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PETRO JACYK CENTRAL & EAST EUROPEAN RESOURCE CENTRE

1995-2005



University of Toronto Libraries

PETRO JACYK
CENTRAL & EAST
EUROPEAN
RESOURCE CENTRE

1995 – 2005

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY REPORT

BY
MARY STEVENS

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARIES
TORONTO • 2005

Petro Jacyk Central & East European Resource Centre

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Petro Jacyk Resource Centre

For the ten years of its existence, the Petro Jacyk Resource Centre has played an important role in service to the academic community locally in Toronto, nationally in Canada, and internationally, in the field of Slavic and East European Studies. Officially opened in March, 1995, it was named after Petro Jacyk, a Toronto businessman and philanthropist who donated the necessary start-up funds. Mr. Jacyk supported Ukrainian Studies in a broader East European context and funded programs at the University of Toronto, universities elsewhere, and in Ukraine. At the University of Toronto, he was a major contributor to the Chair of Ukrainian Studies and established a study and exchange program for Ukrainian scholars at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies. For the University of Toronto Library, he provided funds to obtain microfilms of Western Ukrainian newspapers from the Austrian National Library in Vienna and supported the Stefanyk Library microfilm initiative. He also set up a purchasing fund for subscriptions to Ukrainian periodicals. The University of Toronto Library is extremely grateful for his generosity.

His exemplary support of the University of Toronto Library has been an inspiration to other benefactors such as Vlasta Scheybal who contributed funds for Czech materials and John and Anne Zdunic who contributed funds for Croatian materials. The Centre has thus become an invaluable resource for scholars from many different countries of Eastern Europe.

The Petro Jacyk Resource Centre (PJRC) was created to support the curriculum and activities of the Centre for Russian and East European Studies (CREES), the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, and five Research Chairs connected with this area of study: Ukrainian Chair, Polish History Chair, Estonian Chair, Hungarian Chair, and the Finnish Studies Program at the University of Toronto.



*Opening of the Petro Jacyk Resource Centre, 1995.
Petro Jacyk and his daughter Nadia Jacyk*

Mandate

The primary mandate of PJRC has been to assist University patrons with their research needs. This reference service is also available to visiting scholars and researchers, and to business and professional people from outside the academic community who need information in this field. The role of service and cooperation has been expanded to other activities which will be discussed further in this report.

Resources

The Reference book collection in PJRC consists of more than 2000 volumes in 20 languages on Central and Eastern Europe. Approximately 100 new volumes are added each year, while older material is sent to the stacks of Robarts Library. PJRC houses about 70 current newspapers in 10 languages covering Central and Eastern Europe. Many back issues, kept in storage, are also available upon request. Some titles can be accessed on microfilm and through the Internet. From 1995 to 2003 the collection of the Stalin-Era Research and Archives Project (SERAP) was housed in a separate room in the Centre, and PJRC staff provided access to the manuscripts, microfilms, archival guides,

books and journals. In 2003, this collection was dispersed into the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and the main Robarts Library holdings. Since 1997, PJRC houses parts of the *Peter J. Potichnyj Book Collection on Insurgency and Counter-Insurgency in Ukraine*.

Live television from Moscow has been available in a separate viewing room at the Centre from its beginning. A large collection of video tapes of Russian news and other selected programs is available dating from 1992. In 2003 and 2005, CREES provided funds for the purchase of a multi-format DVD player and a DVD recorder so that starting in 2005 Russian news broadcasts are being recorded and stored on DVDs. This brings to PJRC the latest in technology for audiovisual recording. Other collections of videos donated by several individuals (Leonid Maximenkov, Peter Solomon, Sofija Skoric, Misha Allen, Romana Bahrij, Stephen Velychenko and Volodymyr Mezentsev) consist of documentaries, feature movies, music shows, etc. and represent different languages and cultures. These are all available for viewing in the video room at PJRC. Professors often book this room to show movies to their students.

The website <http://www.pjrc.library.utoronto.ca/> has recently been redesigned and expanded with new content, event listings, pictures, and user-friendly features. It contains an invaluable *Research Guide to Slavic and East European Internet Resources*. Individual instruction and research consultation are always available at the PJRC reference desk. Questions may also be sent by e-mail to: jacyk.centre@utoronto.ca.

Staff

PJRC was administered from 1995 to mid-2002 by Sofija Skoric, Slavic Reference Librarian, who was involved from the very beginning in the architectural design for the new Centre on the 8th floor of Robarts Library and in the planning of functions within its space.

When Sofija Skoric retired, Mary Stevens, Selector of Slavic and East European Materials, became Acting Head until her retirement in mid-2005.



PJRC staff at the retirement party for Sofija Skoric, 2002: (left to right standing) Oksana Petrusiw, Wasyl Sydorenko, Nina Maslej, Alex Milinkovic, Mary Stevens, Oxana Iatsyk, Marianna Ovesny, Jackie Levi, Hasmik Torossian, (left to right sitting) Luba Pendzey and Sofija Skoric.

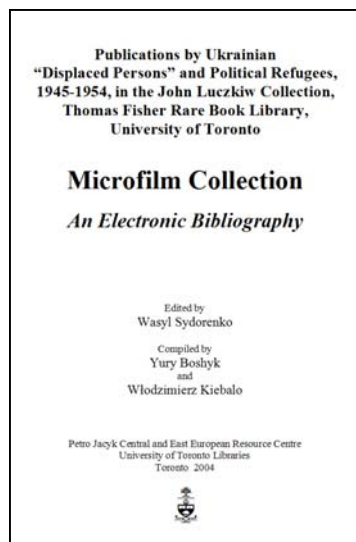
Wasył Sydorenko has been a full-time Reference and Digital Document Specialist in PJRC for the past 10 years.

The Centre has benefited from the part-time work of several enthusiastic library workers from other sections of the Library and from keen students from CREES, the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, and the Faculty of Information Studies.



*John Luczkiw
1923-1974*

*Title page of microfilm index
published in 2004.*



Publications

The Petro Jacyk Resource Centre from its beginning embarked on a plan to publish information resources on paper and online, including bibliographies, pamphlets, and guidebooks. Some of these publications are:

- *Bookstores in the Toronto Area Supplying Central and East European Material.* (1996)
- *Newspapers from Central and Eastern Europe in the University of Toronto Library.* (2000)
<http://www.pjrc.library.utoronto.ca/publications/news2000.pdf>
- *Bookstores in the Toronto Area Supplying Central and East European Material.* (2nd ed., 2002)
<http://www.pjrc.library.utoronto.ca/publications/bs-2002-b.pdf>
- *Bibliography of Selected Works by Current and Recent Professors of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Toronto.* (2002)
<http://www.utoronto.ca/tsq/02/bibliouoft.shtml>
- *Canadian Directory of Librarians and Library Specialists in the Slavic and East European Field.* (2003)
http://www.indiana.edu/~libslav/slavic_directory.html

- *Publications by Ukrainian "Displaced Persons" and Political Refugees, 1945-1954, in the John Luczkiw Collection, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto. Microfilm Collection: An Electronic Bibliography.* (2004)
<http://www.pjrc.library.utoronto.ca/publications/luczkiw2004.pdf>
- *Petro Jacyk Central & East European Resource Centre. 1995-2005, 10 Year Anniversary Report.* (2005)
<http://www.pjrc.library.utoronto.ca/publications/report2005.pdf>
- *Contemporary Novels and Short Stories from Eastern Europe: Exhibition and Bibliography.* (2005)
<http://www.pjrc.library.utoronto.ca/publications/eebooks2005.pdf>
- *Select Recent Acquisitions.* (bi-monthly lists of exhibitions)
<http://link.library.utoronto.ca/MyUTL/guides/folder.cfm?guide=pjrc2&folderID=201054>
- *Current Newspapers in PJRC.*
<http://link.library.utoronto.ca/MyUTL/guides/folder.cfm?guide=pjrc2&folderID=200886>
- *Listing of Pre-1950 Ukrainian Canadiana in the John Luczkiw Collection.* (in progress)

Exhibitions

From the beginning, bi-monthly exhibitions of *Select Recent Acquisitions* have been displayed in PJRC to promote scholarly awareness of publications in the field. Lists of these books are available all the way from 1995.

In the past ten years, many other exhibitions have been initiated, designed and produced by PJRC staff. Many have been collaborative projects with other groups in the community to celebrate important figures and anniversaries.

1995

- Recent Books by University of Toronto Scholars in the East European Field – 1993-1994.
- Tribute to the Cyrillic Alphabet.

1996

- Wislawa Szymborska, Nobel Prize for Literature.
- Romanian Culture Through the Ages.
- Recent Books by University of Toronto Scholars in the East European Field – 1995-1996.

1997

- First Lithuanian Printed Book.
(450th anniversary)



Posters from various exhibitions and events.

1998

- Nobel Prize Winners in Literature and Peace from Central and Eastern Europe.
- Recent Reference Books Acquired by PJRC.
- Polish-Canadian Publishing Fund, 1978-1998. (20th anniversary)
- Polish-Canadian Poet, Stanislaw Januszko. (honouring him in his 85th year)
- Hilandar Monastery on Mount Athos. (800th anniversary)

1999

- Pushkin, 1799-1999. (200th anniversary of his birth)
- Serials Published at University of Toronto in the Central and East European.
- 78 Days of the Bombing of Serbia.

2000

- Recent Books by University of Toronto Scholars in the East European Field – 1999.

2001

- The Works of the Late Prof. Emeritus George S.N. Luckyj, 1919-2001. (memorial exhibit)

- The Works of the Late Prof. Emeritus H. Gordon Skilling, 1912-2001.
(*memorial exhibit*)
- Marko Miljanov Popovic, 1833-1901.
(*100th memorial anniversary*)

2003

- Tolstoy and the Arts.
(*175th anniversary of his birth*)

2004

- Current Finnish Publications Available at the University of Toronto Library.



Researcher Stephen Velychenko at the PJRC exhibition of Recent Books by University of Toronto Scholars, 1996.

2005

- Contemporary Novels and Short Stories from Eastern Europe.



Tolstoy and the Arts, opening night, 2003. Exhibition Committee: (left to right) Arkadi Kliouthanski, Prof. Donna Orwin, Mary Stevens, Wasyl Sydorenko and his daughter Natalia, Nina Maslej, absent: Marianna Ovesny.

Events

In addition to exhibitions, PJRC has also held and sponsored many events.

1995

- Official opening of the Petro Jacyk Central and East European Resource Centre.
- UofT Day.

1996

- *An Overview of the National Library of the Czech Republic: History, Organization and Services.* Lecture by Dr. Hanus Hemola.
- *Archives in the Czech Republic.* Lecture by Dr. Eva Bratkova.
- *Bulgarian Film since 1989.* Lecture by Christina Stojanova. Film screening of *Sirna Nedelia / Day of Forgiveness.*
- UofT Day.

1997

- *Peter J. Potichnyj Collection on Insurgency and Counter-Insurgency in Ukraine.* Donation and opening of collection.
- UofT Day.

1998

- Donation of books by the Croatian Consulate.
- *The Red Pencil: Censorship in the USSR.* Lecture by Prof. Marianna Tax-Choldin.
- UofT Day.

1999

- Donation of books by the Bulgarian Consulate, Toronto and the Agency for Bulgarians Abroad, Sofija, Bulgaria.
- UofT Day.



PJRC, official opening, 1995: (left to right) Sofija Skorice, Head of PJRC; Dr. Robert Pritchard, President UofT; Carole Moore, Chief Librarian; Nadia Jacyk; John Sopinka, Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada; Petro Jacyk; Prof. Robert Johnson, Head of CREES; Elaine Ziemba, Minister of Citizenship.

2000

- UofT Day.

2002

- Celebration of the John Luczkiw Microfilm Collection.
- Open house for faculty, staff and students.

2003

- *Dilemmas of Dissidence in East Central Europe*. Book launch by Dr. Barbara J. Falk.
- Celebration of the John and Anne Zdunic donation of funds for Croatian materials.



Presentation of books by the Croatian Consulate: (left to right) Dr. Gayle Garlock, Deputy Chief Librarian; Anica Miter; Bozo Biskupic, Minister of Culture; Mary Stevens.

2004

- Donation of books by Serbian publishers.

2005

- Donation of books by the Macedonian Consulate.
- 10th Anniversary Open House.

Ongoing Activities

Over the past ten years the Centre has had excellent relations with the Centre for Russian and East European Studies and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. In addition, the Petro Jacyk Resource Centre has had close contact, cooperation and information sharing with many community groups and consulates. In recent years, PJRC staff have participated in events at the Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation, Shevchenko Scientific Society, St. Vladimir Institute, Ukrainian National Federation Library, the Russian Library, the Serbian Consulate, the Estonian Community Centre, the Hungarian Research Institute, and with the Almae Matris Croaticae Alumni (graduates of the University of Zagreb) in Toronto. In turn, we invite people from the Slavic communities to our events at the Library. In the past three years, PJRC has solicited various groups in the Slavic ethnic communities of Toronto for funding to support the establishment of a Multimedia Centre within PJRC for the purpose of receiving live media broad-



Four of the community newspapers received 'gratis' at PJRC.

casts from other countries in Eastern Europe. There have also been dealings and exchanges of books and information with Canadian diplomatic missions in Eastern Europe and the CIS. Funding is also being sought for the compilation of an index to the large microfilm holdings of the *Peter J. Potichnyj Collection on Insurgency and Counter-Insurgency in Ukraine*.

In 1999, the Ukrainian Students' Club on campus donated funds for the purchase of Ukrainian reference books for PJRC. In 2003, the Romanian Students' Club donated numerous Romanian books to the Library.

PJRC is thankful for the many local community newspapers which are donated *gratis* such as *Gazeta*, *Mist*, *Vaapa Sana*, *Zajednicar*, *Zwiazkowiec*, etc.

PJRC has closely cooperated with the *Toronto Slavic Quarterly* (<http://www.utoronto.ca/tsq/>), published at the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.

PJRC has established a working partnership with the *Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine* at the Munk Centre, University of Toronto and the Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies (CIUS). We receive many visiting scholars from Ukraine and other parts of Eastern Europe who come to PJRC for assistance with their research.

In addition to the numerous individual scholars whom we have helped, PJRC has frequently provided research assistance to the CBC, the Globe and Mail, the Toronto Star, the National Library, Shaw Festival, Stratford Festival and other institutions that have requested information. Recently a submission was made

to Library and Archives Canada of an annotated listing of *Special Slavic Collections* at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library of the University of Toronto.

Through the initiative of librarian Luba Pendzey, who was the Ukrainian Studies Specialist and Co-ordinator of International Library Programs with Central and Eastern Europe until her retirement in 1997, the Library set up a preservation microfilming laboratory at the Stefanyk Scientific Library in Lviv, Ukraine. Funding was provided by the Petro Jacyk Educational Foundation.

PJRC while under the direction of Sofija Skoric was involved in the successful lobbying of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to get funds to assist with the modernization and computerization of the Parliamentary Library in Belgrade, Serbia.

An ongoing project by Serbian students in PJRC has been the compilation of an index to the Serbian newspaper, *Glas Kanadskih Srba*.

In the fall of 2004 three instruction courses were given on the topic *Online Research for Slavic and East European Resources*. In November, PJRC held a special workshop on *Ukrainian Genealogy Resources at the University of Toronto Library*.

More recently, PJRC has been gathering information on the 2004 presidential election in Ukraine. Copies of the *Ukraine Report* (<http://www.ArtUkraine.com>) and the *Ukraine List*, produced by Dominique Arel, Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa, have been made available, as well as summaries and tallies of votes region by region.

On numerous occasions, professors have used the well-equipped and congenial surroundings of the PJRC facility for small group seminars, often to show off our reference resources, such as archival guides or bibliographies in the field. PJRC has on its walls original paintings, art works, posters, and maps of the area. These have been donated by visitors to the Centre.

PJRC has received many gifts of books from visiting scholars, writers and publishers. Most of these are added to the main Robarts Library collection. In 2003, editors of the Polish journal *Akcent* donated a number of books and back issues of their journal to fill in gaps in our holdings. In 2004, five Serbian publishers visited and donated many Serbian books.



PJRC staff, 2005: (left to right) Stanislav Orlov; Hasmik Torossian; Mary Stevens, Acting Head; Marianna Ovesny; Wasyl Sydorenko; Leszek Czubik; photo: Keren Dali.

Through all these varied initiatives over the past ten years, PJRC has proven that it serves a valuable purpose at the University of Toronto Library in promoting the Slavic and East European collection, which consists of over 600,000 volumes, and in engaging in service and public relations with the wider community of scholars and ethnic groups for our mutual benefit.

Mary Stevens
Acting Head
Petro Jacyk Resource Centre
University of Toronto Libraries

March 2005

