

**THIRD ANNUAL KENNETH E.
NAYLOR MEMORIAL LECTURE IN
SOUTH SLAVIC LINGUISTICS**

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**"WHAT IS A STANDARD
LANGUAGE GOOD FOR, AND
WHO GETS TO HAVE ONE?"**

**Friday, May 19, 2000
at 3:00 p.m.**

**The Ohio State University
Faculty Club Grand Lounge
181 South Oval Mall
Columbus, Ohio**

**A reception at the Faculty Club
Grand Lounge will follow**

The Lecture

One thing countries and stateless national groups, both in the Balkans and elsewhere, feel they should have (alongside a flag, an airline, a soccer team, and an anthem) is a standard language.

Standards have had a bad press in the American linguistics tradition, witness Robert Hall's 1950 book *Leave Your Language Alone!*. In fact, there are great advantages in having a standard, even though, in order to put one together, someone has to invest some work into processing and tampering with existing language forms. But it's also true that *de jure* standards can be, or come to be, out of step with *de facto* usage. In some cases, more than one standard grows up based on the same raw material. One secondary result of this can be rancorous discussions about the justification or lack of justification for one or another of the standards: who has the right to standardize the language separately from the others, and who can deny another group the right to do so?

The number of languages that have more than one standard is larger than we usually think: it includes English, German, Portuguese, Dutch/Flemish, and Spanish, perhaps also French, as well as Serbo-Croatian/Bosnian. Special difficulties can arise for anyone who wishes to teach or learn such a language. Even in Lesson 1 of a textbook, there is likely to be material which will lay the teacher -- and, later on, the students -- open to accusations of taking sides against one of the existing groups.

The Speaker

Born in 1941, Wayles Browne, currently Associate Professor of Linguistics at Cornell University, is one of the leading Western scholars specializing in the study and analysis of Serbo-Croatian. His Slavic studies began with his undergraduate career at Harvard University (A.B., 1963, in Linguistics and Slavic Languages), and continued with graduate work at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Novi Sad in Yugoslavia, culminating in a Ph.D. degree from the University of Zagreb in 1983. He studied with some of the finest linguists and Slavicists of the 20th century, including Roman Jakobson, Horace Lunt, Morris Halle, and Pavle Ivić. His dissertation, directed by Rudolf Filipovič, was entitled *Relativna "ě" u hrvatskom ili srpskom jeziku u poredjenju s engleskom situacijom* (*Relative Clauses in Serbo-Croatian in Comparison with the English Situation*) and is one of the first serious attempts to analyze Serbo-Croatian syntax within a Generative Grammar framework. It was later published in revised form, in 1986, as *Relative Clauses in Serbo-Croatian*, as part of the Zagreb English-Serbo-Croatian Contrastive Project, by the Institute of Linguistics of the University of Zagreb.

Author of more than 65 articles and 20 reviews, Professor Browne wrote the widely-cited definitive sketch of Serbo-Croatian grammar: "Serbo-Croat", pp. 306-387 in *The Slavonic Languages* (B. Comrie and G. Corbett, eds., Routledge Publishers, 1993).

Besides his present position at Cornell, where he has taught since 1974, he has taught at Brown University and Yale University. He has also held research positions at MIT and at the University of Zagreb.

Professor Browne's main interests lie in the syntax of Serbo-Croatian and other South Slavic languages (relative clauses, clitic placement rules, complement clauses, etc.) and in the contributions these can make to theoretical work in general linguistics.

The Professorship

The Kenneth E. Naylor Professorship of South Slavic Linguistics was established on November 5, 1993 in the College of Humanities through gifts to The Ohio State University from the estate of Dr. Naylor. The professorship is a five-year appointment, and is dedicated to preserving and continuing the scholarly legacy of Dr. Naylor. Professor Brian D. Joseph, a Balkan/Greek scholar of the Department of Linguistics at the Ohio State University and a colleague of Dr. Naylor, has the distinguished honor of being the first Kenneth E. Naylor Professor. He now holds joint appointments in the Department of Linguistics and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures.

The Lecture Series

As part of the Naylor Professorship, Professor Joseph has established an annual Lecture on South Slavic Linguistics in Kenneth Naylor's memory that will bring leading scholars in the field to OSU each Spring to give a public lecture and to lecture in Professor Joseph's South Slavic classes.



Brian D. Joseph, first and current Kenneth E. Naylor Professor of South Slavic Linguistics

Kenneth E. Naylor, Jr.

Kenneth E. Naylor, Jr. was born on February 27, 1937 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He received his B.A. in French linguistics from Cornell University in 1958, and his M.A. in General linguistics from Indiana University in 1960. At Indiana, he began to study Slavic with Professor Edward Stankiewicz, who became a personal friend and mentor. When Professor Stankiewicz moved to the University of Chicago, Kenneth Naylor went with him. There he received his doctorate in Russian and South Slavic linguistics in 1966. Dr. Naylor was an assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh from 1964 to 1966. In 1966, he began teaching Slavic linguistics at The Ohio State University. At the time of his death, Dr. Naylor was the Acting Director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies at the Ohio State University. Dr. Naylor was the recipient of numerous awards, grants and fellowships from many sources, including the American Council of Learned Societies, the Fulbright program, and the countries of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, from which he was awarded medals of honor (the Jubilee Medal and the Order of the Yugoslav Flag with Golden Wreath, respectively). In 1990, he testified before the U.S. House of Representatives, Foreign Affairs Committee on ethnic rivalry in Yugoslavia and the development of the Serbo-Croatian language. Dr. Naylor's research centered on the Serbo-Croatian language and on South Slavic linguistics in general. He served as editor of the journals *Balkanistica*, *Folia Slavica*, and *The American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies*. The overwhelming majority of his seventy articles focused on Serbo-Croatian and Balkan linguistics. His dedication and many accomplishments live in his work and in the love of the field he instilled in his students.

Brian D. Joseph

Born in New York in 1951, Brian D. Joseph was schooled at Yale University (B.A. Cum Laude, 1973, a major in Linguistics and a minor in Classics), and Harvard University (M.A. 1976, Ph.D. 1978, both in Linguistics), spending a year in Greece doing research on his dissertation. After a year as an Izaak Walton Killam Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Alberta, Dr. Joseph began in 1979 as Assistant Professor in the Linguistics Department at The Ohio State University, where he has been ever since, becoming a full professor in 1988, and serving as Chair of Linguistics from 1987 to 1997. Dr. Joseph has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the 1995 OSU Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award, the Erskine Visiting Fellowship at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand in the summer of 1997, a Fulbright Research Award in Greece in 1987, and the currently held Kenneth E. Naylor Professorship of South Slavic Linguistics. Professor Joseph is recognized worldwide as one of the leading specialists in the history and structure of Greek and in Balkan linguistics. His primary scholarly interest is in historical linguistics, with an emphasis on the latter history of Greek. This has led him to study Greek in relation to its neighboring languages in the Balkans, including the South Slavic languages. His work on the Balkan *Sprachbund* explores the effects of years of language contact and bilingualism which have led to converging linguistic developments in the languages of the area. This area of research was one in which Dr. Naylor was also deeply interested. Author or co-author of 5 books and editor or co-editor of 8 volumes, Professor Joseph's long list of publications includes many dealing with Balkan linguistics. He is currently working with Professor Victor Friedman, the first Naylor Lecturer (in 1998), on a book on the Balkan languages for Cambridge University Press.

Other Naylor Lectures

The Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures is pleased to announce the Naylor Memorial Lecturer for 2001: Howard Aronson of University of Chicago. Dr. Aronson specializes in South Slavic Linguistics, with Bulgarian as his particular focus (in addition to considerable expertise in Georgian).

The Naylor Memorial Lectures are published in the newly-created Naylor Memorial Lecture Monograph Series. The 1998 Lecture by Victor Friedman ("Linguistic Emblems and Emblematic Languages: On Language as Flag in the Balkans") and the 1999 Lecture by Ronelle Alexander ("In Honor of Diversity: The Linguistic Resources of the Balkans") are now available; for information, contact the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures (614-292-6733).



The late, distinguished professor of South Slavic linguistics, Dr. Kenneth E. Naylor