VIVA EUROPE!

Coming

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Message from the Director

As interim Director between our founder, Amie Kreppel (Political Science), and our future Director, Alice Freifeld (History), I (also History) will continue the tradition of developing European Studies at UF in coordination with other centers, groups and organizations on campus and in our community. In the second year of our Title VI renewal grant, and in spite of some serious federal budget cuts, we are able to continue our support for faculty and graduate students in European Studies with course development grants, summer research and travel money, and the sponsorship of workshops and visiting speakers. We will also continue to give Foreign Languages Area Studies Grants.

This fall the International Studies Major, which offers a concentration in European Studies, is up and running. Undergraduates interested in pursuing this wonderful new opportunity should contact Tamir Sorek, Associate Professor of Sociology, and the academic advisor for this program (tsorek@ufl.edu). Thanks to an agreement signed with CLAS this September, students at UF now have the opportunity to study at the University of Warsaw for a semester or a full academic year starting this spring of 2012. Students can receive UF credit to study both Polish and a wide range of classes, in English, in almost every conceivable discipline. Anyone interested should contact our UF contact person and new CES faculty member in Polish studies, Anna Muller (anmuller@ufl.edu).

We will be continuing our popular cooking classes, and are making preliminary plans for our VIVA EUROPE! event for the spring. We are hard at work on an outreach initiative expanding upon the already existing dual enrollment program that allows local high school students to enroll at UF. We will be working with local guidance counselors to encourage more local high school students to take advantage of the wide range of language courses available at UF thanks to the existence of the Title VI Centers.

My main goal for the year is to continue to nourish the community of scholars here at UF whose interests intersect in Europe—not only materially, through all of our grants, but also intellectually, by providing opportunities for those of us in diverse departments and colleges to meet each other, share work, and have productive conversations. To that end we will continue our brown bag series; this weekly forum gives graduate students from across the university the opportunity to present their research. The student who gives the best talk will receive a $500 award in research and travel funds. Our speakers’ committee is also accepting proposals for visiting scholars: we especially encourage faculty members to consider ways to organize workshops that involve themselves, their students, as well as outside scholars. This spring I will be organizing such a workshop on postwar Europe, in which faculty from the Departments of History and of Languages, Literatures & Cultures will be involved.

I look forward to working with everyone in the community interested in pursuing European Studies. If we haven’t met yet, if you haven’t yet figured out how to have our center help you in your research, please stop by and let’s start having that conversation.

—Sheryl Kroen

UPCOMING EVENTS

Let’s Get Cooking!

The CES is planning a new series of cooking classes for Fall and Spring. Last year, the classes were very popular and there were some people who attended each class! For the coming year, the CES has lined up Geogia Bianchi, Jessica Lancia, Lia Merivaki and Koralia Ziegas, Edith Kaan, Richard Sher and Aida Hozic, and Geraldine Nichols. Italian, German, Greek, Dutch, French, and Catalan recipes will be showcased. For those of you who have taken the Italian and Greek lessons last year, these classes feature totally different recipes.

The $25 fee covers all food and the CES cookbook, A Taste of Europe, in addition to a prepared appetizer and a sit down dinner to enjoy the food created by the class.

Pre-registration is required at www.takeawaygourmet4u.com. Classes are held at 6:00-8:30 pm at the Take Away Gourmet at 3345 SW 34th Street, at the corner of 34th and Archer Road, in the back of the plaza behind Carraffa’s.

Here’s the schedule:

- October 13: Italian food with Georgia Bianchi
- November 16: German food with Jessica Lancia
- November 30: Greek food with Lia Merivaki and Koralia Ziegas
- January 23: Dutch food with Edith Kaan
- February 9: French food with Richard Sher and Aida Hozic
- April 16: Catalan food with Geraldine Nichols
Global Challenges of International Sales Law Conference

On November 11 and 12, the UF Center for International Business Education & Research and the Warrington College of Business Administration will host a Conference on the Impact, Problems, and Issues relating to the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG). Sponsors include the CES, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and the Institute for International Commercial Law (Pace University). The conference will bring together 35 scholars, practitioners, and representatives of international organizations from 20 countries to present papers in their areas of specialized expertise. This conference will provide information on multiple levels—understanding the rules of the CISG, the application of the CISG by signatory countries, theoretical insights, and its use by international transactional attorneys.

RECENT EVENTS

The Language Teacher Summer Institute (LTSI) was attended by 11 middle and high school foreign language teachers this past July. The two-week, technology-intensive course is one of the best ways for teachers to learn the latest technological advances that can improve their teaching skills and outcomes. The hands-on class typically gets the very highest ratings with comments such as, “The information I learned will help me achieve completion of integrating technology into my lessons and tasks for students. The LTSI program has helped me become a 21st century education professional. Thank you.”

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DONATE TO CES
On the navigation bar on the CES webpage you will find a red DONATE button. By clicking on this, you will be taken directly to the University Foundation page where you can donate any amount to the Center for its programming. It’s as simple as clicking a mouse.

Faculty, Staff, & Student News

For AY 2011-12, CES Assistant Director Sinan Ciddi has been appointed as the Executive Director of the Institute of Turkish Studies (ITS), based at Georgetown University, Washington DC. ITS is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the development of Turkish Studies throughout the United States. Since 1983, it has developed and maintained a generous annual grants program, helping institutions, scholars and students further their knowledge on Turkey across the disciplines. Dr. Ciddi can be contacted via email at sinanciddi@turkishstudies.org and interested persons should browse the pages of www.turkishstudies.org. Grants include and are not limited to library acquisitions grants, lecture series and/or conference grants, as well as dissertation writing and summer language grants.

Congratulations to former Gator and member of the UF Hungarian Club, Csaba Gercsak, on his win in the 25K open water swim at the FINA World Swimming Championships in Shanghai. Ten of the 29 swimmers dropped out of the race due to extreme heat, but Gercsak stuck it out for just over 5 hours to win the bronze medal. Go Gercsak!

Congratulations to the Emergin Scholar Finalist Award from the Women’s Lockhart Dissertation Fellowship Award and the Association for Academic Women’s Madelyn Doctoral candidate Magda Giurcanu received dissertation writing and summer language grants.

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Doctoral candidate Magda Giurcanu received the Association for Academic Women’s Madelyn Lockhart Dissertation Fellowship Award and the Emerging Scholar Finalist Award from the Women’s Studies Department. Her dissertation is titled “Do European Parliament Elections Matter? European Electoral Characteristics and National Party Systems’ Fragmentation in EU Member States.”

On September 24, former UF student and member of the UF Hungarian Club, Maria Mamah, performed on the Hungarian talent show, X-Faktor. See her on youtube here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t3FivpMck-w.

The CES front office is ably covered this year by Buket Oztas. She is a second-year Ph.D. student in the Political Science Department/Comparative Politics field. She got her B.A. in Global and International Affairs from SUNY Binghamton and Bilkent University in Ankara/Turkey. The CES is glad to have her smiling face be seen by visitors when they first walk into the office.

Senior Lauren Parater is currently interning at the Public Affairs Department at the US Mission to the European Union in Brussels, Belgium. She will be in charge of the EU Stagiaires Conference for the fall season and working directly with press, programs, and information for the mission. The ten week interning program is through the US State Department and is designed to give students the opportunity to experience working in a foreign affairs environment. Lauren is a fourth year Political Science Major and European Union Studies minor who studied abroad in Brussels, Belgium with CES in 2010.

Brittney Peak is a work-study student employee at CES this year. She is a first year biology student from South Florida who wants to pursue a career in pharmacy. She is new to Gainesville but would like to get involved in organizations available on campus. Traveling and exploring different cultures around the world fascinates her and she plans to study abroad before she graduates. But overall she loves to experience new things.

The new CES Executive Director is James Robbins. Jim comes to the CES from the University of California-Los Angeles where he gained extensive experience as a University Administrator. He holds graduate degrees in modern European history and speaks fluent German and Swedish. In addition to his administrative tasks, Jim will provide academic advising to undergraduate students.

Osman Sahin teaches Turkish language classes as a Fulbright scholar. He studied English Language Teaching at Gazi University in Ankara and earned a bachelor’s degree in 2006. He then taught English at a vocational high school for three years and last spring he started teaching English at a University in an eastern city of Turkey.

Osman says, “It has been almost a month since I came here but I still feel awkward sometimes. Everything is so different and so new… and I just started to learn a new Language: Turkish! I’ve been enjoying the beautiful bike trails and waiting for an alligator to show up and say ‘welcome’.”

Tidbits

Visit the Center’s facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/ces.ufl or look up Center for European Studies at the University of Florida

The final project talks for Conor O’Dwyer’s EUS 4212: European Economic Integration: Politics and Policy class were filmed and can be seen at http://www.youtube.com/cesuf.