

SLAVIC LINGUISTICS SOCIETY 16TH ANNUAL MEETING
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
LETTER FROM THE CHAIR AND
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

6 September 2021

Dear Friends and Fellow Members of the Slavic Linguistics Society,

Now that we have concluded our 16th meeting, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the organizer, Aida Talić, as well as all those who helped to make this year's conference possible. Aida not only accepted the genuinely daunting challenge of hosting a fully-online meeting, but she embraced the format and made the most of the rare opportunities that it provided (e.g., zooming in Damir Imamović, an expert on Sevdah music for both a vibrant talk and a beautiful concert live(-ish) from Sarajevo!). We are grateful for her generosity in hosting and for her incredible efforts that made this meeting an unequivocal success.

I'd like to offer a special thanks to Joshua Dees, whose help in managing the technology and ensuring our ability to join and participate in the panels was indispensable.

Finally, thank you to all who attended and presented, especially the plenary speakers, whose presentations this year could not have been more engaging even if they were live and in-person. This year's conference had the kind of joyful air that I've come to expect from SLS, but that I feared would be lost online. I am glad to have been so obviously and totally mistaken.

Thank you all and I look forward to next year's meeting, where I hope we will be able to once again greet one another face to face.

Sincerely,
Vrinda

MINUTES

Vrinda Chidambaram opened and closed this year's meeting.

At the business meeting this year, the board announced the location of two upcoming meetings (2022 and 2023), which will be held in Sapporo, Japan and Bratislava, Slovakia, respectively. They thank Motoki Nomachi and Gabriela Mucsková for their generosity in agreeing to host and their flexibility in shifting the meetings back by one year.

The board presented the 2020 Charles E. Townsend Memorial Award to Jelena Živojinović. Jelena has presented her research now for three consecutive years at the Slavic Linguistics Society. She earns the award for her talks "Detangling the Serbo-Croatian 'gerund'" in 2019 and "On the grammaticalization of the Serbo-Croatian clitic *je*" in 2020. Congratulations, Jelena!

Additionally, there were so many wonderful talks that the choice of recipients was quite difficult and the board made several honorable mentions: Maša Bešlin, Đorđe Božović, and Florian Wandl.

Lanko Marušič spoke on behalf of the Journal of Slavic Linguistics and reports that the special FASL Stonybrook issue is expected to be produced soon. He encouraged more submissions, which will improve the quality of the journal.

Catherine Rudin offered a bright view of the current SLS budget; given that our meetings have been online for two years, thus greatly reducing overhead, we now have a slight surplus, which we will be able to put toward our upcoming meetings.

Finally, two board members, Małgorzata Ćavar and Teodora Radeva-Bork completed their terms and two new board members were nominated. Catherine Rudin nominated Aida Talić of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Steven Franks nominated Marco Biasio of the University of Padova. Both accepted the nominations. As there were no further nominations and general approval was voiced (and no dissent), their membership to the board was confirmed by acclamation.