FROM THE PRESIDENT

Slowly but surely the Society for Romanian Studies (www.society4romanianstudies.org) is joining the digital age. Most of you are reading this on the web, nu-i așa? Roland Clark just took over from Daniel Pennell as editor of the newsletter. At Roland’s suggestion, the newsletter will now be produced and distributed electronically, enabling us to add color and more content at no great additional cost. We will still be distributing the newsletter to libraries and institutions in hard copy, and, if you would prefer, you can also get a print-out of the newsletter in the mail. But for most of us the web version is quicker and prettier. Please contact Roland if you would like a hard copy sent to you.

We welcome to the Board of SRS two new members. Our new graduate student representative is Catherine Hansen who is in her fourth year in the Department of Comparative Literature at Princeton University. “Her interest currently focuses on French and Romanian literary avant-gardes, and her dissertation will address the Romanian Surrealist group. Catherine hopes that the Society for Romanian Studies will continue to develop the digital side of its personality, increasing its scope as an online resource and hub for research and scholarly exchange.” We also welcome Roland Clark who joined the SRS Board ex officio as newsletter editor. He is a PhD candidate in History at the University of Pittsburgh. “His dissertation is a cultural history of the Legion of the Archangel Michael, looking at factors that contributed to the formation of a fascist community in interwar Romania. He sees the SRS as a means to create a network of scholars concerned with the critical study of Romanian language, history and culture. The SRS should be a place where members can share resources and information, as well as a place where new initiatives are launched. He would like to see the SRS take on an increasingly international character, bringing in scholars from outside the United States, and particularly from Europe.”

The Society for Romanian Studies (SRS) is an international inter-disciplinary academic organization founded in 1973 to promote professional study, criticism, and research on all aspects of Romanian culture and civilization, particularly concerning the countries of Romania and Moldova.
The SRS has been busy preparing for the 2012 conference that will take place in July of next year most probably in a Transylvanian setting. We are in the process of choosing a theme for this conference and hope to attract many panelists to this international meeting, the first one since 2007 in Constanța. Stay tuned for more details.

We have been receiving nominations for our first ever Biennial SRS Book Prize, and we hope to get still more. We are also looking forward to receiving essays or dissertation chapters written by graduate students on Romanian/Moldovan topics in any Social Science or Humanities discipline for the Graduate Student Essay Award competition.

The SRS has grown substantially in membership in the last year, and this lets us know that we’re on the right track with the changes we’ve been making. But we do hope to get still bigger. If you have ideas about making SRS more relevant to your professional activity or to your students’ needs, or just more fun, let us know what these are.

O primăvară frumoasă!

Irina Livezeanu
University of Pittsburgh
irinal@pitt.edu
President, Society for Romanian Studies

HONORS

Professor Peter Gross received the Romanian Presidential Award “Order of Merit in Education” from the Romanian Ambassador to the United States of America, Adrian Vierita, on April 23, 2011. The President of Romania confers the award, by decree, for “unusual merit in the development of education of different types, levels and forms of organization, and in research, or (for) contributing to establishing relationships between foreign educational institution and Romanian ones.” Professor Gross is Director of the School of Journalism and Electronic Media at the University of Tennessee, specializing in international communication. He has lectured and run seminars throughout East-Central and Southeastern Europe and has published numerous books and articles, the most recent of which is an edited volume entitled Understanding Foreign Correspondence: A Euro American Perspective of Concepts, Methodologies and Theories (New York: Peter Lang, 2011). The University of Bucharest, Romania, awarded Gross the Doctor Honoris Causa in 2005 for his contributions to Eastern European media studies. In 2009, the University of the West in Timișoara, Romania, also awarded him the Doctor Honoris Causa for his contributions to Eastern European media studies and his role in establishing the university's journalism program in 1992.
**BIENNIAL SRS BOOK PRIZE**

The Society for Romanian Studies invites nominations for the *First Biennial SRS Book Prize* awarded for the best book published in English in any field of Romanian studies (including Moldova) in the humanities or social sciences. To be eligible, books must be in English and published between 1 January 2009 and 31 December 2010 as indicated by the copyright date. Edited books, translations and non-scholarly books are not eligible.

The prize will be presented at the ASEES National Convention in 2011 and carries with it an award of $500. Nominations will be due to the SRS prize committee by 1 June 2011.

Books should be sent directly to each committee member, including Margaret Beissinger (mhbeissi@princeton.edu), F. Peter Wagner (wagnerp@uww.edu), and Lavinia Stan (lstan@stfx.ca). Please address all questions or inquiries to the chair of the committee, Margaret Beissinger at mhbeissi@princeton.edu. More details are available on the SRS website: www.society4romanianstudies.org.

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**SRS GRADUATE STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE**

The Society for Romanian Studies is pleased to announce the *Third Annual Graduate Student Essay Prize* competition for an outstanding unpublished essay or thesis chapter written in English by a graduate student in any social science or humanities discipline on a Romanian subject. The 2011 prize, consisting of $300, will be presented at the ASEES Convention in Washington, DC, in November. The graduate student must be enrolled at or have graduated from an institution of higher learning in North America. The competition is open to current M.A. and doctoral students or to those who defended dissertations in 2010-2011. If the essay is a seminar paper, it must have been written in 2010-2011. If the essay is a dissertation chapter, it should be accompanied by the dissertation abstract and table of contents. Essays/chapters should be between 25 and 50 pages double-spaced, including reference matter. Expanded versions of conference papers are also acceptable if accompanied by a description of the panel and the candidate's conference paper proposal. Candidates should clearly indicate the format of the essay submitted.

Please send a copy of the essay and an updated CV to each of the three members of the Prize Committee, including Matthew Ciscel (ciscelm@ccsu.edu), Holly Case (hac27@cornell.edu), and Peter Gross (pgross@utk.edu). Electronic submissions are allowed through June 1, but must include no more than one e-mail message with no more than two attachments (essay and CV), ideally in PDF. Alternatively, hard-copy submissions must be postmarked no later than June 1, 2011. More details are available on the SRS website: www.society4romanianstudies.org.
We are well into the new year...and waiting for the new year to actually show up (that is, one without all that white stuff on the ground). Various sightings of the advent of spring have proven erroneous for the most part, but hope springs eternal.

With this newsletter—a new volume under a new editor—the Society for Romanian Studies has decided to move to an electronic platform, which we hope will give us more flexibility, color, and efficiency all at lower cost.

We will be working out some kinks as we go along so please bear with us, but the bottom line is that the Newsletter will be delivered on-line and in an emailed .pdf format to our members. If you want to get a hard copy, you can request a black and white version of the .pdf, which we also continue to send out to libraries and institutions. Obviously, these mail versions will arrive somewhat later than the electronic version. We're thinking that most of you will find an on-line newsletter more attractive, useful, and timely, especially since it will include live links, color illustrations, and we are giving away a free iPad along with it. (OK, the iPad part is just a joke.) Let us know your reactions, suggestions, and comments.

We are working to expand our membership base, especially since we are now an international not just a North American organization. We would appreciate getting from you email addresses for anyone anywhere that you think might be interested in SRS membership. We'll check our membership list and those who are not on it will be sent more information about the SRS along with an invitation to apply for membership. Our new by-laws set forth the parameters: The Society for Romanian Studies is an international interdisciplinary academic organization based in the United States of America dedicated to promoting the professional study, criticism, and research of all aspects of Romanian culture and civilization, particularly concerning the countries of Romania and Moldova. As an academic organization, it will not serve as a platform for political propaganda or for furthering the political interests or agenda of any individual, institution or organization. The SRS is open to all academics (faculty, researchers, and students) who have an interest in Romanian studies, in Romania, Moldova and their diasporas, regardless of where they reside. Independent scholars, writers, jurists, retired academics, diplomats, librarians, professionals working in the private sector, students, and others with an interest in deepening their knowledge and understanding of Romanian and Moldovan society, culture, literature, history and politics are also invited to join.

The deadline for our two prizes—the Graduate Student Essay Prize and the new SRS Book Prize—is coming up on June 1. Check out your eligibility for these and let us know if you want to be considered. Also, if you are aware of possible nominees, we would appreciate this information as well.

We would also like to call your attention to the fact that we now encourage donations to the SRS, especially on the part of long time members and supporters. Donations are tax deductible.

Lastly, we are actively beginning to look forward to our 2012 Sixth International Congress on Romanian Studies. This will be our next major focus, so watch our website for further developments.

Paul E. Michelson  
Huntington University  
pmichelson@huntington.edu  
Secretary, Society for Romanian Studies
IN MEMORIAM: LADIS KRIS DONABED KRISTOF
(1918-2010)

The American statesman and erstwhile secretary of state, Dean Acheson, in his memoir, *Present at the Creation: My Years at the State Department*, wrote about Franklin Delano Roosevelt: “My attitude toward the president was one of admiration without affection.” This was a strange, indeed shocking, observation coming from a leading Democrat of that time about the leading Democrat of that time. An observation totally unexpected unless one recalled that although FDR had hired Dean Acheson twice and they had at times worked closely together, he had also fired Acheson once and that under particularly distressing circumstances. The quotation reminds us that although affection and admiration are frequently commingled in every day parlance, they are in fact clean different feelings. Keeping the distinction firmly in mind, I can truly say that Ladis Kristof was a man for whom I had admiration and affection in large quantities and equal measure.

Ladis and I first met in the American Embassy in Bucharest in 1984 when he was in Romania on a Fulbright and I was the American cultural attaché. My office in those austere days offered heat, a xerox machine and real, albeit instant, coffee. Ladis offered brilliant conversation and unfailing good humor. All of our offerings were rare commodities in Ceaușescu’s *epoca de aur*. Our conversation continued over the next twenty-six years in Iași, Cluj, Suceava, frequently in Bucharest and throughout the United States at various academic conferences. Our talks ranged over many subjects, but when possible I would try to draw him out on his childhood and youth in Central Europe. And an amazing narrative it was, something between a landlocked Homeric Odyssey and a Victorian adventure novel. Born in Cernăuți, Bucovina, as it was transiting from the Austro-Hungarian Empire to Greater Romania, as befits that poly-lingual, multi-ethnic society, Ladis was of mixed Polish and Armenian origins. The precise mix varied from conversation to conversation as did the bits and pieces of other nationalities. When the Second World War broke out in September 1939 he was in his second year studying forestry in Poznan, Poland. He made his way back to then neutral Romania, and eventually was inducted into the Romanian army. His military time was cut short when the Romanian authorities discovered that he was simultaneously working for Polish intelligence. When Romania changed sides in August of 1944, he was sitting in prison expecting to be executed. As Romania shortly thereafter began to slip into the Soviet orbit, Ladis resolved to escape and on his second attempt successfully swam the Danube to Yugoslavia. He was immediately arrested, placed in an internment camp and sent to work first in an asbestos mine and then in a logging camp. Finally in 1950 he reached Western Europe where he was befriended by an American expatriate whose parents were able to set into motion the gears that would draw him to the United States in 1952. Legend has it that the first thing he did on landing was to buy a copy of the New York Times to begin his study of English which would in time become his eighth language. If the legend is true, Ladis and his family must have enjoyed the delicious irony of knowing that the paper he had used to learn English was where his journalist son would earn two Pulitzer Prizes some five decades later.

Ladis graduated with a BA from Reed College in 1955, followed by an MA and PhD from the University of Chicago in political science in 1956 and 1969. In 1956-61 he was the associate director of the Inter-University Project for the History of Menshevism; 1962-64 at Temple University; 1964-7 a research fellow at the Hoover Institution; 1967-8 at the University of Santa Clara; 1968-9 at Stanford; 1969-71 at the University of Waterloo in Ontario. In 1971 he took up a position in the political science department at Portland State University where he remained until he was made professor emeritus in 1990. In that year he returned to the peripatetic customs of his youth and by 1995 had been a visiting professor at the universities of Wrocław, Iași, Punjab and Bucharest.
As the record stands Ladis was a political scientist; in that field he earned his doctorate and taught at various universities. It seems to me, however, that his relationship to this, his home discipline, was at least as complicated as his genealogy. That is, in the twenty-five years we met and talked I cannot remember one conversation centered on political science. History often, geography, literature, anthropology, the current headlines and his son’s most recent op-ed in the New York Times were constantly revisited, but political science I have no memory of. Reviewing his bibliography confirms this impression. Geopolitics features prominently, and one suspects offered an escape from the confines of mere methodology, but beyond that his writing also included publications on Boris I. Nicolaevsky, an examination of Ion Voda the Terrible in Bogdan Petriceicu-Hasdeu’s historical account, and the appeal of Teihard de Chardin’s theology for contemporary, especial Soviet, Marxists.

None of the above, however, begins to capture the Ladis that many of us remember. There was first of all the nearly omnipresent smile with which he seemed to ceaselessly greet the world, whoever the person, whatever the place and event. I must strain to remember an instant without the smile; there is no memory of a frown. Behind the smile was an ingrained optimism miraculous to find in someone so buffeted by trials, tribulations and tyrannies of the twentieth century. Perhaps he could see the good because there was so much good in him. Some of it was social good as for example his time in Chicago with the NAACP or the thirty-six years he was associated with AIUSA Group 48, his local chapter of Amnesty International in Portland, Oregon. Some of it was personal goodness as the high value he placed on family, his pride in his wife’s accomplishments or the great pleasure he took in his grandchildren’s summers spent with him and Jane, his wife of some fifty-four years, on their 73-acre farm in Yamhill, Oregon. With Ladis’ death, the field of Romanian studies in the United States has lost a good man and a valuable friend, as have I.

Ernest H. Latham Jr.
Foreign Service Institute

SOUNDBITES ON ROMANIA AND MOLDOVA

Romanian Politics - The Resilient Boc Government
Lavinia Stan, St. Francis Xavier University

In September 2010, Emil Boc became Romania’s most resilient post-communist prime minister. Cabinet Boc I, sworn in in 2008, united the Democrat Liberals and the Social Democrats. That oversized coalition collapsed in October 2009, when the minority Cabinet Boc II retained only Democrat Liberal ministers. Two months later, that single-party minority cabinet lost parliament's confidence. Cabinet Boc III, which drew in nine Democratic Union of Magyars and independent ministers, fell in September 2010. It was replaced by Cabinet Boc IV, supported by the Democrat Liberals, the Democratic Union of Magyars, and the small National Union for Romania’s Progress, gathering some disgruntled Social Democrats. Since mid-2010, Boc’s premiership has been threatened by four motions of non-confidence. None unsat him. The most spectacular was the fourth motion, introduced in December. Just before Boc was about to address parliament, Adrian Sobaru threw himself off the room’s balcony. Sobaru’s autistic boy was affected by the government’s austerity measures, which diminished his state health care support. Sobaru fell to the ground and required urgent medical attention, but sustained no life-threatening injuries. In 2010, support for the government decreased from 25 percent to 9 percent. Support for the Democrat Liberals fell from 32 percent in October 2009 to 17 percent in November 2010.
Romanian Economics – IMF Loans and Property Funds  
*Narcis Tulbure, University of Pittsburgh*

2010 saw the completion of a loan agreement between the Romanian government and the International Monetary Fund. A pre-condition for additional loans from the European Commission and the World Bank, the IMF agreement engendered harsh austerity measures (reduction of state sector salaries, layoffs from the public sector, and the elimination of previous fiscal stimuli). There is some reason for optimism as assessments of the IMF, the European Commission and the Romanian National Bank indicate the end of economic decline and a resumption of economic growth in the second part of the current year.

The Property Fund (*Fondul Proprietatea*) has been finally listed on the Bucharest Stock Exchange as of the beginning of 2011. Created to compensate the owners whose properties were nationalized by the communist regime, the fund has long been considered an inadequate (non-functional) solution since shareholders could not effectively sell their participation. The appointment of a reputed asset manager (Franklin Templeton Investments) and the recent listing on the stock exchange gives owners the chance to convert their participations into cash. Further patience might still be advised as Property Fund shares are currently being traded much below their face value.

Moldovan Politics – Still in Upheaval  
*Matthew Ciscel, Central Connecticut State University*

Moldovan politics are still in upheaval after the so-called “Twitter Revolution” that in April 2009 up-ended the Party of Communists’ (PCRM) decade-long hold on power. In a September 2010 referendum, the Alliance for European Integration (AIE; a group of center-right parties that formed a ruling coalition in the wake of that revolt) attempted to revise the Constitution to return to popular election of the President. But turnout was too low to validate the positive result (largely because of a boycott by the opposition PCRM). As a result, a new round of early parliamentary elections occurred in late November. Although the results of this ballot saw another gradual decline in seats held by the PCRM, the continued strength of Marian Lupu’s center-left Democratic Party produced some uncertainty (and political theatrics) as the PCRM and the center-right parties each competed to build a coalition with Lupu. By the end of December, a new AIE had been created with Lupu as President of Parliament and thus interim President of the Republic. It is still unclear if Lupu will attract enough support from parliament to become President more permanently or if early elections will be necessary yet again.

Film Review – The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceaușescu  
*Iemima Ploscariu, Covenant College*

Director Andrei Ujică’s internationally acclaimed documentary, *The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceaușescu*, is a fantastic journey through the life of Romania’s infamous dictator. Beginning with footage from the trial of the Ceaușescus, Ujică incorporates mise-en-scène and classical editing to piece scenes together. The absurdity of the mass rallies and the banners of veneration toward Nicolae and Elena evoke bizarre feelings, both humorous and tragic, but the images accurately express the dictator-cult which Ceaușescu demanded.

The film is three hours long and contains masterfully edited archival footage, chosen from thousand of hours of available film and video. Scenes include Ceaușescu as coffin bearer at Gheorge Gheorghiu-Dej’s funeral, the meeting with the Queen of England, Ceaușescu’s grandiose welcome by the North Koreans, and home videos of Nicolae and his family at the beach. Three hours of this propaganda footage is overwhelming, but this is precisely the point. Ujică succeeds in conveying the oppressiveness of the regime. The film garnered numerous awards in 2010 and the Spotlight Award at the 2011 Cinema Eye Honors. More information on the film is available at [http://www.the-autobiography.com/pliant.pdf](http://www.the-autobiography.com/pliant.pdf)
CONFERENCE REPORTS

Vergessene Gewalt – Roland Clark, University of Pittsburgh
The conference Forgotten Violence: The Legion of the Archangel in Romania, 1918/1927-1938 was hosted by the Institute of East-European History at the University of Vienna on February 23-25, 2011. The organizers Oliver Jens Schmitt and Armin Heinen assembled both senior scholars and graduate students working on Romanian fascism during the Codreanu period. Heinen’s opening address called for historians to move beyond debates over models of generic fascism and to focus instead on new methodological approaches such as studies of social praxis, social and cultural histories, and entangled histories linking the Iron Guard to other European fascist movements. Florin Muller, Constantin Iordachi and Mihai Chioveanu suggested different theoretical frameworks helping explain the movement. Valentin Sândulescu, Andra Drăghiciu and Rebecca Haynes discussed legionary aesthetics and its public image. Roland Clark, Radu Dinu and Oliver Schmitt presented social histories of legionary women, violence and workers. Wolfram Nieß showed how close regional studies can cause us to re-examine what we thought we knew about the Legion’s ethnic-nationalism; and Armin Heinen and Traian Sandu discussed election results and membership statistics at the time of the Legion’s peak political success in 1937. The general tone of the conference was one of enthusiasm about new avenues for research that are being uncovered and all of the presenters made innovative use of previously undiscovered archival material. If the quality of work seen at this conference is any indication of what is to come then the study of Romanian fascism has some exciting years ahead.

Romanian Film Festival – Justin Classen, University of Pittsburgh
Organized by the Pittsburgh Romanian Studies Group (PRS), curated by Cristina Albu, then PRS President, and sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh, the Romanian Cultural Institute in New York and the Romanian National Center for Cinematography, “Ethics in Romanian Cinema” had two faces. One showcased some of the achievements of Romanian film to a large local audience. The other brought together a number of young scholars from Europe and the United States in a graduate student conference to discuss the complex depictions of ethical dilemmas represented in recent Romanian film.

Conference organizers arranged bi-weekly screenings of Romanian films, including such critically acclaimed works as Stere Gulea’s State of Things (1995), Călin Netzer’s Maria (2003) and Corneliu Porumboiu’s Police, Adjective (2009). These were complemented by other internationally recognized feature-length pieces, such as Alexandru Solomon’s multiple-award-winning documentary Cold Waves (2008), as well as a selection of shorter films. Overall attendance was high, drawing spectators from Pittsburgh’s Romanian community and beyond. For more information on the Pittsburgh Romanian Studies Group, please visit http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/romania/.
Rebecca Chamberlain-Creanga gave a lecture at the Kennan Institute on December 6, 2010, entitled “Moldova’s 2010 Parliamentary Election: Toward Stability and Reintegration?” She analyzed current political divisions in light of the social and political upheavals of the past twenty years, situating them within the geopolitics of the whole region. Rebecca Chamberlain-Creanga is a Title VIII Research Scholar at the Kennan Institute. A full meeting report is available at http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1424&fuseaction=topics.publications&doc_id=648778&group_id=7718.

The Romanian Studies Association of America (RSAA) convened four panels at the 126th Convention of the Modern Language Association (MLA) in Los Angeles on January 6-9, 2011. These included topics such as Narratives of Departure and Return in Eastern Europe, Herta Müller: East-West Perspective, Rethinking Feminism in Eastern Europe, and Subversiveness and the Carnivalesque in Romanian and European Theater. A full conference report can be found at http://vetiver.weblog.ro/2011/01/21/romanian-studies-at-the-mla-los-angeles-2011/.

The Fourth Annual Romanian Studies Conference was held March 25-26, 2011 at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN, hosted by the Indiana University Romanian Studies Organization. The keynote address was given by by Stella Ghervas Visiting Associate Professor, University of Chicago, on the topic of “How far from Europe? Romanian Society between Orthodoxy and Modernity.” Papers were given by U.S. graduate students working on Romanian topics in a variety of disciplines. Historians working on the interwar period spoke about American involvement in Romania, Saxon and Jewish identities and creating the National Romanian Museum. Scholars of socialism looked at imagining public spaces, tourism, post-Holocaust memory, radio, poetry, literature, art and intellectual life under Ceauşescu. Finally, two papers investigated electronic communications media and film in post-Socialist Romania.

Attended a conference with a Romanian focus lately? Send a short report to the editor, Roland Clark at rololcark80@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Fifth Biennial Conference of the Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) will be held from April 1-2, 2011 at the University of Texas, in Austin, TX. The theme of the conference is “Gender in Conflict,” and the keynote speaker will be Prof. Yana Hashamova, Director of Center for Slavic and East European Studies and Associate Professor of Slavic at The Ohio State University.

The European Research Council will hold a workshop from April 1-2 at Geneva University on “Ethnically and Confessionally Composite Elites in East Central Europe (1900-1950): Historical Development of National Systems of Elite Formation in Central and Eastern Europe.” The workshop will include papers on the training of elites and the development of schools in Transylvania and Banat between 1850 and 1949.
The Pittsburgh Romanian Studies Group will be hosting a performative lecture by New York-based Romanian playwright and performer Saviana Stanescu (www.saviana.com) the evening of Friday April 8. The performative lecture is entitled "Aliens with Extraordinary Skills" and draws attention to contemporary immigration issues of Romanians and other groups. For details, contact Alexandru Lefter at avl9@pitt.edu

The Second International Conference on Nordic and Baltic Studies of the Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies (ARSBN) will be held from May 20-22, 2011 in Târgoviște, Romania. The theme of the conference is “Black Sea and Baltic Sea Regions: Confluences, influences and croscurrents in the modern and contemporary ages.”

A conference on Remembering Dictatorship: State Socialist Pasts in Post-Socialist Presents will be held from September 16-17, 2011 at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom. Professor Catriona Kelly (University of Oxford) will give the keynote address.

The 43rd Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) will be held from November 17-20, 2011 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington D.C. The theme of the convention will be “Authorities.” Early pre-registration closes on August 19, 2011.

ASN CONVENTION PROGRAM

The Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) will hold its 16th annual convention at Columbia University, New York, on 14-16 April 2011. The theme for the convention is Charting the Nation between State and Society. Panels and papers relating to Romania and Moldova include:

THURSDAY, APRIL 14
SESSION I: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM


SESSION II: 1:20 – 3:20 PM
PANEL CE10: Mapping Identity Change: Quantitative, Ideational and Event-centered Approaches with a paper by Irina Culic (Babes-Bolyai U, Cluj, Romania) Between States and Spaces: The Making of Ethnicity through Migration

FRIDAY, APRIL 15
SESSION V: 9:00 – 11:00 AM
PANEL TH13: Religion and the Nation with a paper by Ionut Biliuta (Central European U, Hungary) Re-shaping Ethnically the State: The Prolongation of Interwar Orthodoxist Utopia in Post-Communist Romania

SESSION VI: 11:20 AM – 1:20 PM
PANEL CE19: Contested Identities and Electoral Mobilization in Moldova with papers by Christian W. Haerpfer (U of Aberdeen, UK) Structure and Dynamics of National Identities in Moldova (1995-2010); W. Meredith Bacon (U of Nebraska at Omaha, US) ‘Moldovanism’ and the Elections of 2009-2010; Julien Iglesias Danero (U Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium) Constructing National Identity in Political Discourse: Coherence and Contradiction (Moldova, 2001-9); and Ion...
SESSION VII: 2:50 – 4:50 PM  
PANEL CE11: Prospects for Roma Youth in Comparative Perspective: The Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia with a paper by Eniko Vincze (Babes-Bolyai U, Cluj, Romania) Ethnic Identification and the Desire to Belong: Urban Roma Youth in Romania

SESSION VIII: 5:10 – 7:10 PM  
PANEL CE8: Claiming National Dominance in Central Europe, 1890-1945 with a paper by Ionas Aurelian Rus (U of Cincinnati, Blue Ash, US) Romanian Nationalism and Its Alternatives in Habsburg Bukovina in 1880-1911

PANEL CE18: Minority Protection in Europe’s New Democracies in the Post-accession Period with a paper by Lilla Balázs (ETH, Zurich, Switzerland) The Implementation of Minority Language Policy in Central and Eastern Europe: Slovakia and Romania

SATURDAY, APRIL 16  
SESSION X: 11:20 AM – 1:20 PM  

PANEL CE9: Perspectives on the Ways and Means of Cleansing the State and Nation in Romania with papers by Michael Shafir (Babes-Bolyai U, Cluj, Romania) The East European Post-communist Competitive Martyrology; Mihai Chioveanu (U of Bucharest, Romania) Purification and Destruction: The Twisted Road of Romania’s Cleansing Policy — Transnistria (1941-1944); Adrian Mihai Cioflanca (Xenopol History Inst, Iasi, Romania) A New Perspective in the Interpretation of the Iasi Pogrom (June 1941) and Andrei Muraru (U of Iasi, Romania/US Holocaust Memorial Museum, DC) Faces of Memory: Perpetrators and Victims in Transnistria War Criminal Trials

SESSION XI: 2:50 – 4:50 PM  
PANEL CE20: Changing Arenas of Identity Formation in Romania with papers by Calin Cotoi (U of Bucharest, Romania) Social Democracy and Narodnicism: National Identity and the Left in Fin-de-siècle Romania; Anca Sincan (Institute for Socio Humanistic Research “Gheorghe Sincai”, Târgu-Mureș, Romania) Turning Greek Catholics into Orthodox: Church-building in a Transylvanian Village in the 1980s; Constantin Claudiu Oancea (University Institute, Florence, Italy) Building Charisma, Imagining the Nation and Remembering the Leader: Nicolae Ceaușescu’s Nationalist Charisma and its Afterlife; Ger Duijzings (School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UK) The ‘Everynight’ in Bucharest: Proposals for a Nocturnal Anthropology and Caterina Preda (U of Bucharest, Romania) Art of Memorialization in Postcommunist Romania

PANEL CE22: Communism, Post-Communism and National Identity in East Central Europe with a paper by Mark Kramer (Harvard U, US) Institutes of ‘National Memory’ in East Central Europe: Romania and the Czech Republic

SESSION XII: 5:10 – 7:10 PM  
CALLS FOR PAPERS

Location: Berlin, Germany
Dates: May 19-22, 2011
Deadline for paper proposals: April 15, 2011
Theme: Ost-, Ostmittel- und Südosteuropa befindet sich nicht erst in den vergangenen Jahren in einem rasanten Wandel. Wie wirkt sich dieser in den Bereichen von Alltag und Umwelt aus? Wie steht Migration dazu im Verhältnis und welche „neuen Werte“ prägen die „alten Kulturen“.
Call for papers: http://www.ostblick-deutschland.de/

Conference: “Orthodox Christian Tradition and the Integration of Europe”
Location: Leuven, Belgium
Dates: September 15-17, 2011
Deadline for paper proposals: May 1, 2011
Theme: The conference wants to explore the possibilities and chances as much as the dangers and hindrances for European Integration which all might be connected with the impact of Christian Orthodox tradition on elite discourses and popular attitudes among various European communities.
Call for papers: http://www.ru.nl/ivoc/english/projects-research/engaging_eastern/announcements/

Conference: “Regional cooperation in Europe: Opportunity for the Balkans”
Location: Dubrovnik, Croatia
Dates: September 21-23, 2011
Deadline for paper proposals: April 15, 2011
Theme: European and regional principles and concepts related to the significance of regional cooperation in the EU accession process. The Conference is opened to all the issues of regional science, regional development theory and policy, cooperation, cohesion, institutions, financing, integration, and education.
Call for papers: http://www.iecob.net/main/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=275&Itemid=87

Conference: “Dying and Death in 18th-21st century Europe”
Location: Alba Iulia, Romania
Dates: September 29 – October 1, 2011
Deadline for papers proposals: June 10, 2011
Theme: Cultural history of death; New ritualisations of death in the 21st century; Bereavement in modern and post-modern society; Suicide, euthanasia and the law; End of life and palliative care; Definitions of death in terms of biomedicine and otherwise; Commemorating the dead in space and time; Bodily disposal: implications of the shift from burial to cremation; Religion and the meaning of death
Call for papers: http://www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=183548&keyword=dying

Conference: Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (ASEC)
Location: Columbus, Ohio
Dates: October 7-8, 2011
Deadline for paper proposals: May 20, 2011
Theme: A multi-disciplinary conference devoted to the cultures that have been influenced by forms of Christianity originating from the Eastern/Byzantine tradition. Papers may deal with any related region, period or topic and may represent any discipline including anthropology, cultural studies, history, literary criticism, linguistics, sociology and religious studies.
Contact: Jennifer Spock (jennifer.spock@eku.edu).
Conference: Bridging the Orient and the Occident: Freemasonry, Fraternalism, and the Authoritarian/Dictatorial Regimes of the Twentieth Century  
Location: Bucharest, Romania  
Dates: September 15-18, 2011  
Theme: The conference series focuses on the connections, transfers, entanglements, and synergies between Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean Region, and the wider West—in a global context. In 2011, freemasonry and fraternalism are studied in the context of the authoritarian and dictatorial regimes of the twentieth century.  
Call for papers: http://www.irmsf.ro/bridging/

Conference: Inaugural Conference in Romani Studies  
Location: University of California-Berkeley, LA  
Dates: November 10, 2011  
Deadline for paper proposals: April 25, 2011  
Theme: By examining and exploring the various strategies by which Roma have represented themselves and others, both in dialogue with and apart from the larger societies in which they live, the Inaugural Conference in Romani Studies seeks to support the continued development of this rapidly-growing field. We seek new studies of the uses of Romani images in non-Roma cultures, contemporary social and political issues facing Romani communities across the globe, and Roma-related research.  
Call for papers: http://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu/node/40803

Conference: Confessional identity and religious tolerance in the 18th-21st centuries  
Location: Alba Iulia, Romania  
Dates: October 14-15, 2011  
Deadline for paper proposals: September 10, 2011  
Theme: The central topic of debate will be the tolerance politics of Emperor Joseph II (premises, meanings, consequences) and, on a larger scale, the change of connotations of religious tolerance towards contemporaneity. From this perspective, the aspects to be approached concern the meanings of tolerance (philosophical, theological, religious, secular), confessional and religious perspectives on tolerance, tolerance in Islam, tolerance as revelator for relations between the state and the Church, attitudes and political decisions referring to tolerance, consequences of tolerance politics (confessional mobility, construction of worship edifices, education) confessional and cultural identities, interconfessional relations, tolerance within interconfessional and contemporaneous interreligious dialogue.  
Call for papers: http://www.uab.ro/sesiuni_2011/identitate_confesionala/

Conference: Modern Language Association (MLA)  
Location: Seattle  
Dates: January 5-8, 2011  
Deadline for calls for papers: April 1, 2011  
Theme: The Romanian Studies Association of America has suggested panels on the themes of “New Orientalisms East and West: Art in the Margins,” “Performing Postmodernity with a Balkan Flair: Trends in Contemporary Romanian Theater from Inside and Outside,” and “Solidarity or Colonization? Africans in Romania and in the Eastern Bloc.” The Romanian Studies Discussion Group has suggested panels on “Romania’s Intellectuals and Ceauşescu’s Secret Police” and “Academic Biographies: East-Europeans in American Universities.”  
Call for papers: http://www.thersaa.org/announcements.html
FELLOWSHIPS & PRIZES

FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS & JUNIOR SCHOLARS

Scholarships for Foreign Researchers. The Romanian Cultural Institute offers a three-month scholarship helping students to complete a Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral thesis on a Romanian topic. The deadline for applications is May 15, 2011. More details are available at http://www.icr.ro/bucuresti/burse-si-rezidente/burse-pentru-cercetatorii-straini.html

A Summer Research Laboratory will be run by the Russian, East European and Eurasian Center at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign between June 13 and August 5, 2011. Junior Scholars Training Workshops will be held as part of the SRL program. The deadline for scholarships is April 1 for international applicants and April 15 for U.S. citizens and permanent residents. More details are available at http://www.reeec.illinois.edu/srl/

Davis Student Travel Grants are available to subsidize graduate students travel to the 2011 ASEEES convention. The application deadline is April 15, 2011. More details are available at http://www.aseees.org/convention/davisgrant.html


International fellowships for 2012/2013 at the Imre Kertész Kolleg in Jena, Germany. The research group conducts comparative research aiming to provide a new transnational and interdisciplinary basis for scholarly reflection on the historical experience of Eastern Europe in the 20th Century. The deadline for applications is May 15, 2011. More details are available at http://www.imre-kertesz-kolleg.uni-jena.de/index.php?id=16&l=1

2011 Western U.S. Graduate Research Workshop on the European Union will be held on May 13-14, 2011 at the University of Colorado in Boulder, CO. The workshop advances two direct aims: to provide a forum for US-based graduate students at the dissertation level to present their EU-focused research to an audience of knowledgeable, supportive, yet critical faculty and peers; and to provide methodological instruction to students in a way that is relevant to European Union-related work. The deadline for applications is April 8, 2011. More details are available at http://euce.org/?p=25

The ASEEES Graduate Student Essay Prize is awarded for outstanding essay by a graduate student in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies. The deadline for submissions is June 1, 2011. More details are available at http://www.aseees.org/prizes/studentprize.html

Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) Graduate Essay Prize for a chapter or article-length essay in any field or area of Slavic/East European/Central Asian Studies written by a woman or on a topic in Slavic/East European/Central Asian Women's/Gender Studies written by a woman or a man. The deadline for submissions is September 1, 2011. More details are available at http://www.awsshome.org/graduate-essay.html

Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) Graduate Research Prize. The Prize is awarded biennially to fund promising graduate level research in any field of Slavic/East European/Central Asian studies by a woman or on a topic in Women's or Gender Studies related to Slavic Studies/East Europe/Central Asia by either a woman or a man. The deadline for submissions is September 1, 2011. More details are available at http://www.awsshome.org/graduate-research.html
FOR ROMANIAN CITIZENS

Residency at ICR Paris. The Romanian Cultural Institute in Paris offers scholarships to Romanian citizens allowing them to spend up to two months in Paris working on any topic in the humanities. The deadlines for applications are May 10, 2011 and November 1, 2011. More details are available at http://www.icr.ro/bucuresti/burse-si-rezidente/rezidenta-icr-paris.html

Residency at ICR London. The Romanian Cultural Institute in London offers scholarships to Romanian citizens allowing them to spend up to two months in London working on any topic in the humanities. The deadline for applications is June 15, 2011. More details are available at http://www.icr.ro/bucuresti/burse-si-rezidente/rezidenta-icr-londra.html

FOR FACULTY

Short-Term Research Grant Program for Scholars. The Romanian Cultural Institute and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars are pleased to announce a 2011 Short-Term Research Grant Program for Scholars. Successful applicants will have the opportunity to spend four months in residence at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington D.C., where they will carry out advanced research and writing. The deadline for applications is October 1, 2011. More details are available at http://www.icr.ro/burse_cercetare_washington

Title VIII Short Term Grants for research in the Washington D.C. area. Funded by the Woodrow Wilson Center. The deadline for applications is June 1, 2011. More details are available at http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1422&fuseaction=topics.item&news_id=5989

ASEEES Distinguished Contributions to Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Award honors senior scholars who have helped to build and develop the field through scholarship, training, and service through scholarship, training, and service to the profession. The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2011. More details are available at http://www.aseees.org/prizes/honorsprize.html

ASEEES Book Prize committees are currently accepting nominations for outstanding books on Eastern Europe in a variety of fields. The deadline for nominations is May 6, 2011. More details are available at http://www.aseees.org/prizes.html

Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) Heldt Book Prizes awarded for books and translations on Slavic/Eastern European/Eurasian women's studies in four different categories. The deadline for nominations is May 6, 2011. More details are available at http://www.awsshome.org/heldt.html

The Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes the work of a scholar in the field of Slavic Studies, who has also served as a mentor to female students/colleagues in this field. The deadline for nominations is September 15, 2011. More details are available at http://www.awsshome.org/outstanding-achievement.html

The Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) Mary Zirin Prize aims to recognize the achievements of independent scholars and to encourage their continued scholarship and service in the fields of Slavic or Central and Eastern European Women's Studies. The deadline for nominations is August 1, 2011. More details are available at http://www.awsshome.org/zirin.html

The Ion Rațiu Democracy Award is presented by the Woodrow Wilson Center to recognize the importance of the work carried out by democracy activists around the world. Ideal candidates will be thoughtful practitioners and engaged thinkers, with the primary focus being on civil society leaders who are either established or emerging, though current or former government officials will be considered. The deadline for nominations is April 30, 2011. More details are available at http://www.wilsoncenter.org/ratiu
RECENT PUBLICATIONS


At a time when pension reform is intensely debated all over the world, postcommunist countries have accomplished some of the most radical reforms, yet with notable differences among them. Why did some Central and Eastern European countries achieve major reforms while others have struggled to overcome domestic opposition? *The Politics of Pension Reform in Central and Eastern Europe* reveals unexpected patterns of political party competition that shed light on this essential question of pension politics. Using a comparative analysis of Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia this study shows that nationalist parties are the strongest opponents to reform, while the social democrats play a pivotal role between the pro-reform liberals and the anti-reform nationalists. This book argues that the most resilient to reform are the occupational privileges inherited from the communist regime.


Learn about American fighter pilots and bombers who raided Romania's famed Ploiești targets in WW-II including its major oilfields. First-hand ‘Ace’ pilot stories and interviews, both American and Romanian, as well as US air force prisoners experiences are explored through rarely viewed archive footage.


There are as many as 3,400 correspondents covering the United States, among them approximately 600 print and broadcast correspondents from European countries. The importance of the foreign correspondents corps stationed in the United States and of their work has increased commensurate with the world preeminence gained by the U.S. after World War II. This book examines the state of research on European foreign correspondence from the United States and on the corps of journalists that produces it. Contributions from both European and American authors examine the varied conceptual issues regarding foreign correspondence, the methodologies that have been employed in studies carried out on both sides of the Atlantic, and the theories that were and could be tested when studying the subject. The book serves as a prolegomena to future studies on foreign correspondence and correspondents.


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**About the Society for Romanian Studies**

The Society for Romanian Studies (SRS) is an international inter-disciplinary academic organization founded in 1973 to promote professional study, criticism, and research on all aspects of Romanian culture and civilization, particularly concerning the countries of Romania and Moldova. The SRS is generally recognized as the major professional organization for North American scholars concerned with Romania and Moldova. It is affiliated with the South East European Studies Association (SEESA); the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES-- formerly known as the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies or AAASS); the American Political Science Association (APSA); and the American Historical Association (AHA).

More information about the SRS, including current officers, the national board, and membership information, can be found on the website at [http://www.society4romanianstudies.org](http://www.society4romanianstudies.org)

If you have any recent activities (publications, conference presentations, etc.) please send such information to the Newsletter Editor, Roland Clark, roloclark80@gmail.com.