

Ambassador of Hungary to the U.S., Dr. László Szabó's Lecture at UVU



On Tuesday November 6th, UVU was fortunate to have a visit from the Hungarian Ambassador László Szabó. It was a very interesting lecture to me because I do not know much of the history of Hungary and all the unique facts about his country. László Szabó was a very witty and entertaining speaker as he presented about Hungary and shared many interesting facts that I was unaware of. He shared about the history, culture, heritage, religion, inventions, and many famous people born in Hungary, as well as movies that were filmed there. Overall, I gained a diverse understanding of Hungary and would love to visit the “jewel of Europe” one day.

Hungary was established in 800 A.D. as a Judeo-Christian country, which is still practiced to this day. Hungary has been free since 1989 when the Soviet Union collapsed and Russian troops finally left the country. The country is approximately the size of Indiana and the population is 10 million people. László Szabó claimed that his country is great at inventing, but weak at commercializing those inventions. He listed some of the many inventions that were created in Hungary. For example, the electric engine, binoculars, color TV, the Rubik's Cube, ballpoint pens,

plasma TV, automatic gear shift, as well as hand sanitation before performing medical procedures. Hungary also has the highest number of Nobel peace winners per capita in the world.

László Szabó also spent a substantial amount of time naming many of the famous actors/actresses that were born in Hungary, as well as movies filmed there. Some actors include: Paul Newman, Peter Falk, Goldie Hawn, Kate Hudson and many others. Mission Impossible Ghost Protocol was filmed in Budapest, as well as The Martian, Inferno, and Blade Runner. And finally, the Simpson was created and written in Hungary as well.

I enjoyed this lecture because I was able to learn many interesting facts about Hungary. Many of the inventions created there I use every day and it is exciting to finally know their origin! László Szabó was a very personable and entertaining speaker to listen to and I am grateful that he came to UVU to share information with us on his great country.

Paige Graves, UVU Student