



## August 2021 Newsletter

### President's Corner

Dear AHEA Members and Colleagues,

One of the many sessions that I appreciated during the AHEA's 45<sup>th</sup> Conference this year was on Hungarian literature and translation. The speakers allowed me to more richly appreciate the skills and abilities required to translate literature from one language into another. I was very pleased to read the latest issue of *Hungarian Cultural Studies* featuring a thematic cluster on "English Translations from Hungarian: Expanding Genres, Deepening Approaches" with guest editor Peter Sherwood. I recognized several papers published in this latest issue that were presented at AHEA Conferences and read them with interest. I highly recommend this [latest issue](#) of *HCS*.

We extend a special invitation to an afternoon performance (depending upon your time zone) performed in Hungarian by [Judit Havas](#) titled "**Vannak Vidékek**". Performer and literary historian, Judit Havas, is no stranger to us. She attended numerous AHEA conferences and graced us with her talents. She received her degree in Hungarian philology and librarianship at Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) in Budapest where she teaches Hungarian literature, public speaking and elocution at the Department of Literary Scholarship. She honed her skills as an elocutionist, rhetorician and performer and is author of numerous books and videos.

Title: Vannak Vidékek  
Where: Live on Zoom.  
When: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 3:00 PM EST / 9:00 PM CET.  
Registration: [At this link](#)

The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual AHEA Conference planning is scheduled to take place in Hamden, Connecticut (in the USA) at Quinnipiac University from **April 7–9, 2022**. [PLEASE NOTE: the dates are different

from previously announced]. We will post the call for abstracts in early September.

Please reach out if you have comments or suggestions on how AHEA might better support your career advancement.

With best wishes for your good health and continued success,

Klára Papp, PhD  
President, AHEA  
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## Member Spotlight

AHEA is a scholarly organization connecting a diverse set of educators, researchers, professionals, independent scholars and academics who come from many walks of life. Each month we highlight the academic and professional career of a different AHEA member.



This month's featured member is **Andrew Lee**.

L: Prof. Maria Heffer (University of Osijek); R: Prof. Marianna Pap (University of Pécs)

**Please tell us a little bit about your career arc, particularly how your work in biology and public health took you to Hungary? (Or was it vice versa?)**

As a community college biology professor in Northern Virginia (just across the river from

Washington, DC), I teach and support a wide variety of students, from those never continuing in science to those going on to medical or graduate study. I have always valued improving my teaching and supporting students by learning about different educational models and systems. Having had extremely formative research and educational experiences in Germany, I was seeking a new opportunity to learn about science education in Europe. Through typical friend-of-friend introductions, I heard about the University of Pécs and their decades-old English-language medical degree program. After emailing more than 60 Pécs medical faculty (PTE-AOK) members about their research and teaching with an eye toward collaboration, I heard from Fulbright alumna Prof. Marianna Pap in the Department of Medical Biology. She warmly invited me to contribute as a guest lecturer in fall 2017 where we spent hours teaching, talking about education, and research. In true Fulbright fashion, she introduced me to countless other faculty members whom she thought would be interested in collaborating on projects as far ranging as public health and medical student communication.

One example of an extremely synergistic relationship has been my continued cooperation with Joe Petersberger at the Pécs Medical School's Institute of Transdisciplinary Discoveries. During the COVID quarantine, Joe and I both guest lectured in the other's classes and brought an element of exciting international exchange to our Zoom classrooms. Joe was eager to connect with other scholars in America and was thrilled to hear about AHEA and the recent virtual annual meeting hosted by the University of Pécs.

### **How did you find out about AHEA, and what led you to join?**

I can't remember exactly who was kind enough to forward information about AHEA and the annual conference to me. After reading about AHEA and the conference, I eagerly joined and was thrilled to have a presentation accepted for the 2018 conference. It was an amazing opportunity to meet scholars from varying disciplines and learn more about Hungarian culture in Cleveland.

### **What impact has your involvement with AHEA made on your career and/or your work?**

AHEA has had a significant impact on me because it has allowed me to bring other colleagues and friends from my time in Pécs into this dynamic network of scholars interested in Hungarian and American collaboration. It has also served as a way for me to introduce myself and my interest in supporting greater cooperation between Hungarians and Americans. Additionally, connections made with researchers at Pécs have resulted in scientific papers, conference presentations, and built better connections between the US and Hungary in the sciences.

### **Tell us, please, about your current project.**

An ongoing project that is building bridges between Hungary, America, and now Croatia stems from my continued cooperation with Professor Pap. Through her, I met a neuroscience researcher at the University of Osijek (a short drive away from Pécs) in eastern Croatia who

warmly welcomed me to Osijek during the summer of 2021, when Hungary remained closed to US citizens. Professors Pap and Petersberger were able to travel to Croatia so that we could lay out plans for continued cooperation as we continue to emerge from COVID. Whether it be regional central European science conferences involving Americans or improving early medical education curricula, my ties to Baranya County, Hungary and now Baranya County, Croatia run very deep

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## Have a New or Upcoming Publication?

We would love to help share news of the impressive and diverse work that AHEA members are doing! If you have a recent book, article, or other scholarly/artistic work you would like your fellow members to know about, send a brief description/promotional blurb and a link to further information to [aheanews@gmail.com](mailto:aheanews@gmail.com). Requests will appear in the order in which they were received and may be edited for space.

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## Don't Let Your Membership Benefits Stop!

Renew your 2021 membership to ensure uninterrupted membership today to ensure access to an expanded network of scholars and academics working in multidisciplinary fields of Hungarian Studies.

AHEA's membership dues enable you to access "Members Only" section of the website, participate in the governance of AHEA through your vote on our newly revised Bylaws as well as officers and board members.

We are pleased to announce membership discounts as well as the option of a new **lifetime membership**. Visit <https://ahea.net/members/membership-information>.

Only members in good standing can vote in leadership elections. Please remember to renew yours! **Click here** to access our PayPal link, or to get information on paying by check or bank transfer.

## Where Your Membership Dollar Goes



71% of your membership dues directly fund AHEA's mission of the **teaching and dissemination of Hungarian culture** through the annual conference and scholarship support programs. The other 29% helps keep our organization running.