



Activity summary of CIAS fellow in Budapest

Name (with title):

Briane Keith Turley, PhD, junior research fellow

Home institute (name, position, country):

Adjunct Associate Professor/Member of the Graduate Faculty
Department of History
West Virginia University, Morgantown, USA

**Partner(s) in Hungary:**

Corvinus Institute for Advanced Studies

Academic Year / Semester: Academic year 2019/20, Fall semester

Duration: 5 months

Sponsor(s): CIAS

Work in progress:

The Appalachian Hungarian Heritage Project
Tracing the Hungarian Heritage in Southern Appalachia

Connected publications:

In progress – articles in related professional journals.

Currently drafting manuscript titled “‘The Coal Dust Absorbs Our Tears’: Hungarian Mining Families in Southern Appalachia, 1880-1945”. Turley will submit the article to *Journal of Southern History* and, if vetoed under peer review, to *Journal of Migration History* or Routledge’s *Labour History* (all three journals are rated as Q1 publications).

Planned multi-authored book published by a US university publisher on his research subject. Interest in the book proposal has been expressed by West Virginia University Press and University of Tennessee Press.

Additional activities (presentations, professional meetings, public lecture etc.):

He gave lectures on his research at Corvinus University of Budapest and at University of Szeged and will deliver a presentation on 6 February at the Caffrey Arts and Cultural Center in West Virginia.



Participated as speaker and jury of the British Parliamentary debate competition of Mathias Corvinus College. Organized Appalachian Hungarian Heritage Project in association with Corvinus, West Virginia University, and the University of Szeged, Institute for English and American Studies.

Future plans, planned return (if any):

In association with the National Széchényi Library, Turley has sponsored the digitization of the first 9 years of Martin Himler's *Magyar Banyászlap*, published for Appalachian coal miners and their families from 1913-1962. This important resource has previously never been made readily available for scholarly applications in the US or in Hungary. He will be weaving his research into the proposed academic journal manuscript.

AHHP Team member, Doug Cantrell, is transmitting all extant copies of the journal he has located and which we provide to Moorehead State University, which has agreed to translate the entire corpus into English by 2023.

Turley is in process of converting the extensive Széchényi collection from jpeg images sent to him by the Library into PDF format for easy distribution to his scholarly team in both countries.

He hopes in the spring 2020 semester to work with a Corvinus student associate and scholars at the University of Szeged and Károli Gáspár University on querying pertinent *Magyar Banyászlap* materials.

Director of the English and American Studies Institute, University of Szeged, Anna Fenyvesi, and Turley are submitting a panel presentation abstract to the American Hungarian Educators Association for their conference in Pécs, 25-27 June, 2020. The team's subject matter fits well within this year's "Cultural Crossroads" theme.

Continue working with Sociologist, Peter Torok on interviews with Hungarians whose family members elected not to remain in the US and returned home from Appalachia by or before the 1920s.