

P I T T S T U D E N T S L O V A K C L U B
S L O V A K S T U D I E S P R O G R A M

University of Pittsburgh

cordially invite you to

The Thomas Kukucka Memorial Lecture

John Palka

From Central Europe to the U.S.: A Slovak Family in the Building of Its Proud Nation

Sunday, April 6, 2014, 2:00 P.M.

1700 Posvar Hall, Pitt Campus, Oakland

Prof. John Palka's lecture will be based on his book that, while historical in essence, is refreshingly contemporary in its account of the past that his ancestors helped to shape. It contains vivid portraits of courage and love of freedom and country that will resonate with modern Slovak-Americans, it will connect them with the boarder story of their ancestors. The focus of his research is the life of a family with several prominent activists and politicians, including the former Prime Minister Milan Hodža (did you know Czecho-Slovakia had a Slovak head of government?), in the context of the country's social, cultural, and political history. It extends through some of the family escaping first temporarily from Nazi-dominated Europe and then emigrating again to find haven in the United States as Slovakia was being taken over by Soviet communism.

Refreshments will be served