

American Hungarian **Educator**

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Please visit the AHEA Web page at: <http://magyar.org> and send any suggestions you have to the Executive Director at eniko.basa@verizon.net or 4515 Willard Ave., Apt. 2210, Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Conference

The 29th Conference of the AHEA was held at Montclair State University in New Jersey, April 22-25.

Hosted by the Global Education Center of the University, the Hungarian Cultural Center, New York, the Consulate General of Hungary, and the American Hungarian Folklore Centrum, it again gave members and other scholars in Hungarian studies a chance to meet and exchange ideas both in the context of the presentations and informally in discussions throughout the three days.

The program opened with the showing of the film adaptation of the opera, *Bánk Bán* followed by a discussion of both the musical, cinematic and historical implications of the presentation. As is customary, a wine and cheese reception provided participants the opportunity to greet old acquaintances and make new ones.

The formal lectures were launched with remarks by Susan Cole, President of Montclair State University, on Friday morning. Ivan Sanders' panel on literature took its theme from the title of the conference, "Hungarians at a Turning Point," and presented papers on post 1989 Hungarian literature, 20th century film and autobiography, and a paper on Tivadar

Thienemann. A panel on Transylvanian themes in literature was presented in the afternoon. One of the history panels explored the roles of teachers, lawyers and diplomats, while the other dealt with the serious problems of ethnic, political, and social cleansing of Hungarians, whether in countries outside of the present-day borders, or under the Communist regime within Hungary itself. The panel, "Discovering the Past," approached historical topics through a cultural perspective.

The music panel focused on the life and work of Béla Bartók; it was complemented by the folklore panel dedicated to music and dance. The double linguistics panel organized by Louise O. Vasvári addressed the problem of language maintenance. This pressing issue was also addressed in papers presented in the education panel chaired by Judit Kersserú which focused on minorities and the diaspora. Teaching methods in Hungary and the United States were compared in the other panel on education. A "Field Trip and Round Table Discussion for Hungarian Community Weekend School Educators" enabled participants to examine these problems in practice and discuss ways in which not only educational theory but music and folklore can

be integrated into language and cultural maintenance. Peter Sárközy, the Deputy Consul General, organized a panel on Transitions to highlight Hungary's move into the information society and movement to the future in general while the Economics panel focused appropriately enough on the accession to the European Union. A session on science completed the formal panels.

Ambassador Gábor Horvath, Consul General, delivered the keynote address taking as his theme: "Hungary in the EU: Benefits and Challenges of Competitiveness." Dr. Horvath also hosted a reception at the Hungarian Consulate for Fulbright Scholars at which a brilliant reading of György Spiro's *Soap Opera*, by members of The Threshold Theater of New York, preceded a generous feast. A

dinner dance at the Hungarian Citizen's League in Garfield, N.J. concluded the sessions on Saturday. For those able to stay over, Louise Vasvári held a brunch at her home Sunday morning with a bilingual reading from the poems of Sándor Kányádi. Participants could join a private walking tour of the Financial District and Lower Manhattan before the buffet, and view the opening of an exhibit of the paintings of Zita Zvolszky at ISCH Studios, hosted by the Hungarian Cultural Center, New York afterwards.

The Business Meeting of the AHEA was held on Saturday morning.

Business Meeting

Susan Glanz presided over the business meeting of the American Hungarian Educators Association held on April 26. As is our custom, the meeting was open to all attendees.

Secretary Ruth Biro noted that the minutes of the 2003 meeting had been printed in the Newsletter, so were not read, but were approved. Treasurer Enikő M. Basa reported on a sound financial basis of the Association. Income has been mostly from dues and donations, and expenses were for the newsletter and the conference, although most of those expenses were recouped. \$1,000.00

was transferred to the Savings account for the Scholarship Fund. \$538.00 was sent to the Transylvanian Foundation of this sum. Most of the Fund is invested in a 60 month CD.

2002 Balance	\$1,929.98
Deposits	<u>1,445.00</u>
Total	2,239.00
Expenses	<u>-1,603.35</u>

2003 Balance	\$2,5565.63
Savings Account balance	\$1,753.38
CD balance	\$ 8,607.89

are distributed by a Foundation set up for this purpose in Transylvania and annually about two dozen scholarships are distributed to university students to enable them to study in Hungarian schools or in schools in Hungary. They should follow a course of study which will aid the Hungarian community and recipients need to have a commitment to remaining in Transylvania.

Bela Bognar, who recently retired from Wright State University, has established a Hungarian Scholarship Fund which has disbursed funds to needy Hungarian students, primarily those living in the neighboring countries, to enable them to study in Hungary or Hungarian schools in their own countries. This is a very commendable effort that has helped many students already. For more information, contact Bela at bela.bognar@wright.edu or at: <http://www.whci.org/Bognar.htm>; for messages: <http://www.whci.org/cgi-bin/iforums/iforum.cgi>.

Anita Komlódi, who teaches at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and has supervised doctoral students in Hungary as part of the links she maintains with her profession in Hungary, will talk on how foreign-born scientists can maintain scientific connections with researchers in their home countries at a European Union conference in Tallinn, Estonia, Sept. 9-10. The primary theme of the conference is “Enlarging Europe with/for Women Scientists.”

The **Forum of Young Hungarian Professionals** (Fiatal Magyar Szakemberek Fóruma) met on March 27, 2003, once more under the sponsorship of the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, D.C and the HungarianAmericaFoundation (www.hunarianamerica.com/hunex). Over 100 persons came not only from the Washington, DC area but also from New York, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Boston, Virginia, Connecticut, Florida and Delaware. There were also participants from Hungary, and presentations of programs which have proven successful for training young Hungarians for work in Hungary. A good example is the Calasanctius Training Program in Buffalo which has enabled over 100 Hungarian students to train in US hospitals or study management, language, and other disciplines in colleges. An active alumni association in Hungary aids in fundraising and the selection of candidates. It also gives workshops in management to Hungarians in Transylvania, thus passing on skills learned here to high-schoolers there (www.ctpinfo.hu). Of particular interest for projects in Hungary are the Talents Program (www.talents.hu) and Project Retour (www.projectretour.org.hu) For more information, including projects in progress, see : <http://www.hunarianamerica.com/hunex>. It is noteworthy that the Washington initiative coincides with European Union interest discussed at a meeting in the Italian Embassy in December of 2003 which was attended by Enikő M. Basa. For more information see <http://europa.eu.int/eracareers>, the Pan-European Researchers Mobility Portal. The Hungarian counterpart site, mandated by EU, is under development and can be found at <http://eracareers-hungary.tpg.hu>. The AHEA has supported this initiative and Enikő M. Basa is one of its founders, and continues as a consultant to the project.

Károly Nagy article on “Hungarian Demographic Trends in the United States” appeared in *The Hungarian Quarterly* (45 (Summer 2002): 124-127. In two interviews in Hungary he spoke about his life-long concern with language maintenance and the preservation of Hungarian identity which can positively influence these statistics. “Magyarok Amerikában” appeared in *Korunk*. 3rd ser. 14.6 (June 2004) while “Korfordulók a világban” was aired on Kossuth Rádió in its series, *Határok nélkül az irodalomról* on October 24, 2003.

The AHEA hopes to establish collaboration with the Manhattan Hungarian Network. **Louise O. Vasvári** invited them to the Montclair Conference, but unfortunately this initiative has not yet borne fruit. We will explore cooperation with them as with any other association who share our goals of promoting Hungarian culture in the U.S.

The Executive Office received a request for assistance in lodging over 100 young Hungarian athletes for a week in Washington D.C. The trip was the conclusion of their participation in the **International Children’s Games**. We gave them leads to lodging available for student groups, but could not undertake to house the over 100 participants. We did not hear about their stay in Washington, but noticed that they did receive a send-off from the Embassy. Requests for ad hoc assistance continues to come in to the office, which shows that we are getting more and more visibility. However, many of these requests are only slightly connected to our main mission.



Educational Opportunities

Programs and Courses:

A full program of Hungarian Studies continues at **Indiana University**, with a Masters in Hungarian Studies being offered. Good contacts with other departments, such as Folklore , Music, and Comparative Literature, an excellent library, and a rich program of cultural activities make the program particularly rich. For further information: www.indiana.edu/~ceus.

There is a program for on-line instruction in Hungarian, designed especially for children who are absent from Hungary for several years but need to keep abreast of their high school education in Hungary to be able to resume at the right grade level and to take exams. **Digitális Középiskola** can be reached at www.digitaliskozepiskola.hu. The portal gives access to teaching aids, exercises and tests. For more information: www.innocenter.hu. Thanks to the Boston Hungarians for this information. If interested in more information from them, see <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BostonHungarians/>.

The **Balassi Bálint Intézet** has been revitalized and they have offered support for the 2005 AHEA conference. See their home page www.bbi.hu for more information on courses and opportunities. The Institute is the successor of the Magyar Nyelvi Intézet and the Nemzetközi Hungarológiai Központ.

Foundations and Scholarships

Central European Foundation was established in 1994 in Bratislava by Erika Csekés, a lawyer of Hungarian background and fellow of the US based National Forum Foundation. It is an independent non-governmental organization which, through its programs and grant-making, supports those values of Central Europe and regional cooperation that help to develop civic society within the country and the region. The vision of CEF is to develop positive relationship within the territory of Central Europe, also support development of values which overreach the borders of one country and contribute to effective international cooperation. It gives grants to support programs which help to maintain positive values and standards of the civic society focusing mainly on Central European issues. The Board of Directors makes the decisions about grants in accordance with the mission and goals of the organization. For more information: <http://www.cef.sk/english/>.

Civic Teaching Project offers teaching fellowships in Budapest. Applications are welcome from all segments of the academic world, from advanced graduate students to emeritus professors. For more information: www.cep.org.hu.

The **Fulbright Program** continues to offer opportunities for grants in Hungary. Please contact Judy Pehrson at 202.686.4014 or jpherson@cies.iie.org for more information. The web page is www.cies.org. Deadlines for applications are May 1 for Distinguished Chair Awards, Aug. 1 for lecturing and research grants. The Senior Specialists have a rolling deadline.

The **Hungarian Scouting Organization** announces scholarships for study in Hungary. These are for Hungarian Studies which give accreditation for scout masters and studies in higher education. The deadline is January 15. For further information contact dr. Judith Kersserü Némethy at 1 Washington Square Vlg. Apt 3L, New York, NY 10012. For the higher education grant contact Elizabeth Wurst, A-1230 Wien, Ketzergasse, Austria. The web address for forms and information is: www.om.hu or www.bbi.hu.

Also offered through the **Külföldi Magyar Cserkészszövetség** are places for students at the Piarist Gimnazium or the Reformed gimnaziums in Nagykoros, Pápa, Kecskemet, and Szentendre. Tuition, room and board come to \$500 per annum. For those over 18, a one-year course at a university is available through the Ministry of Education and the Balassi Bálint Intézet. The area of study can be selected by the student and carries credit. For information: Külföldi Magyar Cserkészszövetség, 2450 Route 23 North, Newfoundland, NJ 07435, USA; (973) 208-0450; e-mail Gabona@aol.com

Language camp for children 14-18: **Zánkai Gyermekek és Ifjúsági Centrum Kht.** offers a two-week language camp on the Balaton. For information contact: www.zanka.hu or: marketing@zanka.hu

There are a variety of other **opportunities for researchers** in Hungary. Many of these are geared to the sciences rather than the humanities, but deserve investigation:

Békesy György Fellowship for post-doctoral researchers to develop their careers in Hungary: www.fpi.hu;

Magyary Zoltán Scholarship for Post-docs also targets the return of researchers to Hungary: www.om.hu;

European Young Investigator (EURY) Awards for Hungary to benefit the development of European science and building the next generation of leading European researchers: www.otka.hu.

The EU also grants *Marie Curie grants*; for some of these both US and Hungarian citizenship is required. For more information: http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6/mariecurie-actions/home_en.html or <http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/mobility.htm> or contact Nora Jeney at nora.jeney@om.hu.



Books, etc.

Cornis-Pope, Marcel and John Neubauer. *History of the Literary Cultures of East-Central Europe; Junctures and Disjunctions in the 19th and 20th Centuries*. (Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 2004 has appeared as v. XIX of the series, Comparative History of Literatures in European Languages. www.benjamins.com for purchase information.

Shepard, William S. *Murder on the Danube* a fictional tale of Budapest with flashbacks to the 1956 Revolution. Available from the author, a consul and political officer at the Budapest Embassy. Contact him at 4540 Boone Creek Rd., Oxford, MD 21654.

Vardy, Stephen B., T.H. Tooley, and A.H. Vardy. *Ethnic Cleansing in Twentieth-Century Europe*. New York: East European Monographs, Columbia University Press, 2003. A comprehensive survey of this 20th century phenomenon.

Hungarian Studies Review, v. XXX, nos. 1-2 (Spring-fall 2003) is a special volume devoted to *The United States and Hungary in the Twentieth Century*." Edited by Nándor Dreisziger, it explores a variety of topics. If you are not a subscriber to the journal, please contact Professor Dreisziger at nandor@kingston.net.

A selection of books on language teaching, linguistics, literature, history, culture, etc. is available from the **Nemzeti Tankönyvkiadó**: <http://www.ntk.hu>.

Hungarian Panorama: an exhibit of panels showing Hungarian culture, economics, politics, geography, etc. has been compiled using digital panoramic photos by Ferenc B. Nagy. First shown at Niagara University, it was a great success. The exhibit is being made available to all institutions which can use this visual introduction to Hungary and its civilization. For a preview: www.panoramas.hu. For more information: fbnagy@yahoo.com.

Miles Lambert Gócs of Williamsburg, VA., a fan of **Tokaji wine** has written us that he will be publishing a book on this quintessential Hungarian wine, *Tokaji Wine Handbook* in 2005. He has written articles on the wine in the January 23, 2004 *Harpers* ("Keep Young and Beautiful," pp. 28-31), the July 2003 *Wines & Vines* ("Tokaji, Terroir and Umami, pp. 56-58), and V. 2, no. 3 or *Gastronomica* ("Tokaji: Forever Amber, pp. 59-63). Anyone interested in this topic can write him at: miles.lambert@att.net. If interested in buying his book, please let him know as the press run will be small.

Assistance Requested

Klaudia Kovacs is preparing a documentary on the 1956 Revolution, *Torn from the Flag (A Lyukas zászló)*. In order to prepare this for the 50th anniversary of the Revolution, she needs more financial support. While many organizations have already lend their aid, including the 56 Hungarian World Federation and the Magyar Nemzeti Filmarchivum, funds are needed. A non-profit organization has been set up to underwrite the film. For inquiries: Klaudia Kovacs, 1626 N. Wilcox #393, Hollywood, CA 90028.

Books can be donated to the *Máramarossziget Hungarian Gimnázium* via Béla Lipták. Please contact him at liptakbela@aol.com or 06 20 481 9770 for more information.

Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania has been founded with campuses in Csíkszereda, Kolozsvár, Marosvásárhely, and Nagyvárad. You can help support this private university designed to train Hungarians in Transylvania particularly in fields not available at other universities in the country. You can donate cash or equipment, but more importantly you can help establish contacts with your universities: scholarships and student and lecturer exchanges. For further information and a comprehensive brochure, contact the Hungarian Human Rights Foundation, P.O. Box J, Gracie Station, New York, NY 10028 or hamos@hhrf.org.

Miscellaneous News

The *Hungarian Association/Magyar Társaság* will hold its 44th Hungarian Congress and 52nd Anniversary in Cleveland on over the Thanksgiving weekend. For details contact magyartarsasag@nadas.org or see www.hungarianassociation.com

The *Hungarian Studies Program of Columbia University* welcomes contributions and inquirers. They have been our sponsors for two conferences in New York City. They are also one of the very few universities in the US that offer Hungarian Studies and even degree programs. For information jsm6@columbia.edu or www.columbia.edu/cu/sipa/REGIONAL/ECE/hunstudy.html or East Central European Center, Columbia University, 1227 International Affairs Bldg., 420 West 118th St., MC 3336, New York, NY 10027

One of the oldest and most comprehensive summer programs for Hungarian is offered at the *University of Debrecen*. Actually, it has extended to more than a summer program to include a January session. For information on the exciting programs see www.nyariegyetem.hu or write debrecen@nyariegyetem.hu. In addition to a program that combines classroom study and cultural enrichment they also have very good texts for the study of Hungarian.

Want to work in Hungary or Slovakia—or other parts of the world? Check out *Learning Enterprises* for summer jobs teaching English in villages. See www.learningenterprises.org for more information, or write chirstina@learningenterprises.org Deadlines for 2003 programs was April 15, but check it out for next year.

AHEA Membership Form/Dues Renewal

Dues are payable for the calendar year. All members are urged to send their 2003 dues if not yet paid, or the 2004 dues in January. It has not been feasible to send out separate notices for dues renewal, but you can make a copy of the address with the dues information and keep as a reminder to pay in January. *The date on your mailing label indicates the year we last received dues from you.*

Name:

Address:give preferred mailing address here)

Business phone: _____ **Home phone:** _____

Fax: _____ **email:** _____

Institutional affiliation: _____

Other address (optional) _____

Dues: Regular members: \$15.00 Couples/Joint members: \$20.00 Students/Retired: \$10.00

Make checks payable to: AHEA Treasurer and send to AHEA, 4515 Willard Ave. Apt. 2210 Chevy Chase, MD. Clip or copy and return with a check for the appropriate amount.

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