, and drinking water treatment as primary areas of exchange. Members of the Niš delegation included Mr. Toplica Djordjević, President of the Executive Board, Municipality of Niš, Mr. Neboisa Rančić, City Councilor and Spokesman, City of Niš, and Mr. Goran Ignjatović, Manager, City of Niš Public Utilities. The delegation from Sofia included Mr. Nikolay Berov, Director of Water Utility Company, and Ms. Tsvetina Bozhinova, Head of Public Relations Department, City of Sofia.
may contribute to their development. Junior faculty may in some circumstances be considered for potential participation and should contact us for clarification.

Limit: In general, the number of participants accepted will be limited to 12.

Support: Housing and a small per diem for living expenses; occasionally, some portion of travel expenses may be defrayed.

Requirements: Lecture attendance, completion of exercises, contributions to joint (small group) descriptions of manuscripts, and attendance at the MSSI program of outside lectures (see “Other” below).

Credit: The courses of the MSSI are offered both for credit and as a workshop: a) Ohio State graduate students must, with permission of the instructors, sign up for credit; b) graduate students of the CIC (Big-10 and the University of Chicago) institutions are encouraged to sign up for credit through the “Traveling Scholar Program” of the CIC; c) others who prefer formal credit should discuss this with MSSI instructors; d) all who successfully complete the program will be given an MSSI certificate.

Other: During the MSSI a series (generally four or five in number) of outside public lectures, related to aspects of medieval Slavic culture, will be given.

Auditing: Other courses at The Ohio State University during the time an MSSI is held may also be of interest to the participants—attending any other formal class lectures may be possible only with the permission of the given instructors for those classes and with the understanding that attending these classes will not impede participation in the MSSI. No credit can be given for such attendance.

Special Programs: During non-MSSI summers, special workshops or other lectures may be offered. Contact the HRL/RCMSS for available information.

RCMSS INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATES

RCMSS is grateful to have in various countries a number of individuals who have agreed to be RCMSS International Affiliates. International affiliates are generally individuals, recognized scholars, who have had recent research experiences in the HRL and are thus in a position to possibly better answer a number of questions, research-oriented as well as practical, from a culture-specific viewpoint. We feel that such more “local” resources can be highly important in addressing interested research visitors’ questions and expectations. Scholars interested in the research possibilities in the HRL are encouraged (but not required) to contact their international affiliate, the list of affiliates and countries/regions is given just below.

Not every country/region at this time has an international affiliate. Interested researchers are always welcome to contact the HRL and RCMSS directly.

International Affiliates: Per Ambrosiani (Scandinavia), Mario Capaldo (Italy), Aksinia Dzhurova (Bulgaria), C. M. MacRobert (Great Britain), Roland Marti (Germany), Aleksander Naumow (Poland), Irina V. Pozdeeva (Russia), Dimitrije Stefanović (Yugoslavia), Sergejus Temainas (Baltic countries), Francis J. Thomson (Belgium), William R. Veder (Netherlands).

In Volumes 3 & 7 of Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage, we published selected bibliographies of theses, dissertations, books and articles made possible and/or enhanced by the primary and secondary source materials, especially manuscripts on microform, of the HRL or which were made possible through the support of the RCMSS. We are pleased to add the following references to those lists.

Masters Thesis


Doctoral Dissertations


Articles


Monographs

Recent Contributors To The Hilandar Endowment Fund

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for their generous support:

Sally Malobabic Arsenovich
Buchanan, Michigan
Matching Gift: Whirlpool Foundation

Frederick and Milica Brust
Columbus, Ohio

Biljana and Mihailo Budjevac
Alexandria, Virginia

Charles E. Gribble
Lyubomira P. Gribble
Columbus, Ohio

Sam S. Jekich
St. Petersburg, Florida

Milan and Janice Zunich Katic
Schererville, Indiana

David Edward Kos
Pickerington, Ohio

Lazo and Manda Kuraica
Norton, Ohio

Michael and Barbara Malyak
West Seneca, New York
In memory of Peter and Anna Stipanovich Malyak

Zoran Milkovich
Teaneck, New Jersey
Matching Gift: Chase Manhattan Bank

Barbara L. and George Popovich
Columbus, Ohio

Helene and Ted Senecal
Dublin, Ohio

Sarah Sijacki
Fullerton, California

Charles Norman McTavish Smith
New Orleans, Louisiana

St. Stevan Serbian Orthodox Church
“Special Investment Fund”
Cathy and Jerry Vrugitz, and son Charles
Columbus, Ohio

Dragan and Nancy Vukovich
Columbus, Ohio

Susan and Sean Walton
Columbus, Ohio

Michael R. Zunich
Sheffield Village, Ohio

Contributions support the HRL/RCMSS in its efforts to promote medieval Slavic studies. All gifts are tax deductible to the extent the law allows. Checks should be made payable to The Ohio State University - indicate HRL/RCMSS in the memo section.

GIFTS IN KIND

We would also like to thank the researchers, visitors to the HRL, our RCMSS affiliates, and others who have donated important scholarly materials on topics in medieval Slavic studies to the HRL since our last newsletter. They are as follows:

Dimitiri Peev Dimitrov
Margaret Dimitrova
Aksinia Dzhurova
Mariyana Tsibranska-Kostova
Vasja Velinova
Softia, Bulgaria

Sergejus Temčinas
Vilnius, Lithuania

Ingunn Lunde
Bergen, Norway

Valentina I. Erofeeva
Irina V. Pozdeeva
Galina M. Shitova
Moscow, Russia

Bojan Radovanovič
Bratislava, Slovakia

Savva Kalugin
Homer, Alaska

Kosta Papich
Akron, Ohio

Charles E. Gribble
Gregory Jusdanis
Dragan Vukovich
E. Garrison Walters
Syeng-Mann Yoo
OSU Department of Slavic & East European Languages and Literatures
Columbus, Ohio

Dimitrije Stefanović
Beograd, Yugoslavia