



NEWSLETTER OF THE EARLY SLAVIC STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Volume 5, Number 1, April, 1992

A Message from the ESSA President

Our infant organization is doing rather well. We have over 120 members, a set of by-laws, a modest treasury, and a fine newsletter. We have been recognized as an affiliate of the AAASS, a status which entitles us to sponsor a session at the annual meeting. At each annual business meeting, convened during the AAASS conference, we have included a panel discussion which has invariably proven stimulating. We have successfully promoted informal socializing of our members by way of a dinner held during the course of the AAASS meeting. I urge all members to participate actively in our organization: by proposing a session we might sponsor, attending our business meeting and annual dinner, sending news items to the Newsletter. Last but not least, pass on to Gail Lenhoff, our Vice-President, or to me any suggestions for other endeavors we might undertake.

Sam Baron

Minutes of the 1991 Meeting of the ESSA

The annual meeting of the ESSA was held in the Miami Inter-Continental Hotel on Friday, November 22, 1991, as part of the AAASS Convention; Vice-President Sam Baron presided in the absence of President Ben Uroff. George Majeska presented the Treasurer's report, and Hugh Olmsted read the report of the Committee appointed to study the feasibility of the Association's preparing its own bibliography (both reports are printed below). In the discussion of bibliographic problems in our field which followed the reading of the Committee's report, several members reiterated the importance of bibliographic aids. Dr. Olmsted generously volunteered to share with the general membership a bibliography of serial bibliographies for medieval Slavic studies which he was in the process of compiling. It will be distributed with a future issue of the Newsletter to which it will serve as a SUPPLEMENT. The meeting then moved on to election of new officers. The slate proposed by the nominating committee (colleagues Klenin, Leich and Ostrowski) was accepted by acclamation: Sam Baron as President, Gail Lenhoff as Vice-President, George Majeska as Secretary-Treasurer, and David Prestel as Newsletter Editor. Their term is two years. Announcements of general interest concluded the business part of the meeting, including an invitation from Janet Martin that we come together to eat seafood the following evening (those who accepted remember the meal well).

The second hour of our allotted time was devoted to an informal panel discussion on doing research in the new Russia, with President Baron in the Chair. All the panelists had recently returned from research trips to Russia. Eve Levin reported that the Manuscript Division of the Lenin Library had reopened after relocating to the main building and that GIM remained closed to researchers. She remarked on a new, welcoming attitude to foreigners and speedy delivery of materials in the various archives in which she worked, as well as a clear lack of pattern in what materials were and were not available. Difficulties of daily life under current conditions, she warned, demand a much larger percentage of a researcher's time than previously. Valerie Kivelson talked about feelings of demoralization among many Russian colleagues depressed because of job insecurity, paper shortages leading to reduced opportunities for publishing, and recognition of their being considerably behind Western colleagues in methodological development. She noted a curious ambivalence about treatment of Westerners who are purposely sought out for ideas and conversation and yet are objects of jealousy because of perceived earlier favorable treatment. She also remarked on an uncanny persistence of hierarchy. Bob Crummey shared some of his reactions to a stint in Leningrad, emphasizing the importance of intellectual community there and the warm hospitality of the libraries and research institutes. Material shortages, he reported, had in many instances, made barter the most appropriate payment for microfilms. He also recommended scholars bring their own film for microfilming projects.

George Majeska

Treasurer's Report

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Outlay</u>	
Dues	\$528.00	Printing	\$152.54
Interest	\$35.61	Postage	\$165.25
		Supplies, etc	\$80.23
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$563.61</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$398.00</u>
Balance, Nov. 1, 1990:	\$411.47	Balance, Nov. 15, 1991:	\$577.08

ESSA Sponsored Panel in Miami

The ESSA organized its first officially sponsored panel at the AAASS 1991 Convention in Miami. Put together by George Majeska and Tom Noonan, the roundtable discussion treated "The Question of Foreign Influences among the Early Eastern Slavs," attempting to define the nature of "foreign influence" on the basis of several concrete test cases. Majeska, who chaired the session, assessed the role of Byzantine influence in the formation of Eastern Slavic culture, emphasizing that it affected primarily the elite, at least in the early centuries, and that its significance might be overestimated by historians because it left such self-conscious literary

evidence. Peter Golden, addressing the question of the steppe nomads, discussed the Rus' experience in an environment dominated by nomads as formative in creating Rus' concepts of state, particularly the imperial tradition of the *kagan*. He emphasized the role of language in tracing influences. George Mellinger spoke about the Golden Horde and the spread of influences among the East Slavs through conquest and trade. Noonan suggested studying the changing contents, sizes and sites of coin hordes as a good barometer of cultural contact, a prelude to influence. His work points to Rus' partaking in larger European patterns of change. Members of the audience raised a number of interesting points on and around the subject, proving that there was considerable interest in the topic. It is hoped that ESSA-sponsored panels will now be a standard part of the annual AAASS program.

George Majeska

Report of the Bibliography Committee to the ESSA at the 1991 AAASS

On the question of the feasibility of producing a regular bibliography of new works published in our subject area.

A committee formed of Sandra Levy, as chair, Thomas Noonan, Hugh Olmsted and Donald Ostrowski, was appointed at the 1990 meeting to study the above question. We divided the charge into several steps:

1. investigate what sources already generally could be used to compile our bibliography
2. evaluate their usefulness
3. consider how we would proceed to construct and distribute our more specific bibliography
4. make recommendations on the feasibility of the above

The results of the first step are included with this report (see Appendix). The development and evaluation of even this partial list of bibliographies pointed to a number of difficulties with the proposed project.

- It is not yet complete and would require a great deal of work to insure it provided thorough coverage. While the U.S. and West European sources cover a wide geographic range, the Slavic sources noted so far are only Soviet and concentrate on that geographic area, severely limiting coverage of Eastern Europe.

- Some sources such as the INION bulletins appear regularly, but the items cited can be two years old or more before appearing in it. On the other hand the ABSEES Bibliography and the European Bibliography provide fairly complete coverage of any given year, but are years behind in production.

- The individual items differ between the very narrow such as Byzantinische Zeitschrift to incredibly broad as Historical Abstracts. Each has its own advantages and drawbacks. As specific as the Zeitschrift is, Slavic materials are only a minor part of its purview and the Catholic regions are not covered. Historical Abstracts'

geographic coverage is so broad, it is hard to believe they are able to capture everything. Then too, its chronological coverage only goes back to 1450, including only the latest part of our time frame.

- How much duplication of effort is involved in regularly reviewing each source? Are there more direct sources to the same material?

- Our product would be at least a 2nd or 3rd generation compilation, resulting in time lags of varying length, depending on the original source.

At this point it seems unlikely that we could produce a thorough and timely product. That being so, step three was not considered in detail. We do note that a project this size would need paid personnel for compilation and additional financial backing to publish and distribute the result.

All in all we can not recommend the section continue. Yet the effort was worthwhile. We believe the attached bibliography will be of interest to the members and hope that it may be distributed through the Newsletter.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Levy, with thanks to the committee for their work.

Addendum: Remarks about "Soviet" publications were written while there was still a Soviet Union. A whole range of questions about these publications, whether they will continue, what coverage will be included, etc., are now even more complicated.

Appendix: Bibliographies Consulted

Novaia sovetskaia literatura po obshchestvennym naukam - ISTORIIA, ARKHEOLOGIIIA, ETNOGRAFIIA INION. (INION)

Novaia sovetskaia literatura po obshchestvennym naukam - LITERATUROVEDENIE. (INION).

Novaia sovetskaia literatura po obshchestvennym naukam - IAZYKOZNANIE. (INION).

The above, appears monthly, recent years have subject indexes and include most academic publications.

Knizhnaia letopis'

Weekly, but very general, how good is coverage?

Letopis' zhurnal'nykh statei

Weekly, but very general, how good is coverage?

American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies

Yearly, but publication is even more behind schedule.

European Bibliography of Soviet, East European and Slavonic Studies

Also yearly, but publication is even more behind schedule.

Byzantinische Zeitschrift. A biannual publication, with each issue having an extensive international bibliography section. Byzantine studies is broadly defined to include most of medieval Slavdom.

International Medieval Bibliography. This biannual bibliography covers the European works in the medieval period. This usually ends around 1500, although it is extended for Russian history. It covers articles, notes and similar literature (although not book reviews or monographs).

Historical Abstracts, Pt. A: Modern History 1450-1914 Fairly current on U.S materials, foreign items are older and only good for the very end of our period.

Modern Language Association. International Bibliography of Books and Articles on the Modern Languages and Literatures Despite name does have some coverage of early Slavic literature. This is also reasonably current.

The above two are also available from Dialog, for those interested and capable of doing online searches.

British Medievalists Meet

The Slavonic and East European Medieval Studies Group (SEEMSG) has met twice during the current academic year. The agenda for the meeting on November 9 at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, included papers by Dr. R. M. Cleminson, "Cyrillic Printing at Trnava" and Professor F. J. Thomson, "Stages in the Assimilation of Byzantine Intellectual Culture by the East Slavs, 9th - 17th Centuries." Abstracts of both papers are available from the Newsletter Editor. At the meeting on March 21 at the St. Clement Ukrainian Catholic University, in London, four papers were read: Miss M. Unkovskaya, "Bradshaw's Mission to Moscow"; Lt.-Col. D. Smith, "Mestnichestvo and the Muscovite Army in the 16th Century"; Mr. Y. Stoyanov, "The Problem of Balkan-Byzantine Dualism"; Dr. C. M. MacRobert, "What was the Svetogorski izvod?" Members of the ESSA who happen to be in the United Kingdom are cordially invited to attend the twice-yearly meetings of the SEEMSG. The next Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 7 November 1992 in Cambridge. For information on the SEEMSG, contact Dr. Mary MacRobert, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, OX2 6QA, ENGLAND.

Hagiography Syllabi and Bibliographies

The Hagiography Society has taken responsibility for the distribution of cours syllabi and bibliographies emphasizing hagiographical themes which have been compiled by

individual members. Requests for information about availability and prices should be sent to Sherry Reames, English Department, University of Wisconsin, 600 North Park Street, Madison, WI 53706. Anyone wishing to become a member of the Hagiography Society should send \$5 for dues to Professor Reames.

Letopis'

Sam Baron (University of North Carolina) has been writing an article on a rather exciting subject: a recently found print of the original Jenkinson map of Russia (1562), which has long been known only by way of the version printed in the Ortelius atlas (1570). His research suggests that the map is incorrectly named both as to its maker and the date of publication.

Janice Foy (Sepulveda, CA) recently completed a dissertation at UCLA entitled "Croatian Sacred Musical Tradition in Los Angeles: History, Style and Meaning". In 1991 she presented a paper at the 16th Annual Ethnomusicology Studies Conference in Omaha, Nebraska, on "Emic and Etic Approaches in Ethnomusicological Research: Expectations, Realities and Conclusions Gleaned from Musical Research Among the Croatian Communities of Southern California," which will be published in the ESC Proceedings.

Edward Keenan (Harvard) is working on a biography of Ivan IV.

Jack Kollman (Stanford) is working on pre-Petrine art and architecture. He is now the coordinator of the A.M. program in Russian & East European Studies. In fall, 1991 he taught a course on Early Russian art and architecture at Stanford. In February, 1992 he was a study leader on the National Trust for Historic Preservation tour "Art and Architecture of St. Petersburg."

Nancy Kollman (Stanford) is studying honor and society in Muscovy.

Philip Longworth (McGill) has written The Making of Eastern Europe, which will be published by MacMillan, London, in May, 1992.

A. Dean McKenzie (University of Oregon) is currently researching Russian icons from Alaska. He recently published "Political Aspects in Russian icons" in The Millenium: Christianity & Russia (A.D. 988-1988), St Vladimir's Press, 1990.

Rosalind Y. McKenzie (London) is researching the secularization of hagiographical traditions in medieval Russia.

Hugh Olmsted (Widener Library, Harvard) has been appointed to a new position as Slavic Specialist in the Research Services Division of the Widener Public Services Department. He began his new position May 1, 1991. Research in progress includes further work on Russian linguistics, textology, and codicology.

Richard Pope (York University, Toronto, Canada) is trying to finish his study and edition of the "Narration of Agapius." He was in the USSR in Spring, 1991, and hopes to return in Spring, 1993, to see the last few unstudied manuscripts

Ihor Ševčenko (Harvard) published Byzantium and the Slavs in Letters and Culture (Cambridge, MA and Naples, 1991), a collection of 35 articles with Addenda.

To join the Early Slavic Studies Association, fill out the following form and return it to George Majeska, History Department, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742. Make checks payable for dues (\$5.00 per year --North America; \$7.00 --non-North America) payable to "George Majeska, Treasurer." If you have changed your address please inform the Secretary-Treasurer. Status of dues payment is noted in red on the address label. A red Y means yes, you have paid your dues and a red N indicates that you have not paid your dues, according to our records.

Members may also want to use this form to send in materials for the Newsletter. These items may be sent directly to the Newsletter Editor, David Prestel, Department of Linguistics and Languages, A-614 Wells Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1027

NAME _____ Tel. _____

Dept. _____ Institution _____

Mailing Address (if different from sticker) _____

Current Research Project _____

Material for Newsletter (Publications, Awards, Queries, Etc.) _____

ESSA Session at the 1993 AAASS National Convention

Persons who have ideas for an Early Slavic Studies Association session at the 1993 AAASS meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, should submit the full slate (chair, presenters, discussants) to Sam Baron, Department of History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27599-3195, and Gail Lenhoff, Department of Slavic Languages, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90024. The officers of ESSA will select and submit to the Program Committee the proposal that appears to be most interesting.

Midwest Slavic Conference and National Hilandar Conference

The Midwest Slavic Conference and National Hilandar Conference will be held concurrently in Columbus, Ohio, May 1-2, 1992. Over thirty panels are scheduled, exploring aspects of the history, literature, languages, politics and culture of Russia and Eastern Europe. Sessions of particular interest to medievalists include: "Medieval Images and Texts"; "Gender in Pre-Modern Slavia Orthodoxa"; "Reading Orthodox Texts"; "South Slavic Linguistics". For information and registration forms, contact the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, 303 Oxley Hall, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210.

Early Slavic Studies Association

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