

# WEST Points

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## From the Director's Desk By Dr. Fritz Breithaupt, Director of West European Studies

**D**ear friends of WEST, More than ever in the past century, the future of Western Europe will be shaped by migration and immigration. And it is right now a very open question whether this future will be remembered by the images of burning cars in Paris or from a position in which xenophobia appears to be as incomprehensible and outdated as witch hunts—notably during the reign of King James I of England in the 17th century—seem to us now. In response to the challenges that Western Europe faces, we have decided to prioritize three larger themes for the coming years: immigration, Islam, and languages. You can expect to see a lot of initiatives, courses, conferences, workshops, and publications addressing these themes. Our completely renewed website will keep you posted on our ongoing activities.



Beginning in June 2006, we will also host annual summer workshops for language teachers of the Midwest with sections for French, German, and Spanish. In most school systems in the United States, the trend is to reduce the diversity in foreign language courses. For example, it is not uncommon in the Midwest to see that high schools choose to close either French or German tracks, or, if they still have it, other languages such as Italian. This is an alarming trend. Our aim is to build a network between language teachers from many schools and to support existing ones—such as the very active American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) and the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG)—to build a lobby of support to maintain the diversity in language offerings, and to communicate up-to-date information and ideas to the teachers of West European languages.

Indiana University was once again recognized for its excellence in international studies. Among 500 applicants, our university was the winner of the Goldman Sachs Award of 2005 in higher education. The prize was awarded in December 2005 for three programs in particular, and West European Studies is involved in two of them: the International Summer Studies Institute, which brings a dozen or so teachers from around the world and from all parts of the United States together for a two-week seminar, and the Cultural Immersion Program by the School of Education that sends student teachers and veteran teachers for 4-8 weeks to international locations, including Spain, England, and Scotland.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Melissa Gjellstad and the Norwegian Program

### By Ryan Mainhardt, WEST MA student

**M**elissa Gjellstad wanted to be a doctor. Norwegian was supposed to be a break from the grind of biology, chemistry, biochemistry, developmental biology, and any other chem. or bio class one takes en route to medical school. But somewhere along the way, Norwegian became the focus and medical school became a memory. Melissa may not have an MD, but she still became a doctor—of Scandinavian language and literature.

Gjellstad attended undergraduate school at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, and received a BA in Biology and Scandinavian Studies in 1998. She took Norwegian “to fulfill a language requirement,” not fathoming the possible career path such a language would open. After an internship during the spring of 1998 in Norway working in a biochemistry lab, she made a decision about what she did *not* want to do for a living.

“I decided after (interning in a biochemistry lab) I didn’t want to work in a lab my entire life,” said Gjellstad.

Gjellstad spent 1998 at the University of Oslo in Norway, deciding after that to pursue Norwegian instead of biology. She received her MA (2000) and PhD (2004) in Scandinavian Language and Literature from the University of Washington-Seattle, one of only five universities in the United States with such a PhD program.

Gjellstad joined the Department of Germanic Studies in August 2005 as a lecturer and Coordinator of Norwegian Language and Culture.

“It’s exciting that IU is starting the program at a time when less commonly taught languages are being cut (from other universities),” said Gjellstad. “It’s fantastic that IU is investing in this language because Scandinavian languages ought to be taught at an institution that values foreign language instruction.” IU currently boasts almost 50 different language tracks.

Since the Norwegian program is being built from the ground up (much like the Dutch program was resurrected by Esther Ham in 2001), Gjellstad has the unique opportunity to see the program grow under her

watch, something that attracted her to IU in the first place. That opportunity did not exist at any of the established Scandinavian language programs.

Gjellstad has plans for where she wants to take the program, but she is starting small. Increasing enrollment and visibility, developing a minor program, and developing culture and area studies courses are the most important preliminary steps for growth according to Gjellstad. She also plans to cooperate with the Dutch program and faculty with re-



search interests focused on Northern Europe.

Gjellstad is modeling her approach to build the Norwegian program after Ham’s due to the success of the Dutch program (now in its fifth year under Ham).

“Esther is a great inspiration and a role model,” said Gjellstad.

Other plans for the Norwegian program include joining the National Institute of Summer Scandinavian Study and working closely with other experts and faculty who incorporate Scandinavia into their teaching.

One challenge for the Norwegian program will be attracting students to take the language, luring them away from the traditional Spanish, French,

German tri-ecta of most commonly taught European languages. Why would anyone from the United States want to study Norwegian? Norway is only inhabited by about 4.5 million people, and is not in the European Union.

While both of these are true, neither is an explanation as to why students should not consider studying Norwegian.

“Norway is an integral part of Europe, especially in areas of peace research, energy (hydroelectric, oil, and renewable resources), aquaculture, and diplomatic relations,” said Gjellstad. “By learning Norwegian, you get to learn about the inter-workings of a pivotal Northern European nation.”

And although Norway is not in the European Union (and has actually passed two referenda not to participate in it), it is nevertheless an important trade and defense partner (as a member of NATO). And who knows, Norway may become a part of the EU someday.

“The fact that Norwegian is not commonly taught is part of its appeal,” said Gjellstad. If students want to take it and are driven to learn Norwegian, “people can figure out how to fit it into their studies, whether it is medicine, international politics, film studies, etc.”

Another appealing characteristic of Norwegian is its grammar structure. According to Gjellstad, Norwegian reads like Danish and sounds like

Swedish, and verbs do not have to be conjugated. Anyone familiar with a Romance or Slavic language knows the difficulties of verb conjugation. And since IU

does not offer Danish or Swedish, learning Norwegian is an excellent bridge to understanding and communicating with other Scandinavians.

When asked if she is entertaining the prospect of attracting Danish and Swedish lecturers to the program,

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*“It’s exciting that IU is starting the Norwegian program at a time when less commonly taught languages are being cut.”*

# Radical Islam in the Netherlands

By WEST MA student Ryan Mainhardt and Dutch professor Esther Ham

Islam and Muslim immigration have been pertinent issues in the Netherlands (and throughout Europe) for much of the latter part of the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first. The 1960s spawned a wave of Muslim immigrants in the form of Turkish guest workers, followed by guest workers from Yugoslavia, Morocco, and Tunisia (beginning in 1963), as well as immigrants from the former Dutch colonies of Suriname, Antilles, and Indonesia. As of January 2005, almost 358,000 Turks and nearly 315,000 Moroccans reside in the Netherlands.

Yet like many other European nations, the Muslims of the Netherlands have come under scrutiny since September 11, 2001. A nation still considered tolerant by many standards finds itself engaging in some behavior similar to that in the United States: tracking Internet usage for suspected terrorists, developing a system to report suspicious behavior that in a

way is ethnic profiling, and monitoring Muslim religious services in mosques themselves are a few examples. Language requirements have also changed. Since 9/11, Turkish is not allowed at all in many schools (a rule existing prior to 9/11 but now strictly followed), and the government has a greater stake in funding immigrant education, especially in learning Dutch.

These educational measures have been fueled by not only the perception created post-9/11 and post-Madrid bombing in March 2004, but also by recognizing one possible cause of radical Islam in Europe. That is, uneducated second- and third-generation Muslims from Turkey, Morocco, Tunisia, Bosnia, Suriname, etc., feel a cultural disconnect with their parents. They are not quite Turkish or Moroccan enough to

be fully accepted by their parents' native land, and despite being born in the Netherlands, they are not quite Dutch either. This identity crisis combined with a high dropout rate, the tendency to form social groups (or gangs, if one prefers), a feeling of abandonment by Dutch society, and a general surplus of idle time, can lead to counterproductive activities within their communities.

One must understand, however, that radical Islam is not taught in mosques; people do not learn how to become terrorists at their places of

*One must understand that radical Islam is not taught in mosques.*

worship in the Netherlands (although a Muslim priest in Eindhoven was recently expelled for tolerating the *jihad* message). The Internet has become a valuable tool for networking and disseminating information, and radical Islam is no exception. The amount of extremist Islam websites has grown considerably since 9/11, and since many times the source of the website is not in the Netherlands, the Dutch government is powerless to tear down the site and punish possible terrorist activity.

Radical Islam represents a minute fraction of followers in the Netherlands (and Europe in general). But as one bad apple spoils the bunch, so do the fourteen-or-so suspects recently accused of belonging to a radical terrorist network spoil the image of Islam in the Netherlands. Known as the Hofstad group, this bunch (some born in the Netherlands, some illegal immigrants) is currently standing trial for a slew of charges that tie them to terrorist activity. One of the alleged masterminds of the group, 27-year-old Mohammed Bouyeri, is standing his second trial this year. He was convicted in July of killing director Theo Van Gogh in November 2004, a crime committed out of Bouyeri's own religious conviction. Van Gogh, a staunch critic of radical Islam, produced a short film depicting a Muslim woman with Koran scripture written on her back, arms, and chest, and another apparently having been severely beaten by her husband. The

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Stave church in Norway.

## Gjellstad *(Continued from page 2)*

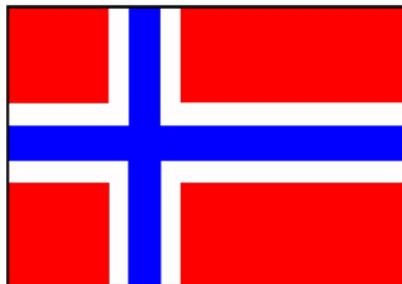
Gjellstad emphasized the importance of first creating a strong Norwegian program.

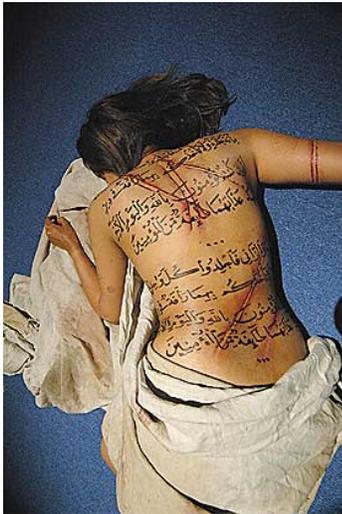
"The focus of culture classes will be pan-Scandinavian, but we must focus on building up Norwegian first," said Gjellstad. "The potential for this pro-

gram is phenomenal, and institutional support is critical. It has taken incredible institutional support to establish the groundwork for the existence of this program; without the work of Kari Ellen Gade and others, I wouldn't be here!"

Hopefully in a few years that institutional support (from WEST, Germanic Studies, and the College of Arts & Sciences) will still be strong, and the Norwegian program, with Dr. Gjellstad at the helm, will be attracting students from all disciplines interested in learning a not-so-common language.

"You never know where it will take you," said Gjellstad.





Still photo from Theo Van Gogh's short film Submission.

**Radical Islam** (Continued from page 3)

short film (which lasts barely more than three minutes) can be seen here: <http://www.ifilm.com/ifilmdetail/2655656?htv=12>.

Van Gogh's death was unsettling in more ways than one. Besides being killed in broad daylight and, accord-

ing to *The Australian*, nearly decapitated, his body was also left with a message impaled on a knife. That message, about five pages long, declared holy war on the Netherlands and threatened death to other public figures deemed "enemies of Islam." One of these public figures is Ayaan Hirsi Ali, an outspoken Dutch Member of Parliament and Somali immigrant. Not only was Ali supportive of Van Gogh's film, but she is also backing a new film about the lack of tolerance of homosexuals in the Muslim community. In fact, her party leader has asked her to be less candid in her comments, as she almost always seems to create a firestorm of controversy. Not long ago she returned from hiding after her life was threatened by the people who killed Van Gogh.



Dutch MP Ayaan Hirsi Ali

So how does the Netherlands han-

dle the suddenly dangerous climate for politicians and the opposition of radical Islam? One way is through educating the population, both Muslim and non-Muslim. The government should continue funding language courses for immigrants. Beyond education and creating job opportunities, it is up to the people to decide how they want to deal with radical Islam. Terrorism will never be eradicated—there are simply too many groups with too many grievances against too many people. But those second-generation immigrants must decide whether to devote their lives to radicalism or to the Dutch community as a whole, and the white Dutch population must decide whether they will maintain their reputation of tolerance and facilitate cooperation with immigrants and the Muslim population.

## Captured General Not the End of Croatia's EU Struggles

By Ryan Mainhardt, WEST MA student

**G**eneral Ante Gotovina is no longer sought by the International Crimes Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). On the night of December 7, 2005, Gotovina was arrested in the Canary Islands after five years on the lam, wanted for allegedly failing to prevent the murder of 150 Serbs during Croatia's August 1995 push against Serb forces in the Krajina region (Operation Storm). Gotovina will be extradited to The Hague before the end of the month.

December 7 will now be known as the day Croatia proved all its critics wrong; that despite constant criticism from ICTY chief prosecutor Carla del Ponte and some European Union members that Zagreb was not doing all it could to locate Gotovina, Zagreb was in fact doing all it could to locate Gotovina. It will be the day that proves once and for all that Croatian President Stjepan Mesić and Prime Minister Ivo Sanader were telling the

truth when they said Gotovina was not hiding in Croatia. December 7 will also be the day that marks the end of the dark cloud that Brussels has hung over the head of Croatia; the one unresolved condition has been resolved. Everything from here on out is smooth sailing.

**There are still plenty of road blocks that could delay Croatia's accession by 2009.**

Not so fast.

Gen. Gotovina may no longer be an issue, but there are still plenty of road blocks that could delay Croatia's accession to the EU by 2009. There is still that not-so-small matter of intense negotiations between Zagreb

and Brussels which began with the screening phase in October. Brussels and Zagreb will negotiate 35 areas of law, beginning with Science and Research. The process of negotiations is tougher for Croatia (and Turkey) in the sense that there are four more chapters (up from 31) for these countries than for Romania and Bulgaria. This means that Brussels is taking a much closer look at Croatia's bid than any other bid before it.

The EU returned a favorable progress report in 2005 about Croatia's democracy and market economy, however several improvements must be made; reforms in the judicial system, efforts at reducing corruption, and a border dispute with neighboring Slovenia are among a few of the challenges Croatia must deal with before accession.

The judicial system in Croatia is marred by the backlog of cases, length of court proceedings, and the

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## World Cup Fact Sheet

### By Ryan Mainhardt, WEST MA student

The FIFA World Cup championship will be held this summer in Germany, and much of the world will be watching (outside the US). To give those who might not know much about the world's most popular sports tournaments, here are several essential facts about this year's competition and the history of the World Cup:

- The opening match will be on Friday, June 9, at 5:00 pm. The German national team will play Costa Rica in a Group A match.
- The United States plays its first game in Gelsenkirchen on Monday, June 12, versus the Czech Republic.
- Games will be played in 12 cities: Berlin, Cologne, Dortmund, Frankfurt, Gelsenkirchen, Hamburg, Hanover, Kaiserslautern, Leipzig, Munich, Nuremberg, and Stuttgart. Berlin will host the final match on Sunday, July 9, in



- the same stadium used for the 1936 Summer Olympic Games.
- Host countries receive automatic inclusion in the tournament; every other team plays qualifying games in their regions in non-World Cup years. In 2002, both Japan and South Korea received automatic bids because it was a joint venture.
- There are six zones of competition: Africa; Asia; Europe; North, Central America and the Caribbean; Oceania (Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Islands); and South America.

- Teams from 14 European nations qualified for the 2006 World Cup. Five received top seeds in their groups: Germany (Group A), England (B), Italy (E), France (G), and Spain (H).
- The United States will play in Group E with Italy, Czech Republic, and Ghana.
- There are eight total groups with four teams in each group. The top seeds for each group were selected based on their performance in each of the last three World Cups (more points were awarded for performance in 2002 than in 1998 or 1994, a 3:2:1 system) and current world ranking. Brazil received the top overall seed, as they are ranked No. 1 by FIFA, won the World Cup in 2002 and 1994, and placed second in 1998.
- After round-robin play within

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### **Croatia** *(Continued from page 4)*

weakness in the selection and training of judges. Currently the backlog of cases stands at about 1.64 million, up from 1.38 million when the European Commission delivered its opinion on accession in 2004. The number of cases dealt with actually increased by 17 percent from 2003 to 2004, however the rate of cases brought before the courts increased so much that the backlog increased accordingly. The Croatian government has made a plan to reduce backlog, but so far has not fully committed. Backlog is one of the major contributors to the long duration of court proceedings, the others being the lack of well-trained judges and the inefficiency of laws governing the proceedings. Efforts have been made to create formal training for judges, including the establishment of the Judicial Academy in March 2004, and law reform is in an infant stage.

Corruption is also a major problem Zagreb must address to remain on the favorable side of the Enlargement Committee. Corruption has actually increased since 2004, one of only a handful of European countries with

that distinction. In 2002, the National Programme to Combat Corruption was passed, however the EU feels there needs to be a new strategy and action plan that is clearer and establishes a framework for implementation. Furthermore, amendments to the Act on the Office for the fight against Corruption and Organised Crime (USKOK) entered into force in March 2005, but so far have not been effective. The amendment gave the Office more jurisdiction and more clearly defined its role and activities, but only one of the four departments is currently operational. It would seem as though the effort has been well-intended, but the laws seriously lack substance.

The border dispute with Slovenia is one of the most pressing issues because it deals directly with another member state. The dispute is over the area surrounding the Bay of Piran in northwest Croatia (or southeast Slovenia, depending on who you ask). Slovenia has a meager 29 miles of coastline, and the bay serves as an important access point to international shipping waters. Each nation claimed it following the breakup of

Yugoslavia in 1991, but has become a heated topic within the last few years.

In October 2005, Slovenia declared an ecological zone off the coast. This was the most recent spat with the two nations; several times before there has been conflict over each nation's right to fish the waters. In 2001, Croatia agreed to give Slovenia a larger stake of the bay in exchange for territorial concessions on the land border. The agreement, however, was rejected by Croatia's parliament, and no serious attempt by either side has been made to squash the issue since. More recently, Croatia called for international arbitration to the dispute.

Like the rest of the nations vying for membership in the European Union, Croatia faces an uphill battle with several long months ahead. If Zagreb wishes to reach its goal of full membership by 2009, it must be on its best behavior from here on out. Just because one of the most wanted fugitives has been captured does not give Croatia license to rest on their laurels. The EU will be watching with a careful eye.

## World Cup *(Continued from page 5)*

each group, the top two teams advance to the quarterfinals. The 16 teams then play single elimination matches until a victor is crowned.

- Uruguay was the first location of the World Cup championship in 1930. The nation also won the first cup, defeating Argentina 4-2. Back then it was known as the Jules Rimet Cup, named after the creator and founder of the tournament. It featured other teams from Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, France, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Romania, United States, and Yugoslavia.
- The Jules Rimet Cup was discontinued after Brazil won its third cup in 1970. The FIFA World Cup was founded in 1971 and the first FIFA World Cup Championship was played in 1974 in West Germany.
- An excellent page on the history of the World Cup can be found here: <http://www.worldcup.isn.pl/en/cups.htm>.
- The 2006 competition will be

the tenth time a European nation has hosted, and the second time for Germany; West Germany hosted the World Cup in 1974.



The FIFA World Cup trophy.

The other eight were as follows: Italy (1934 and 1990), France (1938 and 1998), Switzerland (1954), Sweden (1958), England (1966), and Spain (1982). No East European nation has ever hosted a World

Cup competition.

- Italy has won three World Cup Championships (1934, '38, '82) and has placed second twice. Germany has also won three championships (all as West Germany in 1954, '74, and '90) but has been in more final matches (7) than Italy (5).
- Only two other European nations

have won World Cup titles: England (1966) and France (1998).

- Brazil has the most World Cup championships of any nation (5) and is tied with Germany for the most final matches played. Brazil is the odds-on favorite to reach its fourth consecutive World Cup final match in 2006.
- Seven nations have won World Cup titles, with Argentina (1986) being the only one not yet mentioned.
- The United States' best finish was in the first World Cup when they lost to Argentina in the semifinals, 6-1. The US participated in the 1934 tournament but then did not qualify again until 1990.
- For much more information on the World Cup 2006 and its governing body FIFA, visit the BBC Sport website at [http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/world\\_cup\\_2006/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/world_cup_2006/default.stm), or FIFA at <http://www.fifa.com/default.html>.

## Breithaupt *(Continued from page 1)*

Finally, another happy arrival in the WEST wing: Jeff Pennington, the new assistant director of the EU Center of Excellence has started to work for the new center. The EU Center is a separate and independent unit within the College. However, WEST gave office space to the EU Center, and thus we are enjoying the proximity to our new and energetic colleague. Jeff Pennington is a PhD candidate at Kobe University (Japan) where he researches the postwar interaction between Eastern Europe and Japan. He is an IU alumnus from the Russian & East European Institute. He can be reached in his office in Ballantine Hall 542 or via e-mail at [japennin@indiana.edu](mailto:japennin@indiana.edu)

West European Studies wishes all of you a wonderful end of 2005!



Double rainbow following a heavy storm in Ebbw Vale, Wales. (Source: BBC News Online, <http://news.bbc.co.uk>.)