



The CES Gazette

Volume 4 Issue 1

Fall 2006

News from University of Florida's Center for European Studies, a U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center

JOAKIM NOAH WOWS BUCHHOLZ HIGH SCHOOL

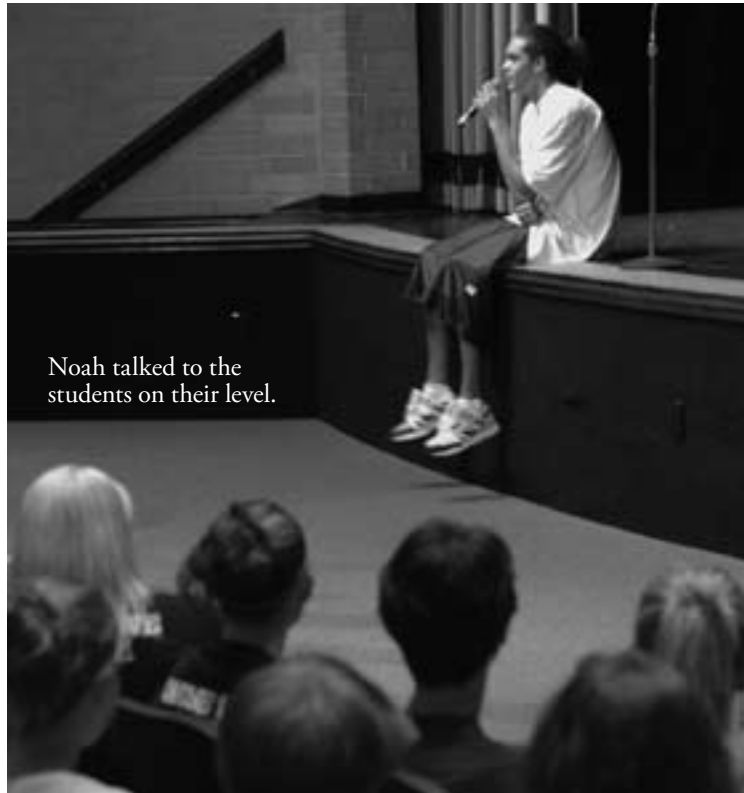
On the 19th of October, seniors from 11 classes at Buchholz High School expected to hear a speaker talk to them about cultural diversity. The students didn't know that the speaker was University of Florida student Joakim Noah, who is best known for leading the Florida Gators basketball team to the 2006 NCAA title win.

The usual pre-assembly chatter was shattered when one student spotted Noah enter the auditorium. Seconds later all 400 students at the NW Gainesville school engulfed Noah with a wave of cheers and screams as he modestly smiled and ambled to the stage. Just one inch shy of 7' tall, he towered over the high school basketball coach who accompanied him. But Noah was not at the school to talk about basketball.

Life is more than basketball

The theme of his informal talk was "Appreciating cultural diversity." Students and teachers listened raptly as Noah spoke of his own mixed cultural background. Having a Swedish mother and a French-Cameroonian father meant Noah grew up on three different continents, spoke two languages other than English, appreciated the customs of people from other countries, and learned to embrace how he himself is unique.

Noah spoke of the value of travel for students in broadening their knowledge of and interest in the world and its peoples. "Why spend \$20,000 for a watch when you can travel around the world?" he asked. As he spoke of some of his most unusual experiences abroad, many laughed or gasped in surprise.



Noah talked to the students on their level.

Speaking to students on their level

The successful program was co-sponsored by the Center for European Studies, the Transnational and Global Studies Center, and the African Studies Center. While Noah's schedule is pretty tight while training for basketball season, CES Academic Programs Coordinator Brano Kovalcik was able to arrange for Noah to speak with permission from the University Athletic Association. Because Noah is both admired by the students and is within the same age range, the seniors were able to fully appreciate the message of cultural diversity that was delivered by the speaker.

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Amie Kreppel, Director
Petia Kostadinova, Assistant Director
Brano Kovalcik, Editor
Gail Keeler, Editor
Jane Dominguez, Graphic Design

The CES Gazette is published each semester to provide information to faculty, students, and supporters of European Studies and the activities and programs of the CES. For further information, please visit our website at www.ces.ufl.edu.

UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA

FROM THE DIRECTOR

It was a busy, roller coaster, summer for the CES with exciting news, staff changes and some sad goodbyes. As many of you know, thanks to the continued support from CLAS and UF administrations and the tireless efforts of the CES staff, the CES was renewed as a *Title VI National Resource Center*. For the first time, we were also awarded *Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS)* fellowships and are currently able to support five FLAS fellows for 2006-07 academic year. Soon after we heard about our successful grant application, we had to say goodbye to two long-time staff members. First, Nubia Pena, our previous Coordinator for Administrative Services, left us and sunny Florida to join her husband who teaches at Erasmus University in the (rainy and much colder) Netherlands. Then Nikki Kernaghan, who was the first Outreach Coordinator for the Center, accepted a position with the Transnational and Global Studies Center at the UF International Center. We wish them both good luck! In addition, Natasa Kovacevic, CES graduate assistant and the previous editor of the CES Gazette accepted a job as Assistant Professor in English Language and Literature in Eastern Michigan University (brrrr!). Congratulations, Natasa!

We are very pleased to announce that Felissa Scott and Gail Keeler recently joined the Center as Coordinator for Administrative Services and Outreach Coordinator, respectively (see page 5). We promise you will not be bored in these jobs and WELCOME! On another exciting note, the CES family was also joined by two devout future Europeanists, Declan O'Dwyer and Nicolas Kizelewicz (see page 5). Congratulations to the new parents!

The faculty, staff and students of the CES are excited by the opportunities that the recent Title VI renewal provides, and we are all looking forward to working with others across campus to continue to strengthen European Studies at UF.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES FELLOWS FOR 2006-07 ACADEMIC YEAR

The CES awarded the following FLAS Fellowships for the 2006-07 academic year:

Lisa Booth is a Ph.D. student in the Department of History, whose dissertation focuses on the impact of Gulag prisoners on the Russian intelligentsia. Lisa's study of the Russian language will help her with her research on this topic.

Christopher Cary (School of Music) is pursuing research in historical musicology focusing on the 20th century Polish composers and is studying the Polish language.

William Eriov (Department of History) is studying Italian as part of his research on Sicilian Christian heritage.

Fairuze Sofia is a first year law student, interested in European Union immigration law who is taking Portuguese language.

Kristin Meyer (Mass Communications Program), another professional student, is taking Russian language needed for her research on Russian youth's perception of HIV/AIDS infections.

Each FLAS fellow receives a \$15,000 stipend and tuition waiver for 12 credit hours.
Congratulations to the AY 2006-07 CES FLAS fellows!

INTERNATIONAL FOOD NEWS

International Foods Workshop

This summer, CES together with Transnational and Global Studies, presented a Teacher Workshop on “International Food.” Presenters from CES included Brano Kovalcik, Nikki Kernaghan, Edit Nagy, and Stefan Craciun. Brano, Edit, and Stefan provided a sampling of food from their native countries (Slovakia, Hungary, and Romania respectively) and discussed the cuisine’s influences and traditions.



They also answered questions about the impact of religion, seasonal change, and regional variation on the style and preparation of meals. In some cases, politics even played a role. Brano, for example, discussed how the transition from Communism affected the availability of ingredients as well as the time and opportunity that a family could devote to meal preparation.

For the Hunger Banquet Activity, Nikki divided the participants into groups representing the population of the world’s continents. She then sectioned a loaf of bread, which represented the total amount of food resources available, apportioning to each group the relative amount that their continent consumes. As a ratio of population to resources, the continents with the largest populations consumed the FEWEST resources.

Cooking with Chef Brano

A typical Slovak lunch: *Bryndzové Halušky*
(Dumplings with feta cheese)

Ingredients:

1.5 lbs. potatoes	salt
¾ lbs. all-purpose flour	butter
½ lb. feta cheese (<i>bryndza</i>)	bacon

Directions:

Peel and grate raw potatoes. Mix with flour, adding water if necessary. Salt to taste. Using a wet wooden plate or small cutting board, form dumplings (*halušky*) by pushing small lumps of dough into boiling salted water with a teaspoon. Lift from water with a slotted spoon when the *halušky* float to the surface. Rinse with water and mix with *bryndza*. Sauté diced bacon in butter, if desired. To serve, sprinkle bacon on top of *halušky*.

Dobrá chuť (Bon appétit)



How to thank the cook in Slovak:

Thank you for the delicious meal.
Can you teach me how to cook it?
Better yet, can you cook it for me?
I do not want to ruin the taste
by cooking it myself.

*Ďakujem za chutné jedlo.
Môžeš ma naučiť ako sa to varí?
Alebo radšej, môžeš to uvariť pre mňa?
Nechcem pokazit' chuť
mojím varením.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

A Roundtable Discussion on Hungarian Politics Today in Historical Perspective

November 6, 2006

12 – 1 p.m.

Anderson Hall 216

Edit Nagy, Dr. Alice Freifield, Dr. Richard Scher.

Sponsored by CES.

International Education Week

November 15, 2006

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Reitz Union colonnade

International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences in the United States. It is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. Sponsored by UF International Center, Transnational and Global Studies Center and VISA with CES and other university international programs represented.

“Everyday Art” Global Education Workshop for Teachers

December 7, 2006

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Harn Museum of Art

Co-sponsored by CES, Transnational and Global Studies, in conjunction with the “Resonance and Inspiration: New Works by Magdalene Odundo” and the “Ceramic Reflections: Selected Ceramic Vessels from the Harn Museum Collection” exhibits.

“Corruption, Electoral Competition, and EU Accession in Eastern Europe” talk by Tatiana Kostadinova

January 16, 2007

3 – 4:30 p.m.

Anderson Hall 216

Kostadinova is an Assistant Professor in Political Science at Florida International University.

Study Abroad Fair

January 24, 2007

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Reitz Union Colonnade

CES and other study abroad programs from across the country will exhibit to students about their choices of program offerings. CES will also advertise its European Union Studies Program.

“Nomadic Peoples and Cultures” Global Education Workshop for Teachers

January 30, 2007

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Florida Museum of Natural History

Co-sponsored by CES, Transnational and Global Studies, in conjunction with the “Tibet: Mountains and Valleys, Castles and Tents” exhibit.

CES ONLINE



Visit CES on the web at www.ces.ufl.edu for the most up-to-date listing of news and events and additional information about the Center.

CES' NEWEST ADDITIONS



Felissa B. Scott is our new Coordinator for Administrative Services. For the past three years, Felissa worked at the FSU College of Medicine as their Coordinator of Administrative Services after earning her BS degree in Psychology from Florida A&M University. In June, she married her husband, Lensey, an internal medicine resident at Shands and started working with CES in September. "I enjoy working with

numbers and problem solving," Felissa says, "but it is more about the people I work with and everyone has been great."



Gail Keeler filled the position of Outreach Coordinator in October. She comes to us with nine years of experience in promotion, outreach, and public education from UF/IFAS Monroe County Extension and Monroe County Recycling. Graduate school enticed Gail up to the frozen north from the Florida Keys two years ago and she earned her Masters in Mass Communications from UF in December 2005.

"I couldn't wait to work with a dedicated and results-driven group of professionals again," she said of her decision to join CES.



Declan Hugh O'Dwyer was born at North Florida Regional Medical Center on May 2, 2006, weighing 6 lbs. 7 oz. and measuring 18.25 inches. Parents Conor O'Dwyer, Political Science Assistant Professor and his wife, Ingrid Kleespies, Asst. Professor in Germanic and Slavic Languages, say Declan's favorite activities are chewing on his fingers, staring at ceiling fans, and sleeping.



Nicholas Daniel Kizelewicz was born at Shands at AGH to Caleb and Kristina Kizelewicz on June 9, 2006, 2:15 am. He weighed 6 lbs. 14 oz. and was 19 inches long. You could tell right away he was born to be a scholar. Not even three weeks old when this photo was taken, he was already deep in thought.

OUR GRADUATE ASSISTANTS: WHERE WOULD WE BE WITHOUT THEM?

Evgenia Ilieva is from Sofia, Bulgaria and is currently pursuing a PhD in Political Science at UF. Her academic research interests include international relations, politics of the European Union, and political theory. "I guess I am sort of a book-worm," says Evgenia, "because whenever I am not reading books for a class, I usually find myself immersed in a novel. Although I like many genres, lately I have been reading mostly Borges' works."

Iryna Ivashchuk is a first-year law student. She is originally from Ukraine. Iryna holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from North Georgia College and State University (minor in Spanish), where she was valedictorian, and a Master of Science in International Affairs from Georgia Tech. Aside from studying for her law classes, which takes most of her time, she enjoys playing piano, dancing, and napping. She is a huge college football fan ("Go Jackets!").

Mirjam Allik is from Tartu, Estonia where she got her MA in Comparative Politics at Tartu University. Mirjam is now pursuing a PhD in Political Science at UF and her academic interests are elections, electoral systems and methods. The decision to come to UF and the process of getting here happened quite quickly. "One thing I learned really fast here" says Mirjam, "is that Florida differs a lot from what I'm used to. It is snowing at this time in Estonia."

CES AND STUDY ABROAD

Study Abroad Program in Kraków/ Wrocław:

The capital of Poland for almost 500 years, Kraków boasts one of the best-preserved medieval city centers in Europe, while offering a lively, contemporary social and cultural life. Wrocław, the “Polish Venice,” is a city of islands and bridges located at the geographic and commercial crossroads of Europe. The city enjoys a thriving arts life and a vibrant youth culture.

Students will spend four weeks in Kraków studying Polish language and culture at Jagiellonian University (JU). They will also meet for an interdisciplinary humanities seminar taught by UF faculty that begins in Kraków and continues in Wrocław for the final two weeks of the program. Both cities will be used as the “classroom” providing a living context for the literature, history, architecture, film and art discussed in the course.

Contact Info:

Chris Caes
caes@ufl.edu
3326B Turlington Hall
392-8902 x204

Ewa Wampuszyc
ewamp@ufl.edu
3326B Turlington Hall
392-8902 x203



Contact Info:

Amie Kreppel
kreppel@ces.ufl.edu
3324C Turlington Hall
392-8902 x210

Petia Kostadinova
petiak@ces.ufl.edu
3324A Turlington Hall
392-8902 x207

Summer Study Abroad at Vesalius College, VUB in Brussels, Belgium:

Brussels is the unofficial capital of Europe hosting the headquarters of the EU institutions as well as literally hundreds of related organizations. A primary goal of the program is to introduce students to life in Europe today through examination of the EU. Courses may include visits to the major EU institutions and guest speakers from those institutions to discuss current events like enlargement of the EU, the common currency (the Euro), and the evolving Transatlantic relationship between the EU and USA. UF students participating in the program will be able to partake fully in student life at Vesalius College, an English language international college within the Dutch speaking Belgian Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB). Unless previously discussed and approved by the Program Director, all students must take a 3-unit course, EUS 4950 Overseas Studies in Europe (topic varies by year).

Sign Up For Our Email Newsletter!

Want to know what we're doing? What grant monies are available for European study? What international events are approaching? Sign up for our weekly email newsletter, *CES Weekly Update*, by dropping an email to Brano Kovalcik at branko@ces.ufl.edu.



Prague Summer Study Abroad Program:

Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, is one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. Built on seven hills along the banks of Vltava river, the city is not only a cultural and architectural museum of the middle ages but also a vibrant cosmopolitan meeting place, home to Kafka, Kundera, and Mozart. Prague has a special Old World charm. The whole inner city is a protected area with hundreds of ancient houses, palaces and churches offering many opportunities for scenic walks. Museums, concert halls, and theaters are easily accessible to students, as are student clubs, numerous cafés, cafeterias and restaurants.

Students combine English-language curriculum with an in-country cultural experience. Czech language instruction is also available for those interested (but not required). Non-degree and non-UF students also welcome!

Contact Info:

Holly Raynard
hraynard@ufl.edu
3326C Turlington Hall
392-8902 x208

Hana Filip
hfilip@ufl.edu
370 Dauer Hall
392-2101 x217


Salzburg Study Abroad Program:

The Salzburg Summer Program is a six-week summer overseas studies experience open to UF and non-UF students. The program will include courses in Music and European Studies, and students can earn up to 6 credit hours that will count towards University of Florida summer requirement.

Instruction is in English, except for German language class. Even though the Salzburg European Studies program is perfect for History and Political Science majors, and those students who want to complete the introductory German language sequence, it is available to students of all majors. The Music department offers a component with studio and music history courses. All courses offered through the Salzburg College.

Contact Info:

Glenn Kepic
gkepic@advising.ufl.edu
107 Academic Advising Center
392-1521 x107



CES RAISES MONEY FOR PUBLIC RADIO

CES staff, faculty, and students answered phones in the University of Florida WUFT-FM public radio station studio as part of the 25th Anniversary Membership Drive on October 18. Over \$3800 was pledged during the 3-hour shift, making our show the most successful pledge-earning program of the day. This was the second time CES had volunteered for the station.

As Center Director Dr. Amie Kreppel and the DJs talked on air about CES and its mission and programs, thousands of listeners learned about us. CES staff personally pledged over \$1000 and challenged other Title VI centers to meet the CES challenge.

WUFT-FM (Classic 89) and its repeater station, WJUF-FM (Nature Coast 90), are public radio stations serving North Central Florida. They present a distinctive blend of sounds: classical, jazz, folk, and world music; national, state, and local news; and special musical performances and public affairs programs.



UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

The Center for European Studies

3324 Turlington Hall

PO Box 117342

Gainesville FL 32611-7342

Contact us:

Dr. Amie Kreppel
Director
Email: kreppel@ces.ufl.edu

Gail Keeler
Outreach Coordinator
Email: gkeeler@ces.ufl.edu

Felissa Scott
Coordinator for
Administrative Services
Email: fscott@ufl.edu

Dr. Petia Kostadinova
Assttand Director
Email: petiak@ces.ufl.edu

Brano Kovalcik
Academic Programs Coordinator
Email: branoko@ces.ufl.edu

Graduate Assistants:
Evgenia Ilieva
Iryna Ivashchuk
Mirjam Allik

Phone: (352) 392-8902

Fax: (352) 392-8966

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