Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage
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Founded in 1984, the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS), a center of the College of Arts and Sciences, is dedicated to the promotion of medieval Slavic studies. It is associated with the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures, and it provides broad interdisciplinary research and academic opportunities for students, graduate students, faculty, and visiting researchers.

The RCMSS has close ties and shares space with the Hilandar Research Library (HRL). Both developed as an outgrowth of the original Hilandar Research Project (1969-1984). RCMSS is a non-national oriented center that promotes Cyrillic-based research. The Center strives to accomplish its goals through the support of HRL preservation and access activities, research, stipends and travel, occasional acquisitions of HRL materials, publication support, and sponsoring conferences, lectures, workshops, etc.

We gratefully acknowledge the Monks of Hilandar Monastery for making it possible for us to share their heritage.

*Cover Image: SPEC.OSU.HRL.GMS.FRAG.2
Two sides of a single vellum leaf from a Byzantine Greek Gospel lectionary, dated ca. 1300, purchased by the HRL with donations made to the Hilandar Endowment and the Hilandar Friends of the Library funds by Frances Roslovic, the Ostich Family, and Sharon Fullerton Maliska.

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MSSI 2017 announcement
From the Director’s Desk

Dr. Predrag Matejc

The HRL and RCMSS began 2016 at a somewhat less frenetic pace than the highly eventful 2015. There is a certain ebb-and-flow of visitors and events, and the years in which there is no Medieval Slavic Summer Institute allow us to “catch our breath,” as it were.

Our new Vice-Provost and Director of Libraries, Damon E. Jaggers, began his tenure on February 1. Among his first visits and meetings were those with the special collections, including the HRL. He has already begun to suggest a new outlook and vision for the future of the OSU Libraries. We look forward to the accomplishment of that vision.

The primary focus of our activity, support for research, has continued apace. It began with a two-week research visit by Monica White (University of Nottingham, MSSI 2001), who came with her family. We were able to accommodate the interests of Monica’s husband, Tim Hill, a developer at Europeana, with a tour of the OSU Library Tech Center and a lengthy discussion with Emily Shaw, head of Preservation and Reformattting, and Amy McCrory, Digital Imaging Specialist. In March we had a month-long visit by our first visitor from Macedonia, Kristina Nikolovska (currently a “Europe Next to Europe” research fellow at the New Europe College, Institute of Advanced Study in Bucharest, Romania). She researched “paratexts” (i.e., notes, colophons, etc.) from the mid-14th to the mid-18th century found in our collection of manuscripts on microfilm. Kristina also gave a fascinating public lecture in Thompson Library at the end of her stay. The next research visit was that of two researchers from the University of Łódź, Poland. Janek M. Wolski (Center for Mediterranean Studies) and Kirił Marinov (Institute for History), respectively researched several Hilandar manuscripts on microfilm with Rules (types of Typika) and resources on Byzantine history for three days in May. Throughout June, we were delighted to host Anna Kuzovenkova (University of Kazan’, Russia), who traced certain linguistic features in texts related to Sts. Boris and Gleb.

On April 17 we had a historic visit by Chaplain (LTC) James Sizemore, Ohio Army National Guard and the St. Gregory of Nyssa OCA parish in Columbus. Fr. Sizemore had traveled to Serbia beginning in 2010 to promote a dialogue that eventually led to the development of a chaplain corps in the Serbian Armed Forces. After several trips to Serbia, he was able to invite several representatives to visit Ohio in order to provide an American perspective on chaplain services in the US Army and the Air National Guard. The distinguished visitors included: Chaplain (MAJ) Sladan Vlijic, Chief Chaplain Orthodox; Chaplain (MAJ) Mustafa Jusufspahić, Chief Chaplain Muslim; Chaplain (MAJ) Goran Avramov, Chief Chaplain Roman Catholic; LTC Saša Mijić, Deputy Chief of Religion Section (J1); Chaplain (Capt) Tom Whiteman, OHANG Chaplain, 121st Air Wing, Escort, and Chaplain (COL) Andrew Aquino, Joint Force Headquarters State Chaplain. They were shown a number of rare books and other HRL items that reflect the history of the several peoples and cultures found in Serbia and the Balkans over the past 1100 years.

Another special visit was made in early May by Pauline “Pava” Bergert (Alpharetta, GA), her father, Nikola Borota (Westlake, OH), and their relatives Ilija and Dragana Crepulja (Switzerland). Sadly, Pava’s mother, Anne Borota, passed away in April. They took the opportunity to visit us and see the Thompson Library. Pava was an early student assistant to my father, the V. Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic. In fact, she actively assisted the 1982-1984 outreach and development efforts that led to the “Hilandar Endowment,” writing several articles for “News from the Hilandar Room” (an early forerunner to our CMH newsletter), and for American Srbobran. Pava had not visited since her graduation in 1983 other than a brief visit in 1998 for the 20th anniversary of the HRL. It was a joy to share with all of them the many positive changes since the early days of the “Hilandar Room,” including the renovated Thompson Library and our enhanced presence and security here. Pava and Nikola are among our earliest donors, and we appreciate their continued support.

On June 3rd, we held our 2nd Annual Hilandar Public Lecture. Charles J. Halperin of Indiana, author of several books on medieval Russian history, presented a fascinating lecture: “Ivan the Terrible: Inhuman, Superhuman, or Too Human.”

My mother, Ljubica (née Nebrigić) Matejic, passed away on April 17. She loved music, especially hymns and singing in the church choir. Educated, refined, and well-read, her quiet voice and sound judgment will be missed. Her life’s journey took her from a small town in Yugoslavia, to displaced persons’ camps in Italy and West Germany, England, and finally to Monroe, Michigan, and Columbus, Ohio.

She, like so many women over the ages, could not visit the Holy Mount and Hilandar Monastery. Yet, without her support and willingness for sacrifice, the HRL and RCMSS may never have come to exist. I am the oldest of five children. She never learned to drive. Yet she never complained about my father’s trips to Mt. Athos in 1969, 1970, 1971, and 1975, which lasted from several weeks to more than four months. She never complained about all the scholarly trips he made to numerous European and other countries. Instead, she found a way to keep us all together and to help us thrive. She was so very proud of what “we” accomplished. Thank you, mother, and may your memory be eternal....

I will end, however, with the sharing of good news. On May 18, a healthy granddaughter, Elisaveta Todora Matejic, was born to my daughter-in-law, Sarah, and older son, Svetoslav. My grandson, her older brother Dimitur, too, was overjoyed. (See photo on back cover.)
Our Visitors

A Blast from the Past

We were pleased to welcome old friends in early May. Pauline “Pava” Bergert and her father Nikola Borota came with cousins visiting from Europe for a tour of the renovated Thompson Library facilities. They saw the campus views from the 11th floor, and the Jack & Jan Creighton Special Collections Reading Room. We described our mission and current initiatives, and shared with them some of the treasures acquired since Pava’s last visit!

HRL Public Lecture on Ivan the Terrible

We had a wonderful time hosting Charles J. Halperin for the 2nd Annual Hilandar Public Lecture. Several scholars, including historians Jenn Spock (Eastern Kentucky) and Scott Levi (OSU), helped welcome him to Columbus, and his lecture on Ivan the Terrible was very well received. Predrag and Pasha curated an exhibit case in the Thompson Library atrium dedicated to Dr. Halperin and his research. We hope to see our featured speaker back for more lectures in the future!
A Special Chaplains’ Visit to the HRL

Sunday, April 17th, the HRL hosted a special visit from the Chief Chaplains for the Roman Catholic, Muslim, and Orthodox faiths, as well as the Deputy Chief of the Religion Section. They were escorted by (Capt) Thomas Whiteman, (COL) Andrew Aquino, and (LT, Army) James Sizemore.

Predrag and Pasha pulled several Serbian and other manuscripts and texts from the HRL vault to show our interested guests. The visitors spent the next hour listening intently to Predrag explain each of the texts on display and answer all of their questions.

Although their time with us was brief, we were happy to have the chaplains visit and are always excited to share the various pieces of cultural history we hold in our collection!

An Undergraduate Class Visit

In early February, we had a visit from a class in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures. Angela Brintlinger (Professor of Russian Literature) brought her class, Russian 4575: Capstone Course for Russian Majors to the Jack and Jan Creighton Special Collections Reading Room to view a collection of Russian cookbooks, recipes, and materials presented by Predrag Matejic and Miroljub Ružić (Assistant Curator for East European and Slavic Studies). The students were highly engaged and we enjoyed the opportunity to share with them the resources in Special Collections, and hope they return in the future!
I attended the second MSSI after the first year of my PhD studies, and have been employed as an assistant professor of Russian and Slavonic Studies at the University of Nottingham since 2008. Although I have made use of my early Slavic palaeography skills and stayed in touch with Hilandar staff and fellow alumni, I had not been back to Columbus since 2001. Much as I would have liked to visit, I did not have a pressing need: until recently, my research focused mainly on the cult of saints in middle Byzantium and pre-Mongol Rus, and I was able to find published editions of almost all of the primary sources I needed.

For some time, however, I had been planning a new study of relations between Byzantium and Rus over the entire medieval period (c. 860-1453). Intended primarily for Byzantinists and other medievalists, this book will provide an overview of the topic, contextualise debates which are often incomprehensible to non-early Slavists, and illustrate the richness and complexity of the states' interactions. Hoping to secure a full year in 2015-16 in which to start this project, I decided to apply for a research fellowship from the Leverhulme Foundation to follow my institution-funded sabbatical semester. Because I would be working on the early Muscovite period, it now seemed appropriate to consult Hilandar’s extensive holdings. With the support of Pasha and Predrag, I included funding for a two-week visit in early December 2015 in my application.

I submitted the application in early November 2014, just a couple of weeks before the birth of my son Morris and the beginning of a seven-month period of maternity leave. My surprise and delight at receiving a positive response in March 2015 was surpassed only by my sense of horror at the logistics involved in such a trip with the addition of a baby—something I had not fully understood when writing the application!

As it turned out, I need not have worried. My mother Linda kindly volunteered to come with us to Ohio and look after Morris while my husband and I worked. During the planning for our visit, Jessi rose to every challenge, including finding a lovely apartment in downtown Columbus with plenty of space for the four of us, coordinating drop-off and pick-up with the baby equipment rental company, and providing lots of helpful advice about transportation and other logistics. Pasha, meanwhile, sent me information on all the relevant holdings so I could select materials for my visit. Help also came from an unexpected quarter when Professor Anthony Kaldellis of the OSU Classics Department volunteered to meet us at the airport and even let Morris use his daughter’s car seat after the airline lost ours.

While Morris and his grandmother explored the Columbus parks and the Center of Science and Industry (COSI), Tim and I were welcomed at the HRL. My first day started with a quick refresher course on using the microfilm reader, courtesy of Pasha. She, Nina, and Ryan assembled a substantial stack of microfilms for me, as well as many books and journals which are difficult to access in Nottingham. The microfilms, mainly from the Volokolamsk collection, provided just the sort of information I was hoping to find about early Muscovite perceptions of and interactions with Byzantium. Highlights included a list of emperors sorted by whether or not they were heretics, an eyewitness account of a Byzantine coronation, and an account of a visit to Mt Athos by a monk from Nizhnyi Novgorod. There were enough microfilms to keep me busy for two weeks without feeling overwhelmed, and Pasha conjured up some amazingly obscure Soviet publications which I thought I would never find.

Tim, who works for Europeana, an agency dedicated to digitising works of art and cultural heritage in European collections, was also made to feel at home.
“Approaches To The Editing of Slavonic Texts”
Workshop in Regensburg, Germany

By Susana Torres Prieto

Little did the amicable and kind inhabitants of Regensburg know that, while they were preparing the Christmas decorations and market in their beautiful medieval city, an astounding concentration of Slavic palaeographers and codicologists per square metre was being gathered nearby. In fact, it was one of the most exquisite gatherings west of the 15th meridian East in recent times, and the result of the combined efforts of Lara Sels (University of Leuven), Jürgen Fuchsbauer (University of Regensburg), and Vittorio Tomelleri (University of Macerata).

The workshop focused on editing Slavonic texts, from various and sometimes complementing approaches, from the rendering of texts to questions on how to best edit translations, and issues posed by editing in the digital age. The gathering, however, had a secondary, though no less relevant aspiration, which was to celebrate the career of Prof. Francis J. Thomson on the occasion of his 80th birthday, and that was where everything started.

After the welcoming remarks on behalf of the organisers delivered by Lara Sels, Francis Thomson opened the workshop with a paper on editing translations. Roland Marti had provided the enigmatic title of ‘Fact and Fiction: On historiography, hagiographic topoi, myths and enigmatic readings in a hitherto unknown vita,’ which was a surprise to all participants and no less to the person whose vita was being explained—Francis Thomson himself.

The second part of the morning was dedicated to problems of textual transmission, with papers delivered by William Veder, J. Fuchsbauer, and myself. While Veder discussed the possible interference of Glagolitic apographs in Cyrillic copies, Fuchsbauer presented the difficulty posed by some trends in digital editions that ignore certain features typical of the manuscript, rather than printed, transmission, such as ellipse and anacolutha, thus making the philological criteria indispensable when creating searchable as well as integrated digital editions. I commented on the difficulties faced when editing a text, such as the apocryphal Gospel of Nicodemus, where so many witnesses survive and when the difference lies not in the wording of the text itself but rather on the presentation of different textual units—what I call the ‘building-blocks’ theory.

The afternoon’s last session was devoted to key issues in editing translated works from Greek, namely, to which extent it is necessary, or even advisable, to take into account the problems of the Greek text itself. Sels, in presenting collaborative work done with Byzantinists on an edition of Quaestiones ad Antiochum ducem, proved how beneficial it could be to become aware of the history of the text in Greek in order to, as she put it, ‘disentangle the knots of a conflated tradition.’ Lora Taseva provided a very persuasive argument showing the necessity of taking into account a Greek critical apparatus in Slavonic translations, particularly if any conclusive understanding is to be reached of whichever branch of the Byzantine tradition was followed. Margaret Dimitrova further explained the specificities to be adopted in editing a text of which only one Slavonic witness survives, and how helpful the readings of various Greek manuscripts can be in clarifying unclear or ambiguous passages.

(Workshop, Continued on pg. 8)
The second day was more specifically devoted to the various challenges posed by the process of creating digital editions. The second panel of the day, which focused on digital editions of various corpora, commenced with Victor Baranov’s presentation on the specific features that an edition of a historical corpus should contemplate in order to make it adequately searchable and useful for further analysis. Ruprecht von Waldenfels put forward the difficult question of what to do with outdated digital editions, and how best to re-use data made first for electronic editions in order to create new enhanced corpora, showing how different elements “can be used to derive an annotated electronic corpus from a traditional edition.” His presentation was followed by one of the most ambitious proposals of the workshop, made by students and docents of the School of Linguistics of the Higher School of Economics in Moscow, represented by Roman Krivko, Anna Novosyolova and Anna Večkaeva: a database of the Dictionary of Russian Language of the 11th-17th centuries in 29 volumes. The best asset of the project is making this vast corpus searchable for complex queries, such as for certain lemmata, etymology, sources, etc. Aleksandr Moldovan closed this panel by presenting a corpus of the Russian language, which integrates not only manuscripts and printed materials from different times and stages of linguistic evolution, but also the birchbark documents which have so much relevant information for understanding the uses and functions of Russian. The last panel of the workshop, devoted to the edition in the digital age, was inaugurated by David Birnbaum’s presentation, in which, conscious of the complex nature of the manuscript as a multi-layered reality, he discussed the conundrums faced by editors in deciding not only which information to include and how, but also the advantages of an optimal vs. a suboptimal edition. Andrei Bojadžiev presented the specific features attached to producing an electronic edition of South Slavic medieval parchment fragments, such as providing palaeographic information or links to digital copies of manuscripts, since, once again, the relevance of certain aspects in editing a collection of parchment fragments can greatly vary from the edition of whole texts.

The panel was closed by Barbara Sonnenhauser and her daring proposal of creating a diachronic edition of a text (“The Life of Petka of Tŭrnovo”), from 14th-century Bulgarian Church Slavonic to 19th-century Balkan Slavic, a project whose name, A-MESS (“All-embracing manuscript edition, South Slavonic”) proved, once again, that Slavic linguists are capable of having a wonderful sense of humour. Jokes aside, the intention of reflecting the dynamics of language and its synchronic stages by combining corpora and editions was remarkably original.

Sadly, the workshop came to an end. For forty-eight hours, specialists from different generations, nationalities, backgrounds were allowed to discuss their projects, their approaches, their queries, and be informed of what colleagues elsewhere are doing, or trying to do, in a friendly and open environment, pampered by endless rounds of coffee and cookies provided by the kind students of Regensburg University (thanks!). It is only desirable that the organizers will have the stamina to repeat such agora in the future.

For both of us, a real highlight of the trip was the chance to meet OSU colleagues with similar interests. Pasha introduced me to medievalist Alison Beach of the History Department, and I gave an impromptu talk for some of her students. I also welcomed the chance to catch up with fellow early Slavists Inés García de la Puente and Chris Raffensperger, who came to visit from Wittenberg University. Tim was very impressed by the various projects of the library staff, especially scanning manuscripts. He particularly enjoyed comparing notes with Eric J. Johnson [Rare Books & Manuscripts Library] and Darnelle Melvin [Metadata Transformation] about their work.

Our entire family is extremely grateful to the HRL staff for all the support which made our visit possible. It was an extremely productive visit, but also lots of fun, and we could not have asked for a warmer welcome. Having renewed our ties to OSU, we look forward to another visit in the near future, and Morris is booked in for MSSI 2037.
In Memoriam:
Professor Charles Edward Gribble

In CMH 27 (June 2010), we published an article highlighting the distinguished career of our dear friend and renowned scholar Charles E. Gribble. It is with a profound sense of loss that we now must announce his passing. His close friend and colleague Daniel E. Collins wrote a touching obituary which we republish in part here.

Charles Edward Gribble, Professor Emeritus of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, passed away on June 3, 2016 after a long illness. Charles “Chuck” had a distinguished career of teaching, research, and service in the field, which spanned nearly 60 years, 35 of which he spent at The Ohio State University. He is survived by his wife, Lyubomira Parpulova Gribble, and his daughter, Elizabeth Rayna Gribble.

Charles grew up in Lansing, Michigan, where his father was an executive with the General Motors Corporation. He entered University of Michigan with the intention of specializing in Physics, but soon he became captivated by the sound, structure, and history of foreign languages—a passion that would endure to the end of his life. Under the guidance of the distinguished Slavist and Byzantinist Ihor Ševčenko, he received his B.A. with High Distinction in Slavic Languages in 1957.

In 1958, Charles entered the graduate program in Slavic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University, where he studied under the eminent Slavic linguist and Structuralist Roman Jakobson. He developed significant expertise not only in Russian but also in Old Church Slavonic, Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian, Czech, Polish, and Lithuanian. He wrote his doctoral dissertation under the supervision of Horace G. Lunt on an early twelfth-century East Slav manuscript, “Linguistic Problems of the Vygoleksinskij Sbornik” (defended in 1967).

While still a doctoral candidate, Charles worked as Assistant Professor of Russian at Brandeis University (1962–1968). Subsequently, he served as Assistant and, later, Associate professor at Indiana University (1968–1975). During that time, he served as the resident director of several study-abroad programs both in the U.S.S.R. and in Yugoslavia.

In 1975, Charles began his 35-year service to The Ohio State University Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, where he was promoted to the rank of full professor in 1989. A versatile instructor, he taught the Structure and History of Russian, Old Church Slavonic, South Slavic Linguistics, South Slavic Cultures, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian, Czech, and other subjects. He directed eight doctoral dissertations and nine M.A. theses and served on innumerable graduate committees. In addition, Charles served as Chair of the department from 1990 to 1996, and later as Graduate Studies Chair from 2001 to 2008. He was also a longtime member of the Advisory Council of the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies.

In recognition of his dedicated teaching, scholarship, and service, the University honored him with the Harlan Hatcher Arts and Sciences Distinguished Faculty Award in 2007.

In recognition of his impact in scholarship, Charles was presented with a festschrift on the occasion of his seventieth birthday—Studia Caroliensia: Papers in Linguistics and Folklore in Honor of Charles E. Gribble (edited by Robert A. Rothstein, Ernest Scatton, and Charles E. Townsend, 2006).

Charles also left a profound and enduring mark on the field of Slavic Studies through his leadership of Slavica Publishers, which he founded in 1966. During his thirty-year editorship (1966–1997), Slavica grew to become the largest venue for Slavistic publications in the Western Hemisphere. As the publisher, Charles personally edited some 250 books and over 60 issues of scholarly journals. His excellence as an editor was one of the major reasons why the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, the major professional organization in our field, presented him with a Special Commendation in 1986 and its Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Profession in 1992.

In the course of his long career, Charles touched innumerable lives with his kindness, compassion, generosity, and humor. He loved teaching and was a selfless mentor and advisor to his students, who never found him too busy to help, and who never left his office without a kind word and a handful of chocolate. When his physical sufferings forced him to retire, above all else he missed his interactions with students. He was an inestimable blessing to our program and to our field, and he will be sorely missed. May His Memory Be Eternal.
We are now accepting applications!

The Hilandar Research Library (HRL), the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS), and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures (SEELC) at The Ohio State University hosts a four-week intensive Summer Institute for qualified graduate students in Columbus, Ohio, every other year. The Medieval Slavic Summer Institute (MSSI) offers lectures in two areas: **Practical Slavic Paleography** and **Readings in Church Slavonic**.

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 of 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 on eligibility, credit, housing, financial aid, please contact RCMSS Program Coordinator Jessi Jones at jones.3939@osu.edu

Please visit our website to apply: rcmss.osu.edu/mssi
The Hilandar Research Library (HRL) is one of the few must-see libraries for those scholars, including myself, who are involved in the study of the Church Slavonic manuscript traditions. Before visiting Columbus, I thought that the HRL would be a great resource for me because it contains the largest collection of medieval and early modern Slavic manuscripts on microform in the world. Given that the early Slavic manuscripts are scattered in many libraries and archives all over the globe, it is impressive that in just one place we are able to find large collections held by other cultural institutions. Moreover, as a female scholar I was particularly excited by the opportunity to visit the HRL: women have been forbidden to enter the Mount Athos monasteries for the past thousand years. I knew that at the HRL I would have the unique opportunity to access over 1200 manuscripts on microform from several monasteries on Mount Athos including the entire Slavic collection of Hilandar Monastery! It is fascinating that during my one-month research visit, I managed to discover even more exciting stories and ideas for future projects than what I had hoped for.

I received a very warm welcome by all members of the staff who went out of their way to make my stay in Columbus as productive and enjoyable as possible. On the first day of my visit Predrag Matejic, curator of the HRL, hosted a very inspiring behind-the-scenes tour of the Thompson Library. I was particularly moved by his story about the beginnings of the Hilandar Research Project—one of the most interesting library achievements—as it is a perfect example of collective enthusiasm for preserving Slavic manuscripts and making them available to scholars. In finding relevant secondary literature and also in academic social networking, I received invaluable help and advice from M.A. “Pasha” Johnson, curator of Slavic Early Printed Books & Manuscripts. This scholarly visit afforded me an opportunity to study a corpus of Church Slavonic marginal inscriptions written during the medieval and early modern period. I was particularly interested in the attitudes of the monks towards their Islamic rulers—the Ottoman sultans. I discovered a very exciting body of marginalia and colophons and am currently working on a paper largely based on my recent research findings.

Towards the end of my research stay at Ohio State, I was invited to give a public lecture. I presented my findings in a talk titled “Attitudes towards Ottoman Power in Church Slavonic Manuscript Marginalia (1350-1750).” The first part of the lecture provided an introduction to the South Slavic traditions of writing inscriptions in the margins of manuscripts and an overview of the inscriptions dealing with events from the Ottoman period. In the second part, the political relationships between the Ottoman state and the Orthodox Churches of Southeastern Europe were scrutinized, and I argued that these relationships played a crucial role to the ways in which the South Slavic writers represented Ottoman power in their paratextual literature. The insight I received from the discussion after the lecture has helped me write a paper of a better quality.

To cut a long story short, my scholarly visit of the HRL has been, without a doubt, one of the most personally and professionally rewarding experiences of my career. It has enriched my thinking about the Church Slavonic manuscript traditions and it will greatly shape my scholarship in the future. Additionally, it allowed me to establish ties with other scholars and I am very grateful for it. I hope I will be able to get another opportunity to visit this magical place!
Congratulations to Michael Furman (MSSI 2011) who recently received an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship at Wooster College in Ohio. The grant comes from the “Language Enrichment and Postdoctoral Fellowship Program,” which supports language pedagogy collaborations between liberal arts colleges and research universities.

We are pleased to report that Alice Sullivan (MSSI 2015) is the recipient of several grants and recognition in the past year: the Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art & Culture Dissertation Grant, the Robert & Janet Lumiansky Dissertation Grant from the Medieval Academy of America. She has been named the Diane Owen Hughes Scholar in recognition of academic performance and merit of dissertation by the Medieval and Early Modern Studies Program, University of Michigan.

Congratulations are in order for Federica Candido (MSSI 2015)! On April 22, 2016 she successfully defended her dissertation: “Sulle tracce della presenza femminile nelle comunità cristiane di Asia Minore prima della nascita del monachesimo (II-IV secolo). Genesi e fortuna del Symposium metodiano” at the Università della Calabria (Italy), jointly supervised by the Université de Genève (Switzerland). Federica has also been awarded a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Roma Tre.

For more information about the Medieval Slavic Summer Institute, or to apply to MSSI 2017, please visit: rcmss.osu.edu/mssi.

*If you are an MSSI Alum and would like to update us on your recent accomplishments, please email us at jones.3939@osu.edu or hilandar@osu.edu
The Hilandar Research Library at Ohio State’s Thompson Library is a very well-known place among medievalists. Besides the Hilandar Monastery collection, there are also microfilms of manuscripts from other Athonite monasteries, and also from some of the most important European libraries: the Vatican, the “Sts. Cyril and Methodius” National Library in Sofia, Bulgaria, Uppsala University’s library (Sweden), etc. The unique opportunity to work with such a large number of manuscripts from various collections on microfilm, of course, draws the attention of many medieval Slavists, so I was very glad to hear from Predrag Matejić and M. A. “Pasha” Johnson that my request to visit and do research in the Hilandar Research Library (HRL) would become a reality, largely with the support of the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies (RCMSS).

The goal of my research trip was to work with Serbian euchologia (manuscripts relating to various services in the Orthodox Church) and study their composition in various historical periods. I examined around 120 euchologia at the HRL, of which 18 were Greek manuscripts from Hilandar Monastery—also available on microfilm. The opportunity to look at such a large number of sources allowed me to describe the basic types of the euchologion in the Serbian tradition and to compare them to those in the Russian tradition. As a result of this research, two basic types of Serbian euchologia emerged: the first (and oldest) group is connected with the reforms of St. Sava the Serbian; the second is connected with liturgical work during the time of Stefan Dušan. The second group contains new translations of all the services of the euchologion, translated from Greek originals, very close to the euchologion Athens № 662 from the beginning of the 14th century, famous in liturgical studies as one of the later copies of the Euchologion of the Great Church (a term of Miguel Arranz). This type prevails in codices of the fifteenth through the seventeenth centuries, although old translations also exist in other manuscripts and do not entirely disappear or become replaced. South Slavic translations were actively copied in Rus’, and many services in Russian sluzhebniks (service books) and trebniks (books of rites) are practically identical to services from Serbian manuscripts.

An atmosphere of love for libraries, manuscripts, and academic pursuits reigns in the Hilandar Research Library, and therefore, the work conditions here are most convenient for the researcher. The catalog of manuscripts contained all the necessary information about every manuscript of interest to me and was available both in electronic and paper form. Microfilms were brought quickly and in sufficient quantity to promote efficient research. The researcher has at their disposal access to the internet, the richest library of scholarly literature, and the opportunity for copies of materials (within copyright limitations). A month’s stay in conditions so comfortable for the scholar gives the possibility to exhaust a series of research subjects, to prepare materials for articles, and also to enjoy discussions with colleagues at the HRL. I want to express my enormous gratitude to Predrag, Pasha, Nina Havriyinkova, Danko Adamović, and Jessi Jones for their help and support during my trip, and for their warm and friendly attitudes.
HRL Journal: My First Trip to the U.S.

By Marta Peña Escudero

When I told my family and friends that I had received a research fellowship to go to the United States they were surprised. How could I go there, and not Russia, if my dissertation was about Russian medieval literature? My trip there made more sense once I explained about the large collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microform that is in the Hilandar Research Library (HRL), in Columbus, Ohio. The aim of my eleven-week stay (May 2-July 17, 2015) at the HRL was two-fold: to collect information for my doctoral dissertation and to participate in the 8th Biennial Medieval Slavic Summer Institute (MSSI), a unique program of instruction in Slavic Paleography and Church Slavonic.

The research I carry out at the University of Granada (Spain) is focused on the “Mirrors for Princes,” a genre regarding how rulers should conduct themselves inherited from Byzantium whose origins in Russian literature are found at the very beginning of East Slavic literature. I was looking for manuscripts that contained this kind of text and I was especially interested in the Izbornik of 1076 and its prototypes: the Izbornik of John the Sinner and Kniazhiy Izbornik. Since it became difficult to go further in the study of these texts at my university, the resources and new materials I found in the HRL were essential to continue my research. Besides the abovementioned works, I found other sources to include in my dissertation.

I conducted my research with the invaluable help of Predrag and Pasha who helped me find the resources I needed in order to set up a definitive corpus and complete a bibliography for a critical review of those texts. Jessi, Nina, and HRL student worker Danka Adamović made my work easier there. My dissertation has undergone significant progress since then, so my fellowship at the HRL was critical to the success of my work. I’m very grateful to Ohio State and the University of Granada for making my research visit possible.

The second aim of the stay, the Medieval Slavic Summer Institute, was a very fulfilling experience: we learned a lot, we worked hard, and we had lots of fun. Thanks to all the teachers and scholars, especially to Predrag and Daniel E. Collins, I received the tools I need for my own future research in the field of Slavic Paleography. Thanks to all my colleagues, particularly to Alice Sullivan and Federica Candido, who ensured that I took full advantage of the experience and made the most of it. It was a long awaited opportunity and a very significant one for me because my advisor in Spain, Matilde Casas Olea, who encouraged me to participate, was one of the participants in the first MSSI 1999.

(First, continued on pg. 14)
Manuscript Marginalia Lecture by Dr. Nikolovska

Kristina Nikolovska was delighted by the opportunity to give her first lecture at an American university. Her lecture on March 22, 2016, entitled “Attitudes Towards Ottoman Power in Church Slavic Manuscript Marginalia (1350-1750),” was well attended and sparked a lively post-lecture discussion about the political relations between the Ottoman state and the Orthodox Churches. Afterwards she commented on how engaged the audience was, and how pleased she was with the questions and conversation. The pleasure was all ours!

A Step into Sociology: Slovene Scholars’ Lecture

On April 27th, the RCMSS/HRL co-hosted a lecture with the Center for Slavic and East European Studies (CSEES) in Thompson Library. Two Slovene scholars, Simona Zavtranik and Sanja Cukut Krilić, visited The Ohio State University, as part of the CSEES Slovene Research Initiative. Simona, assistant professor of sociology and a researcher at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Research Centre for Spatial Sociology in Ljubljana, Slovenia, focuses her research on social minorities and marginalized groups, migration and asylum, human rights, modern slavery, and human trafficking. Sanja is currently a Research Fellow at the Sociomedical Institute and the Research Centre of the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts, where she conducts her work in gender and migration (particularly female migration), migration in the socialist period, transnational families and care work and new reproductive technologies. Their lecture, entitled “Contextualising Female Migration and Human Trafficking: The Case of Slovenia,” presented the paradigm of human rights as the basis for formulating policies against global trafficking in human beings. They used the basis of selected case-studies of female immigrants in Slovenia coming from non-EU countries (especially Bosnia and Herzegovina and countries of the former Soviet Union), to point out the essential representations in public discourses, to highlight major gaps in statistical data, and also to point out the main challenges which the transnational movement of the population poses at the level of ‘fortress Europe’ (the physical and electronic borders European nations have erected to limit immigrant access).

The Slovene Research Initiative (SRI) was founded in the fall of 2013 through an endowment from the Research Centre of the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU), as well as through contributions from the Society for Slovene Studies (SSS). The SRI promotes research on Slovenia, Central Europe, and Southeastern Europe. Ohio State’s CSEES administers the SRI, and the Research Centre (ZRC SAZU) and SSS are partner organizations. Each year, the SRI funds a faculty exchange program between Ohio State and the ZRC SAZU, as well as working with SSS and the ZRC SAZU to organize an annual lecture and other events.
(First, continued from pg. 12)

I had just arrived in Columbus when I was invited to accompany the HRL and RCMSS team to the 50th Annual International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan. I had the opportunity to attend the largest congress in that field and to learn about the diverse and current topics that were discussed by American and International scholars over the course of four days.

On my way back to Ohio from Kalamazoo with Pasha and Dr. Eric J. Johnson, the curator of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, among all the interesting things they said about the American lifestyle, history, music and Slavic and European manuscripts, one thing they said caught my attention over all the rest: that there would be a Rolling Stones concert in Ohio Stadium in a few weeks (see photo pg. 12).

It was an experience to remember, my first trip to the United States: my house porch and housemates, my walks to the Library every morning, “Pagliacci” at the Columbus Opera, old movies in The Southern Theatre, burgers in Ann Arbor and Kalamazoo, concerts in the open air at the Park of Roses, incredible big bands in the most unexpected places, road trips, Serbian food in Chicago, The Loop, marshmallows in the yard, gold Fourth of July fireworks, the Oval, fireflies, friends, the unexpected rain...all these memories are kept in my mind and they’ll continue with me beyond my dissertation.

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**In Memoriam**

**Protinica Ljubica Matejic**

She is missed by her husband of 67 years, five children, twelve grandchildren, six great grandchildren, a sister, and a nephew. She is mourned by many, many “kumovi” – those with whom we are connected and related through the Serbian Orthodox Church and its rites of baptism and marriage. Her absence in the choir and parish in Columbus is already noticeable.

As a representative of an ever-diminishing generation of witnesses to the conflicts of World War II in Yugoslavia and the Serbian emigration, she is missed by those who shared her fate as displaced persons, becoming friends often closer than relatives. But she is and will be always remembered.

*May Her Memory Be Eternal.*
Thank You for Your Generosity!

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

*If we have inadvertently omitted your name for any donation made during the first 6 months of this year, we apologize and ask you to remind us at hilandar@osu.edu – thank you.

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Congratulations to Predrag and family for welcoming a new grandchild to the Matejic family! Elisaveta Todora Matejic was born May 18, 2016, seen here with her big brother “Dimi” (age 3).