

## SVU Reelects Rechcigl as its President

At the 43rd Meeting of the SVU General Assembly, convened on June 28, 2000 at the University of West Bohemia in Plzen, on the occasion of SVU World Congress, Dr. Miloslav Rechcigl was reelected as the Society's new President. Prof. Jan F. Triska, in his capacity as Chairman of the Nominations Committee, introduced him as follows: "On behalf of the Nominations Committee, which voted unanimously — and proudly — for your reelection, we would like to congratulate you — and even more, the SVU — for having the best President ever since its establishment in 1958. Your performance, ratified by the Pilsen Con-gress, was simply brilliant. You have been not only a thoughtful, tireless, tactful, daring, and imaginative leader, but also a great example to us all. We wish you and your hardworking Executive Council all the best."

Other elected Executive Board members are Dr. Jan P. Skalny, Executive Vice President; Prof. Vera Zandova Borkovec, Dean Ivo Budil, John Fiala, Dr. Josef Machac, Prof. Zlatica Plasienkova, Rev. Michael Rokos, Dr. Marc Weiss and Dr. Dagmar Hasalova White. The complete slate of the newly elected officers is given below.

The General Assembly meeting was scheduled for 3 PM but because of the insufficient number of members present, it was reconvened, as the SVU Bylaws prescribe, one hour later. The Assembly was called to order at 4 PM by SVU President Mila Rechcigl who started the meeting by welcoming the members and thanking the Plzen co-organizers for their splendid work, both in terms of the logistical arrangements and the over-all program, including the variety of cultural and social events. He then appointed Mila Saskova-Pierce to be Recording Secretary and asked the members to stand up to honor the memory of deceased SVU members.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the last General Assembly meeting held in Nebraska in 2001. Rechcigl then named a Resolution Committee, consisting of Zdenek Slouka (Chair), Pavel Machotka and Jan Kmenta. Several reports were then given, in-cluding that by Dean Ivo Budil, on behalf of the Plzen Organizing Com-mittee, and of the Congress Treasurer Ota Safertal. Since the latter could not attend in person, the report was read by Secretary-General Frank Safertal.

The next item on the agenda was the traditional SVU President's report, "State of the SVU in the Year 2002". Rechcigl recapitulated the highlights of the SVU activities in the preceding two years, which he characterized as "two extraordinary years in terms of SVU growth and development". He pointed out that the focus of the Executive Board was on the revitalization of the Society with younger people and the appli-cation of information technology in the SVU work, as reflected in the SVU fully functioning Website. The most important activity SVU under-took last year was its regional conference in Lincoln, Nebraska relating to "The Czech and Slovak Legacy in Americas" which led to the estab-lishment of a new SVU chapter in Nebraska. The second most important event was the organization of SVU World Congress in Plzen in June 2002 which exceeded everybody's expectations. In publication area, apart from its two periodicals, *Zpravy SVU* and *Kosmas*, which he praised for their content and quality, the Society initiated publishing mono-graphs. The first published monograph, entitled *Taste of a Lost Home-land* is a bilingual anthology of Czech and Slovak exile poetry with translations into

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English. The second monograph, *Essays on Czech Music*, is based on the writings of Czech musicologist Zdenka Fischman. Almost completed is the newly revised *SVU Biographical Directory*.

As a part of its new initiative, SVU has issued a second report, result-ing from its comprehensive survey of the Czech and Slovak historic sites and monuments, and archival material in the US, under the title *Czecho-slovak-American Archivalia*. This report, together with the earlier report, *Czech Historic Sites and Monuments in the US*, generated lots of interest in the US, as well as in the Czech Republic, with the recommendation that they be published to make the information widely available.

"As plainly evident from my report", Rechcigl continued, "the last two years were indeed very productive. During this period, SVU's visibility and image has risen to new heights and reached new horizons. Its financial base has been strengthened and a large number of new members, especially young people, were added to its rolls."

The good SVU financial standing was echoed in the subsequent Treasurer's Report, prepared by Frank Mucha, stating that "it is better than the last time and better than at any other time since 1994 when our current president took charge again of the activities of the Society." The membership, consisting of individual members, spouse member-ships and student members is approaching the magic number of 2000.

The Society's world wide membership comprises 49 states of the union, Canada and 26 additional countries ranging from Singapore and New Zealand to Bolivia, Brazil, France and there are also local chapters, including three in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, each, totaling over 300 members. As has been the tradition of the SVU Congresses, the last SVU Congress did not result in a deficit and there is every expectation that the Plzen Congress will be as successful as the previous ones in this regard. The stated goals of the Executive Board include fiscal discipline, requiring an annually balanced budget, minimal overhead and maximal effort to "live" from current dues, and earned interest, without touching the existing corpus of the Society. This has been made possible by pro-bono service from all the members of the Board and the Council, by scrupulously insisting on external funding of all activities other than publication of our *Newsletter*.

Following the Treasurer's report, Secretary-General Frank Safertal presented the Auditor's Report which recommended that the Treasurer's Report be approved and the retiring Executive Board be absolved of its liability. The approval was granted by an unanimous vote of the General Assembly.

The Resolution Committee, in the meantime, completed its work and their resolution, a copy of which is presented elsewhere, was read to the membership who unanimously voted its approval.

As the retiring Executive Board left the podium, Prof. Jan F. Triska, in his capacity as Chair of the Nominations Committee, assumed the chairmanship of the meeting pro tempore to announce the results of the election of the new officers. The entire slate of officers, as originally proposed by the Nominations Committee, was elected.

Mila Rechcigl, as the newly elected SVU President, returned to the platform, thanked the membership for their confidence in electing him and other officers to the SVU leadership roles for the next two year period with the pledge that "we will do our utmost to continue the splendid work of our predecessors to advance Czech and Slovak culture worldwide and foster cooperation between men and women of science, letters and art — on both sides of the Atlantic".

## Newly Elected Officers 2002-2004

### SVU Executive Board

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### **SVU Council**

Hugh Agnew, George Washington University, Washington, DC  
Zdenek Bazant, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL  
Petr Bisek, Glen Cove, NY  
Lubomir Durovic, Lund Universitet, Lund, Sweden  
Andrew Elias, Fairfax, VA  
Ivo K. Feierabend, San Diego University, San Diego, CA  
Jaroslav Folta, National Technical Museum, Prague  
Thomas G. Gibian, Sandy Spring, MD  
Milan Hauner, Madison, WI  
Zdenek Hruban, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Josef Jarab, Palacky University, Olomouc  
Eva Dubska Kushner, Victoria University, Canada  
Jan Milic Lochman, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland  
Clinton J. Machann, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX  
Ladislav Macho, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava  
Victor S. Mamatey, University of Georgia, Athens, GA  
Karol Marton, Technical University, Kosice  
Jan Morovic, City University, Bratislava  
Cathleen Oslzly, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE  
Miroslav Plavec, University of California, Los Angeles, CA  
Leopold Pospisil, Yale University, New Haven, CT  
Vlado Simko, State University of New York  
Zdenek Slouka, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA and Prague (Speaker)  
Zdenek Suda, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA  
Jan Svejnar, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
Alexander Tkac, Slovak Technical University, Bratislava  
Jan F. Triska, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA  
Piotr Wandycz, Yale University, CA  
Rudolf Zahradnik, Academy of Sciences of Czech Republic, Prague  
Petr Zuman, Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY

### **Auditors of the Accounts**

Zdenek Vich, Montgomery Village, MD  
Milos Halouzka, Laguna Hills, CA  
Milan Fryscak, White Plains, NY  
Ivan Furda, Minneapolis, MN

## Conciliation and Arbitration Committee

Jan P. Skalny (Ch), Toronto, Canada  
Zdenek David, Washington, DC  
Vladimir Kabes, Bethesda, MD

## From Newly Elected Executive Board

Newly elected Executive Board had its first meeting on August 10, 2002 at Mila Rechcigl's home in Rockville, MD. Despite the vacations, sufficient number of members were present to constitute a quorum.

First item on the agenda was the discussion of the recently concluded SVU World Congress in Plzen which was considered a big success. Board members expressed appreciation to Dean Budil, his Plzen colleagues, and above all his students for their splendid work. Lectures were generally of high quality and social and cultural events were judged excellent. Selected lectures will be published, probably in a series of small monographs, under the general editorship of Ivo Budil. Since a number of abstracts were not included in the printed Abstracts a suggestion was made that an Addendum be prepared.

Mila Rechcigl, the newly elected SVU President, then outlined some of the plans for the Society in the next two year period. The areas of emphases will include: 1. Accent on Youth; 2. Building a civil society in the CR and SR; 3. Preserving our cultural heritage abroad; 4. Co-operation with institutions in the CR and SR; 5. Continue publishing monographs. Administratively, the Executive Board will make an effort: 1. to activate the SVU Fellows Program; 2. to reactivate the SVU Research Institute; 3. to find a suitable repository to store SVU archival material. In terms of immediate tasks, organizational work will need to be started on the SVU Regional Conference in 2003 and SVU World Congress in 2004.

With reference to the 2003 Conference, Rechcigl reported on the preliminary work he has done with Cathy Oslzly. They propose that the Conference be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in cooperation with the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Coe College, both of which are located there. The ideal dates for the Conference would be June 26-29 to coincide with the local Festival which would attract visitors. The general plan is to have meetings on Thursday and Friday (June 27 & 28), Saturday would be reserved for a trip to Spillville where Antonin Dvorak spent a large portion of his stay in the US, and on Sunday the participants would go to the Festival. As the general theme the following title is proposed: "The Czech and Slovak Presence in America." The Executive Board liked the idea and gave its approval to proceed. Rechcigl who is planning to make a visit to Cedar Rapids in late September will give the Board an update.

Along with the proposed new priorities, there was a consensus that steps need to be taken to start a search for new leadership among the younger people. To this end it was proposed that the Executive Board appoint a special SVU Leadership Search Committee. It was further recommended to establish two additional committees, one dealing with the question of Civil Society, to be chaired by Marc Weiss, and Women's Issues Committee, to be chaired by Lois Herman.

With reference to finances, it was agreed that SVU Treasurer needs to send out a reminder letter to collect dues.

In publication area, Executive Board, generally, commented on the excellence of the last issue of *Kosmas* and commended Clinton Machann for his work. Based on editor Machann's report, the new issue of *Kosmas* is in progress. The Board also commended Vera Borkovec and Dagmar White on the newly published monographs, *Anthology of Czech and Slovak Exile Poetry*, and Fischmann's *Essays on Czech Music* which they prepared for print. *SVU Biographical Directory* is in the stage of proofs.

Based on Rechcigl's report, Daniel Necas of MN is finishing a CD of papers presented at the SVU Minnesota Conference.

With reference to SVU priority aimed to preserve our cultural heritage abroad, Executive Board approved a new project to place a historic marker in Annapolis, MD, bearing Augustine Herman's name to commemorate his achievements in Colonial America. A special committee has been appointed for the purpose, comprised of Michael Rokos (Chair), Dagmar White, Jack White, and Peter Rafaeli. The Board has pledged \$1500 toward this project. The date set for the completion is spring 2003. In this connection, the Board felt that a special conference could be organized on Augustine Herman and his times. It further recommended that a special publication should be prepared for the occasion.

The next meeting was tentatively set for October 26.

## PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

### 2003 SVU Conference

Coe College, Cedar Rapids, IA  
25- 29 June, 2003

#### General Theme:

The Czech and Slovak Presence in North America.  
A Retrospective Look and Future Perspectives

#### Call for Papers

Send your suggestions to:

Mila Rechcigl: [SVU@aol.com](mailto:SVU@aol.com)  
Kacenska Oslzly: [coslzly@unlnotes.unl.edu](mailto:coslzly@unlnotes.unl.edu)

# Resolution of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU)

on the occasion of its Forty-fourth Annual Meeting  
in Plzen, Czech Republic, June 28, 2002

## THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIETY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

**Holding** its Twenty-first World Congress in the year 2002 in the ancient City of Plzen, in the land that far too long had been closed to freedom and now once again belongs to free men and women, is open to them, and welcomes them —

**Reaffirming** its founding principles, articulated almost half-a-century ago in times so dark for many, and reiterated anew in its Resolution of the year 2000 at the time of its historic Twentieth World Congress in Washington, DC —

**Mindful of its obligation** — the unceasing obligation of all free people everywhere — to safeguard, foster and cultivate those cultural and ethical values that make life worth living, among them, and above them all, the value of human tolerance, for without tolerance culture is warped, civil society becomes uncivilized, and democracy itself decays —

**Cognizant of the fact** that this Society itself with its friends is but one in the gamut of social, cultural and human forces seeking, in unison and in their daily deeds, to drive the third millennium along the path of humanness and decency —

## RESOLVES:

**To continue** meeting the challenges of these disquieting times around the globe by finding and perfecting peaceful means of human communication across all boundaries, ideological, racial, and religious —

**To accept** that in this rapidly changing world, of which we are but a part undergoing its own evolutionary transformations, our contribution to the better-ment of global life may be very modest indeed yet absolutely essential, since every great good consists of many small good deeds —

**Never to forget** that ties of friendship between men and nations are also strengthened by readiness to offer a helping hand in times of need

— that the USA and other countries have done so when our peoples were in bondage in their own lands and some abroad in need of a haven, and

— that they are with us still, and above all,

— that we too have hands capable of helping others —

**To forge** ever new bonds, social, cultural, human, between those of us in the homelands and those of us in new homes far away, for the distances between people are to be measured not in miles but in the values they share and cherish —

**To strive**, so as to convert words into deeds, toward better understanding of our own human failings in tolerance and compassion for without that understanding we shall fail ever more.

Approved by SVU General Assembly on June 28, 2002

**FRANK SAFERTAL**, *Secretary-General*

**MILOSLAV REHCIGL**, *SVU President*

## From New SVU Rolls

**MARY ELIZABETH KNOBLAUCH KASPER** is a student at Kansas State University where she is studying history, speech communication and secondary education. Her interests are in Czech history and the involvement of young people. She is a native of Salina, KS.

**GREGOR BRAND** is a poet, publisher and private scholar. He is a native of Bettenfeld, Germany and holds degree from University of Trier (Dipl. in law, 1979). His interests are in intelligence, greatness, genius and creativity, history and culture of the Trier region of Germany, biography and work of different philosophers, e.g. William Stern, Samuel Hirsch, Christian v. Ehrenfels, Julius Bahnsen, etc. Apart from various studies and biographies he has also written around 80 poems and aphorisms.

**ROBERT JAMES DVORAK** is a retired music education teacher from the State of Illinois. He is a native of Chicago and was educated at Chicago Musical College (B. Mus. 1947, M. Mus. 1948), with additional training from Juilliard School of Music and in Paris. He is a composer.

**BERYL L. FEINBERG** is OMB Budget Manager with Montgomery County Government's Office of Management & Budget, Rockville, MD. She is a native New Jersey with education from American University (B.A. in International Studies 1971), Catholic University (M.L.S. 1974) and University of Maryland (M.B.A. 1984). She specializes in finance, budgetary matter and public administration. Ever since her initial visit in Czechoslovakia in 1967 she has maintained her interest in Czech language and culture.

**EMILY SUSAN FLEMING** is student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC, expecting her M.A. degree in 2002. She is a native of Cleveland, OH with education from the College of Wooster (B.A. 2000). Her interests are in East European and Czech Studies and international affairs.

**LOIS A. HERMAN** is a Women's Human Rights Consultant who lives in Minneapolis, MN. She is a native of Connersville, IN and has academic degree from Purdue University (B.S. magna cum laude), with additional training from New York University. Her interests are in inter-cultural programs, women's gender issues empowerment and oppression. She is a delegate to UN Human Rights Commission and a co-author of CRI Personalized Investigative and Security Services Program for Women. She is recipient of several women's awards.

**IRENA KEBZOVA** is a student and a part-time consultant associate with VHK International Consultants in Washington, DC and lives at Lake Ridge, VA. She is a native of Chrudim, Czech Republic, with education from Northern Community College (B.S. 1996). Her interests are in international business, politics, sports and education,

**SIMON KOS** is a postdoctoral Fellow at Los Alamos National Laboratory in Los Alamos, NM. He is native of Prague, Czechoslovakia and has education from Charles University (Dipl. Physics 1995) and the University of Illinois-Urbana (Dipl. Physics 2001). His interests are in physics, music and folk dancing.

**JUDITH W. MUNSON** is Adjunct Professor at University of Illinois and Attorney at Law in Chicago. She is a native of Wapello Co., IA and has academic degrees from University of Chicago (B.A. 1966) and Chicago - Kent College of Law (J.D. 1976). She specializes in public health law.

**LESTER E. MUNSON, Jr.** is Associate Editor of *Sports Illustrated* and lives in Chicago. He is a native of Chicago, IL and holds degrees from Princeton University (B.A. 1962) and University of Chicago Law School (J.D. 1967). His interests are in legal affairs and investigative reporting.

**LUBOMIR ONDRASEK** is Associate Pastor at Glad Tidings Community Church at Chepachet, RI. He is a native of Topolcany, Slovakia and has academic degree from Zion Bible Institute, Barrington, RI (B. Bible 1999). He expects his M. Div. degree from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Boston, MA in 2003. His interests are in Evangelicalism, ethics, Pentecostalism, Vaclav Havel and religion and society.

**JAN ORAVETZ** is a retired physician and lives in Tacoma, WA. He is a native of Piestany, Slovakia and has academic degree from Comenius University in Bratislava (MUDr. 1955).

**LIBUSE M. PECHACEK** is employed as a department manager with Hughes Network Systems in Germantown, MD. She is a native of Prague and has academic degree from Montgomery College (A.A. 1991). Her interests are in telecommunications and music.

**JANA RITTER** is employed assistant manager at physician's office and lives in Potomac, MD. She is a native of Washington, DC and hold degree from Montgomery College (AA 1986). She has received additional training as emergency medical technician.

**IVONA SKANDEROVA** is Vice-Dean for Development and Public Relations at the Faculty of Humanities, University of West Bohemia in Plzen, Czech Republic. She is a native of Plzen with education from the University of West Bohemia (Mgr. 1994). Her interests are in theory of literature and drama. SVU members who attended the SVU World Congress in Plzen will remember her as one of the most effective members of Dean Budil's organization team.

**STANISLAVA SMAHOVA** is a student and lives in Washington, DC. She is a native of Prague, Czechoslovakia with education from the University of Economics in Prague (Bc. 1998, Ing. 2000). She is interested in finance, macroeconomics, and environment.

**HOPE SUSAN SUBAK-KASPAR** is a student at the University of California in Berkeley. She is a native of New York City with education from Columbia College (B.A. 1991) and University of California (M.A. 1996, J.D. Can. 2002). Her chief interests are in law and literature.

**SHERYL FAYE TWITTY** is a self-employed educator and student who lives in Jonesborough, TN. She is a native of Griffin, GA with education from Valdesta State University (B.S. 1975). Momentarily she is enrolled in East Tennessee State University. She specializes in teaching English as second language and does research.

**MARTA VAREJKOVA** is engaged as a secretary in the Faculty of Humanities, University of West Bohemia in Plzen. She is a native of Hodonin with education from the University of West Bohemia (Bc. 2000). She is interested in anthropology and archaeology. She, too, has been very much involved on the logistical end of the SVU Congress organization.

**EZRA JAMES ZEITLER** is a graduate student at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. He is a native of Algma, WI and has academic degree from University of Wisconsin - River Falls (B.A. 2000).

**PAUL T. BURIK** holds the office of Chief Architect of the City of Cleveland. He is a native of Ceske Budejovice and holds academic degree from Kent State University (B. Arch. 1977). He as Trustee of Ohio Planning Conference.

**VLADIMIR SARSA** holds the office of chief of technical development in Dopravni podnik Ostrava a.s. He is a native of Ostrava and holds academic degree from CVUT Praha-Fakulta elektrotechnicka (Ing. in Technical Cybernetics 1967). His interests are in microcomputer application.

**VACLAV ROUBICEK** holds the office of Rector of Technical University of Ostrava. He is a native of Mlada Boleslav and holds academic degree from the University of Chemical Technology in Prague. His technical expertise is in the area of chemistry and utilization of fuels. He is the author of the book, Coal Origin, Processing and Utilization.

# SVU AWARDS 2002

## SVU Presidential Citations

The 2002 SVU Presidential Citations were awarded to selected individuals and chapters by SVU President Mila Rechcigl on the occasion of SVU World Congress, University of West Bohemia, Plzen, Czech Republic, June 28, 2002.

The Presidential Citations were awarded "in recognition for contributions to the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Science, the advancement of Czech and Slovak studies worldwide and fostering cooperation between the Czech and Slovak Republics and Czechs and Slovaks abroad."

The 2002 Presidential Citations were awarded to:

**Ivo Budil  
Ivona Skanderova  
Marta Varejkova  
Ota Safertal  
Jiri Eichler  
Eva Rechcigl  
Nebraska SVU Chapter**

## Stephen Fiala Cultural Heritage Award

Stephen Fiala Cultural Heritage Award was established by Lois and John Fiala in memory of their son Stephen. The award, which includes a check in the amount of \$250 is to be given annually "in recognition for contributions toward preserving Czech and/or Slovak heritage abroad."

The 2002 Stephen Fiala Cultural Heritage Award was granted to

**Ron and Jitka Stiles**

## Cena SVU Praha

Cena SVU Praha byla schválena předsednictvem pražské skupiny SVU na podzim roku 2001. Výtvarníkem grafického listu je přední český grafik a malíř O. Kulhánek, který se uvolil vytvořit grafický list bez nároku na honorář. Ceny budou udělovány předně členům SVU, ale i nečlenům, významným osobnostem naší vědy a kultury. Ceny budou udělovány každoročně.

V prvním proudu oceněných za rok 2002 jsou autoři význačných publikací. Předseda SVU **dr. Míla Rechcigl** byl oceněn za jeho monografii *Postavy naší Ameriky*. Další oceněnou byla prof. **Věra Bořkocová** za antologii české emigrační poezie *Chut' ztraceného domova*, dále **manželé Whiteovi** za publikaci *On all Fronts — Czechoslovaks in World War II*, dále prof. **J. Burian** za publikaci *české divadlo po roce 1945*, **dr. P. Hrubý** za publikaci *Osudné iluze* (o postojích našich spisovatelů po roce 1948) a **prof. J. Marvan** za publikaci *Jazykové milénium* (slávistická studie o pramenech slovanských jazyků) a za publikaci *Slovenčina na prahu milénia*. Kromě toho byl oceněn **prof. L. Matějka** za propagaci bohemistiky a bohemistické práce, vydané v době jeho působení na amerických univerzitách.

Ceny za rok 2002 byly dotyčným předány předsedkyní pražské skupiny SVU dr. Alenou Morávkovou na banketu SVU u příležitosti Světového kongresu SVU v Plzni v červnu 2002.

## SVU DECLARATION ON WOMEN'S ISSUES

**WHEREAS**, women constitute half the population of the Czech Republic and Slovakia, and of expatriate Czech and Slovak communities, yet they are underrepresented in government, business, and academia;

**WHEREAS**, women in the Czech and Slovak republics have witnessed profound changes in the political, economic, social, educational and cultural realms, especially since the collapse of Communism and the latest wave of Accession, under which the Czech Republic and Slovakia will integrate into the European Union;

**WHEREAS**, the political, socioeconomic, educational and cultural status of Czech and Slovak women and girls is in need of further research, articulation, quantification, funding, public attention, and improvement.

**It has been RESOLVED** to establish a Women's Issues Working Group or the purpose of introducing a feminine gender component into the international programs of the SVU World Congress.

**It has been further RESOLVED**, that the Women's Issues Working Group will strive to ensure that women's issues receive sustained, positive, sensitive, equitable and meaningful consideration in all SVU programs.

**It has been further RESOLVED**, that in renewed commitment to the SVU's mission, the Women's Issues Working Group will reach out to Czech and Slovak women in their homelands and abroad, and work to identify women's issues which unite us, giving primacy to issues that are important in the homelands

**It has been further RESOLVED**, that in their capacity as members of the SVU, the Women's Issues Working Group will endeavor to build bridges of understanding between Czech and Slovak women the world over.

**Working constructively**, through dialogue, with the SVU to incorporate issues pivotal to Czech and Slovak women into SVU programs, the Women's Issues Working Group will provide leadership to, and serve as a forum for, all Czech and Slovak women, helping to empower them and to improve the quality of their lives.

*Approved by SVU Executive Board on August 10, 2002*

## **New Leadership of SVU Bratislava Chapter**

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## **SVU Member Elected NAS Member**

SVU Member, **ZDENEK P. BAZANT**, W.P. Murphy Professor of Civil Engineering and Materials Science, was elected on April 30 a member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) at the 139th annual meeting of the academy in Washington, DC. This is his fourth academy membership, after his previous inductions to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), Washington, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, and Academy of Engineering of Czech Republic, Prague.

This grand academic assembly, established in 1863 by an act of Congress signed by president Lincoln, currently has 1907 members, among which about 140 are also members of NAE. In the field of solid mechanics, the joint NAS-NAE members include J.D. Achenbach, R.W. Clough, S.H. Crandall, L.B. Freund, Y.-C.B. Fung, G.W. Housner, J.W. Hutchinson and J.R. Rice, an elite group now joined by Bazant whose main contribution to science is considered to be the scaling of failure in solid mechanics.

Last October, Bazant received from Politecnico di Milano his fourth honorary doctorate, after those from the Czech Technical University in Prague, Karlsruhe University, Germany, and University of Colorado, Boulder. Also, he recently received from ISI the award of a Highly Cited Scientist, which is given to 250 most cited authors worldwide in engineering, all engineering fields combined.



Until the 1980s, all the size effects on structural strength were generally attributed to material randomness. Bazant changed that. He revolutionized the scaling theory beginning with his 1984 discovery of the size effect caused by the energy release associated with large fractures. Introducing asymptotic matching arguments, he derived a deceptively simple law of surprisingly broad applicability, bridging the scaling laws of classical fracture mechanics and plasticity. With his assistants, Bazant experimentally verified his law for concrete, rocks, fiber composites, sea ice, toughened ceramics, cellular materials and snow slabs, and showed how to exploit it to identify material fracture characteristics from experiments. To make computer simulations exhibit the correct scaling, Bazant developed, beginning in 1976, the crack-band and nonlocal damage concepts now widely used in computations, and justified them by micromechanics of interacting cracks. Later, using extreme value statistics, he formulated a probabilistic generalization, including certain cases of transition to statistical size effect. He extended his theory to compression fracture, e.g. fiber kinking in composites and borehole breakout. Recently, similar asymptotic scaling arguments led him to improve the prevailing dislocation-based theory of metal plasticity on approach to nanoscale.

Although Bazant also obtained significant results in structural stability, fracture, plasticity, damage mechanics, concrete creep and hydrothermal effects, and probabilistic mechanics, he is best known in science as a world leader in scaling research in solid mechanics.



Wilson Center Librarian of 27 Years, **ZED DAVID**, Retires

Zdenek (Zed) David, historian, bibliographer, author, and former professor, retired in January from his post as Wilson Center librarian. He will maintain a link at the Center as a senior scholar an appointment that begins February 1.

He had applied to work at the Center in 1974, uncouraged by former Wilson Center Director James Billington, now the Librarian of Congress, who was David's thesis adviser at Harvard University. Since joining the staff that year, David has played an integral role at the Center, accumulating and increasing access to new materials while helping staff and scholars to enhance their research.

Over the years, David watched and helped the Center to increase its resources. In the 1980s, computerization facilitated inter-library loans. Then, in the 1990s, the introduction of electronic databases further aided research. When the Wilson Center moved from the Smithsonian Castle to the Ronald Reagan Building in 1998, the library would grow to occupy the entire seventh floor of the Center, complete with a circulation desk and movable stacks. David credits George Bowen, support services officer who also retired last month, with facilitating the transfer of the library's collections and acquiring new equipment to modernize the library.

Born and raised in the Czech Republic, David came to the United States in 1947 on a fellowship as a high school senior, and has remained in the States ever since. He did not see his parents again for 17 years, not until the easing of travel restrictions just before the Prague Spring allowed his parents to visit him in Helsinki, Finland, where he had spent a year on a research fellowship. Soon after, he resolved his status by re-nouncing his Czech citizenship, allowing him to obtain a visa and take future trips to visit his parents in Prague.

Before coming to the Center, David taught historiography, and Russian and East European history at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and then spent eight years at Princeton University as a Slavic bibliographer and history lecturer.

David has written numerous journal articles on Czech and Central European history, co-authored the book, *Peoples of the Eastern Habsburg Lands* and compiled *The Bibliography of Works in the Philosophy of History*. Most recently, he completed a manuscript titled *Finding the Middle Way: The Ultraquists' Liberal Challenge to Rome and Luther*, now under review by the Woodrow Wilson Center Press.

His retirement plans include spending more time with his eight grandchildren, (a ninth is on the way), and visiting Prague. In his capacity as senior scholar, he will be writing a book on the relationship between the Bohemian reformation and modern Czech political culture.

*New SVU Publications*

## ESSAYS ON CZECH MUSIC

*Essays on Czech Music*, written by Czech musicologist Zdenka Fischmann, published by SVU through East European Monographs and distributed by Columbia University Press will be available to the general public in July 2002. SVU has published posthumously Dr. Fischmann's work as a tribute to her contribution to Czech music.

Dr. Fischmann left her native land after the Communist took over and settled in the United States. She was an untiring propagator of Czech music through her lectures and publications.

The subject of her essays is broad and varied — from the "First Czech Opera "Dratenik" to a charming detective work finding "Spanish Maestro with Czech Roots" (Juan Skoczopole) in Madrid through advertising on match boxes. In a double capacity as a musicologist and psychologist, she gives a wonderful insight into composers' personality in "Janacek's Creativity" or analysis of Smetana's mental problems in the essay "Smetana and Pivoda." A large part of the book is devoted to Jewish musicians in "Jewish Musicians with Roots in Czechoslovakia" and "Music in Terezin".

The book is an attractive hard bound edition with a cover design by Czech artist Liba Puchmajer from Pennsylvania. The cost is \$15 plus \$3 postage and handling. Make checks payable to *SVU Essays*.

*Essays on Czech Music* can be ordered from:

Zdenka Vozarik, 906 Potterton Circle, Vienna, VA 22180.

## AN ANTHOLOGY OF EXILE POETRY

*Chut' ztraceneho domova* or *The Taste of a Lost Homeland* is the title of one of the two recent SVU publications which was displayed and on sale at the 21st SVU Congress in Pilsen. The book is a handsomely bound gift edition, with an elegant jacket bearing a reproduction of a 1993 painting by SVU member Oton Kovarik of Los Angeles.

This is a bilingual anthology of Czech and Slovak exile poetry with translations into English. Twenty-one poets who live or have lived in the USA and Canada are represented with close to a hundred poems. Some of the poems are translated by the authors themselves; in addition fourteen other translators have lent their talents to this endeavor. The uniting theme of the anthology is nostalgia and the poets' longing for the homeland which they left behind.

The book will certainly be a valuable tool for anyone teaching Czech or Slovak in America. Many SVU members will find in the anthology the works of some well-known poets and to many old friends. The anthology will be available in the USA by the end of the summer, most likely in September. Individual copies will be sold for \$18.00 plus shipping costs.

Anyone interested in purchasing the book should contact the Chief Editor of the anthology, Dr. Vera Borkovec, at 12013 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902-1515, or E-mail [borkovec@erols.com](mailto:borkovec@erols.com)

### Leah Markowitz - Recipient of 2002 SVU Student Award

A graduate student at George Washington University in Washington, DC. **Miss LEAH MARKOWITZ**, is this year's recipient of the Dr. Joseph Hasek (SVU) Student Award. The award-winning essay is entitled *Unity Through Pluralism: Contemporary Czech-Jewish Identity*.

The Student Awards Committee, consisting of Prof. Vera Borkovec, prof. Ivo Feierabend, and Prof. Milan Hauner, unanimously agreed to give this year's award to Miss Markowitz for the clarity of writing, her felicitous but hard to achieve combination of academic and journalistic style, and her thorough research of a substantial subject with all its complexities. The title of her essay is excellent, as it captures the essence of the problem. Her scrupulous questioning and search for the ideal Jewish *kahilla* in the Czech Republic is impressive. Her award is well deserved.

Miss Markowitz will receive a prize of \$250 from the Joseph Hasek fund, a year's free membership in SVU and a Certificate of Merit.

## In Memoriam

### Remembering Dr. JAROSLAV NEMEC, 1910-1992

This note is primarily intended for our younger and new members who may not be familiar with SVU history. The last month was the tenth anniversary since the passing of Dr. Jaroslav Nemeč who is generally considered the founder of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Nemeč was born in Orechov near Uherske Hradiste on March 23, 1910. He attended Masaryk University School of Law at Brno, where he received the degree of Doctor of Law (1937). During the Second World War he served in the Czechoslovak Army Abroad in various legal capacities, the last being General Field Prosecutor. From 1945-48 he was Chief of the Section on Reemigration and Repatriation at the Czechoslovak Ministry of Interior, and from 1948-50, Documentarist at the Ministry for Utilization of Laws, Prague. After coming to the US, he became Legal Research Librarian at the American Medical Association, Washington, DC (1956-59), and in 1959 Reference Librarian (Medical Jurisprudence) at the National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD.

Dr. Nemeč published a collection of short stories, *Stareček spominaju* (London, 1942), a novel, *Hneda nenavist* (London, 1943), and about 15 articles on history and history of law in Czechoslovakia and later completed a 3-volume set on the history of his native Orechov, from 1131-1885. In addition, he wrote a number of publications relating to history of forensic medicine.

He was the first Secretary General of our Society in 1958-59 and again in 1960-62. In September 1968, he was elected the 7th SVU President, after Vaclav Hlavaty (1958-59, 1959-60, 1950-61), Rene Wellek (1962-64, 1964-66) and Vaclav Hlavaty (1966-68). From 1980-85 he also served as Editor of *Zpravy SVU*.

Apart from playing the key role in the establishment of SVU, most of the organizational responsibilities during the formative days of our Society squarely laid on the shoulders of Dr. Nemeč, in his capacity as Secretary-General. Without him the Society would not exist. I can emphatically testify to this from my close association with him after I moved to Washington, DC in 1958. He was my mentor and my close friend.

MILA RECHCIGL, SVU President

### Prof. RNDr. VLADIMÍR LANDA, DrSc., 1923-2002

Byl významným vědeckým pracovníkem, pedagogem a organizátorem. Byl jedním ze zakladatelů Entomologického ústavu ČSAV a od jeho vzniku v roce 1954 byl jeho ředitelem až do svého penzionování v roce 1990. Jako dlouholetý člen Presidia Československé akademie věd usiloval, v rámci tehdejších možností, o rozvoj ČSAV a jejich mezinárodních kontaktů. Podařilo se mu prosadit výstavbu Jihočeského biologického centra, vznik nových ústavů Hydrobiologického, Pudní biologie a Krajinné ekologie. Pro pracovníky přecházející z Prahy do Českých Budějovic zajistit byty. Jako ředitel Jihočeského biologického centra pracoval až do jeho zrušení v roce 1990. Vědecká práce profesora Landy je v odborných kruzích vysoko ceněna a mnozí z jeho bývalých žáků dosáhli rovněž mezinárodního uznání. Všichni, kdo profesora Landu znali, na něho vzpomínají s úctou a uznáním.

Prof. RNDr. FRANT. SEHNAL, ČSc., ředitel Entomologického ústavu AVČR

## **Kurt Aterman (1913-2002)**

It is with great sadness to inform you of the death of Dr. Kurt Aterman, former Dalhousie professor of Pathology, on July 28, 2002. He was 88.

Born in Bielitz on September 9, 1913, he graduated from Charles University Medical School in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in 1938. After the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia, he fled to the United Kingdom. He requalified as a doctor in Belfast in 1943. After that, he served in the Royal Army Medical Corps in Britain and India until the end of the Second World War.

In 1957, Dr. Aterman immigrated to Canada with his young family to take up the directorship of laboratories at the Children's Hospital and an Assistant Professorship in Pathology at Dalhousie. In 1961, he went to the United States where he worked for six years until his return to Halifax in 1967. He then served as Professor at Dalhousie and patho-logist for the former Izaak Walton Killam Hospital for Children until 1979. From 1979 to 1986, he took up the position of Director, Regional Laboratory of Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital in Fredericton, N.B.. He remained an Honorary Research Associate and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology at the University of New Brunswick from 1984 until his death.

In a 50-year career, he wrote and published more than 140 papers and articles. He was an active member of numerous medical associations.

## **Český a slovenský exil 20. století**

V minulých dnech proběhlo v Plzni setkání Společnosti pro vědy a umění, které lze považovat za jednu z nejvýznamnějších událostí v České republice v roce 2002. Bohužel, jak to bývá u těchto významných mezinárodních projektů, chyběla z české strany patřičná odezva a kvalifikovaná prezentace v médiích.

Naše Společnost pro kulturu a dialog, jejíž členem je též prezident SVU Míla Rechcigl, se zúčastnila tohoto sympozia spolu s kameramanem České televize za účelem natočení rozhovoru s členy SVU žijícími v různých zemích světa a s prezidentem SVU Mílou Rechciglem rozhovor o založení SVU, její činnosti a jejím smyslu. Tyto filmové dokumenty jsou určeny pro projekt Český a slovenský exil 20. století připravovaný společností pro následující roky. Zahájení projektu se uskuteční 18. ledna 2003 v městě Brně, v Národním divadle za účasti čelních představitelů obou států, ale hlavně za účasti krajanů, dále v Domě umění města Brna, v Paláci šlechtičen, v Moravském zemském muzeu, v Moravské zemské knihovně a v Místodržitelském paláci a na Masarykově univerzitě. Po brněnské expozici následuje Slovensko v měsíci srpnu a září. Závěr roku vyvrcholí expozicí v Praze v Národním muzeu a v Muzeu Policie ČR na Karlově. Toto muzeum považují za zásadní, vzhledem k tomu, že sloužilo expozicím určeným proti exulantům a k propagaci zločinného ko-munistického režimu.

Na projektu se podílí rada státních institucí jak z české, tak slovenské strany. Za Českou republiku je hlavním pořadatelem Společnost pro kulturu a dialog K 2001, o.p.s. a spolupřadatelem je mj. Národní muzeum. Za slovenskou stranu je pořadatelem Slovenská republika zastoupena Národní knihovnou v Martině a dalšími národními muzei a památníky Slovenské republiky. Ale hlavně jsou pořadatelem projektu čeští a slovenští krajané žijící po celém světě. Chci touto formou vyzvat další české i slovenské emigranty a exulanty ke spolupráci, jejíž vyvrcholením v r. 2008 je vznik Národního zvukového archivu. Na podkladech k přípravě tohoto archivu se podílí Radio Svobodná Evropa, Radio BBC, bývalí hlasatelé Deutsche Welle, Radia Sydney a dalších médií. Tímto chci požádat o informace vypovídající o vysíláních stanic hovořících v české řeči v období fašistické nsvobody a komunistického zločinného režimu, případně o zaslání fotodokumentace nebo zachovaných soukromých či profesionálních nahrávek těchto stanic v celém světě. Bližší informace o tomto projektu je možno nalézt na webových stránkách [www.k2001.cz](http://www.k2001.cz) nebo na e-mailove adrese [k2001@k2001.cz](mailto:k2001@k2001.cz). Kontaktovat nás též můžete na adrese: Společnost pro kulturu a dialog K 2001, o.p.s., Dřevařská 19, 602 00 Brno, Czech Republic.

*JAN KRATOCHVIL*

*předseda správní rady Společnosti pro kulturu a dialog K 2001, o.p.s.*

## **Prague Mass — a Musical Film Produced by Prague SVU Chapter**

“Prague Mass” — created for the occasion of the Millennium — the film depicts Prague during four seasons of the year, in its characteristic mystic aura. The picture and music combination allows us to discover our spiritual roots as well as the message inherent to the city of Prague. The music is based on the Celebration Jazz Mass, which was also performed in 1998 at the National Cathedral of Washington, DC on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia. The artistic music documentary Prague Mass breathes the spirit of Christianity and accentuates the majesty of Prague — that genius reflecting the history of past generations and the people.

Story, screenplay and direction was provided by SVU Member Miles Zabransky. He is a film director of feature films like The Building, Masseur, A House for Two, Emergency Call and The Last Party that are frequently shown abroad and that have won awards at international film festivals.