

2005-2006 ANNUAL PROGRAM REVIEW CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

Executive Summary

The Center for European Studies (CES) is one of just 11 federally funded Title VI National Resource Centers (NRC) for the study of Europe. Although it was established less than three years ago, it has flourished, developing a broad array of teaching and research opportunities and resources related to Europe across campus. As a result the Center has gained national and international recognition, despite its short history. As was noted by Professor John Keeler, who served as the external evaluator for the CES in October 2005 and wrote in his report that *“the achievement of NRC status for 2003-06, followed by an unmatched “big bang” of hiring has turned heads around the country and earned considerable prestige for Florida’s CES. Now that Florida is “on the map” as a member of the exclusive Title VI club, its students will be viewed in a more positive light for such things as graduate admissions, its faculty will be more sought after as partners in national and international collaborative networks and its chances for continued external funding will be enhanced.”* Indeed, graduate student applications that explicitly mention the CES, or emphasize a desire to come to UF to study Europe have grown significantly over the past two years. The success of the CES in obtaining funding for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships for 2006-2010 will serve to increase this trend.

The CES hopes to continue to build on past successes by focusing future activities on consolidating its strengths in area studies and foreign language training and the expansion of its curriculum and degree programs, particularly at the graduate level. The introduction of the International Studies Major, which includes a European Track to be managed by the CES, as well as the development of a new minor in Central-East European and Slavic Studies at the under-graduate level will foster continued growth of the CES and increased undergraduate enrollments as more of its courses are explicitly incorporated into degree programs. At the graduate level the CES will continue its efforts to expand Europe related graduate courses and develop a certificate in European Union Studies. In addition the CES will continue to work towards the eventual establishment of a Master’s Degree in EU Studies, most likely within the context of a transatlantic joint degree program with partner universities on both sides of the Atlantic.

Summary of Academic Highlights

The 2005-2006 academic year was primarily a period of consolidation for the CES. Although we added two new languages to our programs with Czech Studies and Turkish Studies, the primary focus was on building our area studies courses, expanding the EUS course offerings, finalizing the European Track of the International Studies Major and increasing student enrollment in the EU Studies Minor. Our previous goal of establishing a Central-East European and Slavic Studies Minor was temporarily put on hold as a result of the transition in the Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies, which was to have been a key partner in the development of the degree.

Both new language programs have been very successful. Although enrollments in the Czech courses were lower than expected, we believe this was a function of the transition from Eva Eichorn (who retired) to the two new CES Czech Studies faculty. Both new faculty members have received very high teacher evaluations and the summer in Prague program has an unprecedented enrollment of 14 students. In addition, a new Czech-Slovak student club was initiated during Fall 2005. There are now a total of nine Czech language and culture courses on the books (including 5 new course additions) with two more pending approval from the College curriculum committee. All of these achievements suggest that the Czech program will grow over the next few years.

Turkish courses were offered for the first time in Fall 2005, and all six students who were enrolled in first semester Turkish continued to complete second semester. Both submissions for second year Turkish, as well as a special Turkish for Heritage Speakers course, have also been approved. Although there is currently no one available to teach Turkish in Fall 2006, it is our hope that if the Title VI grant is renewed we will be able to complete a search for a lecturer to begin in the Fall. It may be possible to have the Fulbright Scholar from 2005-2006 return for an additional year while we conduct a search for a permanent lecturer in conjunction with the Department of African and Asian Languages.

The number of areas studies and EUS courses continues to grow. In 2005-2006 four new EUS courses were added with two more in the process of being prepared for submission to the College Curriculum Committee. Overall CES faculty taught 25 EUS and area studies courses during 2005-2006 with an average enrollment of 25 students per course (including three graduate courses with an average enrollment of 8).¹ Most of the current EUS courses and many of the area studies courses support the European Union Studies Minor, which was officially initiated in Fall 2004. The program has had eight graduates thus far and an additional 34 students are currently in the process of completing the degree.

The CES does not yet have any EUS graduate course numbers and is in the process of working with the Graduate School to develop a cohesive selection of graduate level courses. The long-term goal is to be able to develop an interdisciplinary graduate certificate and Master's Degree in European Union Studies. We expect to be able to introduce the graduate certificate by Fall 2007, however the master's degree will take substantially longer and will require additional faculty hires (see section on past and future hires below). The strong emphasis that the CES places on teaching at the graduate and undergraduate levels is evidenced by the fact that two CES faculty members were recipients of College teaching awards. Ewa Wampuszyc was awarded an undergraduate teaching award (the first foreign language teacher to win the award in years and the only teacher of a least commonly taught language (LCTL) ever to win it) and Peter Bergmann won a graduate teaching and advising award.

Grant Related Activities

During the 2005 – 2006 academic year The Center for European Studies submitted an application for renewal of its Title VI status for the 2006 – 2010 funding cycle, including a request to make the transition to comprehensive National Resource Center (NRC) status with the resulting funding for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships. Although we have yet to receive official word on the renewal of the NRC application, the CES was awarded the full amount requested for FLAS funding. This \$536,000 grant (\$134,000 per year), in combination with the four annual tuition waivers per year committed by the Office of the Provost as institutional support, will allow the CES to award up to 7 academic year and 4-5 summer FLAS fellowships per year. It is likely that the CES will also be renewed for as an NRC for the 2006-2010 cycle, although it is not certain that we will receive the full \$1,255,400 requested (\$314,000 per year).

In addition to the Title VI program, two CES faculty members received summer support for their research from the Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Fund (Chris Caes and Hana Filip), while Amie Kreppel received official recognition as a Jean Monnet Chair (*ad personam*) from the Commission of the EU and a grant of €15,000 to support activities related to teaching and research on the European Union. Additional support from the European Union (to Amie Kreppel and Petia Kostadinova) continues in the form of the Jean Monnet course module program, which supports the development and teaching of an upper division seminar on EU Enlargement (€5,000 per year). Alin Ceobanu (with Florin Curta, History) also submitted a proposal for research support to the University of Florida's Research Opportunities Grant (status still pending).

¹ This data includes only those courses taught explicitly for CES. For faculty with joint positions, those courses taught for the other unit or without an explicit European focus were not included.

Within the CES there are two distinct types of external grant writing activities; those that support the activities of the Center *per se*, and those that support the research and teaching of the individual faculty members within the Center. In terms of the first category, although the US Department of Education and the Commission of the European Union will most likely continue to be the primary sources of external funding for the Center, additional opportunities are being investigated. In particular, new opportunities for support from non-governmental foundations such as the Mott Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trust, the Ford Foundation and the German Marshall Fund are currently being explored (see section on private fundraising below as well). In addition, we are continuing past efforts in coordinating a joint proposal in collaboration with the University of Texas, Austin and the University of Sussex for a FIPSE grant to support the development of a transatlantic degree program in European Studies. Additional applications to the Jean Monnet program for support of new course modules are also being planned for 2006-2007.

At the individual level there are several impediments to substantially increasing faculty grant writing. To begin with most CES faculty members are quite junior, having arrived at UF only in 2004 or even 2005. Additionally, a high proportion of CES faculty members are in the humanities, where the norms of grant writing are quite different from the social or hard sciences and there are substantially fewer grant opportunities. Despite these obstacles, the CES is actively working to support faculty member grant writing by funding initial studies, providing graduate student research support and even additional travel support as necessary. To further facilitate the process the CES also maintains an online database of Europe related grant opportunities and circulates a weekly newsletter to our entire list-serve (currently almost 300 recipients campus-wide) that includes announcements of relevant new grant opportunities.

Past and Future Hires

After two very hectic years with multiple hires the CES held just one search during the 2005-2006 academic year in European Anthropology (joint with the Department of Anthropology). The search was successfully completed and in January 2007 Maria Stoilkova (Ph.D. UC Berkeley, Post Doc at Columbia and currently working with the World Bank in DC and Bulgaria) will join the CES faculty. With this addition the CES will have 7 tenure-track faculty members, 5 of which are joint appointments, and 5 lecturers, one of which is currently a joint appointment.² While these numbers reflect substantial progress in developing strengths in European Studies across the College, there are still a number of important gaps that the CES hopes to fill over the next 3-4 years to strengthen our application for continued Title VI support in the next funding cycle and the upcoming application to the EU to become an EU Center of Excellence (in 2008).³

The CES focuses its development and growth along two linked, but different paths; areas studies and language programs. Within area studies there remain two critical weaknesses and a number of areas that would benefit substantially from additional hires. The two critical areas are Economics (EU) and Political Science (Western Europe). **Economics** poses the obvious difficulty that while there is a major in economics in the College; the actual department of Economics is in another College. I continue to hope that the Provost will provide the necessary support to insure that this very significant gap is filled. All plans to develop a Master's Degree in European Union Studies remain on hold until we can meet the increasing demand for courses specifically on the single market and common currency as well as other aspects of the global economic impact of the European Union.

The situation in **Political Science** is less problematic in that the department resides in the College, it is however, no less critical. As the current Director of the CES is the *only* faculty member in the department of Political Science with an exclusive focus on **Western Europe**, her absence from the classroom as a result of administrative duties has caused a near disastrous decline in the number and scope of Western European

² Ewa Wampuszyc (Polish) and Holly Raynard (Czech) had previously been jointly appointed with GSS and will most likely return to joint appointment status once the situation in that department has become normalized.

³ The next application for renewal will be due in October 2010.

courses being offered. Even arranging for the core course within the European Union Studies Minor to be taught on an annual basis is becoming increasingly difficult. Ideally, a tenure-track hire in Western European Politics would be made during the 2006-2007 academic year.⁴ If this is not feasible then efforts should be made to conduct a search for a 3-year Visiting Assistant Professor capable of teaching the core courses in Western Europe currently in danger of falling off the books as well as the necessary courses for the European Union Studies Minor.

Other areas within the College that would benefit substantially from new Europe-related hires are **Geography** (which currently is without anyone who specializes on Europe), **Religion** (ideally someone focusing on Islam in Europe) and **History** (contemporary Mediterranean or South Eastern Europe). Outside of the college a joint hire with the College of Law in **EU Law** would be a terrific boon for the CES and substantially increase the likelihood of obtaining an Interdisciplinary EU Center of Excellence award (€300,000 over 3 years) during the next funding cycle for that program (2008). However, the latter would also require the explicit support of the Provost due to its inter-collegiate character.

Having built substantial strengths in the Eastern European Languages of Czech, Hungarian and Polish as well as continuing to develop Modern Greek, the next cycle of the Title VI will focus on the languages of Southeastern Europe. In particular, following the very successful introduction of Turkish during 2005-2006 thanks to a visiting Fulbright scholar, the CES would like to conduct a search for a permanent **Turkish** Instructor, ideally during the 2006-2007 academic year to avoid any loss of momentum. In future years the Center will focus on **expanding Hungarian**, adding **Romanian** and potentially re-introducing **Swedish** or expanding our current **Dutch** language program in conjunction with the Utrecht summer program.

Center for European Studies Statistics (2005-2006)

Summary Statistics: Faculty and Staff

Total number of tenure track faculty members	6
Number of tenure track faculty members with portion of fte in other unit (include FTE percentage)	4 (.5FTE)
Number of lecturers	5
Number of non-tenure track faculty members (asst/assoc-ins, VAPs)	0
Number of research scientists	0
Number of staff (not engineers)	2.5
Number of engineers or laboratory technicians	0

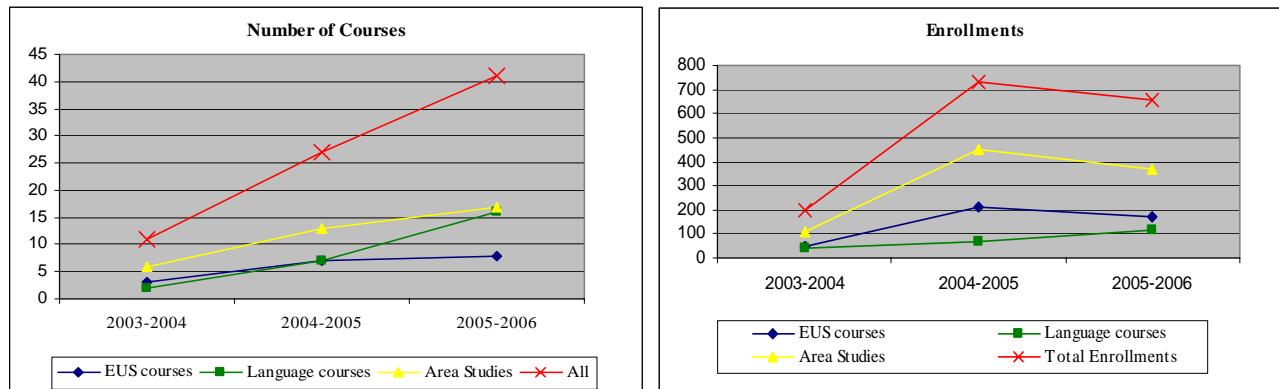
Summary Statistics: Graduate and Undergraduate Students*

Total number of graduate students supported in 2005 (Sum TAs +RAs)	5
(a) Number of teaching assistants in FTEs (see *)	0
(b) Number of research assistants supported on grants in FTEs	1.00 (3 x .33FTE)
Total number of EUSP Minors Completed	8
Total number of students currently registered for EUSP Minor	34
Total external research funding	\$279,320
Total awards private giving	\$4,335

*As the CES does not yet offer any graduate level degrees, the graduate students listed in this section are those that are being directly funded by the CES, but are enrolled in a variety of other departments across CLAS.

⁴ Notably, this lacuna is also felt by those within the Political Science department itself as evidenced by the fact that a new hire in Western Europe was unanimously selected as the priority hire within the field of Comparative Politics during their spring 2006 field meeting.

Course and Enrollment Growth



Number of Courses			
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
EUS courses	3	7	8
Lang. courses	2	7	16
Area Studies	6	13	17
All	11	27	41

Enrollments			
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
EUS courses	51	214	173
Lang. courses	38	68	115
Area Studies	111	453	369
Total	200	735	657

Current Space Usage and Projected Needs

The CES remains in temporary space with staff and core faculty currently housed in Anderson Hall, Dauer Hall, Keene Hall, Peabody Hall, and primarily in Burlington Hall (which is also the location of the main office). There are currently a total of seven CES controlled offices in Burlington Hall (3326A, 3338, 3340, 3343, 3345, 2323 and 2325) housing 7 of its current 11 faculty members, 2 of its 3 staff members and 4 grad student assistants.⁵ Beginning in Fall 2006 CES will be responsible for housing Tom Kostopolous (who has been in borrowed space in Dauer Hall for the past two years) and the CES Outreach Coordinator (which will become a full time appointment in CES from August 15th). In addition, the History Department has requested CES to provide an office for Peter Bergmann (whose assignment is officially 100% CES) and there is still not sufficient space to allow the Director of the Center to be housed with the rest of the staff.

Given the expected continued growth of CES faculty, and the need for the core staff to be housed together to facilitate an efficient work environment, cohesive space remains a primary concern for the Center. As a result of the inability for sufficient space to be allocated in the planned Pugh Building and the growing urgency of the space dilemma (as highlighted in the report of the external reviewer) the Center would like to reinstate its previous request to move into the space soon to be vacated by Women's Studies. The eventual goal would be to occupy the Women's Studies main office, the small suite next door (3326), which would be used to house our language programs⁶, as well as our current space at the other end of the hall (3338, 3340, 3343 and 3345). Though not ideal, this space configuration would enable the Center to adequately house current faculty and staff and permit the transference to the CES of Kostopolous, Bergmann, the outreach coordinator and the Director, all within a more or less contiguous space.

⁵ The remaining 4 faculty members are housed within History (Bergmann), Political Science (O'Dwyer), Classics (Kostopolous) and Sociology (Ceobanu) and the remaining staff person, who is the jointly appointed Outreach Coordinator (Kernaghan) is housed within UFIC.

⁶ These would include Polish (2), Czech (1-2), Hungarian (1), Turkish (1) and Modern Greek(1). However, it may not be possible to house all language faculty in this space given the need to provide an individual office to Filip.

Private Fund Raising

The CES has only recently begun to work in earnest with the Foundation to develop a strategy for increasing its fundraising activities. Although there have been a few small donations from members of local heritage communities totaling just over \$4,000, the Center itself has not yet been able to target specific donors for substantial contributions. Following a meeting with Norman Portillo and Kimberly Taylor the CES has developed a list of funding objectives and opportunities and is working with the Foundation staff to determine likely donors and other funding options.

In particular, in collaboration with Ms. Taylor, the CES is working to expand its search for grant-based external support through an examination of various private foundations and grant sponsoring organizations such as the Mott Foundation, Ford Foundation, Pew Charitable Trust and so forth. These efforts have only just begun and as of yet no appropriate specific competition or program has been located, but we will continue to investigate these options, including looking for foundations that target specific activities linked to a specific European country or language (such as the Kosciuszko Foundation).

The collaboration with Mr. Portillo is more complex and unlikely to be successful in the short term. Because the CES is new, we do not have an alumni base that we can turn to for financial support. As a result we have to work to locate likely opportunities of support within the general public and this is both a more time consuming and most likely less fruitful process. However, we will continue to work with the Foundation and, in particular, to coordinate with them to insure that they have adequate advance notice of CES activities. They will also be assisting our efforts by scheduling speaking engagements that will promote the Center and provide information to the general public that might be interested in supporting CES activities (for example at the Gainesville Rotary Club or Chamber of Commerce).

Interdisciplinary Programs, Joint Faculty, and International Initiatives

By definition everything that the CES does is fundamentally interdisciplinary and international in nature. In addition, the majority of our faculty are joint appointments, which further facilitates the interdisciplinary activities of the Center overall. The table below highlights a few of the activities of the CES during the 2005-2006 academic year that are both emblematic of its overall range of international and interdisciplinary activities and have not been discussed above.

Speakers and Conferences

Co-sponsored several international conferences including:

- Conference on the African Diaspora in Europe (with Center for African Studies)
- Conference on Religion and Nature (with the Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture)
- Workshop on the links between political institutions in Europe and Beyond (with the Jean Monnet Chair)
- Film Series on "Recent Social, Cultural and Political Changes on the Eastern fringe of Europe (with the Harn)

Funded campus visits by over two-dozen speakers representing fields from across CLAS (Political Science, -Germanic and Slavic Studies, English, Women's Studies, History, Romance Languages and Literature) as well as the College of Fine Arts, the College of Architecture and Engineering and the Business School.

Academic Programs

- Funded the development or enhancement of 9 courses including 2 new FLACs
- Provided financial and administrative support to the Brussels, Prague and Salzburg summer study abroad programs, including funding 3 undergraduate scholarships

Faculty and Graduate Research and Development

- Funded 6 faculty research and travel grants
- Funded 6 graduate research and travel grants
- Funded 2 graduate students to develop and teach new courses

Other Issues

Despite the overall success of the CES, there are a number of outstanding issues that require attention in both the short and long-term. In particular, the absence of senior faculty members, which was noted in the final report of the external evaluator in October 2005, remains a significant problem. The Director is currently the only tenured faculty member in the Center, and while this will change within the next year or two, the overall balance between senior and junior faculty members will continue to be a concern. The bias towards junior faculty results in a high level of service activity for junior faculty, an absence of strong mentorship opportunities *within the CES*, and negatively impacts the capacity of the CES to develop its graduate programs.

In addition, a concerted effort to standardize the contracts and relative rights and responsibilities of CES faculty (at both the tenure track and lecturer levels) has become increasingly necessary. This includes clarifying the advisory role of the Center in tenure decisions (and implications of a disagreement between the Center and the tenure home), clearly specifying the relative authority of the CES in the course assignment process, and the development of norms and procedures to insure greater communication and collaboration in the assignment of service activities, research leave etc between departments and the Center.

Finally, serious attention should be given to the question of a successor for the Director. At the moment there is no one with enough seniority among the CES faculty and a clear successor drawn from the college at large is not yet evident. Given the complexity of the Title VI program and the high level of administrative activity associated with the Director's position it is critical to think carefully about a successor. Poor transitions and loss of administrative support are the two most common causes of loss of funding among Title VI centers historically. It may be necessary to consider an external search as was conducted for both the Latin American Studies Center and the Center for African Studies. This does imply a significant cost, however, and needs to be incorporated into the long-term considerations of the College and the Center.

DEPARTMENT OR UNIT: CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES**Requests for new hires in 2006-07**

Tenure track lines	
(a) Junior	1
(b) Senior --- Associate to Full	0
Lecturers*	1-3
Staff lines*	
(a) Office staff	.25
(b) Engineers or related	0

* Please note that staff and lecturer hires are included in matching funds committed in the Title VI renewal proposal submitted November 2005.

Requests for additional OPS support for graduate students

Cost for new FTE equivalents	\$24,000 (2 x \$12,000)
Cost for additional tuition waivers	\$0 (from provost)
Cost for increased stipends	\$2,500
Total cost	\$26,500

Projections for 2006-07

Total number of expected incoming graduate students, fall 06 supported through departmental funds (State TA, Alumni, etc.)	6-8
Total number of all expected incoming graduate students, fall '06	6-8

Funds requested to carry forward

State Budget 2005-06 (current fiscal year)

Base OPS budget	
Salary rate for a 0.33 FTE TA	\$12,000
Total number of TAs supported	2
Total number of tuition waivers	0 (from provost)
Total Alumni Fellowships	0
Base OE budget	\$11,000