Program of the Hungarian Studies Association of Canada at the 2016 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Calgary
May 28-30, 2016
“Energizing Communities”

All conference sessions in McEwan Hall (Students’ Union Building), MSC 280, Executive Chambers, unless otherwise indicated.

Saturday, May 28th

18:00-18:15 Welcome and Introduction, Oliver Botar, President of HSAC
18:15-19:15 Conference Opening Session
Alicia Backman-Beharry B.A. (Hons), LL.B. (Calgary): “Refugees then and now: a practitioner's perspective on how Canadian immigration policies impact people.”

19:30-21:00 Reception McEwan Hall, Shirley Anastasia Robertson (SAR) Lounge, (MSC 218). Remembering writers Imre Kertész and George Jonas.

Sunday, May 29th

9:00-10:00 Session 1: Keynote Address
Chair: Steve Jobbitt (Lakehead U)
Katalin Fábán (Lafayette College, PA): “Hungary’s ‘Games’: Mobilizing Political Communities Through the Use of Sport”

10:00-10:15 Break and Refreshments

10:15-11:45 Session 2: Building Community/Reflecting Community: The Work of Individual Hungarians
Chair: Steve Jobbitt (Lakehead U)
Oliver Botar (U of Manitoba): “Alfréd Kemény: An Unknown Art Historian’s Difficult Career Come to Light”
Kristen Csenkey (U of Toronto): “Imaging the East through the Eyes of Mór Jókai, Sándor Petőfi, and Sándor Márai”
Rita Gardosi (Montreal): “Charles Wojatsek and his Hungarian Textbook and Grammar”

11:45-13:00 Lunch Session – H.E. Dr Bálint Ódor, Hungary’s Ambassador to Canada “Perspectives on the Current State of Bilateral Relations between Canada and Hungary. Recent Initiatives and Potential Opportunities.” Lunch provided.

13:00-14:30 Session 3: Energizing of Hungarian Communities: Political and Cultural Institutions
Chair: Oliver Botar (U of Manitoba)
Marie Boglári (U of Ottawa): “How to Energize the Diversity within Communities? An Evaluation of the Hungarian Education System in Light of Roma Realities”

Albert Zsolt Jakab (Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities, Cluj-Napoca, Romania): “Communities of Memory: Collective Memory as a Community-Organizer Mechanism in Kolozsvár/Cluj-Napoca” (paper in Hungarian)

14:30-14:45 Break and Refreshments

14:45-15:45 Session 4: The Hungarian Revolution at Home and Abroad
Chair: Stephanie Bangarth (Western U, London, Ontario)
Steven Jobbitt (Lakehead U): “Martyrs and Migrants: The Hungarian Revolution and Salazar’s Portugal”

15:45-17:15 Break followed by Annual General Meeting (Elections)


17:00-19:00 President’s Reception, EEEL Building

19:00 HSAC Dinner at Jonas Restaurant, 937, 6 Ave, SW, T2P 0V5.
Presentation of the First Nandor Dreisziger Award for Outstanding Contributions to Hungarian Studies in Canada.

Monday, May 30th

9:00-10:00 Session 5: Subjects of Displacement and Violence: Women and Their Representation in the Twentieth Century
Chair: Kristen Csenkey (U of Toronto)

10:00-10:15 Break and Refreshments

10:15-11:15 Session 6: Refugees and Refugee Policy
Chair: Marie Boglári (U of Ottawa)
Derakhshan Qurban-Ali (U of Toronto): “Asylum in Flux: Refugee Policy”
and Integration in Hungary and Germany and the Evolution of Irregular Migration Trends in the European Union”

11:15-11:45 Information session by Professor Joseph Patrouch, Director, Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies, U of Alberta about the Institute’s work and current projects

11:45-13:15 Lunch Break

13:15-14:15 Session 7: Hungarians Outside Hungary
Chair: Joseph Patrouch (Director, Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies, U of Alberta)
Agnes Vass (Corvinus U and Doctoral Research Fellow, U of Alberta): “Imagined community? The effects of Hungarian extra-territorial citizenship from a comparative perspective”
Roman Holec (Comenius U, and Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava): “The truth about the Hill of Truth”

14:15-14:30 Break and Refreshments

14:30-16:00 Session 8: Roundtable: “Hungary and the EU: Assessing the Impact of European Integration”
Chair: Judy Young (Canada-Hungary Educational Foundation, Ottawa)
Marie Boglari, Katalin Fabian, Steve Jobbitt, Derakhshan Qurban-Ali
In 2004, Hungary and other former east-bloc nations made a triumphant "return" to Europe. Supporters of the country's integration into the European Union argued that Hungary's re-entry into the European community would energize the nation in multiple ways, and would benefit all Hungarians economically, politically, socially, and culturally. This roundtable aims to look critically at this period, asking whether or not Hungary has been energized by its accession into the EU, and which communities or groups (if any) have benefitted (or suffered) the most.

16:00 Closing Remarks, Oliver Botar, President of HSAC

Conference Program Committee:
Chair: Steve Jobbitt, Christopher Adam, Marie Boglari, Kristen Csenkey, Judith Szapor
Eva Tomory

* Abstracts of papers and bios are available on the HSAC website at:

http://www.hungarianstudies.org/