
AHEA Newsletter: September 2024

1 message

American Hungarian Educators Association <aheanews@123673990.mailchimpapp.com> Tue, Sep 17, 2024 at 3:03 PM

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September 2024 Newsletter

President's Corner

Dear Members and Friends of AHEA,

Welcome back from your well-deserved summer break! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable time with family and friends.

We kicked off the new academic year with a highly successful hybrid conference, hosted by [the University of Debrecen](#). Congratulations to all the organizers and AHEA members who presented! You can read the [conference report here](#).

I'm also thrilled to announce the release of the latest issue of Hungarian Cultural Studies! Dedicated to Paul Olchváry, this new issue is a testament to the hard work of the editorial board and the innovative scholarship of AHEA scholars. Please click on the links below to access the new issue.

Finally, please mark your calendar for our next in-person conference in Pécs, Hungary, on June 19-21, 2025. Traditionally, AHEA has held every fifth conference in Hungary and we look forward to working with the University of Pécs to host our 49th conference.

The [CFP is open](#), please feel free to distribute it widely!

Warm regards, üdvözlettel,

Helga Lenart-Cheng
President, AHEA
hl4@stmarys-ca.edu

CALL FOR PAPERS: AHEA 2025 in Pécs

CALL FOR PAPERS

AHEA — American Hungarian Educators Association
49th Annual In-Person Conference
June 19-21, 2025
University of Pécs, Hungary

The American Hungarian Educators Association (AHEA) will hold its 49th Annual Conference in person at the University of Pécs in Pécs, Hungary. We welcome participation by academics, independent scholars, and graduate students interested in Hungarian culture, history, literature, linguistics, sociology, anthropology, political science, education, folklore, fine arts, music, and other related disciplines.

This year's conference theme is:

Transatlantic Insights: Scholarship in Hungarian and American Contexts

Presentations should report the results of original research. Proposals can address a broad range of topics dealing with Hungarian culture, including interactions between Hungarians and Americans, as well as life in the Hungarian diaspora. We also welcome presentations on methodology and those that provide directions for future research.

Abstract submission deadline: December 15, 2024.

Presenters should expect to hear from the Program Committee by January 31, 2025. Applications for travel scholarships will open in January.

Abstracts (200-250 words) should be submitted through [THIS FORM](#).

Submission guidelines:

- The official languages of the conference are English and Hungarian. Abstracts and presentations in either language are welcome.
- Only one "Individual Presentation" per author will be considered. A presenter's name can appear max. twice in the program.
- All authors must be AHEA members. Information on joining or renewing membership may be found on the [AHEA website](#).

We invite abstracts in the following categories:

- Individual presentations describe original research by the author. Altogether the total time allotment is 30 minutes (15-20 minutes for the presentation and 10-15 for questions and discussion)
- Panel discussions are for interactive discussion of a topic among a panel of experts. Typically, a panel of two or three speakers makes introductory remarks. The audience is then invited to make comments and question the panel.

- Roundtable discussions are intended for informal discussions of pressing current topics important to scholars in the field and to provide a venue to both share with and learn from each other. Each submission should have no less than three participants knowledgeable in the discipline.
- Book Presentations: Recently published books are invited for presentation either by the author or by an interested reader. These offer a short, max. 10-minute synopsis of a book published within the last year and of potential interest to members of AHEA.

MAGYAR VERZIÓ

Az Amerikai Magyar Tanáregyesület évente megrendezi tudományos konferenciáját, amelynek témája a magyar kultúra, történelem, irodalom, nyelvészet, szociológia, antropológia, politológia, pedagógia, néprajz, szépművészet, zene és más kapcsolódó tudományágak.

49. éves konferenciánk helyszíne a Pécsi Tudományegyetem, Pécs (Magyarország). A konferencia témája:

Transzatlanti perspektívák: a magyar és amerikai tudományosság kontextusai

Az előadások nyelve angol, de örömmel fogadunk magyar nyelvű előadásokat is. Szeretettel várunk konferenciánkra minden kollégát, érdeklődőt. Akik a fenti témához kapcsolódva a jelzett területek bármelyikéről előadást szeretnének tartani, kérjük, hogy absztraktjukat 2024. december 15-ig [ONLINE adják be](#).

Az absztraktok elfogadásáról a szervezők **2025. január 31-ig** jeleznek vissza.

Program Committee Chair: Prof. Helga Lenart-Cheng, President, AHEA

Local Organizing Committee Chair: Prof. Mónika Fodor, Head of Department of Literatures and Cultures in English, University of Pécs

Conference Contacts:

hl4@stmarys-ca.edu

fodor.monika@pte.hu

Just Published!

Hungarian Cultural Studies Vol. 17

From Acting Editor in Chief **Zsuzsanna Varga**:

Hungarian Cultural Studies [volume 17](#) is published. We are grateful for the guidance of the [editorial team](#) that ensured continuity at *Hungarian Cultural Studies*. We thank our anonymous peer-reviewers who provided high-quality feedback and informed our editorial decisions. We dedicate this issue to Paul Olchváry, our editor in chief

whose sudden death deepened our realization and appreciation of the team effort required to publish this Journal.

This issue includes a plenary invited paper by Christopher Ball, [Evolving Hungarian-American Academic Relations](#). It also features four fascinating general articles and seven book reviews. It includes an informative historical perspective on [Hungary's relations with Ukraine](#) by Professor Géza Jeszenszky, Hungary's Minister of Foreign Affairs after the fall of communism.

Our call for papers for volume 18 will be issued soon. We welcome your publications. [Register an account](#) with the journal to become an author, reviewer, or contributor. Let us know if you have comments or reflections on volume 17.

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 **László Ambrus**,
Eszterházy Károly University (Eger, Hungary)

Please tell us a little bit about your career arc, especially how you came to focus your research on the experiences of Hungarian-Americans during the First World War?

In 2012, I won a Hungarian state scholarship to study at the Doctoral School of History of Eszterházy Károly University. My field of research was 19th century social history, with a special focus on the Hungarian peasantry, and the way this social group lived through great historical events, such as natural disasters and wars, World War One in particular. After finishing the PhD-training in 2015, I started to work at the Institute of History at Eszterházy Károly University (now: Eszterházy Károly Catholic University). While exploring primary source materials in relation with the Hungarian peasantry and World War One, I discovered that the connections of

Hungarian immigration and the American participation in the Great War had not really been studied yet. To conduct research on Hungarian immigrants, I applied for and won several scholarships from Tempus Public Foundation and the Hungary Initiatives Foundation for study trips to New York City, Washington, DC, and Philadelphia, PA between 2016 and 2020. In 2021, I spent one semester in New Brunswick, NJ, as a Fulbright Visiting Student Researcher at Rutgers University, during which I used most of my time to work with the great collection of records in the Hungarian Heritage Center. My main topic of research right now is the situation of the Hungarian communities in the wartime United States, with a special focus on the participation of Hungarian immigrant soldiers in the US war effort in World War One. I defended my PhD dissertation in October 2023.

How did you find out about AHEA, and what brought you to join?

I read about AHEA online, and I have been acquainted to several members throughout the past couple of years. I have only come around to actually join in 2023, so this is my second year as an AHEA member. Primarily, I wanted to join because I was looking for ways to find colleagues with similar research interests, to exchange information, ideas and literature. I think AHEA's conferences, the Newsletter itself, the website and Hungarian Cultural Studies are all great for this purpose. Being a Hungary-based researcher, the awards and scholarships are immensely helpful for someone like me to be able to plan study trips to US archives and libraries. I am thankful that the evaluation committee deemed my work worthy of the Várdy Scholarship Award, and I am looking forward to expanding my cooperation with the AHEA.

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

So far, I had the chance to present my research in only one AHEA conference, in New Brunswick, May 2024. Unfortunately, I could only attend the last day of the conference due to flight delays. What I like the most about AHEA is the wide interdisciplinary network of scholars and researchers. I think the Várdy Scholarship Award is going to have a serious impact on my career because it will allow me to finish my first book by making it possible to conduct another field trip to the US, which will take place sometime around the beginning of next year.

Tell us, please, what you're working on right now.

Currently, I am working on a detailed biographical database (in Microsoft Access) which, when complete, includes every Hungarian-born soldier who served in the US Military during World War One. Meanwhile, I am also preparing the manuscript of my first book, which will be an improved version of my PhD dissertation. It is expected to be published in the following one or two years.

**Online Book Launch:
"Hungarian Roots and American Dreams"**

*This third-party announcement is included for the benefit of our readers.
AHEA is not directly affiliated with the program described below.*

DATE: October 25, 2024
TIME: 4:00 - 5:00pm (Eastern US)
WHERE: Online and at the University of Pittsburgh main campus

Explore the journey of Hungarian ancestry and the pursuit of the American dream through personal stories and shared experiences.

Presenters: Réka Bakos and Dr. Anna Fenyvesi

Join us at the Cathedral of Learning in Room 332 for the book launch of "Hungarian Roots and American Dreams: Tracing Personal History" with co-editors Réka Bakos and Dr. Anna Fenyvesi. Discover the stories, struggles, and triumphs of individuals who have bridged the gap between their Hungarian heritage and American aspirations. Listen to captivating tales, share your own experiences, and connect with others who are on a similar quest to uncover their family history. This in-person event, hosted by Kati Csoman, Director of the Nationality Rooms & Intercultural Exchange Programs, will also feature authors sharing their personal stories from the book. Tours of the Hungarian Nationality Room will be provided following the in-person event.

Register for the **Zoom option** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hungarian-roots-and-american-dreams-tracing...> to attend remotely.

In-Person event

Location: Cathedral of Learning 4200 Fifth Avenue Room 332 Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Register for the **in-person** option at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hungarian-roots-and-american-dreams-tracing...>

Help us Document AHEA History!

A call for memories, materials, anecdotes, stories, trivia

As part of our celebration of AHEA's 50th Anniversary, the Membership Development Committee, with the guidance of the Executive Board, is undertaking an **institutional history project**. We hope to preserve our organization's unique past by collecting contributions from its members.

We welcome anything that comes to your mind, but in particular:

- Photos / scans of AHEA **materials** (conference programs, meeting minutes, newsletters, etc.) and photos of AHEA gatherings
- Your **memories** of AHEA conferences and other events
- **Stories** that you want to be saved for future generations
- **Recollections** of colleagues who are no longer with us

Please send everything to **Andrew Behrendt** (behrendta@mst.edu) or ahenews@gmail.com. You are welcome to use whatever medium you like: text, audio, or video. We can also arrange for physical mail!

Along with your submission, please let us know whether you'd feel comfortable letting us quote you in items that might be shared with the public.

No contribution is too small or too large. Nothing is "unimportant" or

"boring." Every moment you help us archive is snapshot of AHEA history -- and the history of Hungarian studies -- that you help save from being forgotten!

AHEA Early Career Network

The AHEA Board is pleased to announce the formation of the **AHEA Early Career Network**.

The goal of the group is to provide international networking opportunities, mentorship, and resources to students and early-career scholars in Hungarian studies as they navigate the challenges of publication, grant writing, job searches, independent scholarship, as well as contingent faculty positions.

We welcome PhD students and scholars **within 10 years** of receiving their PhD. Please [fill out this form if interested](#).

The network was launched at the May 2024 AHEA Conference at Rutgers University.

Questions and suggestions regarding the new group are welcome and may be directed to Sarah Lucas at sarah.lucas@tamuk.edu

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. Requests will appear in the order in which they were received and may be edited for space.



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Our mailing address is: info@ahea.net

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