

The

Gazette

News from University of Florida's Center for European Studies, a U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center  
Volume 9, Issue 3 [www.ces.ufl.edu](http://www.ces.ufl.edu) Summer 2012



# VIVA EUROPE: A Big Success

We had it all for the first annual VIVA EUROPE! festival on April 7—balmy weather, crowds of people, prompt performers, delicious food, and happy organizers. An estimated 1000 attendees enjoyed all-day music and dance performances, educational display tables from 15 different European countries (some had homemade goodies to share), fun kid's activities and storyhour, reasonably priced items in the marketplace, bocce, contests, and a general atmosphere of relaxed fun learning about European cultures and customs.



A five-night film fest led up to the big day. Award-winning short films from Eurochannel's Short Film Tour were screened at area libraries and at Santa Fe.

The Catalan band, **Can Cun Rumba**, was a highlight of VIVA EUROPE. Their performance got everyone moving. They also led a workshop and a conference, "Afro-Caribbean Roots in Gypsy Catalan Flamenco."

The CES partnered with the UF International Center (UFIC) and Santa Fe College (SFC) to produce the event. Sponsors included the Institute of Turkish Studies, UFIC, UF Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies, SFC International Programs, UF Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures, SFC Humanities Department, and SFC Student Life Office. In-kind sponsors were Target Copy, Pepsi, Auntie Anne's, Papa John's, and Eurochannel.



Thank you to all our supporters, volunteers, exhibitors, vendors, and attendees for making our first event so successful.



Volume 9, Issue 3 Summer 2012  
THE CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

**DIRECTOR** Sheryl Kroen <stkroen@ufl.edu>

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** James Robbins <jwrobbins@ufl.edu>

**EDITOR & OUTREACH COORDINATOR** Gail Keeler <gskeeler@ufl.edu>

**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR** Sarah Spaid Ishida <sspaid@ufl.edu>

**WEBMASTER** Christopher Miller

**GRAPHIC DESIGN** Phoebe Wilson

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](http://www.ces.ufl.edu).

3324 Turlington Hall  
P.O. Box 117342  
Gainesville FL 32611-7342  
Phone: 352-294-7142  
Fax: 352-392-8966

**UF** UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

## Hold the date: March 23, 2013 for VIVA EUROPE!

The theme for next year's festival is "hands-on Europe." There will be many participatory learning opportunities such as dancing, speaking and writing in languages, and more. Call Gail Keeler at 352-294-7144 for more information.

### Coming in Fall 2012

**Atina Grossman**, on the faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of Cooper Union, will be at the CES in mid-October to screen her film "Unsere Kinder (Our Children)," to give a lecture, and to meet informally with students. Her current research focuses on transnational Jewish refugee stories, "Soviet Central Asia, Iran, and India: Sites of Refuge and Relief for European Jews During World War II."



# CES Students Excel

CES students in European Union Studies and East-Central European Studies have distinguished themselves at conferences, in academics, and abroad. Here are some stories from four very special students.

## Teodora Latinska

Nestled at the base of the San Gabriel Mountains and on the easternmost border of LA County is Claremont, California. A small town nicknamed “The City of Trees and PhDs,” it’s home to a consortium of excellent institutions of higher education. The European Union Center of California resides at one of these institutions—Scripps College. Every year, the center organizes the UC-Claremont Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union, and this year I was one of the 60 lucky undergraduates from more than 30 schools chosen to attend. Having written a paper on the contentious European Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and being placed in a panel of students with similar research topics to be reviewed by an EU security scholar from Brigham Young University, I was more than nervous to attend, but the atmosphere of the conference and the warmth of every person I met make me look back on the experience with extreme contentment and nostalgia.

Alighting in SoCal, rain clouds were the last thing I expected. Despite the generally gloomy weather, the conference itself was a sunny affair. The 60 participants were divided into nine panels with an expert discussant overseeing each panel. We were encouraged to attend panels other than our own, and this was probably the most rewarding part of the experience. From topics like why China is looking to invest in the EU to why the Lisbon Treaty has increased the EU’s democratic legitimacy, I enriched my EU knowledge beyond what I could have imagined. The discussant feedback was both constructive and relevant, pushing participants to frame our research question as a puzzle and to approach it from a multitude of different perspectives so we could defend our theses.



Melissa-Melody and Teodora at the UC-Claremont Undergraduate Research Conference

an excellent venue for undergraduates eager to improve, and I hope that (this time sunny) Claremont will greet me again in SoCal next year.

## Melissa-Melody Marcan

I first heard about the UC-Claremont Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union on the EU Club’s facebook page. At the time, I was working on a paper for my European Union Politics class, so when I saw the call for papers, I thought it wouldn’t hurt to apply. A few weeks later, I received an email saying that I was selected to present at the conference. I did not expect to be accepted, so I was more than excited. I also realized that I would be representing the University of Florida, so I was a little nervous. Therefore, I thought the best way to alleviate my nervousness was to prepare as best I could.

I spent the remaining weeks editing my paper and outlining my presentation, which had to be about 12 minutes long. I was most nervous about the panel discussion, so I tried to prepare for possible questions. After each run-through, I felt more and more confident and by the day of my departure, my nervousness was eventually replaced with pure excitement.

*Continued at the top of next column*

**“I am extremely grateful for the [CES] European Studies program, how it fostered my interests, and really helped me explore my passions during my undergraduate experience.”**

The conference itself turned out to be one of the best experiences I’ve had. The discussion leaders were EU scholars from all across the country, and their criticisms were extremely helpful. Moreover, I loved the fact that there were so many students sharing interest in the EU. My discussion panel turned out to be great. My presentation went very well and I felt that I could confidently address all questions asked. The last night of the conference, I exchanged contact information with some of the students I met. We also spent some time reflecting on our experiences and we all agreed that the conference exceeded our expectations by far in all aspects.

In sum, it was an experience worth the effort and I will definitely apply again for the conference next year. I encourage all students interested in the EU to do the same because it is an invaluable experience and a rare opportunity.

**Lauren Parater** will be attending the London School of Economics in September for their Msc in Politics and Government of the European Union. She says, “I am extremely grateful for the [CES] European Studies program, how it fostered my interests, and really helped me explore my passions during my undergraduate experience.”

**Rachel Rothstein** writes about being in Warsaw, Poland for the year as a Fullbright Scholar doing her research at the Collegium Civitas where she worked with Dariusz Stola.

*Continued on page 4*

## Rachel Rothstein *Continued from page 3*

"I just returned from my final Fulbright event here in Poland, held at the U.S. Ambassador's residence, and it's hard to believe that I'll be leaving Poland in just a couple of months. From making a simple grammatical mistake that landed me in the men's bathroom on one of my first days here in September, to successfully (at least for the most part) navigating Poland's archival bureaucracies, this has



Rachel at the Fulbright awards ceremony

been an unforgettable experience. As a researcher writing a dissertation on Polish Jewishness since 1968, I spent most of my time sitting (and once even being forgotten and subsequently locked) in archives, gathering thousands of documents which I will use to write this period of Polish Jewish history. But I also spent this year immersing myself in Polish society and culture, traveling whenever I had the opportunity, and becoming part of the Polish Jewish community. This is not my first time in Poland. I have been here several times before; yet this experience has been different. When I introduce myself I can say "mieszkam tutaj w Warszawie (I live here in Warsaw)." I have a city transportation pass, a library card, and an apartment from which I can hear street performers and mass from the church across the street.

"In the past nine months, I have walked by countless demonstrations, which are somewhat of a national pastime in the relatively new democratic Poland. I attended numerous commemorations, also somewhat of a national pastime in a country with a long and sometimes painful history. I met wonderful people and colleagues, from whom I have learned a great deal. I saw beautiful places in offbeat locations, which tourists typically miss. I survived the record-breaking cold winter (though admittedly I spent several of those days curled up under mounds of blankets, refusing to leave my apartment), attended Polish and Yiddish theater performances, and presented my work to a Polish audience for the first time. I even interned at the soon-to-be-opened Museum of the History of Polish Jews. It

has been a whirlwind experience and while I will miss Poland once I leave in July, I know that my time here has given me the tools and perspective necessary to write my dissertation when I return to the US."



Rachel with her favorite poet Julian Tuwim in Łódź

## RECENT EVENTS

- The CES presented a series of six talks to the Institute of Learning in Retirement (ILR) called "The Europe Report" that focused on exceptional graduate students sharing their research. The students were: **Tristan Vellinga**, **Magda Giurcanu**, **Scott Feinstein**, **Missy Molloy**, **Erin Cass**, and **Sarah Lewis Mitchem**. The ILR at Oak Hammock is rated the best CCRC life-long learning institute in the country in terms of the number of active members and quality of courses offered.
- Cooking classes held at Take Away Gourmet were a big hit. The series included **Georgia Bianchi**/Italian, **Jessica Lancia**/German, **Lia Merivaki**/Greek, **Edith Kaan**/Dutch, **Richard Sher** and **Aida Hozic**/French, and **Geraldine Nichols**/Catalan. Each class was sold out. The CES plans to post the recipes on the website, [http://www.ces.ufl.edu/outreach/cooking\\_classes.shtml](http://www.ces.ufl.edu/outreach/cooking_classes.shtml) by the Fall.
- The CES co-sponsored a European themed Museum Nights at the Harn that included dance, music, gallery activities, food, poetry, and costumes.
- **Sheryl Kroen** addressed a talk to the 71st Interparliamentary Meeting of the Transatlantic Legislator's Dialogue, "The CES and Transatlantic Focus."
- Three CES faculty (**Alin Ceobanu**, **Sheryl Kroen**, **Conor O'Dwyer**) spoke to the Wedgeworth Leadership Institute on international issues as part of the year-long program that develops and refines the leadership capabilities of leaders in Florida agriculture and natural resources.
- In addition, the CES sponsored or co-sponsored campus talks open to the public by Sergey Ivanov, Yuri Matsiyevsky, Sidney Tarrow, Ana Rueda, Jeffrey Kopstein, Barbara Milewski, Krzysztof Jasiewicz, David Barclay, Maria Bucur-Deckard, Wendy Heller, Jennifer Rodgers, Gerardo Fernandez Fe, and Gary Freeman.
- The annual Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence seminar and conference "Democracy in the European Union" with **Giovanni Piccirilli** and other experts happened this spring.



# “Still and Moving Images” at the Harn this Fall

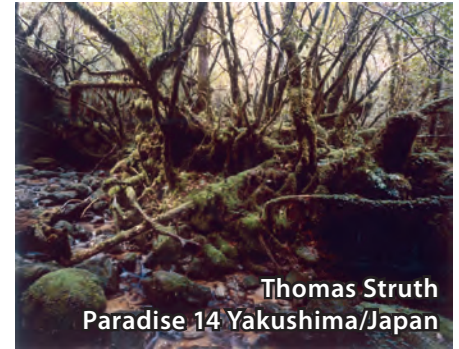


Werner Herzog "Aguirre: The Wrath of God" film still

Kerry Oliver-Smith, Curator of Contemporary Art at the Harn Museum of Art writes, "I am working on an exhibition project with the support of the CES's generous funding. The project is a Faculty-Focus exhibition which involves the direct participation of faculty members with the Harn Museum. I have invited Barbara Mennel, Director of Film and Media Studies and affiliate of the CES to be the co-curator of an installation titled "Still and Moving Images." The installation explores the relationship between European photography and film.

"Our project compares contemporary European photography from the Museum's collection with still images from New German Cinema. Fourteen graduate students in Dr. Mennel's spring class, "New German Cinema and Its Legacy," have each

participated in the process by helping select an individual photograph, exploring its connection to the concerns of New German Cinema, and writing extended label texts based on their research. Themes include architecture, urban life, portraiture, nature, formal approaches, and the use of photographic and film stills in both fields. "Still and Moving Images" will be on view in the Mary Ann Cofrin Pavilion from September 2012 through August of 2013.



Thomas Struth Paradise 14 Yakushima/Japan

## Faculty, Staff, & Student News

In December, CES graduate students **Shelby Huber** and **Tristan Vellinga** spoke on a panel at MESA 2011 (Middle East Studies Association) titled "Reflecting on Turkey's 2011 Elections" moderated by Dr. Sinan Ciddi. Here, Dr. Ciddi, Institute of Turkish Studies Executive Director, comments on recent developments in Syrian-Turkish relations on Voice of America:



**Gabriel Ferraz** won the annual best brown bag talk award for this academic year for his talk: "Heitor Villa-Lobos and Choros no. 3: Modernism, Nationalism, and 'Musical Anthropology'."

**Alice Freifeld** has been awarded a

Research Fellowship to the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars for her study of "Displaced Hungarian Jewry, 1945-49." She will be at the center's East European Studies program in Washington D.C. from April-July, 2012. Alice Freifeld will assume the position of Director of the Center for European Studies on August 15, 2012.

**Anna Muller** has passed her first year as Polish lecturer. She got her undergraduate and master's degree from the University of Gdansk in political science and history. She studied international history and politics for a year at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, then spent a year as a Garstka Fellow at the University of Notre Dame before entering the Ph.D. program in East European history at Indiana University, Bloomington in 2003.

While finishing her dissertation in 2010, she started working at the Museum of the Second World War, a large Polish national museum set to

open in 2014. She has been working as the curator and coordinator for the exhibition on concentration camps, forced labor, and the Holocaust.



She defended her dissertation in November 2010, titled "If the Walls Could Talk: Women Political Prisoners in Stalinist Poland, 1945-1956." In addition to teaching the Polish language, her teaching and research interests include Modern Central and East European History, Oral History, Memory, Gender, and now, since working for the Museum, concentration camps and the Holocaust.

Courses she is teaching for the CES include Polish language and culture classes, "Battles of Memory: Issues in Post-WWII Memory in Central and Eastern Europe," and "Gender in Eastern Europe."

*Continued on page 6*

The CES has new phone numbers.  
The main desk is 352-294-7142

## 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

*Continued from page 5*

**Conor O'Dwyer** will be on leave in the coming year and will be a Visiting Scholar at the Center for European Studies at Harvard. Here's a link to the center, <http://www.ces.fas.harvard.edu/index.html>.

**Osman Sahin**, who just completed his year with the CES as a Turkish instructor through the Fulbright program, had many accomplishments while here. He biked from Gainesville to Miami and back over the December break. This was 811 miles in 8 days. When asked what the scariest part was, he replied, "Snakes, dead or alive, scare me, and there were many, with beautiful colors!"



## FLAS winners

Here are the students who have been awarded Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships. These fellowships are funded by the US Department of Education under Title VI of the Higher Education Act. Fellowships are awarded to students combining graduate or undergraduate work in an academic discipline with European area and language studies. Congratulations, all!

### Summer 2012:

**Taylor Clemons** Polish  
**Greg Mason** Turkish  
**Rebecca Halloran** Portuguese  
**John Hames** French  
**Andres Fernandez** Hungarian  
**Matthew Koval** Polish  
**Laura McCann** Russian  
**Johanna Mellis** Hungarian  
**Kokila Mendis** Swedish  
**Melissa Molloy** Danish  
**Morgan Rich** German

### Academic Year 2012-13:

**Lisa Booth** Russian  
**Robert McEachnie** Italian  
**Gregory Mason** Turkish  
**Todd Hughes** Russian  
**Bryan Kozik** Polish  
**Lila Stone** German  
**Tomas Castellanos** Catalan  
**Jamie Longanecker** German  
**Andres Fernandez** Hungarian  
**Samora Bazil** Polish