



Hungarian ILEA Alumni Event

Director's Column



Director Terpinas speaks to ILEA Alumni

This fall ILEA is embarking on the most significant curriculum change since its opening in 1995. The 8 week Law Enforcement Executive Development (LEED) course will be replaced by a 6 week Law Enforcement Leadership Development (LELD) course. After 17 successful years with over 3,000 successful graduates why are we making these changes?

The LEED course provided a great opportunity for participants from different countries to come together as a cohesive unit and enjoy a break from their everyday responsibilities. Increasingly however it has become difficult for police departments to give up their best performers for extended training. Also, the LEED curriculum had grown somewhat outdated and a thorough overhaul incorporating best practices in police training and adult learning was in order.

For over a year ILEA and participating law enforcement agencies have been working with curriculum developers from the Allied Technology Group to design the new course. Session 87 which began on August 21 will be the last 8 week course. On October 22 Session 88 will be the first class to receive the new LELD curriculum. One of the goals for the LELD is to provide a standard curriculum that can be taught at all ILEAs. This will enable instructors to deliver high quality, well-designed lessons at all 4 ILEAs, and bring consistency around the globe to the ILEA diploma.

ILEA has set the goal to reach out to all the Hungarian ILEA alumni (currently 488) by giving each of them the opportunity to return to the ILEA campus for a day or two and meet old friends and fellow alumni. The first such event was organized in 2006 when 60 alumni visited campus for a day of retraining, fun and a reception at the U.S. ambassador's residence.

For this year's alumni event 94 invitations were sent out to officers who attended the ILEA core course between 1995 and 2009. 73 of them accepted the invitation and participated in the program on May 17-18, while a few others had to decline because of their current Foreign Service assignment.

Following registration and filling out the ILEA alumni survey, there was some time to mingle and play the guessing game: Is that really you? I can't believe that, you have changed so much... or... You have not changed a bit. Do you remember so and so? What do you know about them? Having (re-)acquainted with fellow colleagues, it was time to leave for the evening reception held by U.S. Ambassador Eleni Tsakopoulos Kounalakis at her residence in honor of the ILEA alumni. Ambassador Kounalakis welcomed each guest personally, shook hands and exchanged a few words with them. In her welcome remarks she acknowledged the dedicated work they perform day by day in chasing the bad guys and mentioned that law enforcement is a common business of us all. On behalf of the United States government, she also expressed her gratitude to Hungary for the assistance given in Afghanistan and Libya. Then she added that even in this audience she met people who fulfilled assignments in Afghanistan. ILEA Director John Terpinas gave a quick overview of the alumni community and talked about the upcoming changes in the curriculum. Following the ambassadorial reception, the night was closed with a dinner held at the ILEA Cafeteria followed by a beer party in the Student Center – as in the old days.

The second day was set aside for work. After the directors' welcome remarks, Police Major General Attila Petőfi, Director General of Crime gave an overview of the current situation of the Hungarian Law Enforcement and the challenges each organization was facing. After a 20-minute coffee break, Police Colonel István Farkas, Director General of the International Training Center gave an in-depth presentation on how extreme stress affects the physical and mental condition of law enforcement officers in action. The topic has long been incorporated into the curriculum of the core course, but many of those in attendance trained at ILEA when this topic was not dealt with. Before lunch, one representative of each session shared a few memories of their ILEA training, gave useful feedback concerning the training program and provided those in the audience with a quick update on the changes and current circumstances of their team members. Those having served foreign missions offered useful advice on what to expect and how to prepare for serving abroad.

Altogether, the reunion was a great success. ILEA staff have received many comments since then about how great it was to be back on campus and how quickly those good old days returned. "It was as if I had gone back in time and was again attending the training," – recalled one of the alumni.

Session #85

On May 10, 2012 ILEA Session 85 (Bulgaria, Hungary, and Kosovo) graduated with Hungarian Ministry of Interior State Secretary Krisztina Berta and United States Secret Service Rome Field Office Special Agent in Charge Marcus Snipe making the graduation speeches. Kosovo Team Leader Ergin Medic made the participant speech. A splendid banquet at the Royal Corinthia Hotel. This was a fitting conclusion for a fine session that overcame several challenges.

In week 2 Kosovo participant Muhamet Berisha suffered a total rupture of his Achilles tendon. Doctors advised Muhamet to return home, but he was determined to complete his ILEA course and followed the course on the closed circuit video feed in his dorm room. After a week of bed rest, he was outfitted with a walking cast, and on the day before graduation the cast was removed and he was able to walk normally to receive his diploma at the graduation ceremony.

Bulgarian participant Asen Petrov broke his toe and was unable to run. Determined to participate in the Bogrács Challenge, PT instructor Peter Pakanyi designed an alternative training program that Asen followed faithfully. All agreed that Asen earned his bogrács.

The most moving moment in the session came when retired FBI instructor Skip Stites returned to teach the Street Survival course. Years ago Skip had established the Christian Dandé Award in honor of the late ILEA interpreter. Since Skip's retirement the tradition of presenting this award has been continued by the General Director of the Hungarian National Police International Training Center, Colonel István Farkas. With great emotion Skip told the session about how Christian Dandé worked so hard to bring participants from different nationalities together. He described how a seed is planted at ILEA that will grow and prosper throughout an officer's career. He proudly presented this session's award to Hungarian participant István Födő.

A special treat for the session was prepared on Sunday May 6. In Bulgaria this is the feast day of St. George, an event celebrated with a lamb roast. Instead of the usual Sunday bag lunch, the delegation was served a delicious meal of roast lamb. The Bulgarian team leader commented that this was as fine a St. George's day he has ever celebrated, and he was delighted to share this tradition with his colleagues.

Once again ILEA was fortunate to have an excellent class coordinator in SA Michael Watts from the United States Secret Service. He was a constant encouraging presence and amazed all of us with his ability to speak in the participants' languages. Session 85 is formally over, but all participants agreed that the relationships forged during these 8 weeks will continue into the future.



Session #86

Every summer session at ILEA Budapest faces the uncertainty of summer weather. This year was no exception as temperatures on many days soared over 30 degrees (86 F), forcing the modification of many PT sessions. Due to the heat, most running events were held in the Normafá forest, high in the Buda Hills. This change in venue provided a cooler and refreshing place to exercise. Forest running and trips to the Hungarian National Police pool made PT bearable in the heat.

Back on campus the dress code was relaxed for several days and participants were permitted to wear shorts to class when the air conditioning failed. Christian Dandé Award winner Armin Selmanovic lifted everyone's spirits with his accordion playing, and members of all 4 delegations greatly enjoyed singing together on the bus trips to the team building exercises.

Coordinator Rob Jackson from the IRS provided mature guidance and mentoring, and it was a special treat for the participants to meet his wife and daughters visiting from Kansas City, Missouri.

A clear trend evident in this class was the advanced English language speaking skills of the participants. In ILEA's early years, Russian was most likely to be a participant's second language. Now the trend is clearly running in favor of English. About a third of participants fully followed the course instruction in English, and virtually every participant could speak English. English instructors unanimously agreed that Session 86 had more advanced English speakers than any previous session.

Graduation speeches were delivered by the former Hungarian International Training Center General director, Brigadier General Jozsef Boda, and the Executive Director of International Operations, Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation, Jennifer Vozne. Speaking for Session 86 was Hungarian Team Leader Angéla Nyári, a fluent speaker of Montenegrin as well as English. The session concluded with a splendid banquet at the medieval cloisters of the Budapest Hilton on a mild evening with the sun shining beautifully on the Danube.

The next day participants were heading out early to catch their flights home. It was a wonderful 8 weeks, but for the participants of Session 86 it was time to apply what they had learned at ILEA.

Interview with Németh Ágnes

HNP ILEA Graduate

- How did you come to choose a career in law enforcement as a female? Does police work run in your family?

- After I finished my secondary school I wanted to study at a collage (BA) and my plan was to be a teacher. But my admission process was not successful and I have to find a job until the next admission period. One of my teacher offered me the police and I applied for a job. I found a very good community there, with excellent colleagues and job. My uncle worked for the police, but he didn't offer to me. It happened more than 20 years ago.

- What percentage of females work in law enforcement compared to males?

- Female police officers are 18% and the males are 64%. Civil (public) servants: female 12%, male 5%.

- Why did you turn to the crime prevention specialty within law enforcement?

- I worked as a criminal investigator when my commissioners asked me to be the chief of the crime prevention department. At first I said no. I liked to work as an investigator and I enjoyed it very much. My boss trusted me and gave me a chance to be a chief and start a new carrier on the field of crime prevention. And I have to confess (after 10 years) that I do not regret it. Now, I supervise my colleague's job at countryside and represent the Hungarian National Police at the national and international level.

- What is the greatest issue/challenge facing leadership for women in law enforcement? What do you see as a solution to this challenge?

- I think the challenge is the same everywhere: if you are a woman with family (husband, children, parents) you have to solve the same problems: kindergarten, school, trainings, school events, breakfast-lunch-dinner and be a partner and work and work. The plus that you wear uniform and gun and you have different responsibilities. But maybe another woman would tell similar extras about her job, with her different responsibilities. There is no solution. We hope that the children should be brought up, it will be easier. (No, never – but this is a secret.)

- How have you excelled in/developed leadership roles as a female working in law enforcement?

- As I mentioned above I was chosen by my boss to be a leader and there was no application process. After 10 years I was selected to my current position without application. My first activities were (at both places): to clear the administration situation, to fix the staff and find the professional balance for my staff and colleagues.

- What do you believe is the most critical need for developing effective women leaders in law enforcement?

- To find the balance between the totalitarian (dictatorial) system and the always solution seeker woman. When a man gets a command he executes it without debate. A woman would like to make compromise, find the better solution and negotiate for the best. Well, not always easy to accept our bosses commands.

- What do you recommend for younger women coming up through the ranks working in law enforcement and seeking to identify resources of support or develop leadership roles?

- I always offer to get a civilian degree first and then the law enforcement one. This system (law enforcement) is not always acceptable for a woman and they need a solution to start again their carrier (if needs). I know that after the Police Academy education everybody would like to be a boss somewhere but without basic knowledge is it not a long term plan. They can do of course, but need more energy and more effort. You are not authentic without professional background. Just with commands you do not reach your aims. The practice is very important.

- Generally, over the last 10 years, have you seen a change in Hungarian law enforcement towards more prevention efforts? Specifically, how has HNP moved towards including more women in law enforcement efforts?

- I can not list our efforts and activities in the field of crime prevention: new inner regulations, acts, strategic plans etc. A good commissioner sees and recognizes the options in the prevention. This is more than a simple police activity: a little bit PR, a little bit communication, a little bit education. If a woman would like to joint to the police and she meets the requirements – she can join.

- Are women well integrated into the Hungarian National Police yet, or more frequently in certain fields of work?

- Yes, decidedly. A woman can apply for any job within the Police.

- Tell us about the training you attended last year at ILEA Budapest for the Women's Leadership course, what was the most important concept you took away from the course that you learned?

- The most important thing was that I am on a good way. I do my job well, but I can develop myself. What are my strengths and what I have to develop in.

- Have you been able to apply your skills/lessons learned from the course at ILEA Budapest to your job? How soon after attending this course did you feel you could apply those lessons learned from the course?

- I consciously listen and appreciate what I do. I learnt on the training that I always can do it better. After one month I recognized that I paid attention to my colleagues (and bosses) better than before. I specify the tasks/reports listening to their characteristics.

- How has the training from this course affected your life in or outside of your work in the law enforcement community?

- Inside: I hope I do my job better. My boss let me to do alone my work. I am good in it. Outside: My strength is the communication and I use it to reach my aim, but with less emotion and passion.

(Please see page 4)



ILEA's Peter Pakanyi, John Terpinas, and Tom Stocking pose with US Embassy Budapest colleagues after biking to the Regional Environmental Center in Szentendre, Hungary.

ILEA Visit to the Regional Environmental Center

On July 20 ILEA Director John Terpinas and most of the ILEA staff visited the Regional Environmental Center (REC) in Szentendre, Hungary. The REC and the US Embassy's Environment, Science, Technology, and Health Office have participated in recent ILEA courses at ILEA taught by the EPA for the investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes.

Realizing that the REC and ILEA operate in many of the same countries, a visit to meet with REC personnel and tour their facility was of obvious benefit. To emphasize the environmental theme of the visit, a group of embassy and ILEA staff bicycled to the REC along the bike path which stretches 25k to the REC's beautiful location along the Danube.

The visit to the REC was interesting on many levels Executive Director Zoltan Erdelyi, Deputy Executive Director, and Zsolt Bauer, Head of Public Relations, briefed the group extensively on REC operations. The highlight of the tour was the demonstration of the energy saving features built into the REC's main building. As ILEA and its Hungarian partner, the International Training Center, contemplate the renovation of the 112 year old buildings which house ILEA, many useful energy saving systems and natural lighting techniques were observed. With the International Training Center eligible for EU energy efficient funding, ILEA may in the future benefit from implementation of these new technologies.

Do you have any news to share? Any exciting stories to tell? Have you celebrated any awards or promotions? If so, we would like to hear from you. Please contact us (ilea@ilea.hu), and we will share your news in our Alumni Newsletter. Don't worry about your English ability, we can help!

Interview with Németh Ágnes

(Continued from page 3)

- Any favorite memories or interesting discoveries at ILEA Budapest in your field of expertise?
- The problems are same everywhere. I loved our trainers. They were perfectly educated and prepared. I saw the difference between the police officer who gives a lecture and the professional police trainer.
- Have you been able to maintain professional relationships with the friends/alumni you made at ILEA Budapest from other countries?
- Most of them didn't speak English. This is the barrier. I do not have connection with them.
- Have you solved criminal cases or made seizures/arrests utilizing country contacts that you made while attending this course at ILEA Budapest?
- No, I do not investigate. I don't have contact with them.
- You've participated in many outreach events at schools and hospitals, etc. What advice do you give to women thinking of joining the law enforcement community?
- Just do it! This is not more difficult than other jobs. But forget the films as CSI series. The reality is more efforts, jobs, tears and trying. Sometimes disappointing but you can find your success as well and the plus is the good and helpful community.

ILEA Participates in Hungarian National Police Cross Country Championships



Director Terpinas and Deputy Director Stocking at the Hungarian National Police Day Cross Country Championship. Deputy Director Stocking won the trophy for the "most experienced" that is oldest, participant.

Each year as part of the Hungarian National Police Day festivities the HNP sponsors a cross country championship. This year's race was held on a hilly, very challenging course near Tatabánya, and five ILEA staff members participated.

The strongest showing was in the men's 6k race where the ILEA team of Peter Pakányi, PT Instructor, John Terpinas, ILEA Director; and Péter Kovács, ILEA Session 85 participant took 10th place in the team competition. Deputy Director Tom Stocking earned a trophy for being the oldest participant and Lt. Col Hani Gosi finished strongly in the Women's 4k race.

The 5 participants were inspired by competing in the race and vow to field a competitive squad in next year's competition.