

The

Gazette

News from University of Florida's Center for European Studies, a U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center
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World of Words Open House, *page 4*



First Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence in the USA!

The University of Florida has become the first American institution to receive funding from the European Union to establish a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence (JMCE) on campus.

The center, named after one of the most influential supporters of European integration throughout most of the 20th century, will be entirely dedicated to European Union (EU) topics and will support an annual visiting scholar program, additional special topic classes, and a related yearly workshop. The visiting scholars, who will spend a minimum of two weeks in Gainesville working with UF faculty and teaching a special two-week intensive course, can be either academics from European Union universities or current practitioners in the field of European integration, such as EU government officials.

The creation of a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence at UF is proof of the increasing international recognition of the strength of the university's European studies programs. There are currently 107 such centers at universities worldwide, and the vast majority are in EU member or candidate countries. This year, Japan was the only other non-European country to receive a grant from the EU to create a new center. The new JMCE will be housed within the UF Center for European Studies (CES). The establishment of the new center is also important because it will allow UF to compete for a series of other European Union grants and collaborative research opportunities open only to JMCEs.

The new JMCE's mission of educating non-Europeans about the European Union is vital for Americans and Floridians in today's world. The EU is America's largest trading partner and our most important political ally, and for Florida, the EU is our biggest foreign direct investor. The EU's investments account for more than 145,000 jobs throughout the state.

Jean Monnet was awarded a Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1963 by President Kennedy



Volume 5, Issue 1

THE CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

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

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Our Newest Minor!

Our East-Central European Studies (ECES) minor is now being offered. This program is designed to give UF students the opportunity to study the region of Central and Eastern Europe from an interdisciplinary perspective that incorporates both area and language studies. Also, by requiring two semesters of language study (beyond the two-semester CLAS language requirement), students have the opportunity to enhance language proficiency beyond the introductory level.



Our New Website is Live!

Visit www.ces.ufl.edu to see our re-designed website. Webmaster Abhishek Patel, with some guidance from Jeff Stevens in CLAS News, has created an exciting and easy to use website for us. We are still finishing some of the pages, but most of it is ready to use. Check it out!

Help us introduce Europe to others!

Donate funds _____ \$500
for student _____ \$100
scholarships and _____ \$50
study, speakers, _____ \$25
programs, _____
conferences, and _____ Other
teacher training. _____ Contact Me

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Address: _____
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Debut of my WORLD New Interactive Computer Program

Explore www.digitalworlds.ufl.edu/projects/CenterForEuropeanStudies/myWorld/default.html to explore our brand new interactive language learning computer program called **my WORLD**! The program is intended to interest students ages 13 through 19 in languages. The **my WORLD** program, designed by UF's Digital Worlds Institute, is styled after the popular website, Myspace. Users of **my WORLD** can choose to watch videos or commercials in eight languages (Greek, Hungarian, Polish, Turkish, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, or Akan) and see the lyrics in that language along with the English translation. They can also see and hear 13 phrases spoken

in the eight languages and see a phonetic spelling as well. To provide additional cultural information, historical trivia and facts about the languages and countries in which the language is spoken scroll next to the main screen. There is also information about the countries in which each of the eight included languages are spoken and the number of speakers worldwide. Florida statistics are available too.

We will work with curriculum specialists at the School District of Alachua County to decide the best way to get the program into schools. Students could use **my WORLD** individually or in a classroom setting. Additional modules may be added to the program in the future.



Our thanks go to CES faculty and faculty and students from other language departments who recorded the phrases, supplied translations, and fact-checked text.

Wigilia!

The Polish Student Association, with support from CES and Student Government, hosted the annual Polish Christmas celebration the first Sunday in December. Students and community members cooked traditional



Geography grad student Anna Szyniszewska reads the melted wax to tell fortunes.

Polish holiday foods to share. About 50 celebrants sang carols, enjoyed feasting on pierogi, barszcz, and other homemade treats, and told fortunes for Andrzejki [pronounced onjaykee] by pouring melted wax through a skeleton key. Special congratulations to Michael Gajdeczka who was "predicted" to become the wealthiest UF-PSA student when his right shoe was the first to "walk" out the door of the Keene Faculty Center.

Open House for Grad Students

An intimate and informational open house was held at the CES main office to introduce grad students from other departments to our programs and faculty. Students talked to staff and other students about the CES Graduate Certificate in Modern European Studies and about CES grants and fellowships. Winners of this year's Foreign Language and Area Studies grants were feted as well.

art

INTERLUDE



Dr. Mary Watt, UF Italian Professor, Dr. David Crown, artist, and Dr. Bob Westin, UF Art History Professor spoke at the teacher workshop "European Prints and Life: Renaissance through Impressionism." Harn Museum Education Director, Bonnie Bernau, gave a tour of the exhibit and led a printmaking demo with the 25 teachers. Here, Dr. David Crown and Deborah Cohen-Crown explain printmaking methods and show examples of David's work.

First Annual Language Open House

A Smashing Success

**Köszönöm... Hoşçakal... Σαγαπώ...
Gátoři do toho... Dziękuję.**

These words, and others in more than 17 languages, were being recited at the World of Words Language Open House on September 28. Our first open house was part of the University of Florida Foundation Capital Campaign Kick-off.

The event began with opening remarks by former US Senator and FL Governor Bob Graham who stressed the importance of learning a foreign language for personal and professional success.

For the entire day, students, alumni, and faculty could take any number of 5-minute language lessons or attempt to stump a human translator (try to translate “My hovercraft has weasels” into Turkish or Chinese). They could also test their knowledge with several different geography and landmark quizzes or watch foreign language TV commercials.

Our new interactive language learning program, myworLd, was debuted as well.

We estimate about 500 people enjoyed one or more activities that day. There was a steady flow of people throughout both rooms. Impromptu language lessons formed wherever space permitted.

One fun aspect of the day was the passport—a card that the students could redeem for prizes after they had earned points by trying lessons or quizzes. Pepsi had donated hundreds of imprinted goodies from t-shirts to stadium cushions, all emblazoned with “Learn a Language” and “Go Gators!” in at least three different languages. Competition was fierce for t-shirts.

We have already begun to plan an event for next year that may be expanded to include area schools.

Rachel Rothstein, Edit Nagy, and Can Sakirgil say, “Ask me how to say it in Hebrew, Hungarian, or Turkish.”



Chris Caes and Tom Kostopoulos giving 5-minute lessons in Polish and Greek, respectively.



Simon Sohonyay and Evgenia Ileva gave out prizes donated by Pepsi that were imprinted with the CES logo and the words “Learn a Language.”

Recent Events

All six talks in the series “Creativity as Survival: Artistic Expression of the Holocaust” at the Institute of Learning in Retirement (ILR) were well received.

Bev Asbury, emeritus chaplain at Vanderbilt University talked about and showed the artwork of György Kádár who drew scenes of his imprisonment in the Auschwitz death camp after he was liberated.

Dr. David Kushner, professor emeritus of Musicology at UF spoke on “Music written during and about the

Holocaust” with excerpts from Haas, Krása, and Schönberg.

Holly Raynard, CES Lecturer in Czech Studies, spoke on “Terezín: The ‘Paradise Ghetto’ for Europe’s Jews.”

“Hope and Photos: Making of the Documentary Film *Angel of Ahlem*” was the topic by **Cindy Hill** from the Documentary Institute.

“Anne Frank’s own True Heir: Intertextuality and the Intergenerational in Zlata’s Diary” was covered by **Anastasia Ulanowicz**, Department of English

Geoffrey Giles from the History Department spoke on “Creative Expression of the Holocaust: Memorials and Commemorations.”

New Class added to the curriculum

CES Asst. Director Petia Kostadinova and Conor O'Dwyer, Asst. Prof. in Political Science and CES, were awarded a grant from the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Commission to develop a new Jean Monnet module at UF. The course titled "European Economic Integration: Politics and Policy" will be offered for the first time in Spring 2008 as EUS4931/POS4931, and will be team-taught by Kostadinova and O'Dwyer.

Thematically, the course is divided into several subjects. In the first part of the course, class readings and discussions focus on the economic (growth and efficiency) and political (social justice and cohesion) justifications for economic integration, as well as the ongoing debate of the future direction of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU), in the context of the debate between neo-liberal and regulated capitalism.

The second portion of the class focuses on the political economy of EU economic integration prior to the Eastern enlargement of the Union and discusses several policies aimed at unlocking the market efficiencies of the European economies, the single market, the EMU, and competition policy.

The third section of the course covers post-Eastern enlargement economic integration. A major focus of this section is the processes and tools for building political support for continued integration in both the new and the old member states.

The fourth section of the course provides students with a global perspective on the process of EU economic and monetary integration. This section discusses topics such as the linkages between economic integration and globalization, the future of economic integration in the EU, and whether the EU's model of successful integration could be replicated in other regions of the world. The course module concludes with a one-day seminar, aimed at local high school teachers, where the students present and discuss their research papers produced in the course of the class.

The addition of this grant makes UF one of only three US institutions to have ever been awarded two Jean Monnet Modules. For more information, contact the instructors at petiak@ces.ufl.edu or codwyer@ufl.edu.

During the last two weeks of July, twelve foreign language teachers from across the state attended our Language Teacher Summer Institute (LTSI). Mornings were spent in the classroom with English and Linguistics Professor **Roger Thompson** covering topics such as working

with multiple levels of proficiency, learning in a cultural context, and measuring progress. Afternoon sessions with **Gillian Lord** (Linguistics and Romance Languages) and **Christina Overstreet** (Germanic and Slavic Languages) in the

computer lab focused on discovering, using, and evaluating language teaching resources available online

Pictured Left to Right: Instructor Gillian Lord in the computer lab; the LTSI class learns new technology.



CES joins ARCS

CES recently joined 50 other universities to become an institutional member of the American Research Center in Sofia, Bulgaria (ARCS). Institutional members, such as Yale University, Duke University, Harvard University, and Johns Hopkins University help to establish a broader scholarly network of academics who will manage ARCS activities, established in 2004.

A principal aim of ARCS is to foster research and collaboration between North American scholars and those in Southeast European countries, formerly deprived of access to Western scholarship. Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro share a remarkable historical heritage and strong cultural ties. The intellectual community thus realized should become a significant resource for overcoming some of the longstanding ethnic and national problems in the region. Cornell University is the host institution of ARCS in the United States. Find more information at www.einaudi.cornell.edu/arcs.

The F.E.R.N.

Under the initiative of Enterprise Florida's Joe Kulenovic, The Florida Economic Research Network (F.E.R.N.) was established in Spring 2007. F.E.R.N. serves as an idea exchange and collaboration forum for Florida researchers interested in topics of economic development as they pertain to Florida. Currently, 13 researchers from seven institutions are members of F.E.R.N. Members meet monthly through conference calls, contribute to a quarterly newsletter, and will eventually organize conferences related to the economic development of Florida.

The CES contributions to F.E.R.N. would focus, among other things, on the role of European businesses and foreign direct investment for job creation and economic prosperity in Florida and on the importance of speaking foreign language and familiarity with foreign cultures for the success of Florida's labor force. Read volume 1 of F.E.R.N.'s newsletter, *The Idea Exchange* at www.ces.ufl.edu/doc/Idea_Exchange_Summer_2007.pdf.



& Study Abroad

The deadline to apply to CES sponsored study abroad programs and scholarships is March 3, 2008. UFIC scholarship deadline is January 7, 2008.

TO LEARN MORE, GO TO www.ces.ufl.edu/abroad

Benefits of CES sponsored programs:

- Students receive UF GPA credit for courses taught by UF faculty and transfer credit for all other courses
- CLAS students satisfy their 9-credit summer requirement by taking just 6 credits in a CES sponsored program
- Students satisfy their International ("N") credit by living in Europe

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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. 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.



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).

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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!



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.

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Old Roserk Abby in Ballina, County Mayo, hometown of the author's grandmother. Mount Nephin rises in the background.

Personal Pilgrimage to Ireland

Connecting with my heritage through study abroad

By Terry Griffin

My life-long desire to see the place of my heritage was stirred when the Political Science department announced a new course and trip abroad offered by Professor Richard Conley. The course was *Irish Government, Politics and Society*. My heart leapt at the chance to not only study and understand the political struggles that defined the history of my family's homeland (Éire), but to actually set foot on the Old Sod and see the places that I could otherwise only read about.

Reading and studying about Irish politics, society, and history does the Old Sod's story only partial justice, though, compared to actually seeing the land and cities, and meeting the people. The course and the side trips to the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland helped clarify for me the story behind the founding of these two very young nations. Now I am able to understand that the conflict between the Irish Catholics and Protestants was in fact a struggle of national heritage and

representation.

For the class trip, Professor Conley arranged an excursion to three towns that contained pivotal historic sites such as the General Post Office in Dublin where the 1917 Easter Uprising occurred. We also visited unionist and republican ghettos in Belfast, and the Northern Irish walled city of Derry where the massacre of Catholic-nationalist civil rights protestors occurred on Bloody Sunday 1972. In Dublin, we were allowed plenty of free time to poke around in the Irish capital's many enchanting shops, museums, and the Guinness Brewery.

Our visit to the North, however, was a little more rigid, and understandably so. Belfast is less friendly to tourists simply because of what the Irish have termed "The Troubles." The last century's civil strife seems still very much on the minds of the Northern Irish. But our visit there was particularly enlightening because we were able to meet several former I.R.A and Unionist paramilitaries, former political prisoners and

also nationalist politicians who were able to bring us closer to the struggle through their stories. Probably the most telling of all in Ireland, though, were the contrasts and qualities of the cultures in the Republic and the North.

The Republic is notable for its rapid modernization. The up and coming generations of the Irish are yet tempered by the sound traditions of their land and elders. They have a keen wit and desire for socializing and harmonizing with any and all with whom they come in contact. In the North, however, the people are still so clearly divided that even folks walking down the streets wear a stern awareness. Professor Conley insisted that we wear neutral colors, keep our political commentary to a minimum, and be ever conscious of the social tensions that make Belfast and Derry places of cautious tone. Hopefully the new unified government of republicans and unionists that formed in March 2007 will bring the people under the common shade of one state, one people, and maybe one day a unity with the Republic as one Ireland.

For me, the trip to the Republic was indeed a personal pilgrimage. I allowed myself plenty of time to set out early from the States in order to see the Irish country and several townships with my own eyes. I was so delighted to discover Éire's cotton skies, wild, abundant daffodils, rolling green hills and hedgerows, ancient stone walls and houses, monasteries, and roaming cows and sheep. But most importantly, I was able to meet plenty of my grandmother's family who demonstrated to me the warmth and hospitality of the Irish. That visit allowed me to understand the pivotal role that many families, like my own, played in the struggle to preserve Irish history, independence, and the success of the Republic.

Traveling allows us to remove our own cultural blinders. That is why I think the study abroad programs offered by universities are so very important to college students. If it had not been for the U.F. program, I'd most certainly still be wishing to be able to go to my family's Old Sod one day.



The study abroad group in front of the Irish Parliament in Dublin.

Faculty News

Esther Romeyn

New Faculty

Esther Romeyn received her Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Minnesota. She taught in the Interdisciplinary Humanities Program at Arizona State University from 1998 until 2005. Her main interests lie in Ethnic Studies, Cultural Studies, Performance Studies, Jewish Studies, Urban Studies, and cross-cultural psychology. Her publications are concerned specifically with European immigrant acculturation as a process of cultural "translation" (or "mistranslation"); the performance of ethnic identity (in daily life, festivals, parades, and theater); and the shifting boundaries of "race" in American culture.

Can Sakirgil

New Faculty

Can Sakirgil is originally from Antakya (Antioch) Turkey. He graduated from Cukurova University Adana with a degree in English Language Teaching. Upon completing his BA he was accepted as a Fulbright scholar with the assignment of Turkish Lecturer at UF. While serving in this position he is also taking courses in Linguistics, European studies and American studies.

Can is fluent in oral Levant Arabic and has studied French at the lower/intermediate level. On a personal level Can is a goldsmith and antique dealer and also took classical opera classes and was a part of performing choir of Turkish Classical Music. He also plays the drums and tries to sing whenever possible. His professional interests include linguistics and languages as well as Turkish literature.



Ewa Wampuszyc

Current Faculty

Ewa Wampuszyc participated in a series of panels on Germany-Poland Border Studies at the annual conference of the German Studies Association in San Diego, CA. She presented a paper on "Cultural Capital and the cost of 'Otherness': The Lodzermensch in Władysław Reymont's /Promised Land/" and was the discussant for the panel "Germany-Poland Border Studies: The Audio-visual Border." In November, she participated in the roundtable discussion "Gender, Genre and the Body: New Directions in Economic Criticism" at the annual conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies.

Upcoming Events

Visit our website for updated list of events: www.ces.ufl.edu/calendar.html

The next series at the ILR is titled "Everything you always wanted to know about the European Union and you're not afraid to ask." Scheduled talks are:

January 10

The EU: What, Where, Why, How

Dr. Amie Kreppel, Director, The Center for European Studies

January 17

EU Security, Defense, and Foreign Policy

Dr. Zachary Selden, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science

January 24

Economic Integration, the Euro and Trade with the World

Dr. Petia Kostadinova, Assistant Director, Center for European Studies

January 31

The EU and Eastern Enlargement

Dr. Conor O'Dwyer, Assistant Professor, Center for European Studies and Political Science Department

February 7

Turkey's Bid to Join the EU

Gaye Gungor, Department of Political Science, Florida International University

February 14

Student panel: Students from Europe discuss the EU from their perspective

CES is co-sponsoring "Game Day! From Medieval Times to Modern Age" events with the Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies and the city of Gainesville. Events include:

January 25

Demonstrations and performances on the Plaza of the Americas at 12:30

January 28

Academic colloquium with our Tom Kostopoulos speaking about ancient Greek games

February 2

Medieval Masquerade reception from 5:00-7:00 at the Thomas Center

February 1

Conference "History, Legacy, and Heritage: Heritage Tourism in Spain and Slovenia" co-sponsored with the History Department and the Center for Humanities and the Public Sphere at The Friends of Music room from 10:00 to 3:00.

February 26

Teacher workshop "Traditional roots of modern European music"

Our student associations plan social and outreach events throughout the year.

Check these websites for information:

Czech Studies: www.ces.ufl.edu/czech/

Polish Studies: www.ces.ufl.edu/polish/

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