West European Studies

OCTOBER 2010

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WEST EXCHANGE: Lois R. Wise, Director

FILE PHOTO

Just as the fall colors in Bloomington are coming to their peak, WEST is in the middle of a very busy part of the semester. We began the academic year with five new graduate students joining our program. They come with very different research interests and language backgrounds (page 10). Students are beginning to complete the degrees faster as we promote the 1 ½ year model for the MA. Our graduates are securing good professional jobs in what continues to be a tough economy (bravo Nicole LaLonde and Paul Pass!).

We have a heavy focus this semester on our language programs. These activities include several workshops and conferences which are described in more detail in this newsletter. They include a workshop on in-depth language proficiency testing (see page 5). We also co-sponsored three language conferences this fall including NORTANA, the association of Norwegian teachers and researchers, which brought about 50 scholars from across North America and several distinguished Norwegian experts to campus. Minority Languages in Europe which brought about 50 scholars to campus (see page 8). We also contributed to the large national Hispanic Linguistics Symposium. In November we will host the Modern Greek Pedagogy Association organized by Frank Hess as well as a bridge language workshop focusing on principles for facilitating third language learning. Finally, WEST is taking a lead role in promoting language proficiency testing and will organize a training session for faculty in oral proficiency testing this fall. Many thanks to our faculty and staff who took time from their busy schedules to help organize these events. Congratulations are also in order for Professor John McCormick who was recently awarded the Jean Monnet Chair in EU Politics from the EU Commission (see page 4).

WEST hosted Adrian Ritz of the University of Berne as a visiting scholar this fall. He gave a talk on "The Role of Cultural and Institutional Context for Public Service Motivation." We have three events underway related to our interests in contemporary Europe. One is a talk by Christopher Waller, Senior Vice President and Director of Research at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, on the "Euro and Its Effects on the Midwest." In spring 2011, we will host a conference examining how different countries have responded to the transition from economic prosperity to austerity. Third is a panel focusing on European labor market policies including Thomas Geoghan, author of *Were You Born on the Wrong Continent: How the European Model Can Help You Get a Life.*

WEST's Advisory Board for 2010-2011 includes nine faculty members (see page 12), and we very much appreciate their willingness to serve. New members for this academic year include Bill Rasch (Germanic Studies), Aurelian Craiutu (Political Science), Carl Ipsen

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FACULTY UPDATES

CLAUS CLÜVER published "Henry H. H. Remak, the Peripatetic Comparatist." in *Comparative Critical Studies* (Edinburgh UP).

ROY GARDNER participated in the Global Development Network Conference held at Charles University, Prague, August 22-23, 2010. Also, his article "The Evolution of a Conservation Ethic in the Maine Lobster Fishery," (with J. Acheson) is forthcoming in *Ocean and Coastal Management*.

MARTÍ GRAU has been busy as an international speaker, presenter, facilitator, panelist, round table participant, and chair on topics in EU government and politics in Rome, Naples, Zaragoza, Tarragona,Valencia, and Barcelona. He published "El Tea Party, a l'assalt de la política nord-americana" in *FRC – Revista de debat polític*, 23, Barcelona: 2010, pp. 12-13, and with Deniz Devrim he also published "The (in)hospitable Black Sea: Western imagination and multilateral framing in a contested region" *Quaderns de la Mediterrània*, 13, Barcelona: 2010, pp 117-125.

KRISTINA MUXFELDT has a book, *Vanishing Sensibilities: Critical Essays in Reception and Historical Restoration: Schubert, Beethoven, Schumann,* being published by Oxford University Press in 2011.

OANA PANAÏTÉ has a forthcoming monograph dedicated to contemporary French-language fiction entitled *Des littératures-mondes en français. Écritures singulières, poétiques transfrontalières dans la prose narrative contemporaine* from Rodopi Press (expected 2011).

MARK ROSEMAN published "Holocaust Perpetrators in Victims' Eyes," in Christian Wiese and Paul Betts, eds., *Years of Persecution, Years of Extermination: Saul Friedländer and the Future of Holocaust Studies*, (London: Continuum, 2010). He also gave the 2010 Barbara Powell lecture at the University of Regina in April 2010 and is currently the Ina Levine invitational scholar at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum until May 31, 2011.

REYES VILA-BELDA is the Resident Director for the Madrid Program during the academic year 2010-11.

ALUMNI UPDATES

NICOLE LALONDE is now an associate editor with JB Publishing, an academic publishing company outside of Boston.

PAUL PASS is using his experience as a WEST student and graduate assistant as an Education Outreach Programs Officer with the World Affairs Council of Houston, where he promotes global education to the Houston-area middle schools, and high schools, as well as colleges and universities.

STUDENT UPDATES

JULIA BROADWAY participated in St. Scholastica's Russian Language Study Tour, which was held in Petrozavodsk, Russia.

ROGER MUNSON spent the summer interning in the corporate business development department of National Public Radio (NPR) in Washington, D.C. He analyzed the financial situation of NPR's member stations and developed a business plan for the *Planet Money* program.

KALLAN PICHA participated in a SPEA and WEST-sponsored program at the German University of Administrative Sciences in Speyer, Germany. She then interned in Brussels, Belgium at the Regulatory Affairs unit of the Centre for European Policy Studies, a top European policy think tank.

** All updates are self-reported. if you have an update you'd like included in our next newsletter, please email us at west@indiana.edu**

The French Roma Crisis and its Challenges for European Integration

by Justin Classen

During the summer of 2010, a French Romani man was shot and killed by French police forces, sparking a riot in the village of Saint-Aignan. Based on this and other events of disorder, French President Nicolas Sarkozy promised to crack down on the Roma encampments sprouting up all over the country. Beginning in early August 2010, French police officials have been enforcing a policy to repatriate Roma living in France longer than three months without a residency or work permit. The policy has been to offer Roma a one-time payment and an airplane ticket back to their home country. As of early October, more than 1,000 Roma have been repatriated, primarily to Bulgaria and Romania. While EU Commissioner Viviane Reding has stated that France is acting beyond EU convention, France believes that it is acting to enforce law and provide public security.

Though igniting a firestorm of criticism on both sides of the Atlantic, the events in France highlight several points of tension in EU cooperation and European integration. Last year Italy also experienced a wave of anti-Roma and anti-immigrant activity. The removal of Roma from these societies on the basis of public security reflects the politicization of a stereotype linking Roma identity with criminality. The fear is that it will open the door to a collective punishment of the Roma community. Despite harsh public condemnation and the recent instigation of legal censure by the European Parliament, the EU has little ability to ameliorate the central causes of anti-Roma prejudice or prevent such expulsions. Meanwhile both France and Italy clearly see their actions as justifiable and in the best interest of their domestic security and national sovereignty.

IMAGE FROM HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/FILE:ROMA_FLAG.SVG

The flag of the Western Europe Romani people

The situation originates from basic economic factors that are increasingly consequential in an EU that is expanding to the south and east and also highlights tensions over the role of the EU vis-à-vis the national sovereignty of the individual member states. Roma migrants from Eastern Europe continue to be drawn to Western countries such as France and Italy by the prospect of higher wages than those available in their home countries, and since countries like Romania and Bulgaria joined the EU, their citizens are allowed to enter under the auspices of EU Directive 2004/38. Under this regulation, citizens from within the European Economic Area (EEA) are allowed to travel to another member country for three months. This lack of border controls allows Roma to easily travel across Europe. Roma migrants often work as unskilled laborers and have found it difficult to abide by the strictures of the directive and so become illegal after the initial three-month period elapses. However, even participation in an informal economy in France or Italy tends to yield higher wages than are available in Romania, Bulgaria or elsewhere in Eastern Europe. Such Roma migrants, precluded from finding regular housing by their illegal status, frequently end up concentrating in informal camps or shantytowns with little infrastructure or policing, which in turn become breeding grounds for petty, organized, and violent crime. As such, "Roma criminality" speaks to larger European issues with intra-EU immigration, labor migration, and asymmetrical regional development.

The case of Roma policy in Europe is one of pressing importance for the future of EU integration at a broad conceptual level. Considering that the primary sources of Roma migrants to Western Europe are new EU member states to the east, policies toward Roma become increasingly important and highlight central questions and issues about Europe and the future and nature of European community, inclusion, and identity. While the Romanian government has framed its protest of the deportation of Romanian Roma in terms of universal human rights and a common European identity, the French Ambassador in Bucharest has stated of the deported Roma: "They are Romanian citizens. The notion of European citizens does not exist," and added that the question of Roma inclusion and integration fell to Romania alone. At the same time, however, the Ambassador stated that the Roma "are not a French problem, but a European one," and that only Paris is "without hypocrisy" in acknowledging this fact. Such intra-EU conflict, based as it is on conflicting ideas about what constitutes "Europeaness," underlines the difficulty in formulating a Community-wide solution. After all, how can the supra-national institutions of the EU solve a "European problem" while one of its oldest and most powerful members promotes such an internally discordant interpretation of the centrality of ethnic and national identity?

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

John McCormick Wins International Recognition

by Jason Dorick

FILE PHOTO

John McCormick, IUPUI Jean Monnet Chair of European Politics

John McCormick is a professor of European Politics at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. He is the author of five books and numerous articles. Over the last twenty years he has established himself as a leading voice on the EU.

IUPUI professor of Political Science John McCormick was recently awarded the highly prestigious Jean Monnet Chair by the European Commission, one of only four conferred in the United States in 2010. McCormick has written five books and numerous articles, and he organizes the yearly Midwest Model EU. I recently had a chance to speak with McCormick about the nature of the award, what he plans to do with it, and some of his research.

In the late 1980s, the European Commission established the Jean Monnet program to as a way to support scholarship on the EU. The award itself is named after Jean Monnet, a well-travelled French businessman and bureaucrat who formed a network of important connections, which he used after World War II to found the European Coal and Steel Community, the forerunner to the modern European Union. The program is both a title and a grant, as one applies to the Commission, and each recipient receives the title Jean Monnet Chair and €45,000 over three years to support his or her work in European Union Studies. Professor McCormick said, "receiving this award is especially exciting for me because this year only four of the thirty-five chairs conferred were to scholars in the United States." Indeed there have only been 15-20 conferred in the United States in total. He said the chair is a "valuable form of recognition" for those in the EU Studies community. The chair is granted for a three-year period, but McCormck is eligible to reapply for lifetime distinction.

Professor McCormick has planned a series of projects aimed at increasing knowledge of the European Union, especially in the United States. Part of the funding will be directed toward EU teaching initiatives. The funds will partially support a workshop to be held this April in Indianapolis for high school teachers focusing on how to incorporate the EU into classroom curricula. A website will also be developed for teachers and faculty in EU related topics. In addition, the grant will allow Dr. McCormick to revise some of his textbooks. For university students, he is planning a European Union studies conference at IUPUI and giving a series of lectures and discussions on the EU. Finally, funds will support the Model EU that is held in Indianapolis every year.

His latest book, *Europeanism,* sets forth a series of values which he argues are shared by Europeans; amongst them is the value of multiculturalism. Multiculturalism can be a confusing concept. McCormick argued that Europeans generally accept and understand that France is different from England, which is different from Italy. McCormick pointed out that multiculturalism is sometimes confused with nationalism, especially in the United States, but in the case of the EU, there is a very important disctinction. Since the world wars, nationalism has a very different connotation in Europe, where it is seen to have led to extremism, violence, and the establishment of authoritarian regimes. In distinction, the EU promotes multiculturalism to accept the differences in Europe while working to avoid strident nationalism. Benign nationalism is broadly accepted, but Europeans get quite nervous when it starts to become aggressive. There are examples of militaristic nationalism – the ETA, the Scottish independence movement – but they are actively discouraged and defused.

continued on page 5

MCCORMICK - continued from page 4

This multicultural model is also different from the US "melting pot" where one might come from Italy and identify as Italian-American but essentially become American, speaking English and conforming to American culture. Even with European cooperation on the rise, most Europeans still identify primarily with their nationality, and this is not a threat to the EU or to European cooperation through multiculturalism.

There are other values that he stated make up a shared European identity. Previous work by Dr. McCormick argues that the EU has become a counterweight to American hegemony; however, he said that this has been organic as opposed to actively settled upon by doing the opposite of the American system. Likewise, he argued that the shared values he proposes in *Europeanism* are ones toward which Europeans have been evolving over a period of time. Moreover, the EU promotes many of these values officially by adopting them as official policy. For example, McCormick pointed out that it is official EU policy to disallow capital punishment, and in order to become an EU member state, it must be illegal in the candidate country. On a less official level, he said that secularism is a shared value in today's Europe. Nobody enforces it the way that they do with capital punishment, but in a general way religion plays a much less prominent role, and it continues to dissipate in most EU countries.

The prominence of Professor McCormick's work is affirmed by the conferral of the Jean Monnet Chair this year. John McCormick will be visiting the Bloomington campus on October 28 for a lecture entitled "Europeanism – What Europeans Have in Common and Why It Matters." For more information, check out the WEST blog at http://iuwest.wordpress.com or our events calendar at www.iub.edu/~west.

WEST to Sponsor ACTFL Participants

by Amanda Smith

This fall, WEST will sponsor two faculty members and one staff to attend the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Annual Convention and World Languages Expo in Boston, MA. The ACTFL Convention program offers more than 500 educational sessions covering a range of topics relevant to the foreign language instructor and administrator. Convention attendance is expected to be approximately 6,000, bringing together professionals representing all languages taught in the US.

In addition to the annual convention hosted by ACTFL, the organization also offers extensive onsite professional development and training opportunities for language instructors. This fall, WEST has arranged for ACTFL to lead a four-day Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Assessment Workshop on the IU Bloomington campus. This intensive workshop will instruct our language faculty in the techniques for conducting and rating the OPI. After completing the workshop, participants may go on to be certified to become ACTFL OPI Tester. The OPI Workshop is scheduled for December 1-4. The sessions will be conducted in English and open to full-time permanent language instructors of West European languages. To register, contact Amanda Smith at smith265@indiana.edu.

Finally this fall, WEST has organized two language assessment sessions with Ursula Lentz from the Center of Advanced Research on Language Acqusition at the University of Minnesota for WEST-affiliated language instructors. Lentz is leading an ongoing discussion on langauge assessment standards and practices at IU.

WEST EXCHANGE - continued from page 1

(History), and Bill Scheuerman (Political Science). We thank Esther Ham and Hannah Buxbaum for their long and substantial service as members of the Advisory Board. We are at an important crossroads for our degree programs, and the Board will consider ways to revise course requirements based on changes underway in the university. As many of you already know, WEST was not successful in securing federal funding for its Center this round, and the Board will review and consider factors that will strengthen our Center and make us more competitive. We are actively seeking other funding for our programs, but clearly this is a good time to make the contribution to WEST that you have been meaning to do in the past. Contributions to WEST are needed 'now more than ever' for funding student and faculty travel awards. Online giving is easy. Find the GIVE NOW button on the WEST homepage.

Finally, we are currently executing a special effort to update records on our alumni. Please send updates to west@indiana.edu. Meanwhile, take advantage of the podcasts and other resources posted online and look for new items added over the fall semester.

Estonia's Conversion to the Euro

by Bethany Dusseau

On June 17, 2010, the European Union announced Estonia as the newest member of the Eurozone, making it the 17th EU member state to adopt the euro. Although the euro is now 11 years old, Estonia will be the first former Soviet Republic and only the third state with a communist legacy to adopt the common currency. The Bank of Finland began minting around 194 million Estonian Euro coins and bills in July, and the new currency will be delivered this fall. If all continues to go according to the plan, the euro will be introduced on January 1, 2011, replacing the kroon with a short transition period when both currencies are accepted.

All EU member states, except Denmark, Sweden, and the UK, are required to eventually join the Eurozone in accordance with the Maastricht Treaty. While the timeframes for other new EU members have lengthened during the financial crisis, Estonia joins a small group that was able to meet the five requirements to fulfill the Maastricht Criteria for adopting the euro. Estonia fulfilled all of these requirements near the end of 2004, except for the inflation target. Estonia's economic slow-down caused its inflation rate to drop, allowing the country to finally overcome the last hurdle to adopting the euro.

FILE PHOTO

Estonia swaps the Kroon for the Euro January 2011

The fiscal policy of Estonia is considered one of the tightest in Europe, resulting in very little public debt, equivalent to about seven percent of GDP in 2009 compared to an average of 76 percent for the rest of the Eurozone (the maximum for joining the Eurozone is 60 percent). Estonia's only outstanding debt comes from long-term loans given by international development organizations in the amount of 2.7 billion kroons (about 178 million euros). Estonia's current period of independence has also helped keep its total debt low, since the country did not inherit any debt from the collapsing Soviet Union. Another factor that has played in Estonia's favor is its relatively small population of 1.3 million people, as well as a small economic output (about $17 billion), which would play a relatively tiny role in the Eurozone's economy.

Upon its reintroduction in 1992, the Estonian kroon was pegged to the Deutsche Mark and when Germany adopted the euro, the kroon's peg also transitioned to the euro. Thus, it was easy for the kroon/euro exchange rate to remain in within the normal fluctuation margins of the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERMII) for at least two years, since the two currencies were already tied together. In fact, this arrangement answers one of the major questions about Estonia's determination to enter the Eurozone during such a difficult economic time--what does Estonia hope to gain?

The two major benefits to any nation that gains Eurozone membership are increases in trade and increases in income. It has been estimated that nations that join the Eurozone will experience between a 24 and 60 percent trade increase within the first 20 years since individual currencies are no longer subject to transaction costs and exchange rate volatility as well as greater price transparency. Increased trade will in turn make a country more prosperous, especially in a very open economy such as Estonia. Additionally, membership in the Eurozone is a matter of pride for this small nation. Since the kroon was already tied to the euro, now Estonia will finally have a seat at the table at the European Central Bank, having had to abide by ECB monetary policy for years.

One of the largest fears of any nation looking to join the Eurozone is inflation, which has constantly been a challenge for post-communist countries. Slovakia and Slovenia experienced inflation after the introduction of the euro, especially on basic foodstuffs as prices adjusted to EU averages. Estonian public support for the euro is currently dwindling; at present a little over half of the population is in support of the new currency.

As a result, while meeting the requirements to join the euro is certainly an achievement for Estonia, challenges still remain for the country. Already its economy has suffered due to the worldwide economic crisis. The GDP has decreased by about 14 percent, and unemployment hit a high of 19 percent. However, recent statistics suggest that the Estonian economy is recovering, and joining the euro may provide an additional boost to Estonia's resurgence, helping the country remain a "Baltic Tiger."

SUMMER CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Portugal: The Cultural Context

(HISP-P411/511 & WEUR-W406/605)

By Estela Vieira

For the summer 2010, Professor Estela Vieira was granted a summer curriculum development grant from WEST to significantly redesign a course that has been dormant in the Spanish and Portuguese course offerings since the 1980s. Vieira is one of four professors who were awarded summer grants for curriculum development. Frank Hess (WEST) spent the summer preparing intensive first year Modern Greek to be taught as part of SWSEEL 2011. Giovanni Zanovello (Musicology) developed a course titled "A Musical Grand Tour of Early-Modern European Cities." Edgar Illas (Spanish & Portuguese) added a new course offering for students interested in Catalonia, "Nationalism and Literature in Modern Catalonia." All courses will be taught either spring or summer 2011. Below, Professor Vieira describes the course, "Portugal: The Cultural Context" which is slated to be taught Spring 2011.

This summer I prepared the course titled Portugal: The Cultural Context, which focuses on contemporary Portugal. This will be an interdisciplinary course taught in English (open to undergraduate and graduate students) and we will cover the major political, social, and cultural developments that have taken place in Portugal since the fall of the Salazar regime in 1974 and the implementation of a democratic parliamentary state. We will begin with the end of the forty-year long dictatorship, examine the 1974 revolution, and study the democratic transition that followed. Topics to be discussed in conjunction with this historic overview include: the colonial wars in Africa, the development of democratic parties and elections, and the entry into the European Union as well as the country's role within the European and international contexts. We will also analyze important social issues such as the role of women in Portuguese society, emigration and economic crises, and the more controversial and recent debates over abortion and gay rights. Our focus will be on defining how these political and social circumstances emerge in the country's literary, artistic, and social manifestations. In a short amount of time Portugal has undergone radical changes that have shaped different generations of artists and influenced its people, value systems, and social codes. Examining a selection of the country's finest contemporary fiction, film, architecture, and painting against this historical background, will help us to characterize and understand the complex relationship between these artistic and cultural expressions and Portuguese politics and society.

My hope is that by focusing on contemporary issues the course will attract students from a variety of disciplines, and by setting the topic in a thorough cultural and social context students will be able to engage in a profound way and develop a complex understanding of the problems Portugal faces today. By having a substantial historical and political background, the students will be able to assess the issues that will influence the country in the future.

In the process of revising this course, I read from a variety of sources in order to select the most appropriate reading materials. There are a number of recent edited volumes that deal with different contemporary issues in Portugal from different disciplines (history, sociology, economics, etc.). I read these and decided to use as our major reader, the edited volume, Contemporary Portugal by António Costa Pinto. But I also read a number of articles and essays to find the best example and the most representative reading that will best introduce the students to the different topics that we will cover.

Because of the nature of the topics we will cover (architecture, painting, etc.), my lectures will rely heavily on images. This will also make the class more appealing especially if the course attracts students from other universities to take the course via videoconference through course share.

We will also focus on film on our topic of the colonial wars and their repercussions on Portuguese contemporary society, and hence I had to watch a number of contemporary films and choose the most appropriate for the thematic content of our course. The course will be offered in the spring semester of 2011 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 - 3:45.

Summer Internship Experience: The EU and e-Governance

by Kallan Picha

During the Summer of 2010, I worked as an intern in Brussels, known to many as the "Capital of Europe." My time in Brussels was dedicated to a research internship at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS). Founded in 1983, CEPS has become one of Europe's top think tanks and today serves as a leader in EU affairs. I was assigned to the Regulatory Affairs Research Programme in the area of Internet policy and e-governance. My task was to author a working document highlighting the increasing relevance of Internet governance for Europe, which was a completely new area for me.

The primary organization dealing with these issues – the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) – was holding one of its semi-annual meetings in Brussels during my stay, so I was able to listen in on the majority of sessions surrounding my topic. ICANN is responsible for managing and coordinating a system of unique Internet address identifiers and oversees policy development related to its technical functions. The debate surrounding ICANN and e-governance has recently come to the fore following the 2009 expiration of ICANN's ties with the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), which has overseen ICANN's functions since the organization's inception in 1998. Controversy arose due to the minimal oversight capacity of the DOC in the latest renewal of the ICANN agreement and concerns that the corporation may be surpassing its coordination mandate and taking on more of a regulatory role.

FILE PHOTO

So what exactly does this have to do with Europe? As the international significance of the Internet grows, management and security become increasingly global issues, which require increasingly global attention. At ICANN's latest meeting in Brussels, President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy voiced his support for European participation and noted that a crucial group of stakeholders in this process are governments, including those of the 27 EU member states. Europe has long been involved with ICANN and plays a substantial role in its functioning. For one, Europe boasts a considerable presence within ICANN's board, staff, and stakeholders. In addition, ICANN opened a Brussels office in 2003 as a base for connecting with Europe and to promote internationalization. Not only this, but Europe has been both a leader and an innovator in Internet policy, including the launch of ".eu," which promotes valuable connections between European countries through education, business, and organizational partnerships and supports the coherence and cohesiveness of the European Union.

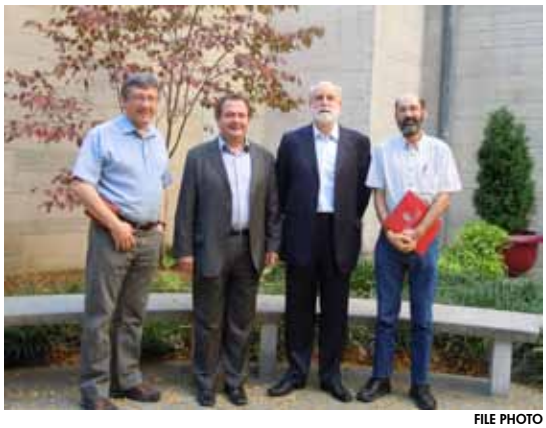
Not only has Europe been a pioneer and an advocate of ICANN's mission and Internet governance in the past, but such issues are becoming an increasingly significant policy area for Europe. Just this year, the European Commission launched its ambitious Digital Agenda under the direction of Commissioner Neelie Kroes. The European Parliament (EP) has also recently been dealing with this policy area, calling for greater attention to Internet governance and improvements to ICANN. In addition to increasing dialogue regarding Internet matters within the European Parliament and Commission, President Van Rompuy highlighted at the ICANN meeting that global accountability and transparency with the full involvement of all stakeholders are essential principles for ICANN's governance structure and commented that the European Union has underlined a further increase in the internationalization of Internet governance as a fundamental European public policy objective.

Internet governance and ICANN's role in its operation are unmistakably important issues both globally and in a European context. ICANN's goals of internationalization and multi-stakeholder representation can only succeed with the participation of actors from around the world, and it is important that Europe has a voice in the evolution of its policy and structure. The European perspective, focusing on such issues as multilingualism and the protection of human rights, offers a unique viewpoint to bring to the table when discussing Internet governance. European policymakers can make a positive contribution to the management of ICANN and therefore play a vital role in the coordination and safeguarding of today's Internet.

EVENT RE-CAP

Minority Languages in Europe: Successes and Challenges

By Julie Auger



FILE PHOTO

Plenary Speakers (from left): Jean-Luc Vigneux, Bernat Joan i Marí, Colin Williams, José Ignacio Hualde

From October 7 to 9, scholars from North America and Europe gathered in Bloomington for the *Minority Languages in Europe: Successes and Challenges* conference, an event sponsored by West European Studies with the help of many different IU departments. Special thanks to Deborah Piston-Hatlen who took the lead role in organizing this event. The conference featured four plenary sessions and 19 competitively-selected papers. Our plenary speakers, whose expertise focused on different languages and who adopted different approaches to language documentation, revitalization, and policies, provided a great tour d'horizon of the complex issues that characterize the fate of the European languages that are not recognized as national languages. The conference opened with a lecture followed by a musical performance by Jean-Luc Vigneux who, for the past 30 years, has played a key role in the revitalization of Picard, a Gallo-Romance language closely related to French. The second plenary session featured the Secretary of Language Policy of the Government of Catalonia, Bernat Joan i Marí. His lecture highlighted the progress made by Catalan, a language whose usage was once forbidden in public settings, and discussed the policies adopted by his agency to address the challenges that result from the new demographic structure that characterizes the generalitat. José Ignacio Hualde argued that while the Basque language has survived opposition and more speakers are learning Basque as a second language, it is paying a price for that success: because all Basque speakers are bilingual, the Basque language itself is converging towards Spanish. Finally, Colin Williams, an expert on Gaelic, offered his reflections on the gap that often separates a state's official language policy and the measures that implement those policies. The papers examined linguistic practices among immigrant populations, issues of codification, the challenges faced by many varieties, various aspects of the linguistic structure of the languages themselves and the impact of extensive contact between them and the national languages, their place in broadcast media and artistic performances, as well as the role of the European Charter. Conference papers will be made avaialable on the WEST website.

NORTANA Annual Conference

By Gergana May

FILE PHOTO

(from left): Tom Christensen, Kaare Strøm, and Ola Mestad

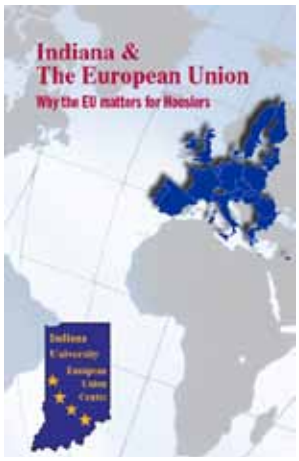
Norway Seminar, an inspirational gathering for teachers and lecturers of Norwegian subjects in the US, was hosted by IU's Scandinavian Group this year from October 7 to 9. The seminar has been held every year since the mid-70's as part of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' cooperation with and service to the universities and colleges in the US and Canada that teach Norwegian language, literature, and area studies. The topics for the seminar ranged from current affairs in Norway, to arts, music, literature, and Norwegian culture. This year the focus was on the policy changes in Norway as a reaction to globalization and the expansion of the European Union. Guest speakers were the Norwegian scholars Ola Mestad , Tom Christensen, and Marta Norheim who spoke on "Borders and Trade," "A University in Transformation" and "Contemporary Norwegian Literature," respectively. Also participating was the Norwegian-American scholar Kaare Strøm whose talk dealt with the most recent trends in Norwegian governance. There was a lively debate engaging the three social scientists and the audience on the role of "core" Norwegian values for Norwegian politics. Two officials from the Royal Norwegian Consulate General in New York represented the Norwegian government – the sponsor of the seminar: Henrik Width, Deputy Consul General and Head of Press, Culture, Information and Anita Rabben Asbjørnsen, Director of International Education, North America. They had a productive meeting with IU's Vice President for International Affairs, Patrick O'Meara. The seminar was preceded by a highly successful teacher workshop, which dealt with the learning outcomes, standardized assessment and teaching materials for third and fourth year of Norwegian language instruction. The host--IU's Scandinavian Group--is a multi-disciplinary faculty group established in 2006 with the following members: Dan Knudsen, Toivo Raun, Lois Wise, Michelle Facos, Kari Gade, Tapio Hokkanen, and Gergana May.

OUTREACH UPDATES

WEST and EU Center Work to Inform Midwest of its Economic Ties with Europe

by Brant Beyer

In order to reach and inform a broader audience across the Midwest about the ties between Europe and the Midwest, WEST and the EU Center have been working to produce new publications. Starting in the summer of 2009, the EU Center released "Indiana and the European Union: Why the EU Matters for Hoosiers" in partnership with the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA). This booklet is designed to educate people unfamiliar with the EU about the basic structure of the EU and how EU integration has made it an important global economic player. It then examines Indiana's economic ties with the EU, comparing it to the other four Great Lake states. Indiana had the highest level of foreign direct investment (FDI), and Indiana's economic ties with Europe go beyond investment, as the state exports the most to the EU among the five Great Lakes states, in terms of both total and agricultural exports.



Building upon this publication, the EU Center partnered with The Ohio State University John Glenn School of Public Affairs to publish "Ohio and The European Union: Why the EU Matters to the Buckeye State" in July 2010. "Ohio and The European Union" provided additional information about the euro since the booklet was produced right after the EU's bailout of the Greek government. Both publications were sent to economic development officials as well as chambers of commerce across the two states.

FILE PHOTO

WEST and the EU Center have been working hard to inform audiences about the EU and its importance to the Midwest. To view our publications, visit http://www.indiana.edu/~eucenter/booklets.shtml.

WEST Links Indiana and UK Students with Trans-Atlantic Blog

by Brant Beyer

In September, Batchelor Middle School in Bloomington and Bourne Community College in Hampshire, England began a trans-Atlantic blog where students from the two schools discuss human rights issues and different perspectives on the topic in the two countries. This project is still in its infancy yet it was highlighted on the front page of the September 21st *Herald-Times*.

WEST first met Bourne Community College deputy head teacher, Graham Wigley, through its partnership with the IU School of Education. During the same period, WEST had worked with a group that attended the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, which included students and teacher Jeff Rudkin from Batchelor Middle School.

WEST looks forward to building these ties between Batchelor and Bourne and hopes that it will lead to other opportunities for students to learn about our region. Stay tuned to the WEST blog for updates on this exciting project. http://iuwest.wordpress.com

Summer Language Teacher Workshop

by Amanda Smith

This summer WEST hosted our workshop for secondary world language teachers organized and facilitated by Deborah Piston-Hatlen, a long-time supporter of the Center. French, German, and Spanish teachers from Indiana and several other states came together for the annual three-day event, which is in its fourth year. This year's theme was "Seeing Western Europe through the Visual Arts." Teachers engaged in a variety of activities, including presentations by visual arts experts, brainstorming ideas for using workshop resources and materials in their classrooms, and work sessions spent creating lessons and activities. The weekend was filled with informative sessions as well as time to work and network with peers, and teachers left with innovative ways to enhance their foreign language curriculum as well as provide resources to other teachers in their schools. To view recorded presentations and access resources from the workshop, visit the WEST website at www.iub.edu/~west/resources and our Vimeo page at http://vimeo.com/iuwest.

WEST Welcomes Five New MA Students for 2010

DAVID BOYLES did his undergraduate studies in French, International Studies, and Music at Ohio University. He graduated in 2007 and spent a year in Picardie, France as an English teacher. He is also a Staff Sergeant in the US Army and spent the last two years as a curriculum developer and project manager.

DUSTIN NICHOLAS is from Indianapolis and completed his bachelor's degree at Indiana University. As an undergraduate he studied management and entrepreneurship. At WEST he is interested in renewable energy and in Portuguese.

FILE PHOTO

From left to right: David Boyles, Dustin Nicholas, Jason Dorick, Bethany Dusseau, and Begum Tunakan

JASON DORICK is from Maryland where he earned a BA in cultural studies, and history. He studied abroad at Montpellier, France and spent 2007-2008 as an assistant de langue in Thionville, France. Jason is interested in European politics and history, cultural studies, and higher education.

BETHANY DUSSEAU has her BA from IU in International Studies and German. She studied abroad at Joensuu in Finland and did an internship with the Department of State at the Embassy in Bratislava, Slovakia. At WEST she studies German and Finnish, and pursues research interests in immigration from former Soviet spaces into the EU, and in return, immigration to Finland, indigenous peoples of the European north, and Finnish-Russian cross- border cooperation.

BEGUM TUNAKAN is from Istanbul, Turkey. She completed her BA in Social and Political Science at Sabanci University in Turkey and was an exchange student in University of Exeter, UK. In addition to Turkish she speaks French. Begum is interested in French political culture and politics as well as European Union politics.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT Jenny Bowen (MA 2001)

FILE PHOTO

A 2001 graduate of the WEST MA program, Jenny Bowen had a variety of unique European interests during her years at IU. Bowen lived and studied in Germany before her time in WEST, spending two years at a US military base during high school and a year studying in Hamburg during college. Her thesis reflected this background by discussing the persecution of homosexuals in Nazi Germany. Bowen also began pursuing her interest in the conversion of individual European currencies to the euro. In addition to her German experiences, Bowen began to study Dutch and spent several weeks in the Netherlands at an intensive language institute to improve her Dutch skills.

During her first semester as a WEST graduate student, Bowen began working hourly in the Indiana University Office of International Services. In March 1999, she was hired on as a full-time international student advisor and is now the Associate Director for Student Services. The office provides assistance and support for the 6,500 international students and 1,500 international faculty and staff members from over 130 countries who study and work on the IU campuses. This includes offering programs, services, and information, such as immigration advising, to ease the transition to IU, and assisting international visitors in achieving their personal and professional goals during their time here. Bowen's time spent abroad, as well as the language and culture studies she took advantage of in WEST, have given her familiarity with the experiences faced by the international students she helps.

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