



Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage

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The Ohio State
University

THE HILANDAR RESEARCH LIBRARY
THE RESOURCE CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL SLAVIC STUDIES

Columbus
Ohio

Budget Reduction Delays Start of Renovation Plans

The Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies received word recently that the renovation of the William Oxley Thompson Memorial "Main" Library will be delayed by one year. The Ohio State University President Karen A. Holbrook was given a set of recommendations to delay the start of construction due to budget reductions by the State of Ohio for capital projects at the Columbus campus. The university had a very difficult decision to make in determining where available dollars should be spent and it ultimately decided to complete several ongoing construction projects with the budget available, while delaying the start of new construction projects.

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*Serbian National Library
Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro*

Microfilm Exchange with Serbian National Library Planned

A proposed exchange of manuscripts-on-microfilm between the Serbian National Library (SNL) in Belgrade and the Hilandar Research Library should lead to hundreds of manuscripts on microfilm from the valuable holdings of the SNL becoming accessible on microfilm here at the HRL in Columbus, Ohio. We look forward to receiving soon the first products of this exchange and thereby enhancing HRL's overall holdings, as well as substantially increasing the number of specifically South Slavic manuscripts on microfilm available for research. The SNL microfilms will join similar material at Ohio State from more than 100 collections now preserved and available to present and future scholars.

This proposed exchange is the result of initial tentative discussions begun in Belgrade last September. The October visit to the HRL by Vesna Injac-Malabaša, SNL

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Thompson Library Renovation Receives Gift for HRL from Cleveland Businessman

by Shannon Weiher

In October 2004, The Ohio State University Libraries launched the largest fundraising campaign of an academic building in the history of the University with plans to extensively renovate and restore the William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library. Cleveland businessman, Alex Machaskee, has been an early and strong supporter of these efforts. Mr. Machaskee and his wife, Carol, have made a generous commitment to the Library Campaign in support of the Hilandar Research Library special collections' area in the renovated Thompson Library.

Mr. Machaskee is Publisher, President and Chief Executive Officer of *The Plain Dealer*, Ohio's largest newspaper. Mr. Machaskee joined *The Plain Dealer* in 1960. Before being named Publisher in 1990, he had served five years as Vice President and General Manager. Born in Warren, Ohio, Mr. Machaskee worked as a sports reporter and general assignment reporter for *The Warren Tribune* before joining *The Plain Dealer*. He is a graduate of Cleveland State University with a bachelor's degree in marketing. Mr. Machaskee was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters by Cleveland State University in 1995 and from the University of Akron in 1998.

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Director's Desk

Dr. Predrag Matejic



The past few months of 2004-2005 have been especially busy for both the HRL and RCMSS. Our goal of providing as many research opportunities as possible while planning the temporary HRL move was successfully met.

At the conclusion of Nina Vutova's (Bulgarian National Library) highly productive and successful Fulbright scholarship stay, in late February, we welcomed Sergejus Temčinas (Vilnius University), who devoted his research visit to manuscripts with hymnographic texts, making several interesting and important discoveries. His stay was immediately followed by that of Tsvetelin Stepanov (Sofia University), a historian studying apocalyptic literature in medieval Bulgarian and Byzantine cultures, as well as historical and related sources. In addition, Andrew Dombrowski and Quinn Anna Carey, Univ. of Chicago graduate students, researched potential thesis topics while at OSU to attend the Southeast European Studies Association Biennial Conference at the end of April. John Hill (MSSI 2003) and Mila Shevchenko, University of Michigan graduate students, also took the opportunity to visit us while attending the Mid-West Slavic Conference in March.

Among other visitors of note were: Father Thomas J. Drobena (an early researcher of our materials), Grace E. Fielder (University of Arizona), and Elena Paducheva (Moscow State University), as well as a number of other students and visitors from throughout the country.

While the unexpected one-year delay is unfortunate, it will allow us to better prepare for the actual move, as well as to continue to provide access to the HRL this coming summer. We already anticipate visits by scholars from Spain, Michigan, Texas, etc., in the next three months.

Regrettably, it was impossible to schedule the Medieval Slavic Summer Institute for 2005. It is still not entirely clear when we will be able to offer the next MSSI, as

final plans for the eventual move are still uncertain. In order to provide our graduate students at Ohio State with an opportunity to benefit from the instruction offered typically at the MSSI, Prof. Dan Collins and I volunteered to teach Slavic 812 (combining "Practical Slavic Palaeography" and "Readings in Church Slavonic") this past quarter. As an indicator of both the interest and strength of teaching in palaeography at Ohio State, that same quarter Frank T. Coulson (Greek and Latin) offered Latin palaeography, while John N. King (English) and James K. Bracken (Libraries) taught the history of the early English book.

RCMSS was also pleased to (co-) sponsor three recent lectures at Ohio State: "A Stroll in the Byzantine Landscape: Approaches to Space and Society in the Byzantine Empire," Timothy Gregory (History, OSU); "Kievan Rus' as a Semiotic Model of the Christian World," Sergejus Temčinas (Slavic Philology, Vilnius University); and "St. John Chrysostom's *Homilia in Kalendas* (CPG 4328) – Some Aspects of Its Textual Tradition," Pierre Augustin (Institut de recherche et d'histoire des textes, Paris).

Recently, I spent a few days in Bulgaria to briefly attend a conference at the University of Sofia in honor of the 25th anniversary of the Department of Cyrillo-Methodian Studies, as well as to visit the University of Veliko Turnovo "SS. Cyril and Methodius," which conferred on me their honorary doctorate for my "significant contribution to the study and popularization of the medieval Bulgarian literary heritage."

The Sofia trip and conference was a delightful opportunity to spend a little time with several of our past researchers at the HRL, as well as colleagues from the Hilandar 5th International and other conferences, including: Diana Atanassova, Ivan Biliarski, Dimo Cheshmedzhiev, Margaret Dimitrova, Nadezhda Dragova, Ivan Ilchev, Mariia Iovcheva, Klimentina Ivanova, Maia Ivanova, Iskra Khristova, Elena Kotseva, Svetlana Kuiu-mdzhieva (and her husband, the music director Aleksandŭr Kuiu-mdzhiev), Angelina Mincheva, Kostas Nihoritis, Svetlina Nikolova, Dimitŭr Peev, Donka Petkanova, Petko

Petkov, Kazimir Popkonstantinov, Ralitsa Ruseva, Krasimir Stanchev, Lora Taseva, Iva Trifonova, Boriana Velcheva, and Nina Vutova.

The awarding of the *Doctor Honoris Causa* was an unexpected and special honor. On May 10th, in a formal ceremony with much pomp and circumstance, Prof. Dr. Ivan Kharalampiev, Rector of Veliko Turnovo University, conferred the honorary degree before a standing-room only gathering in the official assembly auditorium of the university. I am grateful, and humbled, by this honor. My links to Turnovo go back to 1975 and the discovery of the unknown Bulgarian (and Turnovo) 14th-century hymnographer, Efrem, and all six of his works. I was delighted to renew my ties to that city, its university, and people. In my acceptance letter sent to Prof. Dr. Kharalampiev, I stated that I look upon this not as a personal honor, but an acknowledgement of the achievements of the HRL, RCMSS, and its staffs over the past few decades.

Finally, I am delighted to announce that the 2005 Dean's Award for Outstanding Staff (Civil Service) in the College of Humanities went to Helene Senecal. It is a well-deserved tribute and recognition of her dedication and hard work on behalf of RCMSS, the College of Humanities, and The Ohio State University.

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RCMSS/OSU ADVISORY COUNCIL PROFILE

By Helene Senecal

Barbara A. Hanawalt, a specialist in the medieval history of Europe, has been Director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies since 2003. Shortly after her appointment, Dr. Hanawalt was invited to become a member of the RCMSS/OSU Advisory Council. A formal relationship between the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies and the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies was created in 1984 when CMRS became budget home for part of the College of Human-



Barbara A. Hanawalt takes time to discuss her career in the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

ties' contribution to RCMSS. The two centers have enjoyed a cordial and close relationship and have continued to provide a positive, meaningful, and even unique contribution to scholarship at Ohio State and beyond. Among other things, over the years the Centers have cooperated on programming, grant applications, and development. The directors of the centers have regularly served on each other's advisory boards.

In addition to her duties as CMRS director, Dr. Hanawalt is the "King George III Professor of British History" at The Ohio State University. She received her Ph.D. at the University of Michigan in 1970. Her books include *Crime and Community in Medieval England, 1300-1348* (1979), *The Ties That Bound: Peasant Families in Medieval England* (1986), *Growing Up in Medieval London: The Experience of Childhood in History* (1993); *Of Good and Ill Repute: Gender and Social Control in Medieval England* (1999). In addition, she has edited six collections of essays on medieval studies.

Her numerous articles are on such topics as crime and social control, women, and childhood. She writes books about the Middle Ages for grade school and high school, and is currently working on a book on London women in the late Middle Ages. Dr. Hanawalt taught for thirteen years at Indiana University and then for another 12 years at the University of Minnesota before coming to Ohio State in 1999.

She has been the recipient of a number of fellowships and honors including Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, Fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg in Berlin, and Fellow of the National Humanities Center. She has held National Endowment for the Humanities fellowships and a Guggenheim. She is currently the President-elect of the Medieval Academy of America.

Professor Hanawalt describes her academic life as being "a very full one." In the course of teaching, she believes she has inspired several undergraduate students to continue on to graduate school and has kept in touch with some of those who took other paths. She explains "I have produced a number of Ph.D. students, all of whom worked on topics that are significant and that taught me a great deal. I have also developed programs at all three universities." At Indiana, Dr. Hanawalt helped develop a graduate program in Criminal Justice. At Minnesota, she directed the Center for Medieval Studies. Five collections of essays, all still in print, came out of conferences organized by Dr. Hanawalt.

At Ohio State, as Director of CMRS, working with her medieval studies' colleagues has been enormously satisfying. However, she is also quick to point out that for her personally, the most satisfying part of academic life has been her research and publications. She sees herself primarily as an archival researcher who has tried to uncover the lives and experiences of people about whom little or nothing is usually written. She concludes "bringing together archival materials to make a historical narrative is very satisfying and rewarding."

RCMSS continues to benefit greatly from the cooperative arrangement instituted in 1984 and through the sharing of ideas and goals of benefit to both centers. Over the past few years, interest in medieval and renaissance studies has grown significantly at The Ohio State University, now one of the leading such universities in the nation. We all look forward to even greater growth and success in the future.

Editor's Note: Just prior to publication of CMH - Vol. 17, Barbara Hanawalt announced that she has been selected as a University Distinguished Lecturer at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study for academic year 2005-2006. This opportunity allows her to finish some ongoing projects, and begin a third book on London, *Getting Even in Medieval London: Informal Conflict Resolution*. The materials for this study come from court cases and the Letter Books of the Mayors of London, which recorded ordinances and executive decisions about keeping the peace. Barbara will step down as Director of CMRS, and the Center Directorship will pass to Richard Firth Green, of the English Department. We would like to thank Barbara for her support of RCMSS and wish her great and continuing success.

HRL Journal

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

Incredible Insights Into Medieval Slavic *Leitourgica*

Melita Mudri-Zubacz

I come from a northern part of the former Yugoslavia. I began my academic journey there with classical music and theory until the age of sixteen when I moved to Canada. However, having come from a family that was deeply immersed in liturgical life (one grandfather being a priest, and the other a cantor), I developed a love for liturgy at a very early age. After all, the liturgy and religion organically complemented my interests in music. Unfortunately, I found no opportunity to pursue any religious studies in Yugoslavia.

Once I completed my secondary education in Saskatoon, I realized that I finally had the opportunity to study liturgics in Ottawa, at the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute, St. Paul University. My background in music was by no means neglected. As a matter of fact, my studies in Ottawa were very enlivening since I was able to incorporate and integrate my knowledge and experience of music with the discipline of Eastern Christian liturgical theology and history. For a more “hands on” perspective, soon after my arrival in Ottawa, I began teaching practical liturgical music, theory, and history at the Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Seminary to students being trained for the priesthood. All of this eventually culminated in my M.A. thesis, entitled “Congregational Singing in Rus’ Liturgical Traditions: An Evaluation of Its History,” which I plan to complete this summer.

Since my Masters thesis focuses on the evaluation of the history of congregational singing of the Eastern Slavs, it was crucial for me to study original documents that would shed some light on the active participation of the people in public worship. Specifically, I had hoped that by looking into various *Leitourgica* that I could get a better idea of who sang what parts of the Divine Liturgies. This inquiry became quite fascinating to me partly due to the prominent role that the choral tradition plays in various Rus’ liturgical traditions, which essentially replaces the audible prayer of the congregation, and because, to date, there has been very little research of the people’s active participation in liturgical services through the singing of various responses.

Hence, in April of 2005 I had the wonderful opportunity to visit the Hilandar Research Library and consult their impressive collection of ancient Slavic liturgical manuscripts on microfilm. I was told about the Hilandar Research Library by Rev. Prof. Peter Galadza, my thesis director, who had suggested that I conduct research primarily on Eastern Slavic *Leitourgica*, but then widen my research and thus create a greater supporting body of data with the inclusion of South Slavic *Leitourgica*.

Needless to say, I was bit intimidated by the prospect of leaving my two-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Sofia, and my husband, Fr. Gregory, a Ukrainian Catholic priest, while I was at the same time 6 months pregnant, in order to spend one week in Columbus intensely studying over sixty manuscripts on microfilm ranging from the 13th to the 19th centuries. However, Dr. Predrag Matejic and his staff were so helpful and supportive that I was able to delve deeply into these texts and retrieve jewels of historical remnants in the treasure trove of the Hilandar Research Library. It was as if I had journeyed back in time to the liturgical epochs during which these manuscripts were written. I could almost hear the heavenly chants of the Divine Liturgies sung by the *people*, the *singers*, and even the *choir* as the manuscripts have revealed. I was truly ecstatic to find a multitude of



Melita Mudri-Zubacz in the HRL

references to various liturgical “ministries” charged with the responsibility of liturgical singing. The data that I have been able to collect from these ancient East and South Slavic manuscripts on microfilm helped advance my graduate work and proved invaluable for my thesis.

Much thanks to Dr. Matejic and his staff at Hilandar Research Library for their professional, moral, and personal support in this project. I truly encourage everyone interested in the opulence of Slavic liturgical traditions to visit the Hilandar Research Library and experience firsthand the wonders of the writings left behind by the pious and diligent Athonite monks. They will find themselves, much like I did, at the gateway to the mysteries of the past inscribed in these ancient manuscripts. Finally, I look forward to coming back to the Hilandar Research Library in the near future as I continue my academic career.

Editor’s Note: *In part, this research visit by Ms. Mudri-Zubacz was the result of a brief journey to Ottawa, Canada, in May of 1998 where Predrag Matejic presented a lecture on the resources of the Hilandar Research Library at the Sheptytsky Institute. The speech provided an opportunity to share knowledge of HRL’s resources with those interested in the study of Eastern Christianity. Rev. Peter Galadza, a professor, scholar, and priest of the Eastern Catholic Church, served as host.*

Honorary Doctorate Bestowed in Veliko Turnovo

By Khristo Nestorov

On May 9 and 10, I had a chance to accompany my mother, Maria Khristova Nestorova, to Veliko Turnovo, where I was able to see my uncle, Predrag Matejic, receive an honorary doctorate from the University of Veliko Turnovo. I was very impressed with the entire procedure and saw and even took part as a guest in something I had never expected to witness.

We arrived in Turnovo, the ancient medieval capital of Bulgaria, on the 9th, where my uncle, mother, and I were invited to a welcome dinner. The dinner was given by the Rector of the university, Prof. Dr. Ivan Kharalampiev, and was attended by several deans of the university, including Prof. Dr. Vladimir Popov, the former Rector, and Prof. Dr. Kazimir Popkonstantinov, the archaeologist who had recommended my uncle for this honorary doctorate. Bozhidar Chervenkov, Rector of the Tarakliiski University in Moldova, also attended the dinner. After the dinner, we were shown to a very nice university apartment complex for visiting scholars from which *Tsarevets*, site of the ancient Bulgarian fortress and capital, could be easily seen.

The next day, the 10th, began with meeting Prof. Popkonstantinov, who was



Prof. Dr. Ivan Kharalampiev, Dr. Predrag Matejic, and Prof. Dr. Vladimir Popov

to officially present my uncle to the university assembly and other guests during the ceremony. After a short walk, we arrived at the Administration building and were shown to Rector Kharalampiev's office.

Right after my uncle sat down, four people, two with cameras and two with tape recorders, hurried into the room. For the next fifteen minutes my uncle answered their questions while they took photographs of him. I'm not sure when they first aired the radio interview, but several people, including my grandmother, heard the interview on May 24th, the day that literacy and education are celebrated in Bulgaria, because that's the day on which Saints Cyril and Methodius are historically celebrated by the Orthodox Church (May 11 on the old, Julian calendar).

A little after the interview, two people came in to put the academic toga, or robe, on my uncle. It was fairly complicated, and at one point my mother realized he had put one arm in the wrong place. Then he was led to a room where the general faculty assembly was sitting and waiting. Rector Kharalampiev presented him, and afterwards my uncle thanked them all and spoke for a few minutes, noting especially his ties to medieval Turnovo.

Finally, after this we all walked to the "Aula," the official assembly hall or auditorium of the university, where many people, probably several hundred, began clapping as my uncle entered. Rector Kharalampiev, Prof. Popkonstantinov, and a few other professors stood with him in front of a long table as they played the Bulgarian national anthem. Prof. Kharalampiev presented my uncle with the honorary degree, a second document, and an honorary medallion. Actually, the first medallion he was given broke, so they had to quickly find another one. They said that it was the first time that this had ever happened. Then the introductions, speeches, and lectures began. It was actually much more interesting than I thought it would be, and I am glad I was there.

Dr. Popkonstantinov spoke at length about my uncle's achievements and academic career, including his degrees, publications, preservation work of the medieval Cyrillic manuscript heritage, teaching, and

promotion of scholarship. I knew most of this, but was surprised to learn that my uncle had also published a book of poems.

My uncle then delivered his academic address. Since it was on the eve of the celebration of SS. Cyril and Methodius, he began by talking about what graduate students at his university are taught about the saints and the creation of an alphabet and literary language for the Slavs. Everyone seemed really interested, and some people said later that he had given them a lot to think about. He ended his address with an explanation that at The Ohio State University they are preserving this literary heritage of the "Brother Saints," as they are called in Bulgaria, and trying to make this Slavic manuscript heritage accessible through microfilm to present and future generations of scholars.

At the end, several people spoke and congratulated my uncle, including Prof. Bagreliia Borisova, Dean of the Philological Sciences at the University of Veliko Turnovo. At the very end, Prof. Maria Spasova read and presented an original *pohvala* (encomium) to my uncle, which she had composed and written in Old Bulgarian.

We all then returned to the Rector's office, where the Turnovo academic gown was removed, placed in a protective bag, and presented to my uncle. He also was asked to sign and leave a message in a special volume signed by other famous scholars and guests. This book is kept in a place of honor in the Rector's office.

The official celebratory luncheon, with over twenty guests, took place afterwards in Arbanasi, a small town located very near Veliko Turnovo. We returned later that same day to Sofia, where my grandmother was waiting to hear all about the events and ceremonies and everything else. She even asked my uncle to put on the robes. I guess it was a good thing we made a videotape that shows him how it should be worn.

Editor's Note: *Khristo Nestorov is a student in the Philosophy Department at the University of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski."*

2005 FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

The following is a list of forthcoming conferences about which we have received notice.

Liturgische Hymnen nach byzantinischem Ritus bei den Slaven in ältester Zeit

7-10 June in Bonn, Germany

Organizer: Prof. em. H. Rothe, Patristische Kommission der Nordrhein-Westfälischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.

Sponsored by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation for Scientific and Scholarly Research <<http://www.fritz-thyssen-stiftung.de/>>.

Scheduled participants include Galina Alekseeva, Viktor Baranov, Tatjana Subotin-Golubović, Christian Hannick, Mariia Iovcheva, Aleksei Pentkovskii, Hans Rothe, Krasimir Stanchev, Sergejus Temčinas, N. Trunte, E. Vereshchagin *et al.*

Multiple Translations in the South Slavic Middle Ages

7-9 July in Sofia, Bulgaria

Organizer: Lora Taseva, Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre Sponsored by the Alexander von Humboldt and the Fritz Thyssen Foundations for Scientific and Scholarly Research

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/>

<http://www.fritz-thyssen-stiftung.de/>

Includes participants from the Balkan countries, Belgium, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Russia and Switzerland.

The VII World Congress of the International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES): "Europe – Our Common Home?"

25-30 July at Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany

Local Organizer: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Osteuropakunde (German Association for Eastern European Studies)

<http://www.iccees2005.de/default.html>

Banjska Monastery and the Time of King Milutin

22-25 September in Kosovska Mitrovica, Banjska

Organizers: Philosophy Department (Kosovska Mitrovica), Philosophy Department (Beograd), Raško-Prizren Eparchy of the Serbian Orthodox Church, Center for Church Studies in Niš. Contact: Dr. Dragiša Bojović <bdora@ptt.yu>.

<http://www.crkvenestudije.org.yu>

Problems of the Cyrillo-Methodian Achievement and of Bulgarian Culture in the 9th-10th Centuries

27 September - 2 October in Sofia, Bulgaria

Celebrating the 1120th anniversary of the death of Methodius and the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre.

<http://kmnc.bas.bg>

Texts and Contexts

30 September - 1 October at The Ohio State University

OSU Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies

Plenary Speaker: Andrew Taylor, University of Ottawa

<http://omega.cohums.ohio-state.edu/epigraphy/courses.html>

Fourth International Conference and Festival "Culture, Religions and Traditions of the Peoples"

7-10 October in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria

http://www.swu.bg/eng/conf/download/0510_07-11feng.pdf

The 30th Annual Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Studies (PMR) Conference

14-16 October at Villanova University (Villanova, PA)

<http://www3.villanova.edu/augustinianinstitute/main/PMR/>

Religious Identities within Eastern Christianity

21-22 October at The Ohio State University

Contact: Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (ASEC) members Russell E. Martin <martinre@westminster.edu> or Jennifer Spock <jennifer.spock@eku.edu>

Slavic Syntax/Slovenske sintakse

27-29 October in Novi Sad, Serbia and Montenegro

<http://www.maticasrpska.org.yu/>



Honoree Virginia Brown and collector Martin Schøyen examine Beneventan manuscripts in the Sala manoscritti of the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Autumn 1992.

A Symposium to Honor Virginia Brown on the Occasion of her 65th Birthday

28-29 October at The Ohio State University

OSU Center for Epigraphical and Paleographical Studies

Co-sponsored by the OSU Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies and the Hilandar Research Library, the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, the College of the Arts, and the Departments of Greek and Latin, History, and Germanic Languages and Literatures.

This symposium honors Virginia Brown, Senior Research Fellow at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies (University of Toronto), and the world's foremost authority on medieval Beneventan script. <<http://omega.cohums.ohio-state.edu/epigraphy/courses.html>>

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Helene Senecal Named 2005 Dean's Outstanding Staff Member (Classified Civil Service) for the College of Humanities

Helene F. Senecal, Center Coordinator of the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, is this year's recipient of the 2005 Dean's Outstanding Staff Award (Civil Service) in the College of Humanities (COH). Dean John W. Roberts and members of the COH Staff Advisory Committee visited the Hilandar Research Library on June 3rd to surprise Helene with a check, flowers, and recognition by the Dean, the College, and her peers for her exemplary work. The Dean's Outstanding Staff Awards acknowledge "excellence and achievement in overall work performance, reward outstanding and valuable service to the staff member's unit and the College, and credit the special initiative and creativity of COH staff members." The Award Selection Committee consists of 9 staff and faculty members from the COH. Helene will also receive a certificate at the Dean's Annual Staff Reception in Fall 2005.

Helene was nominated for the award by the RCMSS staff with additional supporting letters written by recent visiting researchers Svetlana Kuiuimdzhieva (Institute of Arts, Bulgaria) and Yulia Artamonova (Gnessin Music School, Russia), OSU graduate students Nataša Kaurin-Karača and Bojan Belić, and Allen McTavish Johnson, PhD in Russian History and faithful reader of the RCMSS biannual newsletter. What follows are excerpts from these letters, highlighting, in particular, Helene's accomplishments in organization, hospitality to visiting researchers, and her editorship of *Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage*.

Helene has worked in the RCMSS since 1991 and is an active participant in shaping the mission, structure and therefore, the reputation of the Center since that time. The essence of Helene's vital role in the administration and functioning of the RCMSS is that her hospitality is as magnanimous as her fiscal instincts are economical. Her efficiency and organizational skills have been particularly instrumental in the success of the biennial Medieval Slavic Summer Institutes (MSSI 1999, 2001, 2003) and in both the international conferences that have taken place during her tenure at RCMSS: the 4th International Hilandar Conference in 1998 (Columbus, Ohio) and the 5th held in Raška, then Yugoslavia, in 2002. [Pasha]

I cannot express strongly enough the immense work and extra unselfish effort that Helene provides to alleviate our visiting scholars' concerns, leaving them the maximum time to work untroubled on their research ... Simply put, while our resources bring scholars to Ohio State, Helene, for them, is the face of Ohio State. Her work on their behalf makes them life-long friends of the Center, the College, and the University. [Predrag]

Helene is especially good at resolving any problems that visiting scholars may have, while doing so in a professional manner. What impressed me the most is her willingness to sacrifice her own time and resources: meeting and seeing off research colleagues, finding appropriate housing and helping them move in, taking them to necessary places ... and providing clear and understandable explanations to questions. [SK]

With visiting scholars who are in the US for the first time, as well as with the American scholars, she often goes out of her way to make their stay in Columbus and in the HRL as welcome and pleasant as it can be. She dedicates her personal time ... to accommodate visitors and take their minds off the technicalities and bureaucracy related to their stay. [Nataša]

And it is because of the way she is, and the way she does what she does, that all of those scholars leave Columbus with a great memory of her and the RCMSS. This is the way, her way, in which she, with no pretentious intentions, but simply because of who she is, promotes the name of the RCMSS, the HRL, the College of Humanities, and The Ohio State University all over the world. [BB]

[In 1970] I first learned of the Very Rev. Dr. Mateja Matejic and his work ... at Hilandar ... Later, I saw the Library ... become the largest collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microfilm in the world. In 1997, I read the first issue of Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage, the voice of these efforts. I have never met Helene Senecal, but I know her work well from the 16 issues she has edited over the past 8 years. From my own experience in editing professional journals, daily newspapers and employee publications, I am continually astonished at the accuracy Helene maintains in a remote field, involving a dozen East European languages, yet a model of clarity to the students and faculty at OSU and visiting scholars. I have read each issue with pleasure and devote more time to them than the more ponderous journals in ... Slavic studies. [AMJ]



Helene (with flowers) is pictured here with, from left to right, COHSAC Chair Ada Draughon (Women's Studies), COH Dean John W. Roberts, and COHSAC Award Committee Chair Michelle Brown (Philosophy).



Helene with her husband Ted and her daughter Kelly after the surprise presentation

Renovation Delay, *continued from page 1*

Library personnel have been assured by the university that the university is committed to the Libraries and to expect a Board of Trustees resolution to this effect. The Thompson Memorial Library Renovation is the only capital project specifically mentioned in the Academic Plan and is highest on the university's priority list according to OSU Executive Vice President and Provost Barbara R. Snyder.

The administration has emphasized that this is a one-year delay and that the OSU Libraries' alternative space at 650 Ackerman Road will be protected. Library staff will continue to evaluate the long term effects of the delay and will continue to work with the architects to complete the "design development phase" of the project.

The delay will also have some positive aspects. For example, in what is clearly a complicated task of organization for such a move, the additional time will be used to make the move as efficient and "problem-free" as possible. In particular, collection managers affected by the delay will use much of the additional time prior to the actual move to carefully review the library collections for which they are responsible. Additional time for planning is certain to benefit the overall transition process, reducing the number of inadvertent complications and inconvenience arising out of such a dramatic shift of library materials and resources.

The one-year delay will have virtually no impact on the Hilandar Research Library and should allow us to complete a number of our ongoing projects prior to the move to 650 Ackerman, now anticipated for summer 2006.

Erratum

In *Cyrillic Manuscript Heritage* 16 (Dec. 2004, page 6) it was erroneously reported that the grave of Academician Stojan Vujičić is located in Budapest. Academician Vujičić's gravesite is in Szentendre, Hungary.

We apologize for the inaccuracy.

Microfilm Exchange, *continued from page 1*

Deputy Director, Sector for Programs and Projects, together with three of her colleagues, served as an excellent opportunity to discuss the possibility of such an exchange in greater detail. Subsequent correspondence confirmed a mutual desire to initiate such an exchange, which should be of benefit to both institutions as well as to medieval Slavic scholars everywhere.

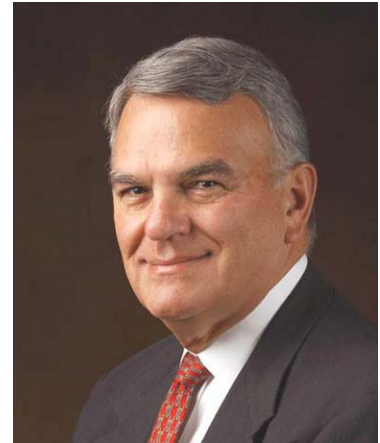
HRL and RCMSS have long enjoyed a working relationship with several Serbian academic and ecclesiastical institutions that share an interest in the preservation of Slavic culture and the encouragement of medieval Slavic scholarship. This proposed exchange is yet another step in a shared responsibility, initiated by a mutual desire to make the manuscript heritage of Hilandar Monastery better known, as well as preserved for future generations so that they, too, can benefit from this unique cultural wealth amassed over the centuries.

Machaskee Gift to Library Renovation, *continued from page 1*

Along with his generous support of Ohio State's Hilandar Research Library and many charities in the Cleveland area, Mr. Machaskee serves on the board of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, in Crestwood, New York, and the national board of the International Orthodox Christian Charities. When asked why he made his gift to Ohio State, Mr. Machaskee said, "I am very pleased to support the renovation of the Hilandar Research Library at The Ohio State University. I have personally experienced the Hilandar Monastery at Mt. Athos in Greece and I am eager to see this important collection of manuscripts continue to be accessible for viewing and research in Ohio."

The Ohio State University Libraries enjoy a strong reputation among fellow members of the Association of Research Libraries. Substantial renovations to the Thompson Library will enable it to become a "library for the 21st century" and will further improve its rankings, which correspond with the university's continually improving status among its own peer institutions. With careful and imaginative

design, the Thompson Library will achieve a balance between traditional print media and services and those exciting changes taking place in digital information technology, offering a variety of resources and spaces for student, faculty, and community users alike.



Alex Machaskee, Publisher, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Plain Dealer

The University is working with the architecture team of Graham Gund Associates (Cambridge, MA) and George Acock Associates (Columbus) on the final design phase for the Thompson Library. Construction is set to begin in 2006, with completion of the renovation scheduled for 2009. The Thompson Library will be closed for that period of time. A majority of the collections and staff, including the Hilandar Research Library, will move to another university building just north of main campus. This temporary location will be open to the public and the collections will remain accessible.

The total project costs are estimated at \$99 million. University Development is currently working with alumni and friends in the community and around the country to raise \$30 million of the total budget from private gifts. To date, \$15 million has been pledged to the campaign.

To make a contribution or for questions regarding the Thompson Library Campaign, please call the Library Development Office (614) 247-6828 or visit our renovation campaign and information site online at <http://library.osu.edu/sites/renovation>.

Editor's Note: Shannon Weiher is Development Officer for The Ohio State University Libraries.

MSSI Alumna Inspired to Preserve Bulgarian Orthodox Manuscript Collection

by Tatiana Nikolova-Houston

In 2001, I attended the Medieval Slavic Summer Institute at the HRL, where I received my “baptism” into the field of palaeography and manuscripts and became inspired by the dedicated founders and staff of the RCMSS/HRL. Perhaps not by coincidence, in the fall of 2001, I began my own preservation efforts with the manuscript collection of the Historical and Archival Institute (HACI) in Sofia, where I participated in an internship.

The conditions I found devastated me. The manuscript treasures reminded me of poor orphans. In the West, we assume that these dignified medieval treasures should inhabit palatial facilities, but this is not always true, particularly with Eastern European manuscript collections. Unfortunately, the collection of HACI was not included in the latest Bulgarian national preservation program (1997). It also had no descriptive catalog or professional librarian or archivist. The director, Khristo Temelski, a Ph.D. in Bulgarian Orthodox Church history, does his best to cope, but under the present conditions it is not an easy task.

The manuscript collection consists of 1509 manuscripts and old printed books dating from the 10th to the 19th centuries. The majority of the items date from the 16th century (25.3%), the 17th century (14.5%), and the 19th century (19.8%). The language and provenance of the manuscripts are not confined to Bulgarian; there are a significant number of codices that are Greek (47.5%) and South Slavic (45.3%) in origin, as well as some Jewish, Armenian, Turkish, Latin, and Romanian. The materials on which the manuscripts are written are parchment (43), bombazine (11), and paper (1,455). Their value and significance far exceed their aesthetic beauty. They are historical witnesses to their time, which is reflected in their content, inscriptions, and even marginalia.

I found these precious relics of a glorious past covered with dust, pierced by insects, and sometimes even dismembered and in pieces. My preservation requirements assessment of the manuscript collection found that almost 73% required urgent preservation measures. In other words, they needed particularly special care and archival quality housing.

During my internship at HACI, I digitized some of the most endangered and most beautiful examples of manuscripts with a new digital camera. Later, these images were incorporated into my first website, “Slavic Medieval Treasures from Bulgaria.”

The site calls for urgent action in preserving the manuscripts, and introduces the collection, the physical condition of the manuscripts, and the history of manuscript copying. It can be found at <<http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~slavman>>.

Due in part to the interest generated by the website, the Order of St. Ignatius of the Antiochian Church of America provided \$9,000 to renovate HACI and re-house the manuscripts. RCMSS also donated money for preservation equipment. Last year, Professor Julia Bolton Hollaway of the *Biblioteca e Bottega Fioretta Mazzei* also donated \$1,000 to help continue the project.

The project had its own problems, some man-made. There was some resistance to any change, and some to Western preservation standards. There were also bureaucratic difficulties. Despite this, after three months of grueling labor, the HACI facility renovation produced an aesthetically pleasing, archivally sound, environment in the fall of 2002 for much of the collection.



What is the situation today? One of the storage facilities was completely refurbished and 53% of the manuscripts were placed in archival boxes. For the rest, I plan to take some protective enclosure material and complete the project this summer. I plan to assess and work on the other storage facility and preserve the photographic collection, which documents the history of the Bulgarian Church beginning in the 19th century.

Editor’s Note: *Tatiana Nikolova-Houston is a doctoral candidate in the School of Information at the University of Texas at Austin, Her dissertation proposal, Marginalia and Colophons in Bulgarian Manuscripts During the Ottoman Period, surveys 700 digitized marginalia and 120 Slavic manuscript colophons in HACI manuscripts. She is currently visiting the HRL to collect further data. We wish her continuing success in her studies and in helping preserve the important HACI manuscript collection.*

Conferences

continued from Page 6



Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

2005 Byzantine Studies Conference

28-30 October at the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

<http://www.byzconf.org/2005/>

2005 American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) National Convention

3-6 November in Salt Lake City, Utah

<http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~aaass/>

Bulgarian "Islands" on the Linguistic Map of the Balkans

4-6 November at Sofia University

Contact: <balkans@slav.uni-sofia.bg>

<http://www.slav.uni-sofia.bg/Pages/Balktrad.html>

2005 American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) Annual Meeting

27-30 December in Washington, DC

<http://www.aatseel.org/program/>



Recent Acquisitions to the HRL Book Stacks

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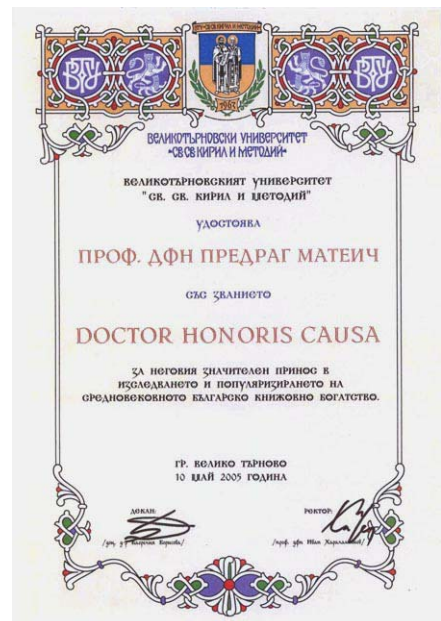
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Diploma conferring on Professor Predrag Matejic the title of Doctor Honoris Causa by the Veliko Turnovo University "SS. Cyril and Methodius" on 10 May 2005



*Bookplate of the Veliko Turnovo
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