

Obituary
Dr. Svatava Pirkova Jakobson

Dr. Svatava Pirkova Jakobson died September 19, 2000.

Born in Vienna, Austria, March 19, 1908, Svatava received her Ph.D. from Charles University in Prague, where she met and married Roman Jakobson.

She conducted fieldwork on folk music and ethnography in Poland, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and Rumania, and published many articles. In 1939, she and her husband left the University of Brno. Svatava then taught Czech language, literature and Slavic folklore at Harvard. In 1967, Svatava moved to the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature at the University of Texas at Austin, where she taught Czech language and literature until her retirement in 1978. After retiring, she continued her ethnographic work on Czechs in Texas.

She was a member of The Modern Language Association, Linguistic Circle of New York, The American Folklore Society, International Folk Music Council, The American Society for Ethnomusicology, Masaryk Publications Trust, The Society Maravan, SVU, and AAWU.

Her ashes will be taken to Prague, where they will be placed in the family crypt. Memorial gifts may be sent to the University of Texas at Austin, Gebauer Building, G/6300, Room 4.308, Austin Texas 78712, toward the establishment of the Svatava P. Jakobsen Endowment.