

# *News in Hungarian Studies*

The Newsletter of the Hungarian Studies Association of Canada

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## Executive for 2010-12

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Website of HSAC: [www.hungarianstudies.org](http://www.hungarianstudies.org)

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This issue of the Newsletter was prepared by Judy Young Drache and e-mailed on October 19th 2011. For those members who have no e-mail address, paper copies will be mailed. The next issue will be prepared and sent out in January 2012. *Please remember to send me any news you would like to include in the next issue by the beginning of January.*

## President's Report

It is that time of the year again: to conclude our activities from the past season, including our annual conference, to begin thinking about our activities for this academic year, and to plan our conference for May 2012.

I consider myself to have been a very lucky president of the HSAC thus far. I am happy to report that our membership continues to rise to levels that our association had not experienced for a long time. At this time we have around 80 members, which is up from about 70 members a year ago. Our new members are joining the association both from Canada and from abroad, as a result both of our recruitment and networking efforts and of the good reputation our association has acquired. The journal of our association, the *Hungarian Studies Review*, continues to thrive and to attract excellent papers thanks to the tireless efforts of our distinguished colleague, Prof. Nandor Dreisziger.

The 26th Annual Conference, held between May 28 and 30, 2011 in Fredericton, NB, at the University of New Brunswick and St Thomas University as part of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, was a great success due both to the quality of its program and the variety of the papers presented. The May 28 special event to celebrate International Liszt year was made possible particularly through the extraordinary efforts and organizing skills of our association's secretary, Judy Young. This special event, supported by the Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences, featured distinguished and internationally acclaimed Liszt scholar Alan Walker whose spirited lecture "Franz Liszt: the Cultural Ambassador of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century" was followed by a refined piano recital entitled "Liszt the Voyager" performed by Valerie Tryon.

This successful evening proved to be a good omen for the remaining two days of the conference that featured eight panels covering topics from literature, gender studies, music, and education to philosophy, social and cultural history, and immigration. It was unfortunate that we had a couple of last minute cancellations from speakers, but the program committee managed to rearrange the program in a way that did not affect the overall layout of the panels. We were pleased to have presentations by a number of scholars new to the Association and to have participants from across the country as well as the US and Hungary. The keynote lecture, open to other associations, "Chess Game for Democracy: Hungary between East and West, 1944-47," was presented by Prof. Mária Palasik (Historical Archives of Hungarian State Security – Állambiztonsági Szolgálatok Történelmi Levéltára, Budapest), whose book of the same title was released by McGill/Queen's University Press at Congress to coincide with the opening of our conference. Tamás Király, First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Hungary from Ottawa gave a guest lecture on "The Hungarian Presidency of the European Union." Both were well received and generated lively discussion. The same can be said for the other presentations as well. The complete program can be found on our website: [www.hungarianstudies.org](http://www.hungarianstudies.org) where there will soon be photographs of the 2011 conference sessions.

Next year's conference is taking place between May 26-28 2012 at Wilfried Laurier University and the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, ON. Please consider sending in an abstract in response to the Call for Papers in this newsletter; the Program Committee is working on making this another success and I look forward to seeing many of you at the conference.

Agatha Schwartz  
[agathas@uottawa.ca](mailto:agathas@uottawa.ca)

## Call for Papers for the 2012 HSAC conference in Waterloo

The Hungarian Studies Association of Canada invites proposals for its 27th annual conference, to be held in Waterloo, May 26-28th, 2012. The main conference days will be 27 and 28, and we will either have an opening address or a social event on the evening of May 26<sup>th</sup>.

The overall theme for the 2012 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences is “Crossroads: Scholarship for an Uncertain World” (“À la croisée des chemins: le savoir face à un monde incertain”). Congress organizers elaborate on the theme by noting that the humanities and social sciences are well placed to respond to the challenges posed by the uncertainties and rapid transformations in our societies within a globalized world. Through the intersection of the various disciplines Congress 2012 should provide “an ideal forum for critical dialogue and debate” around such challenges.

HSAC is particularly well suited to responding to this invitation as we are an interdisciplinary association. We are therefore seeking proposals for papers or sessions that tie this overall theme into Hungarian scholarship both in Canada and abroad. A special roundtable discussion on the State of the Art in Hungarian studies is being planned as part of the conference. While we would be happy to have proposals relating to the overall Congress theme (and are exploring doing a joint session with another association), as usual, we also welcome papers covering all aspects of Hungarian culture, history, politics and society from a wide range of disciplines, such as economics, film studies, the fine arts, history, literature, political science, public policy, sociology. Papers may be presented in English, Hungarian, or French. Only paid up members of HSAC can present papers.

**The deadline for submitting proposals is January 15th, 2012.** Your proposal should contain the paper’s title, an abstract of no more than 400 words summarizing your topic with key arguments (and sources if applicable), as well as a brief curriculum vitae. Please submit your abstract and paper title by the deadline and in the language in which you wish to present.

Proposals should be sent by e-mail to Judy Young, HSAC’s Secretary. She will forward them to the Program Committee. E-mail: [judyyoung@drache.ca](mailto:judyyoung@drache.ca) Tel.: 613 567-5756.

Conference Program Committee:  
Christopher Adam [christopheradam@sympatico.ca](mailto:christopheradam@sympatico.ca)  
George Bisztray [george\\_bisztray@yahoo.com](mailto:george_bisztray@yahoo.com)  
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**PLEASE NOTE:** Congress will not be sending out Registration Guides by mail this year. They will send out a flyer with basic information only to those who have no e-mail address or who have requested this in the past. All the registration and program information will be on their website: <http://congress2012.ca/> as it becomes available. Registration will start in January 2012. We will inform you and remind you of deadlines as these become available to us. Please visit their website regularly and sign up for receiving updates from them.

**Reminder: Please remember to pay your dues for 2011. Some members have not yet done so.**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HUNGARIAN STUDIES  
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (HSAC)**

**May 29th 2011, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton**

1. The meeting was called to order by the President, Agatha Schwartz at 16.15 and quorum was present. The Minutes of the 2010 AGM were approved.
2. President introduced two representatives of the Canadian Federation for Humanities and Social Sciences (Fedcan): Noreen Golfman and Alison Hebbs, respectively President and Director of Policy. They welcomed HSAC to the Federation and spoke about the role of Fedcan beyond organizing the annual Congress (the biggest chunk of their work). This includes lobbying with government on behalf of the humanities and social sciences in Canada, informing about trends in higher education, and sharing of information with other research agencies and among member organizations. They also mentioned some opportunities for members such as the availability of travel grants and financial assistance for well-known international keynote speakers. Fedcan encourages and supports joint sessions with other associations at Congress and sessions which touch upon the overall Congress theme from different perspectives. They complimented HSAC on their special public event (Alan Walker and Valery Tryon's lecture/recital) to mark the international Liszt anniversary – felt this was an “original” and significant intellectual and artistic contribution to Congress 2011. Finally they encouraged us to be part of Congress 2012 in Waterloo, jointly held by the U of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier U.
3. Reports of the Executive.

President: Agatha Schwartz expressed pleasure at the Conference themes and participants, thanked Christopher Adam, Vice President, who had acted in her absence during 2010-11. She made two proposals: one that we investigate Paypal for our website as an option for overseas members to pay their dues more easily and cheaply. This proposal was moved by Eva Tomory and seconded by Margit Lovrics; carried. Secondly that we consider a family membership category whereby two family members at the same address could pay a reduced fee (eg. in the case of the full fee, a family membership would be \$75 instead of \$90 and in the case of the student/retired fee, family membership would be \$45 instead of \$60; moved by Eva Tomory and seconded by Eniko Pittner; carried.

Vice-President's report – not given as Chris Adam was unable to attend because of illness.

Treasurer: Margit Lovrics's report for the period May 1 2010-April 30<sup>th</sup> 2011 is attached to and is part of the Minutes. She noted some donations and expenditures for HSR. Treasurer's report accepted, moved by Eniko Basa and seconded by Eva Tomory.

Secretary: Judy Young Drache first of all passed on to the members a special greeting from HSAC's long-term former Secretary, George Bisztray, who missed the annual conference for the first time ever as a result of the happy circumstance that he was on an extended honeymoon in Europe. (We wish him and his wife much happiness for the future!) She commented on the positive growth of association membership during the last year and welcomed the participation in the conference by some new and old US colleagues. A revised print version of the HSAC brochure was also prepared in time for the conference and is available. She thanked all those members who contributed to the costs of the special Liszt event mentioning that tax receipts will be forthcoming from the Canada-Hungary Educational Foundation, a partner in the event. She also suggested that a card be sent to Oliver Botar who was unable to attend at the last minute because of the illness of his son, Nadir. Report accepted, moved by Eva Kossuth and seconded by Margit Lovrics.

4. Reports of the Committees.

Publications: Nandor Dreisziger reported that all volumes up to 2009 of the HSR are now online at the website of the OSZK (a promise made in 1994):

<http://epa.oszk.hu/html/vgi/boritolapuj.phtml?id=00010> . EBSCO who has the contract to make available abstracts of the journal to academics should but has not yet paid any fees collected. The 2011 volume of the journal was printed in Canada and took one week where the process has taken 9 months in Hungary. However, the cost of mailing out the volume is rather high. (About \$3.00 per issue, letter mail.) Judy Young asked if it might be possible to mail the journal at a reduced rate, not as letter mail?

Planning (and Nominations): (Oliver Botar, Eva Tomory, Magda Velki). In Oliver's absence Eva reported that members had a number of skype conversations during the year and recommend this as a way to communicate amongst members. There was also a suggestion that members not read papers but summarize them at conferences and circulate papers in advance. The committee will have some further discussions and report back to the meeting in 2012. They will also prepare a list of suggested nominations for the elections of 2012. Eva Kossuth expressed an interest in becoming a member of this committee; all agreed.

5. Next year's conference.

The 2012 Congress is taking place in Waterloo held jointly by Wilfrid Laurier and the U of Waterloo, May 26-June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The HSAC conference dates (confirmed since the AGM) will be May 27-28 and we can use the evening of 26<sup>th</sup> if we want for the opening of the conference or just a social get-together. The Program committee of 2011 was to remain in place for 2012 except for the local rep who will be Maria Tiltins. Since the AGM George Bisztray, who had offered to help out as needed on this committee, has taken over from Eniko Pittner who has asked to be replaced as she has many commitments.

6. Other Business.

Eniko Basa of AHEA spoke about cooperation between our associations, participating in each other's conferences and invited input and contributions to the E-journal of AHEA. The journal can be found at <http://ahea.net/e-journal>

### **Treasurer's report**

Please find the Treasurer's report for the period May 1, 2010 – April 30, 2011 as approved at the AGM on the next page



Opening balance as of May 1, 2010 \$4,895.00

REVENUE

Membership fees for 2010	\$1,685.89			
for 2011	544.07	\$2,229.96		
Donations				
Eva Kossuth	40.00			
Clara Bencsics	40.00			
Esther Vitalis	20.00	100.00		
Bank Interest				
on bank account	0.62			
on GIC	15.00	15.62		2,345.58
				<b>\$7,240.58</b>

DISBURSEMENTS

Remittance of subscription fees held in our account for HSR				\$1,005.00
2010 Conference expenses				287.51
Website Internet service hosting fee				124.13
Updates on our website				40.00
Administrative expenses, Executive Secretary	185.68			
Treasurer	110.22	295.90		
CFHSS annual membership fee (Oct.1/10 - Sep.30/11)				686.94
Miscellaneous expenses				78.07
				2,517.55
In Bank account as of April 30, 2011				4,723.03
				<b>\$7,240.58</b>

**TOTAL ASSETS @ APRIL 30, 2011: \$4,723.03**

Note (1) The \$3,000.00 Triple Value GIC earning 0.5% interest was redeemed and deposited to our bank account on April 14, 2011.

Note (2) The membership fee includes subscription fee of \$15.00 to the "Hungarian Studies Review". As of April 30, 2011 the amount owing to HSR is \$945.00 arrived at as follows:

2010	705.00
2011	240.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$945.00</b>

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## News and Events of Interest

- The American Hungarian Educators Association (AHEA) is having its annual conference at the Brooklyn Campus of Long Island University in New York, April 26-29<sup>th</sup> 2012. The conference title is “Hungarian Borders, [Im]migrations, Diasporas.” Deadline for the submission of proposals is January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012 and the Call for papers can be found on the AHEA website: <http://ahea.net/sitefiles/2012.conf/2012.call.pdf> . We hope that Canadian members will consider attending and conversely, US members will attend our conference in Waterloo. A planned round-table discussion on the State of the Art in Hungarian studies at the Waterloo conference would certainly benefit from the participation of US colleagues!
- For those who were not able to attend the 2011 HSAC conference, we would like to inform you that Maria Palasik’s new English language publication *Chess Game for Democracy. Hungary Between East and West 1944-47* was published and launched at the Congress in Fredericton. The book can be purchased from academic bookstores, various online bookstores or McGill-Queen’s University Press online at <http://mqup.mcgill.ca/ordering.php>. If you order the book before November 1<sup>st</sup> you should ask for a 20% discount using the code: PALASM11.
- *Comparative Hungarian Cultural Studies* is the title of a volume edited by Steven Tötösy de Zepetnek and Louise O. Vasvári and published in September 2011 by Purdue University Press. The articles in the book present scholarship about culture in Central and Eastern Europe with special attention to Hungarian culture, literature, cinema, new media and other areas of cultural expression. More detailed information about this work can be found on the website of Purdue University Press at <http://www.thepress.purdue.edu/titles/format/9781557535931>
- On the occasion of International Liszt year, Professor Alan Walker will participate in the closing conference and musical events of the year in Budapest on November 18-21<sup>st</sup> 2011. “Liszt and the Arts; International Interdisciplinary Conference” is organized by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Franz Liszt Memorial Museum.
- Between October 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> the third Manitoba-Szeged Partnership Colloquium was held in Szeged, including scholars from various disciplines from both the University of Manitoba and the University of Szeged. Among the participants were Dr. Katalin Kürtösi (U. of Sz.) and Dr. Oliver Botar (U. of M.). This year’s theme was “Encountering the Unknown,” and featured a wide range of papers inspired by this subject. Katalin and Oliver were part of a session on the fine arts. Katalin spoke on Emily Carr’s literature and painting, while Oliver spoke on László Moholy-Nagy’s pioneering approach to media in art. Supported by a generous grant from a Winnipeg Hungarian businessman, the partnership was set up on the initiative of Dr. Emőke Szathmáry, while she was still President of the University of Manitoba. This year’s Colloquium was organized by Dr. Cheryl Dueck, Professor of German at the U. of M. and by Dr. György Szőnyi, Professor of Cultural Studies at the U. of Sz.
- Nandor Dreisziger’s paper "Genetic Research and Hungarian 'Deep Ancestry' " is being published in the AHEA e-journal’s 2011 volume: <http://ahea.net/e-journal>