Dear Friend:

As the year draws to a close, we are pleased to greet you with the latest news, information, and activities of the Njegoš Endowment for Serbian Studies at Columbia University.

First, we would like to announce that there have been some changes to the Njegoš Endowment’s board. After many years of service, Dr. Dushan Kosovich and Professor Deborah Duff Milenkovitch have stepped down from their duties. On behalf of everyone here at Columbia, we would like to thank them for all they have done in this crucial period during which the Endowment was getting off the ground.

Second, two new people have been nominated to join the board and have agreed to serve. Ms. Marilyn Popovich of St. Louis, Mo., brings a successful background in marketing to the board, and will be instrumental in expanding the Njegoš program to the Mid-West. (We would also like to extend our congratulations to Ms. Popovich’s husband, Dr. Dušan Stojanović, a longtime supporter of the Njegoš Endowment, who has recently been named a vice-governor of the National Bank of Serbia). The second new member of the board is Mr. Steve Radakovich, a vice-president at Goldman Sachs. Originally from California, Mr. Radakovich has been living in New York for the past several years. We thank both of them for agreeing to join the board and look forward to exploiting their skills and talents to the fullest.

With the help of the Fund’s supporters, we have witnessed the number of courses on Serbia and Southeastern Europe at Columbia University grow over the last few years. In 2003, we offered three levels of language instruction in Serbo-Croatian, taught by Radmila Gorup and Natalia Ermolaev, along with courses in History and International Affairs, all of which attracted a record 64 enrollments.

As you know, we supplement our course offerings with a rich program of extra-curricular events (please see Page 3 for this year’s activities). As you will see, we have had a very active and productive year. But to organize programs of this quality and to continue to sponsor instruction in the Serbian language at Columbia University we need your financial support. As you make your charitable contributions for this year, we hope that you will remember the Njegoš Fund by sending your tax-deductible contribution in the enclosed envelope.

And finally, we hope to see all of you at our last event of the year, a talk by the newly-appointed ambassador of Serbia-Montenegro to the United States, H.E. Ivan Vujčić, entitled "The Current State of U.S.—Serbia-Montenegro Relations." The talk will be held on Friday, December 12th, at 7pm in the International Affairs Building, 420 West 118th Street (corner of Amsterdam), New York, NY 10027.

With best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season,

Radmila Gorup                  John S. Micgiel

The Southeastern European Leaders Forum. From left: Ivan Vujčić, Ambassador of Serbia-Montenegro to the U.S.; Goran Svilanović; Foreign Minister of Serbia-Montenegro; Lee C. Bollinger, President of Columbia University; and Mladen Ivanić, Foreign Minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina.
Njegoš News

During the spring semester, we are pleased to announce that Dr. Dušan Borić will be teaching a course in Columbia's Anthropology Department, sponsored by the Harriman Institute/East Central European Center, entitled "Balkanized Memories." Dr. Borić earned his B.A. degree at the University of Belgrade in 1996 and his Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge in 2002. His dissertation focused on the prehistoric archaeology of the Balkans and the eastern Mediterranean, during the course of which he conducted fieldwork in a variety of countries, including Turkey, Italy, Hungary, Romania and Serbia. Borić spent the 2002-2003 academic year as a postdoctoral fellow at Columbia's Center for Archaeology, teaching and organizing an interdisciplinary conference on the issue of social memory. Dr. Borić's spring course will examine the various processes and political strategies of creating and maintaining difference among diverse ethnic and religious groups in the Balkans over the past several centuries.

Borić’s course will join others offered in the Spring by scholars who have already been presented to readers of the Njegoš Newsletter. Radmila Gorup taught three courses in the Fall 2003 semester: Elementary and Intermediate Serbo-Croatian, as well as a course entitled "Belgrade Writers." In the Spring she will be teaching "Europe and the Orient in Yugoslav Literatures." Professor Gorup's most recent publications include an article entitled "Women in Ivo Andrić's World," in *20th Century Literary Criticism*, and "The Death of the Story or the Story of Death: David Albahari's Family Saga," in *Serbian Studies*. In October, Professor Group organized a two-day workshop held at Columbia for the Consortium for Language Learning and Teaching, which brought together twelve participants from several Ivy League schools to discuss the challenges of teaching Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian in the same classroom setting. In November, she chaired a panel entitled "Change in Paradigms: The Post-Yugoslav October 5, 2000 and Its Cultural Ramifications," at the National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Toronto, Canada.

Professor Nadine Akhund will again offer her course on "The Balkans, 1878-1995" in the Spring; and Professor George Yiangu will teach "EU Policies and Instruments for Conflict Prevention in South Eastern Europe."

Gordon N. Bardos, Assistant Director of the Harriman Institute, published an article entitled "Davos Man Meets Homo Balcanicus" in the Fall 2003 issue of *The National Interest*, which was reprinted in *NIN* (Belgrade). He also contributed a chapter entitled "International Policy in Southeastern Europe: A Diagnosis," to *Yugoslavia Unraveled: Sovereignty, Self-Determination, Intervention* (Lexington Books), edited by Raju G. C. Thomas. Mr. Bardos has recently been named Executive Director of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, the world's largest scholarly organization dedicated to the study of nationalism, ethnicity, and ethnic conflict. He also continues to serve as Balkans consultant for Freedom House's *Survey of Freedom in the World*. In October, he gave a talk at the NATO Senior Officer's Conference held at Hurlburt Field, Florida. In November, he spoke at a conference organized by the Croatian Center for Strategic Studies in Zagreb, and at a meeting on "The Management of Ethnic Conflict," organized by the Office of Russian and Eurasian Analysis in Washington. In December, he spoke at a conference in Washington on "Succession Issues in Eurasia" organized by the U.S. State Department.
Njegoš Events in 2003

March 10: Ana Miljacki (Harvard University), "Flares and Flickers: Visible Evidence of Resistance in 1990s Belgrade."

March 28: Albert Raboteau (Princeton University), "Orthodox Christianity and American Culture: Conflict or Transformations."


April 7: Dimitri Avramopoulos (Former Mayor of Athens), "The Greek EU Presidency and the Balkans."

May 2: Svetlana Rakic (Franklin College), "On a Spiritual Quest: The Art of the Serbian-American Painter Alexander Markovich."

May 16: Concert, "The D'Ivaz present 12 Short Pieces."

May 29: Vukašin Pavlović (University of Belgrade), "Serbia After the Djindjić Assassination."

June 6: Exhibit, "The Caricatures and Films of Zoran Jovanović."


October 17-19: "The Icon And Modernity: Mystery, Meaning, Means." A three-day event focusing on the exhibition, exposition, and use of the Orthodox icon.

October 24-25: Workshop on Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian Language Instruction.


Serbian Athletes at Columbia

Over the past several years, a number of world-class athletes from Serbia have been recruited by Columbia to join various sports programs. Starting in 2000, the Columbia Rowing program began recruiting several young stars from Serbian sports teams such as Partizan, Crvena Zvezda, and Smederevo, who had rowed for the Yugoslav National Team. Today, Columbia’s rowing teams include Srdjan Stojiljković, Miloš Tomić, Veljko Urošević, Novak Vukašinović, Luka Vukotić, Aleksandar Kovač, and Nenad Uzunović. Tomić and Uzunović already have three medals in world championship competitions. In this year's U.S. Finals held in June, the team of Stojiljković, Tomić and Urošević took second place nationally. The three rowers, with Uzunović joining them, will be taking a sabbatical
from Columbia starting in January to go back to Serbia to rejoin the SCG National Team and begin training for the Olympics. We wish them the best of luck, and look forward to their return to New York City (as Olympic Gold Medalists!) in the Fall.

Apart from the Rowing Team, Dragutin Kravić from Zrenjanin is the latest in a long line of Serbian athletes to begin playing basketball in this country. Milena Kačar from Novi Sad has joined the Columbia Women's Tennis team this year, and Luka Lazić is on the Columbia Fencing Team.

Student News

This year we are happy to welcome Ms. Ana Brana Jelenković to the Harriman Institute/East Central European Center. In the Fall semester, Ana entered the Master's program in Political Science at Columbia's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. She comes to Columbia after completing her B.A. degree at Brandeis University, where she majored in Political Science and minored in Economics, International Studies, and International Economics. Born and raised in Belgrade, Ms. Jelenković moved with her family to Colorado in the 1990s. During the summer of 2003, she worked in Belgrade with the G17 Institute, the leading economic reform think-tank in Serbia. She plans to return to Serbia and use the education and knowledge she has acquired in the U.S. to help in the transition process.

We are in the process of updating our database. To better keep you informed of our events, please complete and return to us the following form:

Name: _________________________________________________________________

Address:  _______________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________                     State:  ______________________

Zip Code:  _____________    Email address:  __________________________________

If you know of a friend who would like to be informed of Serbian and Southeastern European events at Columbia, please provide their contact information.