

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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Golden Gator Again!
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UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

First Model EU Conference at UF

A group of European Union (EU) enthusiasts at the University of Florida (UF) participated in the first UF Model EU Conference, which took place on January 25, 2009 in Anderson Hall. Thirteen undergraduate students represented 'their' country at the replay of the Spring 2007 European Council meeting, debating topics such as the revival of the Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs and the proposed Union for the Mediterranean. CES Assistant Director, Dr. Petia Kostadinova, represented the host country of Germany and moderated the simulation. Jessi Axe (Belgium), Oscar David Flórez Jaramillo (Czech Republic), Natacha Carter (Denmark), Audrey Couprie (France – Honorable Mention), Corinne Tomasi (Ireland – Best Performance), Maria Skirk (Lithuania), Julie Hundersmarck (The Netherlands), Katiuska Lourenco (Portugal), Fabiola Hernandez (Romania), Maria Bingemann (Spain – Honorable



Mention), and Regina Topolynskaya (The United Kingdom – Best Performance) did a terrific job navigating high EU politics.

Corinne and Regina represented UF at the 9th Annual Model EU Conference organized by the University of Pittsburgh in February 2009.

The CES would like to express deep thanks to Dr. Aida Hozic (Political Science), Dr. Sinan Ciddi (CES), and Yiannis Livanis (CES and Political Science) for their help in judging the competition. We hope to make Model EU an annual event at UF.



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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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donate the easy way

In addition to our language and area studies classes, our study abroad programs, and our outreach programs, we fund grant programs for both faculty and students. Won't you help us to continue funding these worthwhile research and teaching initiatives by contributing to the Center?

Here's how: go to www.ces.ufl.edu and click the **Donate** button near the bottom of the blue navigation bar. This takes you directly to the CES page of the University of Florida Foundation website. It takes five minutes to donate securely with your credit card online. Thank you!

CES Cookbook wins first place!

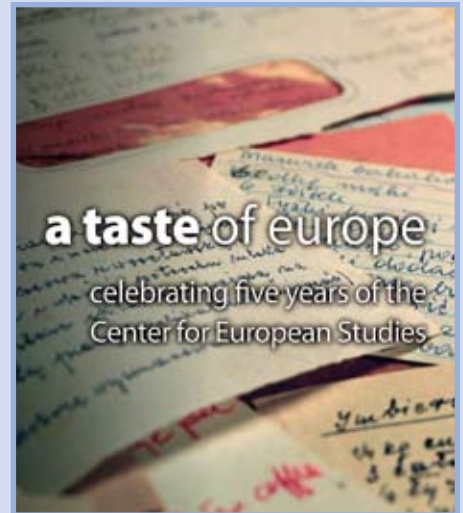
The CES cookbook, *A Taste of Europe: Celebrating five years of the Center for European Studies*, won first place in the visual design category of the University-wide Golden Gator competition. We received the eye-catching engraved award at a recent awards ceremony.

The University of Florida Communications Network (UFCN), which is a part of University Relations, sponsors the annual contest. The Golden Gator awards recognize excellence in communications on behalf of the university, honoring those efforts that strengthen the university and help to meet its mission of teaching, research, and service.

A Taste of Europe earned 96 out of 100 points in seven judging scales to take first place. The judge's comments included, "The concepts

and objectives are well stated and executed. I want a copy of this cookbook!" and "The cover shot was visually interesting and draws the artist into the work."

Copies of the award-winning cookbook are available in the CES main office at 3324 Turlington.



We're on TV!

Our cookbook release and fifth anniversary party were featured on local public TV. Visit www.tinyurl.com/ces-news to watch the segment.

Upcoming Events

Language Teacher Summer Institute: July 20-31, 2009

Two-week interactive classroom and computer lab instruction for foreign language teachers from Florida.

Amie Kreppel will speak to the Kiwanis Club of the University City about "The Center for European Studies: A National Resource Center for Europe and the European Union" on June 9, 2009.

Engaging Migration IN EUROPE

Four recent events were held as part of the Engaging Migration in Europe series. The series is sponsored by the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, the EU Commission, and the Center for European Studies. Cultural and academic events related to the topic of European migration will be featured during the 2008-09 and 2009-10 academic years.

A workshop, "Migration in the Neoliberal Age" featured Greg Feldman (University of British Columbia, Canada), Annie Phizacklea (University of Warwick, UK), Laurie McIntosh (Harvard University), Ayşe Parla (Sabancı University, Turkey), Monika Salzbrunn (Ecole des Hautes Etudes En Sciences Sociales, France), Cristiana Giordano (UC Davis), and Paul Silverstein (Reed College).

The second workshop, "Citizenship and Rights in Cosmopolitan Societies of Europe" featured Saskia Sassen (Columbia University),



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Gerard Delanty (University of Sussex, UK), Ermitte St. Jacques (University of Florida), Damani J. Partridge (University of Michigan), Abdoulaye Kane (University of Florida), Anwen Tormey (University of Chicago), and Maria Stoilkova and Esther Romeyn (University of Florida).

Jocelyn Cesari from Harvard University spoke on "Islam and European Secularism." A week later, Saskia Sassen from Columbia University spoke on "Neither National nor Global: Immigrant Spaces and Subjects."

Check the series webpage (http://www.ces.ufl.edu/JMCE/index_emie.shtml) for scheduled events such as a photo exhibit, teacher workshop, and film series. For further information, please contact the coordinators of the program: Dr. Esther Romeyn (esromeyn@ufl.edu) and Dr. Maria Stoilkova (stoilkov@anthro.ufl.edu).

You know you're in Poland when...

by **Jodi Grieg**

minor in East Central European Studies
recipient of the Kosciuszko Foundation grant to study in Poland

It happened a week after I had moved into the dorm. I had just come out of the shower, wrapped in nothing but a bathrobe, humming the latest obsession in Polish pop music. I walked down the hallway, opened the door to our room... and was greeted by a priest. He pleasantly introduced himself as Paweł. I, in turn, thought I was hallucinating. I looked towards my roommate for help. She was smiling. Everything seemed completely normal. Except for the fact there was a priest in my room. I smiled weakly, shook his hand, grabbed my clothes, and went to change elsewhere. As it turns out, he was an old friend of my roommate's and he was just dropping by for a visit. However, it certainly set the tone for the duration of my stay here in Poland.

Culture shock. It is to be expected whenever one transitions from one country to another, but in my case, it was more of a culture pleasant-surprise (even with the priest incident). I'd like to share another experience which particularly impacted me. As a student of Polish culture, I had heard stories about the beauty and solemnity of All Saint's Day, but as an American, non-Catholic, and non-Pole, I had dismissed it as a holiday which couldn't be anything other than boring. Oh goodie, I thought, spending an entire day at the cemetery with my family? How depressing.

I was completely, utterly wrong.

All Saint's Day in Poland was probably one of the most beautiful, moving, and treasured experiences of my life. Imagine yourself in a vast cemetery, with beautiful, old tombstones and hundreds of people milling about in a whispered silence. Thousands upon thousands of colorful candles and flowers lie upon the graves and on the ground. Imagine the haunting, solemn voice of a priest rising up into the stillness, chanting, and the songs of the people washing over you like a wave. A sense of peace pervades the atmosphere. It was awesome in every sense of the word.

Experiencing holidays in Poland, and indeed in any culture, is a way to learn to appreciate value systems which differ from one's own. Holidays are not the only thing a trip abroad has to offer- in Poland, there is something for everyone. Aesthetically-inclined? The architecture is amazing, and art museums and galleries abound. Nature lover? Poland offers amazing natural vistas. One can visit Zakopane and hike in the beautiful Tatra mountains while sampling the region's delicious and unique cheeses. History buff? Poland is a land rich in history, and remains a country deeply scarred by the atrocities of WWII. It is home to Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest concentration camp built by the Nazis, which is an essential place to visit in order to understand the full magnitude of the Holocaust.

In short, I cannot encourage students enough to study abroad. This is a wide and wonderful world we live in, with rich and diverse cultures which can only be fully experienced first-hand. There are lessons to be learned and people to meet! Of course, I can only speak from my own biased perspective, but I highly recommend Poland as a potential destination!



Above: A Jewish cemetery in Lublin

Below: A Norwegian friend and Jodi during the first heavy snowfall in Kraków



Mini-Language Lesson

Go Gators!

pronounce it

Czech

Gátoři do toho!

Gah-tor-zhee doh-toe-ho!

Greek

Εμπρός Αλιγάτορες!

Em-pros A-lig-a-tor-es!

Hungarian

Hajrá Aligátorok!

Hoy-ra oli-ghat-o-rok!

Polish

Gatory do boju!

Gah-tor-ee doh boy-oo!

Turkish

Haydi Timsahlar!

Hi-dee tim-sa-lar!

Recent Events:



1



2



3



4



5

CES collaborated with the three other Title VI centers Asian, African, Latin American at UF on two teacher workshops. The first, “**Celebrations**” featured talks about holiday celebrations in Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Africa. Faculty Ewa Wampuszyc spoke about “**Unlocking the Future: Fortune-telling and other Superstitions in Today’s Poland**” and demonstrated the process with melted wax and water.

The second workshop, “**Rites of Passage around the World**” touched on several different special times of life. Our speaker, Turkish Fulbright scholar, Cem Balçikanlı, spoke about “**Kİna Gecesi: Henna Night as a Turkish Tradition.**” He brought small bags of henna for the teachers and taught traditional song and dance steps of the ritual.

Wigilia, the traditional Polish December holiday celebration was a fun gathering co-sponsored by the Polish Student Association. Among other activities, predictions were made with melted wax and shoes.

Brown bags talks were “**Speaking for Nature**” by Michal Meyer, “**The Discursive Economy of Sex Trafficking in Europe**” by Jonathan Wadley, and “**The Founding of Colonial Georgia: For the Glory of God and the Wealth and Trade of Great Britain**” by Nate Herrod.

Roman Kalytchak, a Fulbright Scholar from the Kennan Institute spoke about “**Ukrainian Regions in Foreign Policy Decision-Making.**” This was co-sponsored with the Dean’s Office.

Sinan Ciddi and Brano Kovalcik reached out to campus Navy ROTC cadets to promote **CES foreign language and area studies courses.**

CES co-sponsored a symposium with the Russian Department called, “**Up from the Ashes: National Revival and Imperial Aspirations in Putin-era Russia.**”

Anne Sofia Roald from Malmö University led a workshop: “**Europe and Islam**” with scholars Badredine Arfi and Abdoulaye Kane (University of Florida), Seán McLoughlin (University of Leeds, UK), Jonas Otterbeck (Malmö University, Sweden), and Christopher Soper (Pepperdine University)

Co-sponsored talks were “**The Weakness of Civil Society in Postcommunist Europe Revisited**” with Grzegorz Ekiert of Harvard University and “**Ethnic Residential Segregation, Inter-Ethnic Contacts, and Anti-Minority Attitudes in European Societies**” by Moshe Semyonov, Tel Aviv University and University of Illinois. These talks were co-sponsored with the Department of Political Science and the Department of Sociology, Criminology & Law, respectively.

The theme of the latest series at the Institute of Learning in Retirement was “**Europe Opens the Door: A Short History of Science.**”

- Talks were
- Science and the Modern World: Re-Thinking Western Civilization, Bob Hatch
 - The Discovery of Atomic Fission and its Cultural-Political Aftermath, Fred Gregory
 - The Problem of Islamic Science, Chris Furlow
 - Julian Huxley and the Modern Synthesis of Evolution, Betty Smocovitis
 - How the Scots Shaped America, Robert Jay Malone
 - William Bartram and English Natural History, Charlotte Porter

1. Turkish Fulbright Scholar Cem Balçikanlı and Turkish faculty Sinan Ciddi prepare to talk to students guerilla style on Turlington Plaza.
2. Panelists discuss issues with participants at the Islam in Europe workshop.
3. Saskia Sassen speaks with students following her talk.
4. Yoruba baby naming ceremony was covered by Yoruba instructor Kole Odutola for the “Rites of Passage” workshop.
5. Cem Balçikanlı sings while dyeing his hand with henna as part of the night before the wedding ritual in Turkey for the “Rites of Passage” workshop.



from the **Iron Curtain** to the **European Union** 20 YEARS AFTER 1989

The CES is partnering with the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art to present an exciting series of events in Fall 2009 and Spring 2010. The programs will address, in a very broad way, the tumultuous times around November 1989, when the Berlin Wall was symbolically and literally destroyed, bringing about the beginning of the end of communism.

Several years ago, the CES provided the Harn Museum with seed money for a European exhibit. The Harn also was recently awarded a major grant from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the program. Some of

the planned events include:

- **“Project Europa: Imagining the (Im)possible,”** is an exhibition featuring over 50 works by 20 international artists who work in photography, video, painting, and drawing. Project Europa considers the relationship of art to democracy in Europe and is organized by three interrelated themes:
 - **“Past Ever Present”** considers Europe’s democratic ambitions in relation to the ultra-national and ideal aspirations of the past.
 - **“Fictive Identity”** focuses on

the notion of a constructed identity and what it means to be “European”

- **“Future Tense”** examines the effect of globalization with regards to individual agency, community initiative, and the emergence of alternative systems of exchange.
- Three artists are commissioned to work on site including a Romanian political cartoonist
- CES speaker series with Anna Grzymala Busse (Political Science, Michigan), Cesar Caviedes (Geography, UF), and Istvan

Hegedus (Political Science, Central European University).

- Cinema series of avant-garde European films
- **“Art and Democracy”** symposium with scholars Jacques Ranciere, Maria Hlavajova, Claire Bishop, T. J. Demos, and Tim Griffin
- A website for the program
- Teacher workshop for Alachua County public school teachers
- Contests and projects with the School Board of Alachua County

There may also be collaborations with other units on campus throughout the academic year.

Faculty, Staff, and Student News

Turkish faculty **Sinan Ciddi** and **Cem Balçıkıanlı** presented a talk, “Building Turkish Cultural Competence through Movies” at the 12th Annual National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL) Conference, April 23-26 in Madison, WI “Towards a New Paradigm in the LCTLs.”

In addition, Cem delivered a talk, “How can Blackboard Learning System promote learner autonomy? A qualitative study with Turkish learners” and a workshop, “Broadcast Yourself: The use of YouTube in Language Classrooms” at the same conference.

Cem, who is the CES Turkish Fulbright Scholar, has presented a series of five classroom talks on

campus this semester with titles ranging from “Teacher Education in Turkey” to “Turkey in a Nutshell” for departments as diverse as Geography, Criminology, and Education.

Petia Kostadinova received a Faculty Enhancement Opportunity (FEO) to support her participation in a collaborative project with a colleague at the School of Journalism at Iowa State University. The research project aims to study the role of mass media in promoting congruence between the policy preferences of government and public, comparing the early years of post-communist economic transition in Bulgaria with economic policy during the country’s recent accession to the European Union. During Summer and Fall 2009,

she will travel to Sofia, Bulgaria for archival work and interviews with newsmakers, and to Ames, Iowa for collaborative work. FEOs are intended to advance the academic/professional/scholarly abilities of faculty members and the University as a whole.

During Celebrate Family Week in November, the Graduate and Family Housing office asked residents to write a short essay describing a member of their family and why they are important in their lives. CES Academic Programs Coordinator **Branco Kovalcik** won first place with his story praising his wife Zuzana Vatrlova. See the piece here: www.tinyurl.com/housing-family

Magda Giurcanu, a CES graduate assistant and a Political Science graduate student won an Outstanding International Student Certificate Award from the UF International Center. She also received a Graduate Student Council Travel Grant and the Prestage-Cook Travel Award to present the paper “Parties: Survival in Post-Communist Countries” at the 80th Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association in New Orleans, in January.

Felissa Scott, CES Administrative Coordinator, earned her certification in Fiscal Management and HR/Payroll Management as part of the PRO3 Series offered by UF’s Human Resources Department.



A chance meeting, luck, & a little persistence leads to the Bundestag

by Peter J. Tunkis, minor in European Studies and graduate of the Brussels study abroad program

Among the most interesting or exciting experiences for a student is the chance for a trip or internship abroad. What better way to round things out than to witness history and learn a thing or two while you're at it? Through a string of luck and keeping up correspondence, I got just such an opportunity—before I knew it, I found myself living for two months (September/October) in a great flat in Charlottenburg, Berlin, going to work in one of the parliamentary offices of the German Union parties CDU/CSU!

The circumstances behind my time in Germany still strike me, while fortuitous, as random more than anything. Who would have imagined that, a year and a half after approaching a visiting speaker in Dr. Ceobanu's Nationalism and Ethnicity class with questions about German-Polish relations, I would be working for the same gentleman on the same topic as my original

questions! My luck didn't just end there: though I was officially one among many Büropraktikanten (office interns), I don't think I actually did much "interning." About this my boss, Herr Thomas Helm, seemed adamant-- what would be the point of giving me a load of busy-work just so he could give me a nod and send whatever I completed straight to the dust-bin? For this and many other things in making my internship especially worthwhile I am exceedingly grateful—witnessing the CDU/CSU party meeting and the drafting, reading and passing (in about a week) of a several-hundred billion Euro rescue package being among them. My official tasks were thus: provide weekly reports on what the Poles were up to regarding their foreign-policy towards Russia, Georgia (S. Ossetia/Abkhazia) and the Ukraine, and by the end of my six-week stay to compose a briefing on the strategic outlook

of the German Minority in Poland.

At first the suit-and-tie dress code and initial formalities made me a little on-edge (first impressions count a lot, after all), but once I got to know everyone I was working with, the atmosphere was great! Soon I was making good use of the resources available to me not only directly (digging through the official budgets of the past three years for domestic data, among other things) but also pestering the Polish government for their official data through their Ministry of Interior Affairs and Ministry of Education. By the time all was said and done, I felt very proud of my work, believing that I had made a valuable, if only small, contribution to the greater work of a couple of parliamentarians on the national level!

My trip wasn't all work and no play, to be sure: once

or twice a week I was invited to join my boss to attend various functions, ranging from regional (Länder) events or presentations to cultural celebrations at the Czech and Hungarian Embassies, and even the Taiwanese National Holiday celebration held at the Ritz-Carlton! Outside of anything remotely work-related, I had a few opportunities to enjoy a few of the hot-spots in town, meeting people from all over Europe and even Cameroon and Zimbabwe. Most relaxing of all was the sight-seeing around the city (of which there's seemingly no end) and kayaking through the canals of Spreewald, southeast of Berlin near Lübbenau.

I count myself very lucky to have been able to enjoy my internship in the German Parliament. After all, you never know what may come of a chance meeting along with a little persistence (and of course a bit of luck to boot)!

Affiliate FACULTY

CES is proud to name current affiliate faculty, their departments, and their research interests. Affiliated faculty share an interest in Europe, and our list of affiliates is growing! Visit the CES website at www.ces.ufl.edu, click on "people" then "affiliate faculty" for the most up-to-date listing.

Fletcher Baldwin, College of Law
International law

Barbara Barletta, School of Art & Art History
The art and culture of the ancient Greek world;
the modern countries of Greece and Italy

Sylvie Blum, World Languages & Culture
Francophone cinema, European Cinema

Diana Boxer, Linguistics
Discourse and pragmatics, sociolinguistics,
gender and language, and second language
acquisition

Mark A. Brennan, Family, Youth, & Community
The role of local level action in the community
development process; Rural Sociology,
comparative research throughout the United
States, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and
Japan

Mutlu G. Citim-Kepic, School of Music
UF in Salzburg (Music Program)

John Freeman, Journalism
Photojournalism, Teaches Photojournalism in
Berlin (summer program)

Alice Freifeld, History
Habsburg, Late Modern, and 20th Century
Central and Eastern Europe 19th-Century
Europe, Genocide, Displaced Persons, and
Ethnic Cleansing in Europe.

Pamela Gilbert, English
Gender, the Victorian novel, genre, the body,
and Victorian cultural and medical history

Geoffrey J. Giles, History
History of Germany; social history, the history
of sexuality, and the history of the Holocaust

Michael Gorham, World Languages & Cultures
Russian Studies

Roy Eugene Graham, Center for World Heritage
Research
Interest in Cultural Resources, especially in
Slovenia and the Adriatic Coast

Terry Harpold, English
Specialist in 20th century French literary and
critical theory and 19th and 20th century
European imaginative fiction

Edward T. Hart, Lawton Chiles Legal Information
Center
EU legal research

Clifford A. Jones, Levin College of Law
International law

Lynda Lee Kaid, Telecommunications
Research on media and politics in Europe

Glenn Kepic, CLAS - Academic Advising
UF in Salzburg (EU program)

R. Brandon Kershner, English
Irish Studies, particularly Joyce, and
competence in French

Ingrid Kleespies, World Languages & Cultures
Russian language and literature

Sheryl Kroen, History
Modern European history specializing in
France, Germany, Britain

Howard Louthan, History
Central Europe primarily from the late 14th-
18th centuries in the area of culture and
intellectual history with a particular interest on
religion

Ana Margheritis, Political Science
International political economy (Latin America
and the EU)

Kenneth Martinson, Music

Albert R. Matheny, III, Political Science
UF-Utrecht Exchange Program Coordinator

Barbara Mennel, World Languages & Cultures
Turkish and German cinema

Robert C.L. Moffat, Levin College of Law
International law

Richard A. Nolan, Political Science
International relations, international security,
U.S. foreign policy

David Ostroff, Telecommunication
European Union media policies towards
emerging technologies

Charles A. Perrone, Spanish & Portuguese
Portuguese, Portugal, Iberia

Mark A. Reid, English
Afro-European Studies in Film and Literature

Ralf Remshardt, School of Theatre & Dance
Theatre history, dramaturgy, play writing,
comic drama, contemporary European theatre

Sandra L. Russo, International Center

John R. Sabin, Physics

James Paul Sain, School of Music
Contemporary Art music

Katrina Schwartz, Political Science
Environmental politics, nationalism, and the
comparative politics of post-Communist
Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union

Stephanie A. Smith, English
Examines the intersection of science, literature,
politics, race and gender