CSC with ISA–Midwest Again in 2007

The Central Slavic Conference (CSC), a regional affiliate of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS), will host its annual meeting on November 1–4, 2007 in St. Louis, Missouri at the Hilton at the Ballpark. Like 2006, the meeting will be held in conjunction with the International Studies Association (ISA)–Midwest a professional association of scholars who mainly study international relations, area studies, and comparative politics. Registration for the 46th annual CSC meeting can occur on the ISA–Midwest website at http://www.missouri.edu/~isa-m/AnnualMeeting/registration.htm. Pre-registration is $40 for faculty/professionals and it is $45 for this group on site. For CSC 46 hotel information go to the Hilton at the Ballpark website at http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=STLBVHF or call 314-421-1776 or 1-800-HILTONS. It is now too late to get the conference discount. The Quincy Wright Luncheon is on Saturday, November 3, 2007. It is $15 for faculty/professionals and $12 for students. The luncheon is partially subsidized by the ISA–Midwest. A limited number of partial lodging scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students do exist to defray housing costs during the conference. Students can obtain a form at the conference registration table and apply for the ISA–Midwest subsidy for student participation. Submit the application along with a copy of the hotel receipt for reimbursement for the cost of one night’s stay, at the conference hotel only, based on double occupancy, and dependent on available funds. Students must stay at the conference hotel to qualify for the subsidy.

CSC Panels are Diverse at 2007 Annual Meeting

The Central Slavic Conference (CSC) will have five panels at the 2007 annual meeting in St. Louis. The 2007 meeting, the organization’s forty-sixth (the first was held in 1962), will be held in conjunction with the ISA–Midwest and the Midwest Association of Latin American Studies. The CSC panels for 2007 are as follows:

Friday, November 2, 8:15-10:00 am
CSC PANEL #1: FA4: East European Security
(Sponsored by the Central Slavic Conference)

Chair: Jacek Lubecki, University of Arkansas-Little Rock, jxlubecki@ualr.edu

Discussant: Kurt W. Jefferson, Westminster College, kurt.jefferson@westminster-mo.edu

Eagle from the Ashes? Decline and Recovery of the Polish Defense Industry
Jacek Lubecki, University of Arkansas-Little Rock, jxlubecki@ualr.edu

Caught between Two Worlds: Ukrainian Defense Industry Today
Jerry Morelock, Senior Editor-in-Chief Armchair
President’s Message

By Kurt Jefferson

It is hard to believe we are about to embark on the third CSC meeting during my tenure as CSC president. What started as a wonderful event with CSC 44 at Westminster College (my home institution) in Fulton, Missouri in 2005 has now become a third year of leading a great professional organization with our 2006 and 2007 meetings in St. Louis. The 45th CSC was a wonderful meeting. We had great cross-fertilization with the ISA-Midwest membership. Our panels had excellent turnout and feedback from younger and seasoned professionals, graduate students, independent scholars, and faculty. In 2007, we move into new territory with an undergraduate-graduate student panel. I am excited about this prospect and know that the future of our conference depends on input and active participation from students. I hope you encourage your students and colleagues to actively promote student (both undergraduate and graduate) collaboration with us at CSC. Our future is bright if we actively try to apply our new mission which is aimed at enlarging our membership base and network. The study of the Slavic world and the new Europe demands that we seek out partnerships with all publics (not just academic) that want to hear about the importance of our interest in facilitating the study of all things Slavic, European, and global. I welcome your input and comments on ways to improve our organization.

2007 CSC Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Saturday, November 3, 2007 at 3:30-5:15 PM

Agenda

1. Call to order; record roll of attendees
2. Minutes from November 4, 2006
3. Old Business: Announcement of current officers (see list provided)
4. Old Business: Report from Endowment Board, Sherri Rainey, convener
5. Other Old Business
   a. CSC will meet with ISA again in St. Louis in 2008
   b. 2006 meeting discussed, but took no action on, changing name to Central Slavic Association
   c. 2006 meeting ordered a revision of CSC Mission Statement, to be drafted and submitted by

Yulia Tymoshenko (Юлия Тимошенко) was premier of Ukraine from January to August 2005 and has led Bloc Yulia Tymoshenko (BYuT) in the parliament since 2002. BYuT recently joined the European People’s Party in the European Parliament.

Yulia Tymoshenko (R) in 2005 after being named prime minister in Ukraine (www.tymoshenko.com.ua).

Jefferson, Remington, Byron Scott.

7. New Business: Election of officers whose terms are expiring
   a. Robin Remington, Vice-President
   b. W. Meridith Bacon, Endowment Board
8. New Business: Presidential Appointment(s)
   a. Program Chair(s) for 2008
   b. Changes, if any, in those appointed for indeterminate terms
   c. Other organizational matters, if any
8. AAASS representative, Terry Clark of Creighton University
9. Appeal for deductible donations to the CSC Endowment fund

Please see Agenda on page 5
CSC Mission: A Work in Progress

The Central Slavic Conference has been reviewing its proposed mission and goals. The following mission and goals were discussed in the 2006 annual meeting in St. Louis:

Mission Statement: It is the mission of the Central Slavic Conference (CSC) to increase awareness of Slavic cultures in the new Russia, new Europe, and Eurasia. The CSC will also work to stimulate inquiry, knowledge, and communication in understanding the implications of relationships between Slavic cultures and educated Americans and others around the world who are interested in Slavic studies and issues.

The CSC will serve the following constituents: Undergraduates, graduate students, faculty at small colleges and universities, faculty at large research universities, and other professionals interested in the CSC’s mission and goals.

Soviet-era Jokes

Here are some interesting late Soviet-era jokes that were making the rounds in the Baltic states in 1991 prior to the independence of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. Many younger students of Russian and post-Soviet cultures and societies may not be as familiar with Soviet-era history (1917-91). These might lighten the mood in class or in a meeting:

1. Question: How many times can you tell a good joke in the Soviet Union?
   Answer: Three times. Once to a friend, once to a police investigator—and once to your cell mate.

2. Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev is making a speech. He finishes, then, as usual, asks for questions.
   After a long silence, a man finally asks, “Was communism invented by scientists or by communists?”
   Somewhat stumped, Brezhnev finally answers that it was invented by communists.
   “I thought so too,” responds the man. “Scientists would have tested it on mice first.”

3. Question: What countries border the Soviet Union?
   Answer: Any country the Soviet Union wants.

4. Soviet leaders Josef Stalin, Nikita Khrushchev and Leonid Brezhnev are traveling by train. Suddenly, the train grinds to a halt.
   Stalin is the first to try to solve the problem. He orders that the engine driver be shot for sabotage and he deports the co-driver to Siberia. The train doesn’t move.
   Khrushchev tries next. He brings the co-driver back from Siberia and tells him, “You’ve been away for a long time, but try to remember which controls do what.” He can’t and the train doesn’t move.
   Finally, Brezhnev gives it a go. He orders that all the blinds be drawn across the windows and that passengers start rocking back and forth in their seats—creating, at least, the impression the train’s moving.

5. Question: What is the difference between the Soviet and U.S. constitutions?
   Answer: The Soviet constitution guarantees freedom of speech and the right to hold demonstrations. The U.S. constitution also guarantees your freedom after the demonstrations and speeches.

Please see Soviet-era Jokes on page 6
Panels from page 1

General, jerry@armchairgeneral.com

The Variation of Russian Influence in the Former Soviet States
  Nino Krilova, Creighton University, ninokrilova@creighton.edu

Friday, November 2, 10:15 am-12:00 pm
CSC PANEL #2: FB4: Central Slavic Conference Undergraduate/Graduate Student Panel
(Sponsored by the Central Slavic Conference)

Chair: Kurt W. Jefferson, Westminster College, kurt.jefferson@westminster-mo.edu
Discussant: Terry D. Clark, Creighton University, TerryClark@creighton.edu

The Impact of Leninism and Stalinism on the Russian Orthodox Church from 1917-45
  Justin Cave, Westminster College, caveja@westminster-mo.edu

Wahabbist Islam in the Caucasus in the post-Soviet era
  J. D. Elsik, Westminster College, elsikjh@westminster-mo.edu

The Legacy of ‘Vadonis’ Ulmanis: Karlis Ulmanis, Past, Present, and Future
  Jordan T. Kuck, University of Nebraska-Kearney, juckjt@unk.edu

The Politics of Persistence: Germany’s Sorbian Population and the Struggle for Survival
  Matthew W. Slaboch, University of Kansas, mslaboch@ku.edu

Friday, November 2, 1:30-3:15 pm
CSC PANEL #3: FC5: Roundtable on Teaching Central European, East European, and Russian History and Politics
(Sponsored by the Central Slavic Conference)

Chair: Kurt W. Jefferson, Westminster College, kurt.jefferson@westminster-mo.edu

Sam Goodfellow, Westminster College, samuel.goodfellow@westminster-mo.edu

Jacek Lubecki, University of Arkansas-Little Rock, jxlubecki@ualr.edu

Saturday, November 3, 10:15-12:00 pm
CSC PANEL #4: SB5: Global Action to Prevent War: Multidimensional Security Strategies
(Sponsored by the Central Slavic Conference)

Chair: Robin Remington, Peacehaven International, remingtonr@missouri.edu

The United Nations Emergency Peace Service
  Waverly de Bruijn, Global Action to Prevent War, coordinator@globalactionpw.org

US-Russian Dialogue on Nuclear Arms Issues
  Steve Starr, Nuclear consultant, starr@isp01.net

International Terrorism and Prevention of War
  Paul Wallace, University of Missouri-Columbia, wallacep@missouri.edu

Hazards to Public Health; Bio Labs in Populated Areas:
  Focus on Bio Safety Labs Level Three and Level Four
  Dorothy Pittman, Environmental Safety Advocate, Global Action to Prevent War, and Women’s International League of Peace and Freedom, dorothypittman@att.net

Saturday, November 3, 1:30-3:15 pm
CSC PANEL #5: SC5: Russian Literature and Culture
(Sponsored by the Central Slavic Conference)

Chair/Discussant: Jerry Mikkelson, University of Kansas, gemikk@ku.edu

Modern Russian Art and Literature
  David Borgmeyer, Independent Scholar, St. Louis, Missouri, dmborgmeyer@hotmail.com

St. Petersburg: The Past and Present
  Jerry Mikkelson, University of Kansas, gemikk@ku.edu

Saturday, November 3, 3:30-5:15 pm
SD2: Central Slavic Conference Business Meeting
The Origins of the CSC

By Will Adams (c. 1969–70)

“The name of this association is the Central Slavic Conference (CSC). The conference includes the states of Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, and Oklahoma. It supercedes the Bi-State (Kansas–Missouri) Slavic Conference, which was founded in 1962. The association’s purpose is to advance the study of cultures and affairs of the peoples of Eastern Europe and Eurasia. The CSC holds an Annual Convention at which members and guests discuss the culture and affairs of the peoples in the countries of Eastern Europe and Eurasia. A the Annual Convention, the President and Executive Board convene a General Meeting of Members at which all formal business is transacted. Membership: A ‘member’ is any person who attends or registers at an Annual Convention. Dues: The Conference has no membership dues. Its revenues come from contributions from institutions that host the Annual Convention and from registration fees at the Annual Convention. Officers: The CSC has the following officers: The President, Vice-President, Secretary–Treasurer, Representative to the AAASS Council of Regional Affiliates, Archivist, and...”

“...Please see Origins on page 6

Adam Mickiewicz, Polish author (1798–1855) and along with Pushkin one of the Slavic world’s most famous poets. Living in what is now Lithuania, he fashioned a kind of nationalist poetry and referred to Poland as a “Christ among the nations.” His country would return after the First World War over 60 years after his death.

Agenda from page 2

10. Other New Business, if any
11. Adjournment.
Member of the Executive Board.” Excerpted from “How CSC Works” [www.ku.edu/~csc/works.htm.

5. Question: What is the difference between the Soviet and U.S. constitutions?
Answer: The Soviet constitution guarantees freedom of speech and the right to hold demonstrations. The U.S. constitution also guarantees your freedom after the demonstrations and speeches.

6. A telephone is ringing in the Kremlin. It’s a long-distance call, and someone wants to speak with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. A staffer tells the caller that, unfortunately, the long-ailing Brezhnev is now dead.
After just a few minutes, the phone rings again and the same voice asks to speak with Brezhnev.
“Look, he’s dead!,” the caller is told once more. “Didn’t you hear me the first time?”
“Of course. But it’s just such a nice thing to hear.”