

SVU ZPRAVY NEWS (ISSN 0036-2050)

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Periodical

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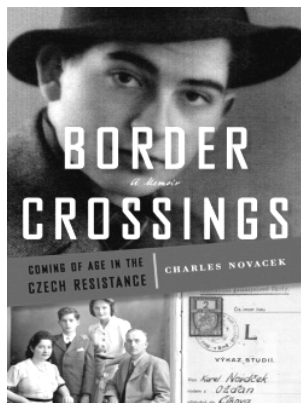
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## PUBLICATIONS



Charles Novacek, *Border Crossings: Coming of Age in the Czech Resistance*.

The book, endorsed by Madeleine Albright, is a first-hand account. It describes the impact of World War II and the Cold War on a Czechoslovak boy, Karel (Charles) Nováček. Nováček and his family took an active part in the Czech Resistance against the Nazis and then the Communists from the age of eleven to twenty. Nováček fled his homeland in 1948, found refuge in Germany, went on to Venezuela and finally immigrated with his family to the United States in 1956, where he became an American citizen and established a successful engineering career in Detroit, Michigan. He died in 2007.

For details on the book see the Web site <http://www.charlesnovacekbooks.com> and also Facebook. The book can be purchased online from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Indiebound and other sources in hardcover, paperback and digital formats. Sandra Novacek is available and most eager to speak to book clubs and other groups about the story, the book and its publication. Contact her by phone at [313.832.1148](tel:313.832.1148) or email at [novaceks@att.net](mailto:novaceks@att.net). (Source: Sandra Novacek.)

## Introducing SVU's New Executive Board



**Hugh Agnew** teaches history at the George Washington University. He earned an Honors B.A. in history from Queen's University, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Stanford. He came to GWU in 1988, after teaching at Queen's and the National University of Singapore. Agnew teaches graduate and undergraduate courses on Eastern Europe, and surveys of European and World history. His research focuses on nationalism, especially Czech nationalism.

His first book examines a group of intellectuals in late 18th and early 19th century Bohemia whose linguistic, literary and historical studies laid the foundations for the subsequent Czech nationalist movement. His most recent book surveys Czech history from the arrival of the Czechs in Bohemia to the present. Professor Agnew's current research explores the use of symbol and ritual in the Czech nationalist movement, which will be the theme of his next book. His media appearances include CNN, C-SPAN, Czech Television, Voice of America's Czech service, and Radio Prague.

His publications include *The Czechs and the Lands of the Bohemian Crown* (2004), published in Czech as *Češi a země Koruny české* (2008); "The Flyspecks on Palivec's Portrait: Francis Joseph, the Symbols of Monarchy, and Czech Popular Loyalty," in *The Limits of Loyalty: Imperial Symbolism, Popular Allegiances, and State Patriotism in the Late Habsburg Monarchy* (2007); "Demonstrating the Nation: Symbol, Ritual and Political Protest in Bohemia, 1867-1875," in *The Street as Stage: Protest Marches and Public Rallies since the*



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*Nineteenth Century* (2007); “Czechs, Germans, Bohemians? Images of Self and Other in Bohemia to 1848,” in *Creating the Other: Ethnic Conflict and Nationalism in Habsburg Central Europe* (2003); “New States, Old Identities? The Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Historical Understandings of Statehood,” *Nationalities Papers* (2000); “Ambiguities of Ritual: Dynastic Loyalty, Territorial Patriotism, and Nationalism in the Last Three Royal Coronations in Bohemia, 1791-1836,” *Bohemia: Zeitschrift für Geschichte und Kultur der böhmischen Länder* (2000); and *Origins of the Czech National Renaissance* (1993).



**Lida Cope** is an applied linguist working at East Carolina University (ECU) in Greenville, North Carolina. She holds a Master’s in English language and linguistics and a PhD in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching from the University of Arizona in Tucson. At ECU, she teaches a variety of subjects related to second language acquisition theory and practice, linguistics and sociolinguistics.

Lida was born, raised, and educated in Moravia. She received her first degree (Teaching the Czech Language, Literature and Social Studies) from Palacký University in Olomouc, where she then continued to study the English language and literature. Her journey in the United States began with a year of undergraduate studies at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. Lida’s research interests include Texas Czech; immigrant/heritage community language documentation; revitalization and maintenance; language and ethnic identity; and

financial support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. Beyond that, Mila Rechcigl is considered an authority on the Czech and Slovak immigration to America from the Czech Lands and Slovakia and on the cultural history of Czech and Slovak Americans. He has written numerous publications in this area, including *Postavy naší Ameriky* (Personalities of our America) (Praha: Pražská edice, 2000), *Czechs and Slovak Americans* (Boulder: East European Monographs, 2005) and *Tam za tím mořem piva aneb Naše Amerika jak ji kdo málo zná* (Beyond the sea of beer or Our America as only a few individuals know it) is in press.

In his acceptance speech, Mila Rechcigl voiced concern about the state and uncertain fate of Czech and Slovak archival materials in America, pointing out that the majority of the documents are still in private hands and that there is an imminent danger that they may be destroyed or discarded, unless they are placed in permanent repositories. He made a plea to those present, as well as to Czech and Slovak ethnic organizations, to get involved in the effort to preserve the Czech and Slovak cultural heritage in America, which reflects the life, the struggles, the work and the accomplishments of our ancestors and other immigrants and the exiles from the territory of former Czechoslovakia.

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## Dear SVU Members

Honored and humbled, the new leadership is taking over the reins of SVU. The three periods of Karel Raškas’ presidency were marked by six successful conferences, a painful and eventually fruitful effort to streamline and modernize membership issues by Vlado Kysucky and Eugene Martin but also by a steep decline in membership. Aging of the membership base, inefficient contacts with members and chapters and possibly the notion that the mission of SVU was already accomplished could be blamed. For a fresh start, we want to introduce and support programs which would further our mission but also attract younger generations, e.g. by increasing their visibility, concentrate on the population of “migrants” rather than just emigrants and assist current members and chapters in achieving their goals. We want to help you to recreate the friendly, vibrant and influential community that SVU was in the past. Keep in touch, utilize our webpage ([www.svu2000.org](http://www.svu2000.org)) for communication, share interesting news and announcements with the whole community through Zpravy, plan to present your research at our conference, publish in Kosmas, update your personal information in the MemberClick database, pay your membership dues and be well in the next year. P&P (Petr Hausner & Peter Ujhazy)

## Mila Rechcigl Presented a Life Achievement Medal




On the occasion of the SVU Annual Champagne Reception at the Czech Embassy in Washington, DC, on September 29, 2012, Ambassador Petr Gandalovič presented the Past SVU President Mila Rechcigl, a medal for his life contributions to the Czech archival science. The medal was awarded by the Minister of Interior of the Czech Republic Jan Kubice. Although Dr. Rechcigl has been named to the position of SVU archivist in 2007, he had been involved in the field of archival science for many years before that. For decades, he maintained the official Society files which had been recently deposited at the University of Minnesota's IHRC archives. In addition, he wrote, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of SVU, his personal account of history of SVU, under the title *On Behalf of their Homeland. Fifty Years of SVU* (Boulder, CO: East European Monographs, 2008). This was a monumental undertaking which mirrors the lives, aspirations and achievements of the Czechoslovak intelligentsia abroad, including the political exiles from Czechoslovakia after 1948 and 1968. The Czech version was subsequently published under the title *Pro vlast. Padesát let Společnosti pro vědy a umění (SVU)*. (Praha: Academia, 2012).

He was also instrumental in establishing the National Heritage Commission with the aim of preserving Czech and Slovak cultural heritage in America. Under its aegis, he has undertaken a comprehensive survey of Czech-related historic sites and archival materials in the US. Based on this survey, he has prepared a detailed listing, *Czech-American Historic Sites, Monuments, and Memorials* which was published through the courtesy of Palacký University in Olomouc (2004). The second part of the survey, bearing the title *Czechoslovak American Archivalia*, was also published, as a two-volume-set, by Palacký University in 2004.

In this connection, he also organized several important conferences relating to Czech and Slovak Americans and their contributions to the US, one in Texas in 1997, the second in Minnesota (1999), the third in Nebraska (2001), another in Iowa (2003) and the fifth in Florida (2005). Through his initiative, a special "Working Conference on Czech & Slovak American Archival Materials and their Preservation" was held at the Czech and Slovak Embassies in Washington, DC in November 2003. It was an exceptionally successful conference which led to the establishment of the new Czech & Slovak American Archival Consortium (CSAAC). The conference was co-sponsored by the US Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad. Proceedings of the Conference was published in the book form, under the title *Czech and Slovak American Archival Materials and their Preservation* (Prague: Prague Edition Ltd., 2004), with the

first language attrition. She has published on child first language attrition and on the issues of language, culture and identity in historically Czech Moravian communities in Texas. Her publications include academic journal articles and a volume on cross-disciplinary teamwork in endangered language contexts, *Applied Linguists Needed* (Routledge). She is currently in charge of developing an online archive on Texas Czech recordings and other artifacts to be housed at the University of Texas at Austin.

Lida and her husband have two young boys. Lida loves to visit her family in the Czech Republic, where she particular enjoys seeing her boys *using* Czech and experiencing the bits of Czech culture, history, and everyday life. Lida Cope's email address and telephone number are [copel@ecu.edu](mailto:copel@ecu.edu) and (252) 328-6411.



**Zdeněk V. David** is a Senior Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, where he served as a Librarian from 1974 to 2002. Earlier, having received a Ph.D. degree in History from Harvard in 1960, he taught Russian and East European history at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and at Princeton. The Woodrow Wilson Center and Johns Hopkins University published two of his books, *Finding the Middle Way: The Utraquists' Liberal Challenge to Rome and Luther* (2003) and *Realism, Tolerance, and Liberalism in the Czech National Awakening: Legacies of the Bohemian Reformation* (2010). The former has appeared in a revised Czech edition as *Nalezení střední cesty. Liberální výzva utrakvistů Římu a Lutherovi* (Prague: Filosofia, 2012). Dr. David is working on another manuscript, titled *Thomas G. Masaryk, a Scholar and a Statesman: Philosophical Background of His Political Views*. As SVU Secretary General in 2006-2012 Dr. David helped to organize the academic programs of SVU Congresses and Conferences, and to edit the subsequent collections of papers for publication. Dr. David's email address and telephone number is (202) 396-8108.



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clinical immunology, introduced survival statistics for oncology, opened the era of flow cytometry, and became associate professor (docent). To learn molecular biology, he moved on to the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, in 1989, where he devoted five years to basic research in molecular and cellular biology and pathology. The revolution in molecular biology and oncology motivated Dr. Hausner to complete three years of training and become credentialed in both Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology, whereupon he moved on to the University of Maryland Greenebaum Cancer in Baltimore to do laboratory and clinical research and to practice clinical oncology. From melanoma of his Ph.D. dissertation days, his interests widened to gastrointestinal and thoracic oncology and many other malignancies. Laboratory interests include tissue regulations, the omics perspective on cancer, personalized oncology and modern conduct of clinical trials, e.g. crowdsourcing. Associate Professor Dr. Hausner also chairs the Section of Hematology and Oncology at the Baltimore VA Medical Center.

Dr. Hausner loves outdoor endurance sports—mountain hiking, swimming, biking, cross-country skiing and canoeing. One of his most profound cultural and political encounters happened while he provided health care to President Václav Havel during Havel's long sojourns in America. SVU attracts Petr for its links to the countries of former Czechoslovakia, its multidisciplinary nature, and most of all for the intellectual quality and vigor of its members. His wife, Eva Hausnerová, M.D., Ph.D., is a cardiologist in private practice, and their daughter Hana Hausnerová, J.D., LL.M. is a lawyer at the American Bar Association and directs the Rule of Law Initiative for Russia. Dr. Hausner's email address and telephone number are [Svu.hausner@umm.edu](mailto:Svu.hausner@umm.edu), (301) 564-5946 and (301) 564-5659 (fax).



**Michael A. Kukral** is an associate professor of Geography at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Indiana. He has earned degrees from Ohio University and the University of Kentucky, where he studied with the late Professor Milos Sebor (an early SVU member). A native of Richfield, Ohio, Mike Kukral comes from a family of early Czech settlers in Cleveland with origins in Strážnice, Jehnědno, and Zdikov. His recent publications and research focus on Czech settlements in Cleveland.

In 1989-90, Mike was one of a handful of Fulbright Scholars in Prague during the Velvet Revolution and wrote a book, *Prague 1989: Theater of Revolution* (Columbia University Press), about his experience on the streets. He also serves as faculty advisor to the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity at Rose-Hulman, where he has taught since 1999.

In early 2012, Dr. Kukral traveled to Kanazawa, Japan, with twenty of his students to participate in a cultural and academic exchange. Later this year, as a charter member of Faculty Without Borders, Mike lectured at Egerton and Moi

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and the memoir *Peeling the Onion* (2007), where the author, celebrated as the “conscience of Germany,” admitted to the literary world’s astonishment that he had concealed his past as a teenager in the Waffen SS. For his rendering of *Death in Venice*, the classic by Thomas Mann, Heim won the 2005 Helen and Kurt Wolff Translator’s Prize, an annual award for translation from the German. His other German translations include works by Bertolt Brecht. From the Russian, Mr. Heim translated several Chekhov plays, including *The Seagull*, *The Cherry Orchard* and *Uncle Vanya*. His other translations include, from Russian, Vassily Aksyonov’s novel *The Island of Crimea*; from Serbo-Croatian, Danilo Kiš’s short story cycle *The Encyclopedia of the Dead*; from the Czech, Bohumil Hrabal novella *Too Loud a Solitude*; and, from Hungarian, Peter Esterhazy’s novella *Helping Verbs of the Heart*. Mr. Heim’s grammar, *Contemporary Czech*, appeared in 1976.

Heim explained his working philosophy this way in 2001 to the *Los Angeles Times*: “A good translation will allow a person who has read the work in the original and a person who has read the work in translation to have an intelligent conversation about it. ... The reader must believe he or she is reading a work in French or Japanese and yet be reading it in English. That’s the real paradox. It’s a scam, if you like. A feat of legerdemain. But I think it can be done.” In 2003, with a gift of more than \$700,000, Mr. Heim endowed the PEN Translation Fund, administered by the PEN American Center. The fund awards grants to translators—more than a hundred so far—to foster the publication of literature in translation. Mr. Heim made the gift anonymously, but with the consent of his widow Priscilla, PEN identified him as the donor upon his death. The gift came of Mr. Heim’s spartan lifestyle and wise investments, but it began with the veteran’s benefit on the death of his father, a Hungarian composer and United States Army serviceman in World War II. Michael Heim’s survivors are his wife (since 1975), Priscilla nee Smith; stepchildren Rebecca Kerr, Michael Kerr and Jocelyn Thandrakul; and seven grandchildren. Heim was an exemplary citizen in the community of translators and international literature for his constant efforts toward greater recognition for translators and better understanding of their work.

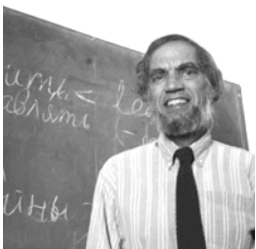
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**Karel Herbert Schick** (1923-2012) died on February 29, 2012, and his funeral was in Kenya on March 5th. Surviving him is his wife Diana Schick. Mr. Schick was born in Prague on August 3, 1923. He and his friend Tommy Gibian flew together in the British Royal Air Force during World War II. Schick earned many military honors for his wartime service, and he retired as a colonel from the Czech air force. Schick also studied or earned degrees at Lindisfarne College (1939), London University (1940) and Pitmans College (1941). He went on to become an executive in the London-based company Pacol Ltd., Gill and Durffu Group, trading in cocoa beans and commodities. Schick retired from Pacol as managing director. His interests were history and music. (Sources: SVU Directory 2003, p. 218, and Mr. Spillar, Forest Hills, NY.)

style is interesting and her bibliography is impressive. The paper is certainly deserving of the undergraduate student award.

Erin Cass entitled her paper „The Romani Movement in the Czech Republic“. In spite of some omissions in her bibliography, Miss Cass deals well with this highly challenging subject. She has in her paper referred to some excellent documents, such as Peter Vermeersch's book, *The Romani Movement* (2006), and important publications by Ctibor Nečas and Zoltan Barany. Ms Cass discusses the Romas' failure in the Czech Republic to achieve the necessary degree of social mobilization leading to an ethno-political self-awareness or identity. Cass believes this is the correct path of enquiry, but she admits her lack of enough empirical data to answer the question. Nevertheless, her research shows an avid interest in a very difficult topic and on the whole, the style of writing and methods of research warrant the prize. The Student Awards Committee congratulates both Miss Bannon and Miss Cass and wishes them the best in their future studies. (Submitted by Vera Borkovec, President of SVU Washington.)

## OBITUARIES



**Michael Henry Heim** (1943-2012) died at his home in Westwood on Saturday, September 29th, of complications from melanoma, aged sixty-nine. He was a Professor of Slavic Languages at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). Prolific and an activist in the field and community of translation and translators, Heim worked across a range of languages quite unusual in the profession for its width. Conversant with a dozen tongues, Heim translated from eight of them, spanning

Slavic (Russian, Czech, Serbo-Croatian); Germanic (German, Dutch); Romance (French, Romanian); and Hungarian, a non-Indo-European language. Heim was born on January 21, 1943, in Manhattan. After his father's death from cancer when Michael was four, he returned with his mother to New York from Texas and Los Angeles. Heim graduated from Staten Island's Curtis High School and went on to Columbia University. There he studied Chinese, Russian and Spanish under the eminent translator Gregory Rabassa, celebrated for his English-language rendering of Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (1970). Heim earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in Slavic linguistics at Harvard, and he taught at UCLA from 1972.

He first made his reputation as a translator with *The Letters of Anton Chekhov* (1973). From the Czech he translated Milan Kundera's *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting* (1980) and *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* (1984), which became a best seller in the United States. From the German Mr. Heim translated two works by 1999 Nobel laureate Gunther Grass—the novel *My Century* (1999)

universities in Kenya, East Africa, and spoke with students at several high schools there. He held several meetings and exchanges with faculty and students in Kenya and currently is interested in researching the history of Czechs in Africa.

Professor Kukral has won several awards for excellence in teaching and is active in many professional organizations. He also enjoys nature, hiking, animals (including three cats), music, plays trombone and piano, and collects and restores player pianos. Part of the year Mike can be found at his cabin on the Oregon coast enjoying the environment of the Pacific Northwest.



**Igor Lukes** is University Professor and Professor of International Relations and History at Boston University. He earned his first two degrees At Prague's Charles University (BA/MA, PhDr) and then two further degrees (MALD, Ph.D.) at Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. Dr. Lukes's books include *On the Edge of the Cold War: American Diplomats and Spies in Postwar Prague* (New York: Oxford, 2012); *Rudolf Slánský: His Trials and Trial* (Washington: Woodrow Wilson Center Working Papers, 2006); *Československo mezi Stalinem a Hitlerem: Benešova cesta k Mnichovu* (Prague: Prostor, 1999); *Czechoslovakia Between Stalin and Hitler: The Diplomacy of Edvard Beneš in the 1930s* (New York: Oxford, 1996). The latter book won the Boston Authors Club Award, as well as the Kahn Award. Lukes is also a co-author and co-editor of *The Munich Conference, 1938: Prelude to World War II* (London: Frank Cass, 1999); *Inside the Apparatus: Perspectives on the Soviet Union* (1990); and *Gorbachev's USSR: A System in Crisis* (1990).

Dr. Lukes's scholarly articles have been published in eleven countries. Lukes is the recipient of the Central Intelligence Agency 2012 Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Literature on Intelligence and the Stanley Z. Pech Prize for the year 2000. He was the 2012 W. Glenn Campbell and Rita Ricardo-Campbell National Fellow and the Bitton National Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University. His work has won the support of various other institutions, including Fulbright, Fulbright-Hays, the Woodrow Wilson Center, IREX, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. In 1997 Lukes won the Metcalf Award for Excellence in Teaching at Boston University. Lukes is an Honorary Consul General of the Czech Republic in New England. His email address and phone numbers are [lukes@bu.edu](mailto:lukes@bu.edu) and (617) 358-1776.



**Louis John Reith** was born in Deloit (near Denison), Iowa, on 11 September 1939, descended from Lutheran pastors on both sides of the family. He grew up in northern Iowa and central Missouri, attending several Lutheran schools, including Concordia Senior College in Ft. Wayne, Indiana (designed by Finnish architect Eero Saarinen) (B.A.) and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri (M.Div. 1966). He also holds degrees in European history from Washington University in St. Louis (M.A. 1967) and Stanford University (Ph.D. 1976), with a dissertation, “Prince Eberhard and his Preceptors: The

Education of Princes in Sixteenth Century Württemberg,” based on archival research in Stuttgart and Tübingen, documenting the social history of sixteenth-century Lutheran court culture. His first visit to Prague and the Czech and Slovak lands was in August 1970 during a student trip to Central Europe.

Louis’s library degree is from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (M.S.L.S. 1976). He worked as a rare book cataloger and specialist at East Carolina University (1977-1979), St. Bonaventure University (Franciscan, 1979-1985), and Georgetown University (Jesuit, since 1985). Now in his 27th year as Humanities/Rare Book Cataloger at Georgetown University’s Lauinger Library, he catalogs both recent European and Brazilian books in the major European languages and rare materials from the entire range of printing history. In January 2013 he will retire to Seward, Nebraska, to help care for an aging mother, and to begin Czech language study with Prof. Mila Saskova-Pierce at the University of Nebraska in nearby Lincoln.

As visits to Prague and historical sites in the Czech Lands and Slovakia, Louis devoted his research in recent years to Czech and Slovak themes, especially music history (Leoš Janáček’s operas and compositions) and historical mysteries at scores of castles. He is a member of the Czechoslovak Studies Association (CSA) and has presented papers at SVU conferences in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Cedar Rapids and Lincoln, Nebraska. They appeared in SVU conference proceedings, and he also writes book reviews for *Kosmas*. Dr. Reith will retire to the Lincoln area in January 2013, there to study Czech with Dr. Mila Saskova-Pierce at the University of Nebraska, help the Spec. Coll. Division at Love Library to catalog a backlog of Czechoslovak materials, and help History Dept. faculty to use Central European art, literature, music, and films in their classroom teaching and research. Dr. Reith expects inspiration from the heritage of south-east Nebraska for his further work in Czech, Slovak and European studies. Dr.

Reith’s telephone numbers and email addresses are (202) 687-7633 office; (202) 302-4844 cell; [reithl@georgetown.edu](mailto:reithl@georgetown.edu); [Reith.louis@gmail.com](mailto:Reith.louis@gmail.com).

population which SVU wants to attract, creative young people often migrating through the Washington area. If successful, the model could be taken over by local chapters.

- c. 2013 SVU Regional Conference  
MR presented a recommendation of Linda Vlasak to hold the Conference either at Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS, or at University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS.

EB inclined to University of Kansas in Lawrence; the Conference was tentatively scheduled for two days (Saturday and Sunday) toward the end of June 2013;

PH proposed “US as an Attractor” as the theme of the Conference; the final title and scope is still being discussed and should target audience from the Midwest.

LC and HA agreed to serve on the Program Committee; and PU to provide liaison for local arrangements.

- d. SVU World Congress in 2014  
EB noted the plan for its location at the University of Pardubice in Czech Republic.

8. Meeting was adjourned by 4:00 p.m. The time and place of the next EB meeting (in January) will be announced later.

Minutes by Zdenek David.

## AWARDS

### **Audrey Bannon and Erin Cass Win the SVU 2012 Josef Hašek Student Award**

Audrey Bannon and Erin Cass, both undergraduate students at the University of Florida, have been selected to receive this year’s SVU Student Award. Ms. Bannon won the award for her paper, entitled „A Snapshot of Czech Public Opinion in the European Accession Process.“ Here she offers a good survey of relevant literature. The paper is well organized, and she is judicious in weighing the pros and cons of the accession process. It is well documented when it deals with the background of the process and treats in depth the split between intellectuals and common citizens, the conflicting views of Václav Havel and Václav Klaus, and the dilemma over the degree of loss of sovereignty. Here Bannon also assesses the weakness of Euroscepticism. Audrey Bannon’s writing

PH, PU and Jan Zika will take turns in processing checks arriving at the SVU for before a more permanent mechanism is established.

Improvement of information about SVU was suggested: DW, PU, and PH proposed more visibility for SVU and its members by posting meeting presentations on YouTube, by taping SVU conferences and presenting on other social media

MR: Pointed out the persistent importance of old objectives:

- a. Improving the image of the Czechs and the Slovaks in the U.S.
- b. Facilitating contacts between Czech and Slovak scholars, and U.S. institutions, especially for young members;
- c. Strengthening the cross-cutting activities among fields: humanities, social and natural sciences.

#### 4. Membership

It was proposed to avoid cutting off membership after one-year of non-payment of dues; To raise Student Membership Fees to \$10 per year, which will need the approval of the Council

And to appoint Honorary members; PH suggested the Czech conductor Jiri Belohlavek; MR suggested a Slovak scientist Sylvia Pastorekova

[A Committee on Membership under HA was appointed, see under 2a above]

#### 5. Local Chapters

DW and Eva Hausner agreed to contact in writing SVU Local Chapters in US, and Europe (including Czech and Slovak republics), in order to update information on them; also to urge the chapters to send news to David Chroust, the new editor of ZPRAVY SVU

#### 6. ZPRAVY SVU

MR: restore separate rubrics, such as on the activities and publications by SVU members, and/or by Local Chapters;

PH: DW will inform the editor of ZPRAVY about activities of Local Chapters.

#### 7. Meetings

- a. General: DW suggested smaller meetings (symposia) in addition to the annual conferences/congresses; PU noted the need for more general sessions which would mix members from different disciplines; PH proposed that the Committee on Membership (under HA) identify specialties of individual members to permit approaching individuals for specialized meetings.
- b. Symposium on Patenting Inventions and/or Intellectual Property Rights, organized by PH and Eva Hausner, is planned possibly for March 2013 at the Czech or the Slovak Embassy, in a 1-day format. The main purpose is to provide a vital service to a segment of the



**Jaroslav Eliah Sýkora** is a native of Prague. Before 1989 he worked as a software programmer. After the Velvet Revolution, Dr. Sýkora began to study at the Protestant Faculty of Theology in Prague and, after additional studies, at the universities of Basel, Heidelberg and Jerusalem, which included philosophy. He earned a doctorate in theology. His research has been devoted to the Bible and Jewish studies. After teaching at the University of South Bohemia and elsewhere, Dr. Sýkora was a 2002 post-doctoral Fulbright research fellow who studied the Midrash Ecclesiastes Rabbah at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, where he met his future wife Tamara. In 2010 he graduated from Queens College, CUNY, in library and information science. He now works as a Web designer and also teaches children at the Czech and Slovak school in Astoria. Dr. Sýkora is the author and editor of scholarly papers and three books. His passion is poetry and several of his collections have been published. He served as secretary and later president of SVU New York. Dr. Sýkora lives in Brooklyn, New York. His email address and telephone number are [Jaroslav.e.sykora@gmail.com](mailto:Jaroslav.e.sykora@gmail.com) and (718) 778-5881.



**Peter Ujházy** was born and grew up in Bratislava, where he received his M.D. at Comenius University. He defended his Ph.D. dissertation at the Department of Tumor Immunology, Cancer Research Institute, Slovak Academy of Sciences. Ujhazy helped to develop the diagnostics of blood malignancies. He studied natural immunity in lymphoid malignancies and gained clinical experience in the adjacent Cancer Center. He worked for six years as a Visiting Scientist and later as a Cancer Research Scientist in Dr. Henry Mihich's laboratory, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, New York, where he published extensively on chemo-immunotherapy and multidrug resistance in cancer. After a short stint at Biotech Research Laboratories in near Washington, DC, Ujhazy left private industry to join Dr. Irvin Arias's laboratory at the Department of Physiology, Tufts University, Boston, where he studied the physiological role of ATP-dependent transporters and membrane biology. In 2001 Dr. Ujhazy went to the NCI's Organ Systems Branch, which managed Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORes), large translational research center grants. Working with SPORes brought him closer to his lifelong goal—to help patients and populations at risk of cancer. During the past eleven years Dr. Ujhazy has served as the Program Director for Lung, Leukemia, Lymphoma, Myeloma, Sarcoma, Gastrointestinal, Pancreas, Head & Neck, and Brain Tumor SPORes. He is now also in charge of SPORes in lung, head and neck cancers, and in sarcoma. His other duties include serving on numerous NCI committees and working groups. Dr. Ujhazy published 44 full length, peer-reviewed papers and chapters, and 40 abstracts of presentations at national and international scientific meetings.

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Dr. Ujhazy lives in Potomac, Maryland. He is happily married for thirty years to Katarina Ujhazyova, MD, a Senior Clinical Research Scientist at FastTrack Drugs and Biologics, LLC, and they have two children. He likes to spend his free time outdoors with his wife and dog, and on all forms of art, including cooking. His email address and telephone number are [peteru4@gmail.com](mailto:peteru4@gmail.com) and (301) 983-3661.

**Jan Zika** joined SVU to serve as treasurer and to support programs that inspire and help advance understanding of life on either side of the Atlantic. Jan grew up in Prague, thanks to his parents interest in alternative music, literature, history and politics. Many of his early memories are of running rivers and camping with his boy scout friends. Jan graduated in electrical engineering from Prague's ČVUT, where he specialized in cybernetics and robotics, exploring the interface of logic and machinery. He went on to an MBA from the University of Maryland (1993) on international finance and entrepreneurship.

He is now a resource manager at the World Bank in Washington, DC, responsible for the finance, accounting, and administration of such bank units as Carbon Finance (East Asia) and the Evaluation Group. Earlier Jan managed financial planning and analysis for a reinsurance subsidiary of General Electric in Munich, Germany. At the ČVUT Civil Engineering School Jan managed an early computer. At the Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship he coordinated the Mid-Atlantic Investment Network, working in the US, Europe and Asia on financial audits, operational and strategic consulting, mergers and acquisitions. Jan is married, has two school age children, and lives in Bethesda, Maryland. He played for Czechoslovakia's national baseball team and competed in team tennis. Today Jan enjoys whitewater kayaking, skiing, biking and hiking with his family and friends. His email address is [jzika@worldbank.org](mailto:jzika@worldbank.org).

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Note: biographies for Executive Board members Michael P. Seng and Dagmar White were not available for this issue of *Zprávy SVU*.

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## Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences

October 27, 2012

The Executive Board (EB) meeting took place on October 27, 2012 at the residence of Petr Hausner in Potomac, MD.

Present were: Petr Hausner (PH), Hugh Agnew (HA), Zdenek David (ZD), Lida Cope (LC), Miloslav Rechcigl (MR), Louis Reith (LR), Peter Ujhazy (PU), and Dagmar White (DW). The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

ZD took Minutes

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PU announced opening of a p.o. Box for SVU  
P.O. Box 34617, Bethesda, MD, 20827

### 1. New Appointments

PH announced the appointment of Peter Ujhazy as Executive Vice-President, and proposed the addition of MR (former SVU President and SVU Archivist) and ZD (as Recording Secretary) to participate in the EB sessions and functions. In addition Jan Zika was to assume the function of SVU Treasurer, to replace Dr. Stejskal, who had resigned this post earlier. At the suggestion of MR, these appointments will be submitted to the SVU Council for approval. Jan Zika is waiting for the approval of his superiors at the World Bank, which is due in one week.

### 2. Roles adopted by EB members:

PH announced the appointment of David Chroust as editor of ZPRAVY SVU. EB suggested Jaroslav Sykora for the position of KOSMAS Circulation Editor

Four Committees were appointed by the vote of EB:

- a. Committee To Survey Existing Membership, chaired by HA, and including PH, PU, Jan Zika, and Mr. Eichler.
- b. By-Laws Committee, chaired by Blanka Kudejova, and including Michael Seng, and MR
- c. Program Committee for the 2013 Regional Conference, LC and HA
- d. Publications Committee, chaired by Igor Lukes

MR proposed organizing additional committees: "Women's Committee," and "Young Peoples Committee."

### 3. Mission of SVU

PH proposed to fine tune the mission statement to accommodate the "migrants" rather than only immigrants and to attract young professionals: scientists, artists and businesspeople.

Feedback is expected from the EB to complete the mission statement in four different categories:

- a. advancing public good in America
- b. advancing public good in the Czech Republic, Slovakia – possibly the European Union
- c. advancing the interests of SVU members of different age categories in the USA and
- d. in the Czech Republic and Slovakia

Also electronic tools which could improve the mechanics of SVU were discussed. PH, PU, HA and Jan Zika a willing to learn MemberClicks and use it to further SVU's mission.