Central European University cordially invites you to a lecture

delivered by

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LOS ALAMOS AND “LOS ARZAMAS”

The American and Soviet nuclear projects had similarities and even more differences

(a non-technical presentation)

Welcome remarks: John Shattuck, President and Rector

Moderated: Karl Hall, Associate Professor, Department of History

Date: 15 January, 2014

Time: 5.30 p.m.

Venue: Popper Room, Monument Building

The Los Alamos Laboratory came to life in 1943, as the concluding segment of the Manhattan Project to produce the atomic bombs for the US Army, which contributed to the quick conclusion of World War II. The scientists working for the Soviet nuclear program at the secret Soviet installation, Arzamas-16, nicknamed their laboratory “Los Arzamas.” The evaluation of the two laboratories has posed a challenge to scientists and historians alike. Some of the similarities and differences between Los Alamos and Arzamas-16 are the subject of this talk.

István Hargittai is Professor Emeritus of Chemistry of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics. He is a member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Academia Europaea (London) and a foreign member of the Norwegian Academy of Sciences. He has honorary doctorates from Moscow State University, the University of North Carolina, and the Russian Academy of Sciences. His books have appeared in eight languages. His recent books include Buried Glory: Portraits of Soviet Scientists (OUP-US 2013); Judging Edward Teller: A closer look at one of the most influential scientists of the twentieth century (Prometheus, 2010); and Martians of Science: Five physicists who changed the twentieth century (OUP-US 2006; 2008).