

THE FIRST FULLY-ENDOWED HUNGARIAN CHAIR IN NORTH AMERICA

The Hungarian Chair of the University of Toronto was established in 1978 by a fund raised by the Hungarian Canadian community (on the initiative of the Széchenyi Society) and matched by the Federal Government. Its academic objective is to further the study of the Hungarian language, literature, and culture, conceiving these in a global context; and, to make the Hungarian heritage familiar and relevant within the unique multicultural society of Canada. It is the first fully-endowed Hungarian Chair in North America, and, at present, the only one in Canada.

Every year, three Hungarian courses in language, literature, and civilization studies are offered. Hungarian language is taught on two levels: elementary and intermediate. Students may pursue higher language studies in a third course entitled *Advanced Studies in Hungarian*. Another course, *Hungarian Literature and Culture*, explores Hungarian civilization through lectures and presentations in English. At present time the following courses are taught on a rotating basis: *Elementary Hungarian*, *Intermediate Hungarian*, *Hungarian Literature and Culture*, *Advanced Studies in Hungarian*, *The Modern Hungarian Novel*, *Hungarian Drama*, *Hungarian Cinema*.

In addition to the courses set up by the Hungarian Chair, a number of courses offered in the departments of History and Political Economy include significant Hungarian content. These courses also form part of the Hungarian Studies Programs.

The courses offered by the Hungarian Chair and the other departments may be combined either towards a MAJOR PROGRAM (minimum 6 courses) or a MINOR PROGRAM (minimum 3 courses) IN HUNGARIAN STUDIES.

Or, the 3 language courses qualify as a MINOR PROGRAM IN HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE. These three programs suit students of all language and cultural backgrounds, and of virtually all interests. The Minor Program in Hungarian Studies may be undertaken without any language study.

The Hungarian Chair is becoming an international centre for Hungarian studies. It organizes triennial conferences on diverse scholarly topics.

The journal of the Chair, *Hungarian Studies Review*, the first academic periodical of its kind, is published in conjugation with the Chair. The Hungarian Chair regularly invites eminent scholars from Hungary and Canada as well as other countries to hold public lectures.

Robarts Library (the central library of the University) and the library of the Hungarian Chair offer a varied selection of some 20,000 volumes, predominantly in Hungarian. These two collections make Toronto by far the most favourable location in Canada to pursue Hungarian studies. The Hungarian Chair also has rapidly growing sound library and slide collection.