

WESTWORD IS THE  
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
OF WEST EUROPEAN  
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# West Word

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## WEST Embraces IU's International Strategic Plan

Dear Friends of WEST,

Here at WEST, we are excited about Indiana University's new international strategic initiative. Within weeks of taking office last July, IU President Michael McRobbie signaled his intent to cast Indiana University as a truly global university. He created a new position, Vice-President of International Affairs, and appointed Patrick O'Meara,



**Dr. Patricia McManus, Interim Director of West European Studies**

longtime dean for International Programs, to the post. In December, Vice-President O'Meara presented IU's new international strategy. The plan hinges on a four-pronged approach: (1) global education and service learning abroad; (2) institutional engagement; (3) faculty research; and (4) international development and out-

reach.

What does this mean for West European Studies? New linkages on campus, new linkages across the U.S., and new linkages in Europe and beyond. The longstanding commitment to European studies at Indiana University already motivates interdisciplinary and cross-campus linkages. West European

Studies works closely with Indiana University's European Center for Excellence on programs such as last summer's "Europe in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" travel course to Paris, Brussels, Warsaw, and Berlin, and the annual Midwest Model EU coordinated by IUPUI Political Scientist John McCormick. This April, (*cont'd page 2*)

## For Better or Worse, Europe's Economic Future Tied to Euro



*Euro bank notes, unlike coins, adhere to a universal design common to all member states*

Popular fears of recession loom, consumption levels among American consumers are down, and the price of gasoline recently broke the psychologically significant price of \$100 per barrel. Domestically, Americans have certainly seen better times. And yet, foreign prospects in some ways appear to be just as bleak, thanks in large measure to the increasing clout that Europe's common currency commands on today's global market—the Euro.

The origins of Europe's common currency has its roots all the way back in 1957 and the signing of the Treaty of Rome, a process which set in motion closer economic policy coordination throughout Europe. As different member states' economies became increasingly integrated, stable, and more open, the idea of a universal European currency began to take shape. (*cont'd page 3*)

## From the Director's Desk: Patricia McManus

teams from fourteen college campuses in Indiana, Michigan, Missouri and Wisconsin will come to Indianapolis to participate. WEST also co-operates with other U.S. universities on our expanding set of summer language programs. Last year's Summer Dutch Institute was a resounding success on the Bloomington campus, and this coming summer it will move to the University of Minnesota before returning to Bloomington under the direction of Esther Ham in 2009. Summer, 2009 will also bring the summer programs of the National Institution for Summer Scandinavian Studies (NISS) to Bloomington for the first time, under the direction of Norwegian Studies Coordinator Gergana May. These programs are successful because they rely on institutional linkages that support intensive summer language study in less commonly taught languages on a rotating basis. In the international arena, Indiana University's ties to European universities such as Free University and Hamburg University in Germany, the University of Seville in Spain, and the Consortium of Alsatian Universities in France currently provide our faculty and students opportunities for short-term exchange visits. West European Studies will forge new ties across campus and worldwide as we move forward with IU's international initiative.

Meanwhile, West European Studies has had a busy and productive year. Selected highlights: Last fall the Scandinavian Study Group organized a film series to commemorate Ingmar Bergman and brought in University of Washington Professor Chr-

stine Ingebritsen for a week-long series of events. In November, Journalism Professor Christine Ogan organized a one-day conference on "Media Hybridity and Migration," centered on Muslim and immigrant use of media. The conference featured, among other things, a film showing and talk on transnational mobility by Deniz Gokturk of the University of California-Berkeley German Department, who spent her early years as a Turkish immigrant in Germany. This academic year, West European Studies' lecture funds have provided support for nearly two dozen speakers on topics ranging from arts and culture in the individual countries of Western Europe to the politics, economy and society of the European Union and its member states. This past week, Harvard's Jason Beckfield spoke on the welfare state consequences of European integration, and Daniel Benjamin of the Brookings Institution spoke on the European Union's role in the Middle East peace process. There is still much to come this spring. WEST will co-sponsor a conference on immigration and right wing parties in Europe this April, a conference on "Security in Global Port Cities" in early May, and much more. Our full calendar of activities is listed each week on the WEST website, which is currently undergoing a thorough overhaul. The new website is set to be unveiled by the end of March 2008. Let us know what you think!

-Dr. Patricia McManus

## WEST Sponsors Workshop on "Islam and Immigration"

Integration, assimilation, media representations and head scarves are among the issues WEST has engaged in the recent months. As Muslim communities in Western Europe continue to grow and transform, WEST has been at the forefront in bringing these issues to light.

"Incorporating Culture in the Language Classroom: Islam in Europe" is



*2007 "Islam and Immigration" Summer Workshop Participants*

a noteworthy example. With support from The Departments of French and Italian, Germanic Studies and Spanish and Portuguese, WEST sponsored this two-day interactive workshop for junior and high school teachers of West European languages last June. The 37 teach participants developed lesson plans in their target languages using the unique (cont'd page 6)

## Euro (cont'd from 1)

Throughout the 1970s and 80s several attempts were made to create a single currency but economic instability thwarted such efforts. In the 1990's, the economies of the EU became more economically stable which led the way for the signing of the Maastricht Treaty, which sought to further economic integration between member states and introduce a single European currency.

Since its launch in 1999 in electronic form for use by banks, stockbrokers and foreign exchange dealers, the history of the Euro's development as Europe's trans-national currency has been a turbulent one. Initially fixed at an exchange rate of 1.17:1 against the dollar, the currency experienced a precipitous decline in its first two years, falling to a record low of \$0.84 on the eve of President Bush's first term in November 2000. It would hover around that value until its much anticipated conversion into a cash currency in January 2002. Since that time, the Euro has soared establishing itself, next to the dollar, as one of the most stable currencies in the world. Europeans are flocking to the U.S. in large numbers to flex the newfound purchasing power of the Euro at malls and designer stores across the nation.

And yet, the meteoric ascent in the Euro's worth against the dollar does not have all Europeans celebrating in the streets. Some, including the president of the European Central Bank Jean-Claude Trichet, see the surge in Europe's currency as potentially damaging to European business. As recently as

November 2007 Trichet remarked, "I have observed moves that I would say were undoubtedly sharp and abrupt...and I said already that brutal moves were never welcome." Sharp fluctuations can be particularly hard on longstanding contracts agreed upon in an altogether fiscal environment. European exports have also been adversely affected by the Euro's marked strength vis-à-vis the dollar, as has the European tourism industry generally.



*Blueprint detailing the construction of the Euro symbol*

The Euro has even registered an impact in American popular culture. Rumors circulated in August 2007 that in her latest contract, Brazilian supermodel and current flame of New England Patriot's quarterback Tom Brady Gisele Bündchen demanded payment in Euros over dollars in response to the latter's diminished clout on the global financial market. Gone, too, are the days when Jay-Z flashed "Benjamin's" in his music videos; in one of his more recent videos entitled "Blue Magic," the rapper opted instead for a fistfuls of 500 Euro notes.



*Euro coins have both a common side and national side designed by the respective host countries*

The Euro's power on the global economy is remarkable, especially considering the short amount of time that the currency has been in existence. IU Chancellor's Professor of Economics Professor Roy Gardner has described the implementation of the Euro as "breathtaking," saying that its success "has exceeded even the most wildly optimistic expectations." The Euro is the official currency of 15 countries, up from 13 last year. It has overtaken the dollar to become the world's biggest currency for bonds. Gardner added, "as globalization continues it is the obvious contender for IPO's and equities, not just bonds." Among reserve currencies adopted by world governments, the Euro is second only to the US dollar; and that could change in the near future. According to former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, it is "absolutely conceivable that the Euro will replace the dollar as reserve currency, or will be traded as an equally important reserve currency," a not insignificant possibility as reserve currencies are often highly sought after for their stability and economic strength. The increased diversification of foreign governments from dollars to Euros illustrates the high level of confidence that the Euro has achieved globally. *(images taken from Wikipedia)*

## WEST Alumni Update: Robert Antis



Dr. Robert Antis earned his M.A. from West European Studies in June 1980 while serving as a First Lieutenant in the Army as part of his training to become a European Foreign Officer. Following his graduate work at IU, Antis spent six months in Germany as an artillery unit commander, ultimately serving as a liaison officer with the German Territorial Army in Wiesbaden, Germany. Following this assignment in Europe, he returned to the United States and began work at Joint Forces Staff College (JFSC) to instruct officers from all military serves on strategy and “to help prepare them for more senior assignments.”

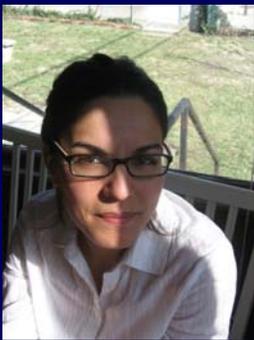
In 1997, Antis began working on his Ph.D. in International Studies at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. His dissertation, entitled “The Reinvention of NATO,” grew out of an interest in European security

and integration traceable all the way back to his time in West European Studies.

Antis currently teaches as part of a new Master’s Degree Program at JFSC, focusing specifically on strategy and national security issues. Now 28 years removed from IU Antis still shares a story from his time at WEST with his new writing students:

“During my first semester I was taking a class on European institutions taught by IU Professor Political Science, Norman Furniss. Coming from a three year assignment in Germany, my research and writing skills were a bit rusty to say the least. I still vividly remember getting my first paper back from Prof. Furniss...I’m fairly certain he’d done more writing in the white space than I’d done for my entire paper. Yet all of his comments were helpful and mentoring....just what I needed at that point!”

## WEST Faculty in the Spotlight: Estela Vieira



WEST is pleased to announce the addition of Dr. Estela Vieira, Assistant Professor of Portuguese, to the ever-growing ranks of IU scholars working on Western Europe. A native of Portugal, Professor Vieira earned her B.A. and M.A. from the University of Virginia in 1997 and 2001, respectively. Her special interest in both Lusophone and Hispanic literatures eventually took her to Yale University where she received her Ph.D. in 2006. Her dissertation explored interior space in 19th century novels from Portugal, Spain and Portugal focusing on how the inhabited place becomes a site of changing social, ontological and narrative approaches.

As one of a handful of scholars working on Portuguese topics, Professor Vieira casts a wide net, a fact well reflected both in her teaching and research interests. In the latter vein, she has written extensively on catastrophe with a particular focus on literary and philosophical responses to the Lisbon earth-

quake of 1755. Although Professor Vieira has maintained a firm commitment-to comparative Luso-Spanish-Brazilian culture and literature, the range or her research interests are anything but fixed. Future projects evince considerable interest in a number of topics, including a study of the dead narrator in literature, and next year she will teach a course on Portugal’s most widely recognized Renaissance writer, Luis Vaz de Camões (1524-1580).

While students nationally tend to face a limited number of opportunities to learn about Portuguese language and culture, IU students face no such shortage. Dr. Vieira currently teaches ‘19th Century Literature: City and Country,’ which examines the relationship between modernity and tradition in Portuguese literature. She is joined by Professor Darlene Sadlier and Assistant Professor Luciana Namorato in regularly offering courses in Lusophone literature and culture.

## WEST Faculty Accomplishments

**Matthew Auer** (SPEA) recently published (2007) "More Aid, Better Institutions, or Both," in *Sustainability Science*, 2 (2), 189-197. Auer also served as Keynote Speaker, at "Policy Sciences for the Positively Trained," at the Policy Sciences Annual Institute, Claremont, CA: Claremont McKenna College, October 25-27, 2007.

**Hannah Buxbaum** (Law) presented two invited lectures: *Private Enforcement of Antitrust Law*, Conference on Economic Law as an Economic Good, Düsseldorf, Germany (November 2007) and *National Jurisdiction Over Global Business Networks*, Ninth Annual Earl Snyder Lecture, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, Cambridge, England (October 2007).

**Domenico Bertoloni Meli** (History & Philosophy of Science) was recently elected to the *International Academy of the History of Science* and presented papers at The University of Pittsburgh's annual History of Science Society Meeting in DC and The University of Macerata and Florence Museum of the History of Science, respectively.

**Kirsten Grønberg** (SPEA) delivered a paper entitled "Burrowing into the Nonprofit Dark Matter: Or Why Nonprofit Organizations Are Not Registered with the IRS" at the annual meetings of *ARNOVA*, Atlanta, GA, November 15-17, 2007.

**David Hakken** (Informatics) received a two month visiting professorship at the University of Trento in Italy where, among other things, he will be working with researchers in the School of Information and Communications Technology on a book that addresses globalization and ICTs in development.

**Owen Johnson** (Journalism) began teaching a new School of Journalism course on World War II correspondent Ernie Pyle. For spring break, thirty students (five grad and 25 undergrad) will travel to London, Normandy and Paris. To assist in course development, the Bloomington campus provided a development grant for the course last summer.

**Eileen Julien** (French & Italian) gave "Frantz Fanon, Poet" at an international colloquium, *Penser Aujourd'hui à Partir de Frantz Fanon*, Université Paris Diderot - Paris, November 30 - December 1, 2007.

**Bret Rothstein** (Fine Arts) has published "Looking the part: ruminative viewing and the imagination of community in the early modern Low Countries," *Art History*, 30 (1) [January 2008]. A forthcoming chapter will appear as "Movable feasts of reason: description, intelligence, and the excitation of sight," in C.

Göttler, ed. *Spirits Unseen: The Representation of Subtle Bodies in Early Modern European Culture* (Intersections: Yearbook for Early Modern Studies, vol. 9) (Brill, 2008), pp. 47-70.

**Darlene Sadlier** (Spanish & Portuguese) published "ABC de Cecilia Meireles" in *Ensaio sobre Cecília Meireles*, ed. Leila Gouvêa. São Paulo: Humanitas/Fapesp, 2007. 239-261 and "Paradise Gained: Dutch Representations of Brazil from 1585 to 1668," in *Tradições Portuguesas/Portuguese Traditions*, eds. Francisco Cota Fagundes and Irene Maria F. Blayer, São José: Portuguese Heritage Publications of California, 2007. 343-353.

**Joseph Sobrer** (Spanish & Portuguese) published "J. V. Foix=s 'Si pugués acordar Raó i Follia.'" *Cien años de poesía catalana, gallega y vasca*. Joana Sabadell-Nieto et al., eds. *Cien años de poesía*. Berne: Peter Lang, 2007 and participated in a Symposium on translations of the work of Mercè Rodoreda. Barcelona: Institució de les Lletres Catalanes and Institut d'Estudis Catalans.

**Dina Spechler** (Political Science) published her latest article with Leonid Karabeshkin (Estonia), "EU and NATO Enlargement: Russia Expectations, Responses and Options for the Future," in the latest issue of (#3-4, 2007) *European Security*, pp. 307-28.

**William Scheuerman** (Political Science) completed the manuscript for *Frankfurt School Perspectives on Globalization, Democracy and the Law*, newly released by Routledge. In addition, Scheuerman published "Realism and the Left: The Case of Hans J. Morgenthau," *Review of International Studies* (January 2008), "Was Morgenthau a Realist? Revisiting Scientific Man vs. Power Politics," *Constellations*, Vol. 14, No. 4 (December 2007) and "Präsidialdemokratie und Ausnahmezustand in den USA nach dem 11. September," in *Mittelweg* 36 (December 2007).

**Martin Spechler** (Economics) has a new book due to appear in April entitled, *The Political Economy of Reform in Central Asia*, published by Routledge. In addition, his article, "Central Asia between West and East," which considers EU policy on its eastern borders will be published soon in the Carl Beck Papers of the University of Pittsburgh.

**Reyes Vila-Belda** (Spanish and Portuguese) has been awarded a Summer Faculty Fellowship 2008 for her project "Censorship and Fuertes' Poetic Construction of the Voice of the Working Class." (*cont'd*)

presented a paper, “Antonio Machado y el proceso de inclusión en el canon”, at the First Conference on Spanish and Hispanic-American Poetry organized by the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, November 8-10, 2007.

**Steven Wagschal** (Spanish & Portuguese) delivered “Arte popular, retórica culta: hacia una reivindicación de la poesía de Cervantes” at the Society for Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry Biennial Conference, Universidad de Córdoba, Spain, October 17-20, 2007.

## 2007 Summer Teacher Workshop

cultural insights on Islam offered by the workshop. Dr. Mohamed Esa of McDaniel College opened the workshop with an overview of the history of Islam in Europe, paying particular attention to the current situations of Muslim communities in France, Germany and Spain. One participant commented,

“Mohamed Esa’s presentation about Islam was very informative and enlightening. This coverage of the political and personal impacts of Islamic immigration in Europe was much appreciated.” After the plenary session, teachers broke

out into their target language groups and engaged in interactive discussions piloted by a team of experts. In addition to hands on lesson planning, participants had the opportunity to visit the mosque at the Islamic Center of Bloomington, enjoy authentic Moroccan cuisine and entertainment at Casablanca Café and catch a screening of the 2003 Dutch film, ‘Het Schnitzelparadis.’

Continuing the commitment to understanding Islam in Europe, WEST co-sponsored the “Media, Hybridity and Migration” conference with the School of Journalism in December. The daylong conference, under the direction of IU Professor of Informatics and Journalism,

Christine Ogan, addressed the issue of migrating ethnic groups and their use of different media outlets.

Among the panel of international scholars was Leen d’Haenens, Professor from the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium and Raboud University Nijmegen in the Netherlands.

Professor d’Haenens focused on immigrant family use of Internet communication technology and how this technology has influenced communication within the ethnic communities. D’Haenens also discussed the disparity between

what the immigrant population in the Netherlands wants, on the one hand, out of the media and what they receive on the other. WEST graduate student Tristan Reitz commented, “All the speakers did a wonderful job. The conference really highlighted the importance that immigration and media have and will continue to play in the future of Europe.”

Also participating in the conference were Marwan Kraidy of the University of Pennsylvania and Deniz Goturk of the University of California-Berkeley. Preparations for the 2008 Summer Teachers Workshop are currently being finalized. Please stay tuned to the WEST website as more information becomes available. If past workshops like last summer’s serve as any guide, it promises to be a successful one!



*2007 Summer Workshop Participants  
Enjoyed a Night of Authentic Moroccan  
Cuisine*

“The conference really highlighted the importance that immigration will continue to play in the future of Europe.”

-IU WEST Grad Student Tristan Reitz



## WEST Student Accomplishments

**Wendy Westphal** (Germanic Studies doctoral student, WEST Minor) presented a paper on December 29, 2007 at the MLA Convention in Chicago, entitled "'Memories of the 'Zonenmädchen' - Women's Narratives of Growing Up in the GDR: Zonenkinder, Schokoladenkind and Meine freie deutsche Jugend."

**Daniel Craig** (History, French & Political Science, WEST Minor) was accepted into the US Department of State internship program in the Bureau of European and Eurasian affairs. He will serve in the capacity of intern of International Relations and Economics with the US Diplomatic Mission to France at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris, France from March until the end of May.

**Jeanne Power** (WEST Minor) recently completed a fellowship program at WNET-TV in New York on the international documentary series *Wide Angle*. She has now begun a term as a reporter at WTHI-TV in Terre Haute, Indiana.

**Chris Molnar** (History doctoral student, WEST Minor) recently delivered the conference paper "Racism Without Races: German Perceptions of *Gastarbeiter*, 1961-1973" at The Great Lakes History Conference at Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI on October 27, 2007.

## WEST Social and Outreach Activities

Clancy Clements, Professor of Hispanic Linguistics participated in an Interactive Video Conference on Irish musical instruments with Glenwood Middle School in Evansville November 14.

The 2007 International Festival attracted over 10,000 educators, students and spectators to Indianapolis November 15- 18. WEST graduate assistants Brendan Fay, Paul Pass and Tia Trueblood assisted with the IUB Area Studies booth.

The European Union was the topic of an interactive video conference with North Central High School in Indianapolis December 7. The panel from IUB included WEST MA student Paul Pass, PhD students Nick Clark and Jean Bertrand-Ribat and EU Center Assistant Director Jeff Pennington.

Norwegian instructor Gergana May and WEST MA student Tia Trueblood presented holiday traditions of Norway and France at Rogers Elementary December 11.

Ivy Tech Community College hosted "A Diversity Experience" December 4. WEST M.A. student Paul Pass and Graduate Assistant Brendan Fay were in attendance.

On January 8, WEST Interim Director Patricia McManus presented "International Migration in a Globalizing Economy" at Meadowood Retirement Community.

The Swedish Heritage Community in Carmel IN enjoyed a lecture by Norwegian Instructor Gergana May on February 3. May gave a lecture about Swedish playwright August Strindberg.

In February, M.A. students Christine McGinley and Tia Trueblood, and Ph.D candidate Heidi Bludau presented on Carnival Traditions in Western Europe at the Bell Trace Senior Living Community, Red Bud Retirement Community and Stonebelt Facilities.

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