

EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT



Igor Lukeš is a Professor of International Relations and History, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University; Associate, The Davis Center for Russian Studies, Harvard University; Local Affiliate, Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University. His publications include *On the Edge of the Cold War: American Diplomats and Spies in Postwar Prague*; *Rudolf Slánský: His Trials and Trial*; and *Czechoslovakia Between Stalin and Hitler: The Diplomacy of Edvard Beneš in the 1930s*. Lukeš is the recipient of the Central Intelligence Agency 2012 Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Literature on Intelligence and the 2000 Stanley Z. Pech Prize for his article “*The Rudolf Slánský Affair: New Evidence.*”

The book on Beneš won the Boston Authors Club Award as well as the Kahn Award in 1996. He serves as Honorary Consul General of the Czech Republic in New England. He hopes to assist the new SVU Executive Board team in creating a vibrant network of Czech and Slovak academics and professionals.

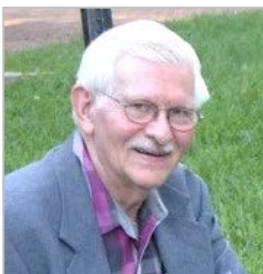
EXEC. VICE PRESIDENT



Jiří IURRO Stavovčík spent his childhood in Cuba and Czechoslovakia. In 1995, he graduated from Palacký University in Olomouc where he studied history and political science. In 2003, he received his MBA in bank management from Moravian College, PA. Currently, Jiri works as a negotiator for development projects in Africa. Jiří is also an artist. He studied figurative drawing at Fleisher Art Memorial in Philadelphia and Spring Studio in New York City. His art has been featured at various group shows and solo exhibitions in New York City, Washington D.C. and Nagano (Japan). He is currently represented by Artspace 109 in Alexandria, VA. He sees SVU's potential for being an international cultural institution with programs promoting the work of Czech and Slovak academics and professionals and providing a platform for networking and

lobbying. He wants to help build a new image and better name recognition for SVU in the world community interested in Czech and Slovak studies.

SECRETARY GENERAL



Louis Reith ("Ludvík") received his PhD in Renaissance-Reformation history from Stanford University in 1976 and his degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois in the same year. For twenty-seven years, he worked as a rare book cataloger at Georgetown University. As a graduate student in Germany in the 1970s, he developed an interest in Czech and Slovak culture. Since his 2013 retirement in Seward, NE, he has completed six credit courses in Czech Studies at UNL. Since 2004, he presented papers at SVU Congresses on topics such as the operas of Leos Janacek, the castle libraries in the Czech Republic and the court and culture of Emperor Rudolf II. As a continuing student of Czech, he hopes to inspire

young students to study the Czech and Slovak languages. As a continuing member of the SVU Executive Board, he is looking for new ways to interest young and old to join the SVU and to encourage present and future members to participate more fully in its many activities with enthusiasm and joy.

TREASURER



Thomas Holbik has a broad background in banking, bank supervision, and risk management. He has worked for a number of banks including HSBC, Citizens Bank, Fleet Bank. Mr. Holbik's entrance into the banking industry was as Bank Examiner for the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. His education at Boston University includes an MBA as well as an MA and a BA magna cum laude in Economics. Since 2010 he has been serving as Governor of the NY chapter of the Risk Management Association.



David Chroust earned his PhD in history at Texas A&M University in 2009, where he is on the library faculty. In 1991, he earned his MLS in library science and in 1984, a BA in economics at Kent State University in Ohio. He curates French, Russian and other special collections at Texas A&M Libraries. His research and teaching are in migration studies and global Web-based media. He edits the SVU newsletter, Zprávy SVU. David is interested in working on outreach to younger scholars and artists in the new Czech and Slovak diaspora in the United States and around the world.



Věra Dvořáková is a graduate of Charles University in Czech philology, linguistics and phonetics and a recipient of the Quota scholarship from the University of Tromsø in Norway where she earned her Master's degree in Theoretical Linguistics in 2006. She is currently a PhD candidate in Linguistics at Rutgers University in New Jersey. Introduced to SVU as a participant in the first of the SVU NY 6 Minutes programs, she would like to expand this format to be more discussion-oriented and help bring this format to other SVU chapters in the USA. She would also like to improve the online-accessible electronic interface of SVU to target young Czech and Slovak intellectuals abroad.



Charlotta Kotík, independent curator based in Brooklyn, is a former Head of the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Brooklyn Museum where she initiated new programs, such series of Grand Lobby Projects for extensive installation-based works and the Working in Brooklyn series to document the energy of the nascent Brooklyn art scene. During the course of her career, Ms. Kotík organized numerous exhibitions, presenting the work by contemporary artists. She is also a member of the board of the Jindřich Chalupský Award, an important recognition of young visual artists in Czech Republic. Presently, Charlotta works as a writer and independent curator and facilitates various projects for galleries, alternative spaces and museums alike. She is the great granddaughter of president T.G. Masaryk. As a longtime member of SVU, she hopes to help the new SVU team develop a program for support and promotion of Czech and Slovak artists.



Míla Šašková-Pierce earned her PhD in linguistics at the University of Kansas. From 1989 to her retirement in 2015, Míla was a professor of Czech and Russian at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. She is a dynamic organizer who is active in Czech organizations including the Czech Language Foundation which aims to advance the teaching and appreciation of the Czech language. A longtime member of SVU, she also served as vice-president of the SVU chapter in Lincoln, NE and on the SVU Council. Míla believes that Czech-American culture is integral to the wider Czech culture and she hopes to ‘build a bridge’ between the two.



Filip Tuček earned his MA from Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs in 2015. He worked as a research assistant at the Eurasian Harriman Institute, where he focused on European security, a subject of his professional interest and numerous writings published in Great Britain, United States, Czech Republic, and Slovakia. Filip was a co-founder and president of the Columbia University CEE Club. He is a recipient of Robert Legvold Fellowship, Columbia University Harriman Institute Junior Fellowship and the Dasturdaza Dr. Jal Pavry Memorial Award for International Peace and Understanding. Currently he works as a Consultant for Eastern Europe at Eurasia Group in Brussels.

VICE PRESIDENTS cont'd

Veronika Tuckerová received her PhD in German and Comparative Literature in 2012 from Columbia University, and M. Phil. from The Graduate Center of the City University of New York (2006) and Masters of Arts from Charles University, Prague. Veronika teaches Czech Studies at Harvard University, translates from Czech, German and English, and publishes essays of literary criticism. Her expertise is Czech and German literature and language; Kafka and Prague German literature; translation and bi- and multilingual writing; dissidents in Central Europe. She directs Harvard University's Study Abroad Program in Prague. She hopes to help build SVU into an academic hub.



Bruce Vlk received his MPA in 2010 from James Madison University and his BA in political science in 1999 from George Mason University. In 1998 he studied Czech history and politics for a summer at Charles University under Martin Palous, among other professors. Bruce is the director of communications and marketing for the University of Virginia Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy in Charlottesville, Virginia. He has researched and documented the Czech and Slovak-American community of Prince George, Virginia, and started an annual festival with grant funding that continues to this day. He has been an active member of SVU since 2010.



Hana Waisserová, Ph.D. is an instructor of Czech Studies and supervisor of Komensky Club at UNL, Nebraska. Currently she teaches Czech language, culture and literature and Women Totalitarian Experience. Previously, she also taught Gender and Central and Eastern European Studies at Anglo-American University in Prague, lectured at Delhi University in India, Masaryk University in Brno and Texas A&M University. Her research interests are CE European women transnational literature and cultural memory, women totalitarian experience. Hana appreciates SVU as unique cultural and academic platform of significant human capital. She would like to help SVU to focus also on the needs of rising young scholars and make SVU more attractive and useful for them. She hopes to facilitate communication and mentoring of junior and mid-career scholars by senior SVU members, while promoting senior members' research.

COUNCIL-Elective Part

Rev. Thomas J. Drobena has been member of SVU since 1960. He was born in Chicago, but his heart and soul are in Moravia. He received his M.A. at Hebrew University in 1968, and in 1975 his PhD from California Graduate School of Theology in Glendale, CA. He is an author of *Heritage of the Slavs* (1979) and editor and translator of book on architecture *Lutheran Churches in Slovakia* (2003). Rev. Drobena spent the last three decades in archaeological study of the Great Moravian Empire. He would like to help make SVU of more significance to people he knows in the eastern part of the USA who call themselves Slavs but are unaware of SVU.



Dalibor Mikuláš is a professor of English linguistics at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Žilina. He defended his thesis on the lexical issues of modern American English at Comenius University, Bratislava in 2010. He was a recipient of several scholarships and grants, including at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA; University of Ottawa, Canada; University of Granada, Spain; Palacký University, Olomouc, Czech Republic. In recent years, his research has focused on the birth of Slovak lexicographic works published in North America in the 19th and 20th centuries. A member of SVU for twelve years, Dalibor participated in several SVU World Congresses and organized SVU World Congresses in Ružomberok in 2008 and in Žilina in 2012.

SVU 2016-2018 BALLOT



Sylvester Suda was born and raised in an ethnic farm community in North Dakota. His Grandparents immigrated from the Tábor region in Southern Bohemia. He holds BS and MS degrees in mathematics and physics and worked as a scientist at Brookhaven National Laboratory for 45 years with a specialty in measurement and accounting for nuclear materials for USA and international safeguards. A member of SVU since 2004, he would like to help members maintain their Czech identity by promoting ancestral research and cultural heritage including a focus on Celtic components and Musical contributions to chorales and other church rituals.

CONCILIATION and ARBITRATION COMMITTEE



Pavel Illner is retired Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology, Weill Cornell Medical College in New York. He received his medical degree from Charles University Medical School. Born and raised in Prague, he possesses a deep and vast knowledge of Czech and Slovak cultural history. He is a Czech art collector and an active longtime member of SVU, currently serving as VP on the SVU-New York Chapter.



Frank Mucha is a Bratislava native. He obtained his MBA in 1977 from the Graduate School of Business of the Columbia University. He retired from Columbia University where he worked as an administrator at the Department of Psychiatry and concurrently as a Deputy Director for Administration at the Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene. He participated in Initial Review Process of NIH as an expert on evaluation of administrative strengths and weaknesses of applicants for large research program projects and centers. Mr. Mucha previously served as SVU Treasurer from 1992 to 2006.



George Tesar is Professor Emeritus of Marketing and International Business at Umea University (Sweden) and the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his MBA from Michigan State University. Dr. Tesar also taught at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Georgetown University and from 1998 to 2003 he was a Visiting Professor at the Brno University of Technology. He frequently lectures in the Czech Republic and Slovakia on marketing, and on science and business management integration.