

SVU Annual General Meeting January 16, 2017, Faculty Club

Present: 37 attendees (see the list at the end of the minutes)

Agenda Topic	Details	Person in charge
1.a. Introduction Musical prelude	Pavel Jelen opened the meeting, welcomed the attendees and introduced Maya Budzinski and Jan Janovsky to open the annual meeting with a music by A. Dvorak (Romantic pieces 1 and 3) and Z. Fibich (Poem). P. Jelen then asked attendees for one minute silence in memory of our deceased current and former members Vera Kraus and Ludvik Brynda. He also congratulated G. Kraus who celebrated his 90th birthday recently, spontaneous "Happy B'day" followed.	
1.b. Acceptance of the AGM agenda	Agenda accepted with one proposed change - to discuss all election matters together (new executive, revision and nominations committee chairs). Moved by M. Cervenak, Secunder P. Musilek, no opposing votes noted.	
2. Minutes of the last meeting January 26, 2016	Proposer: P. Musilek Secunder: V. Milligan Minutes accepted with no comments or corrections.	
3. President's report	<p>The SVU President, Pavel Jelen, provided a short oral summary of his written report distributed by email earlier, while emphasizing the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Membership base: SVU recruited 6 additional members bringing the membership to approximately 45 individuals which is encouraging. 2. Board meetings: copies of the minutes were available for anyone to peruse, no additional comments were added 3. Activities and events: a couple of very successful events highlighted such as the Czech language camp and the concert of Martin Karlicek. 4. SVU Washington: the SVU congress is happening every two years, last one was in Bratislava in 2016. The SVU also has a regional conference every off year but the location for 2017 is not yet known. Jan Soukup informed that in the past the SVU Washington expressed an interest to organize a regional conference at the University of Alberta. J. Patrouch promised to help if the conference/congress would be invited to Edmonton. Pavel Jelen encouraged the attendees to join the main international SVU; the membership is \$45 US. 5. Forthcoming activities: there was a mistake in the date of the next Czech language camp, it will be held from the 13th to 19th of August 2017. The forthcoming concert (March 10) of 	

	<p>the Prazak quartet (co-sponsored by SVU) was highlighted, the President indicated that a limited number of discounted tickets will be available for the SVU members from the presenters (the ECMS) upon prior reservation.</p> <p>6. Future prospects: SVU collaboration with the Wirth Institute continues to be very satisfactory. The forthcoming plans for the leadership change were mentioned briefly, with more to come in the nomination report (see below). After calling for questions and comments (none forthcoming), P.Jelen proposed to accept the president’s report, Mike Hruska was the seconder. Accepted with no opposing votes.</p>	
4. Financial Report	<p>The SVU Treasurer Jiri Patocka discussed in detail the financial reports (available at the meeting) for the Casino and the general accounts . Reports showed the SVU fiscal year from May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016 and then a supplement from May 1, 2016 to November 30, 2016 (December statement was not yet available). Report covering the fiscal year was mailed to the Federal Government. J. Patocka expressed thanks to I. Ondrus who prepared the reports. P. Lobkowicz (chair of the revisions committee) affirmed that no discrepancies were found. J. Patocka moved that financial reports presented be accepted. V. Sykora seconded the motion. In the discussion of the motion, a couple of questions were raised: Donation for the Department of Modern Languages (Cervenán), donations from the Czech Republic (Hanus) - both explained. In response to a question whether the fiscal year could be altered to end on December 31 (Cervenán) it was stressed that changing the current SVU fiscal year end from April 30 would be unduly complicated, necessitating complex dealings with the Federal Gov’t bureaucracy. M. Hruska suggested that we should ask our scholarship recipients to provide a short report to SVU how they spent their scholarships. P. Jelen and P. Musilek stressed that this is a general scholarship, not a grant for specific project or aim. The recipients must submit T4A slips (prepared and distributed this year by Iveta Ondrus); it is not our role to find out how they spent their money. Chlumecky and Cervenán suggested that the scholarship recipients should come to our AGM meetings. V. Sykora, P. Musilek and P. Jelen responded that it is happening in most cases, and that 4 of the 6 recipients are in fact in attendance (see below). The SVU draft budget for the following two years, prepared to facilitate the management of the casino funds, was then presented, for information of the members of SVU only. The motion to accept the financial reports was finally called for and passed, with no opposing votes.</p>	

	The next casino is tentatively scheduled for the spring 2018.	
5. Election of new executive – nominations committee report	<p>Frank Hanus contacted the present executive committee members and the following 9 members are willing to continue for another 2-year term: Pavel Jelen, Petr Musilek, Pavel Kuzel, Jan Soukup, Iveta Ondrus, Kamila Moquin, Jiri Patocka, Lukas Matejovsky, Mike Hruska. Milica Moravcik is moving to US and Peter Hala is stepping down. Martin Truksa is nominated with his agreement as a new member of the SVU executive. No further nominations were received in response to the call for nominations, included in the President's email to the membership sent December 13.</p> <p>Frank Hanus moved the approval of the slate, P. Lobkowicz seconded. The new executive committee was approved by the SVU members with no opposing votes. The members were informed that the agreement is for P. Jelen to continue as the President of SVU for one last year. Petr Musilek, will be the vice-president and will take over the presidency next year.</p>	
6. Election of the new nominating and revisions committee chairs.	P. Jelen nominated Frank Hanus to continue as the nominations committee chair and Vlast. Sykora as the chair of the revisions committee (financial reports and statements) for the year 2017. Both nominees agree to serve in their roles.	
7. Wirth Institute of Austrian and Central European Studies	Dr. Joe Patrouch gave a brief description of past Institute's activities and praised the cooperation with SVU (Stepanik visit, Karlicek concert, Christmas concert) then he introduced the Czech Wirth Institute scholar Ondrej Havac, a PhD student of history at the Masaryk University, Brno. Ondrej Havac expressed his sincere thanks to SVU for the support of his stay at the Wirth Institute. Dr. Patrouch also mentioned that the former director, Franz Szabo, is seriously ill.	
8. SVU Scholarships 2016-2017 recipients	Petr Musilek introduced the 2016 SVU scholarship recipients: Tomas Barton, Margaret Vyhlidal, Stephanie Hrazdil, Laura Kraus (not present with apology), Karen Havlas (not present, attends the University of Waterloo) and Maya Budzinski (2015 recipient). Each recipient was invited to say a few words about their study plans. Petr Musilek read Maya Budzinski's letter of thanks for the scholarship that allowed her to attend a summer masterclass camp lead by Ivan Zenaty in the USA.	
9. Czech and Slovak Choir of Edmonton	Kamila Moquin presented future choir's activities. Rehearsals continue starting January 25 th , 2017. The spring concert is planned for March 25 th at 2:30 PM.	
10. Program and activities for 2017	<p>– March 10th, Prazak quartet, ticket prices \$40 regular, 35 \$ senior, some discounted tickets for SVU members will be available, details presently being negotiated with ECMS. The program includes Haydn, Janacek and Smetana (From my life).</p> <p>– "Lectures once a month" continues, every 1st Tuesday of the</p>	

	<p>month. Next meeting is February 7, 2017, with Peter Hala's presentation about Gypsy music.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Czech classes continue with Ondrej Havac. - Easter afternoon April 8, 2017 at the Idylwylde Community Hall. - May 24, 2017 Emil Viklicky (jazz pianist) + Jiri Labus (famous Czech actor) will present a show followed by a jazz concert, current plans are for Faculty Club in Papaschase room. - Children afternoon June 3, 2017. - Summer language camp August 13-19, 2017. - October 2017 traditional Czech musicians concert (presented by ERS) and Fac. Club dinner, the guests will be J. Vodicka (violin) accompanied by M. Kasik 	
<p>11. Future prospect and plans for SVU Alberta</p>	<p>2018 - An ambitious program of events is being considered to coincide with the Celebrations of 100 years of the Czechoslovak independent state, also commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the "Prague Spring" movement.</p> <p>A list of possible activities was presented, the following comments and suggestions were heard during the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - J. Patrouch noted that Wirth Institute won't be able to help around the critical time (September-October); they will have several major activities of their own (20 years of existence; Austrian Centers annual meeting; conference of "alumni") - Suggestion from the floor (Marie Krejcar) that SVU could organize a concert featuring Czech local musician and Czech music, planned by Martina Smazal/Marie Krejcar - I. Zenaty performance in October (E.R.S.) is confirmed - Panocha quartet - playing 50 years together without a single personnel change - possibly approach ECMS - Eaton Richard Singers could present Dvorak's Stabat Mater. - Simurdova/Warszynski duo are actively considering a concert to present the 2 Dvorak's piano quintets, with ESO musicians (same set-up as for their previous concert) - M. Hruska suggests a "literary historic project" - life stories of the SVU members and other Czechs/Slovaks in Alberta, he is willing to lead the project. J. Soukup moves that M. Hruska will be a chair of this project, K. Moquin seconds, accepted with no objections, Ondrej Havac is willing to help with the project. - Pavel Jelen will try to contact a new conductor of the Edmonton Symphony if they would be willing to present a Czech program - or at least some Czech pieces -J. Janovsky suggests to present a duo comedy concert with his father and we could organize schnitzel & beer night 	<p>PJ</p> <p>MH</p> <p>PJ</p>

