What is a Standard Language Good For, and Who Gets to Have One?

and

Open and Closed Accent Types in Nouns in Serbo-Croatian

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Columbus, Ohio (USA)
2002
Editor’s Preface

The Kenneth E. Naylor Professorship of South Slavic Linguistics was created officially on November 5, 1993 through gifts to The Ohio State University from the estate of my good friend and long-time colleague Ken Naylor, after his tragic death on March 10, 1992. Ken’s death brought an untimely end to a productive life, but his scholarly legacy, with its focus on the languages of the Balkans, but especially the South Slavic languages, lives on through this professorship and all activities associated with it. A brief biography of Ken is included on page v of this publication.

It was my great honor to be named in January 1997 as the first Naylor Professor, and to thus carry on Ken’s interest in South Slavic. To that end, one of my first acts was to establish an annual lecture series in his memory to bring to campus each spring a leading scholar in Balkan and South Slavic linguistics for a public lecture and extended visit.

The first Naylor Lecture was delivered on May 28, 1998 by Victor A. Friedman, Professor and Chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Chicago, a major figure in the field who spoke on the subject of “Linguistic Emblems and Emblematic Languages: On Language as Flag in the Balkans” (a topic that Ken himself was especially interested in and was working on at the time of his death). The success of that lecture led to the idea of making it public beyond the reaches of the audience on that day, and thus was born the Kenneth E. Naylor Memorial Lecture Series in South Slavic Linguistics. A carefully polished and more fully developed version of Professor Friedman’s lecture was published in 1999 as the first number in the series. The second publication in this series came in 2000, when Ronelle Alexander, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of California, Berkeley, refining and augmenting her 1999 Naylor Lecture, “In Honor of Diversity: The Linguistic Resources of the Balkans”, turned it into a detailed overview of Balkan Slavic dialectology, together with a fifty-page bibliography of relevant works. The first two Naylor lecturers therefore took this opportunity to produce a published version of the lecture in somewhat different directions, and the present volume is no exception. Wayles Browne, Professor of Linguistics at Cornell University and the third Naylor lecturer on May 19, 2000, a biographical sketch of whom appears herein on page vi, kept fairly close to his lecture text in the written version published here, but decided to honor Ken further by publishing for the first time a paper he wrote in Croatian in 1973 on a subject that Ken himself had written on, namely accent classes of the Serbo-Croatian noun, especially as revealed through loan words; thus this volume contains two contributions, both fully appropriate for the occasion. The typographical complexity of the second paper occasions a departure from the usual font (Times) for the series, as an early Macintosh font (Nova Goria) is used in order to accommodate the accentual markings of the relevant forms.

The lectures continue, and publication of the lectures will continue. Current plans call for publishing the lectures annually (or nearly so) as separata, and after several years bringing out a single volume that gathers together the individual fascicles that appeared in the preceding years.

This number in the series continues the tradition of rich scholarship begun with the first two, and like those, it too serves as a fitting tribute to Ken Naylor’s memory, and to the intellectual legacy he left at The Ohio State University. We here, together with others around the country and around the world, miss Ken, but we also take heart in his act of generosity in the name of South Slavic scholarship, and are pleased to be able to honor him through this lecture series.

Columbus, Ohio

May 2002
Kenneth E. Naylor, Jr.

Kenneth E. Naylor, Jr., was born on February 27, 1937 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He received his A.B. degree in French Linguistics from Cornell University in 1958 and his A.M. 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, Ken went with him. There, after studying in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia under a Yugoslav Government Exchange Fellowship and an NDFL Title VI Fellowship for Serbo-Croatian from the United States government, he received his doctorate in Russian and South Slavic Linguistics in 1966. He was an assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh from 1964 to 1966, and began teaching Slavic linguistics at The Ohio State University in 1966. At the time of his death in 1992, he was the Acting Director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies at Ohio State.

Kenneth Naylor was the recipient of numerous awards, grants, and fellowships from many sources, including the American Council of Learned Studies, 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 1982, under the auspices of the Fulbright-Hays Program, he held a Senior Lectureship as a guest professor at the University of Novi Sad. 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.

His research centered on the Serbo-Croatian language and on South Slavic languages in general, but especially in their Balkan context. He edited two volumes of The American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies (1967 and 1968/1969), was guest editor of Volume 1 of Folia Slavica (1977), and was co-editor of Slavic Linguistics and Poetics: Studies for Edward Stankiewicz on his 60th Birthday (Slavica, 1982). In addition, he served as editor of the journal Balkanistica, producing the first five volumes (1975-1977, 1980, and 1981). The overwhelming majority of his 100-plus articles, reviews, and edited works focused on Serbo-Croatian and Balkan linguistics, with several notable and much quoted ones among them. A collection of 18 of his most important papers on Serbo-Croatian and Balkan sociolinguistics, translated into Serbo-Croatian, was published posthumously in Belgrade, under the title Sociolinguistički problemi medu Južnim Slovenima (Prosveta, 1996), containing as well an overview of his life by Milorad Radovanović and an appreciation of his scholarly career by Pavle Ivic.

Ken Naylor inspired many with his work. His dedication and many accomplishments live on in his scholarly publications but more importantly, perhaps, in the love of the field he instilled in his students and his colleagues.

Wayles Browne

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 Slavists of the 20th century, including Roman Jakobson, Horace Lunt, Morris Halle, and Pavle Ivic. His dissertation, directed by Rudolf Filipovic, was entitled Relative rečenica u hrvatskom ili srpskom jeziku u poređenju 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.

Besides his present position at Cornell, where he has taught since 1974, Professor Browne 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 (with particular attention to relative clauses, clitic placement rules, and complement clauses) and in the contributions data from these languages can make to theoretical work in general linguistics.

Professor Browne is co-editor of Annual Workshop on Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics: the Cornell Meeting, 1995 (Michigan Slavic Publications, 1997), and author of more than 65 articles and 20 reviews, covering topics not just in Serbo-Croatian and South Slavic linguistics but also in Slavic linguistics more generally (including work on Russian and on Czech) and in linguistic theory. He 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), and has published numerous pieces in such major journals as Balkanistica, Folia Slavica, and Linguistic Inquiry.

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Acknowledgment

We hereby acknowledge, with great appreciation, Professor Paul Robert Magocsi of the Department of History of the University of Toronto, the creator of the map on the cover, for graciously granting permission for the map to be reprinted in this publication. The map first appeared in his Historical Atlas of East Central Europe (Volume I of A History of East Central Europe), published in 1993 by the University of Washington Press (Seattle & London), as Map #26b, on page 85.