



WEST Points

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at Indiana University, Bloomington

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West European Studies

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From the Director's Desk

Dear Friends of WEST,

This is an exciting time to be the new director of WEST, both in terms of events in Europe as well as our local news at Indiana University.

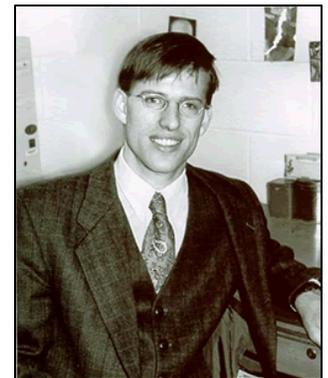
Last spring, on the eve of May 1, the day that the EU formally accepted ten new members from East and Central Europe, I remember walking through old Heidelberg. I saw people celebrating on the squares, holding unfamiliar flags, and I remember feeling touched by the happiness of these foreign nationals. I then ran into another Humboldt fellow from Poland, who lived in the university housing where I stayed, and he invited me over to the festivities of the Estonians and Lithuanians. At that point, I experienced the admission into the European Union in reverse. I, the German, felt admitted into the new EU. For me, Europe, as an idea, seems to be about this constant change of perception in which every player is both the one who invites and the one who is admitted.

As the political landscape of Europe changes, new projects at Indiana University are also changing in the area of West European Studies. First of all, the College of Arts and Sciences just approved a new EU undergraduate minor, and other curricular changes are underway as well. Three new courses on Europe will be developed to support the EU Minor. This is good news in many respects. Our students will be able to pursue their European interests across the East/West boundary, and the minor will also pave the way for a large cooperation for many departments, programs, and centers at IU for the coming years.

To pursue further curricular changes, I need your help and input. I would especially like to invite your ideas for innovative teaching approaches that can lead students to explore the intertwined issues of Europe's culture, history, and language, as well as its economic, political and social transformations. The existing Model EU courses—including Midwest Model EU hosted annually by Professor John McCormick at IUPUI—that simulate actual decision making in a truly pluralistic setting, are a good inspiration for us to think creatively here. Furthermore, non-language courses that integrate a language component are on the WEST agenda. One such course was offered last spring, when visiting lecture Maria Lope Sola taught a Spanish section of an International Law course. Any ideas are welcome, please send them to fbreitha@indiana.edu.

As usual, WEST will have a busy lecture and conference schedule in the upcoming months. Three lecture series are scheduled for the spring: Islam in the West, Modernism and Modernity, and the West European Studies Contemporary Issues Spring Lecture Series.

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From the Director's Desk (continued from page 1)

This summer, Esther Ham will direct the Summer Dutch Institute here at Indiana University in the first summer session of 2005. We are all very excited about this opportunity and hope that you will spread the word.

Finally, I should thank the many people who have made my transition into the office smooth and painless. Both Karen Boschker—who just got promoted to Associate Director of WEST!—and Linda Jean are, as everyone knows, the true heart of the program. My thanks also go to David Audretsch and Robert Rohrschneider who have expanded WEST in many directions and have started many wonderful initiatives. It would have been hard for me to start without their mentorship. We also enjoy the support and constant input by Dean Subbaswamy who models making-visions-work like no one else. Last but not least, I like to express my gratitude to all who have made WEST a place full of excitement and ideas, especially the graduate students and professors. We would

Thank you!

Dr. Fritz Breithaupt

Featured Alumnus: WEST Graduate Col. Ralph R. "Rick" Steinke is the U.S. Defense Attaché to France

The United States and France have a history of military cooperation that spans over two centuries. Today, at the forefront of this enduring alliance between America and its oldest ally, is West European Studies alumnus Colonel Ralph R. "Rick" Steinke, the current U.S. Defense Attaché to France.

Col. Steinke attended the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York, where he concentrated in International Relations and German. He then attended the Field Artillery Officers Basic Course and the U.S. Army Ranger School, and was subsequently stationed for over four years in Germany, where he served for a time as a liaison officer to a German artillery unit. He was then assigned for three years as an Adjunct Professor of Military Science at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon, and later studied Italian for nine months at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California. In 1988, he entered the MA program in West European Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington.

Col. Steinke was able to complete his master's degree at WEST in only one year, and cites his studies at IU as being very valuable to his professional life. "My experi-

ences at WEST were very beneficial to my military career, especially as an Army Foreign Area Officer," says Steinke. "Indiana University was the perfect setting for pursuing an advanced degree. The people at WEST were very helpful, courteous and personal, and the academic standards were high, with a cross-section of studies being offered."

The requirement that WEST graduate students attain proficiency in two West European languages was also an asset to Col. Steinke's work. "While English is becoming increasingly accepted in many corners of the world, the knowledge of one or more foreign languages remains critical to working effectively in a foreign or international setting." Col. Steinke also credits his work on his WEST master's thesis as an important component of his education at I.U. "The opportunity to write a thesis was also quite enriching. Much of my thesis dealt with the topic of 'burden sharing' within NATO, and while the subject has certainly evolved over the past 15 years, it is still quite relevant today."

After graduating from the WEST program, Col. Steinke was

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WEST Offers a Cornucopia of Fall Outreach Events

The stage is set: a spread of cultural artifacts on one table, appetizers and beverages on another, and a collage of photos and postcards leans against an easel in the corner as a semicircle of seated retirees waits for a short presentation on Italian life and culture. The place is Bell Trace retirement community center. The purpose is WEST outreach. The host is WEST graduate assistant Katy Balma

As a Title VI National Resource Center, WEST organizes a range of outreach events to the university, community, schools, and the general public with the purpose of disseminating information about West European issues and cultures. The Bell Trace event was part of the IU outreach program Global Speaker Service (GSS), which aims to provide the community with international expertise from the Univer-

sity. Katy Balma, WEST's outreach graduate assistant, has shared her knowledge of Italy through a number of other programs. In addition to the Bell Trace event, she organized "Polenta Pie!" a cooking demonstration for retired faculty at Emeriti House on IUB campus. Other GSS events this academic year have focused on the educational community, with visits to Indiana high schools by

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Featured WEST Alumnus: Col. Ralph R. "Rick" Steinke (continued from page 2)

an Exchange Officer and Operations and Training Officer in an Italian mountain infantry battalion in Pinero, Italy. This particular battalion, the "SUSA Alpini Battalion", was part of NATO's ground reaction force at the time. Its mission was to respond to any threats along NATO's borders, from Norway in the north to Turkey's borders in the south. During his time with this unit, he underwent training in Norway that took place north of the Arctic Circle, and also served with the battalion in the southern Italian region of Calabria, where the Italian government was attempting to overcome the influence of organized crime in the area. He returned to the United States, where he remained for three years.

He was then assigned to Italy as the sole foreign liaison officer on the Italian Army Staff. He next commanded a field artillery battalion in Germany, where he deployed elements of his battalion to the Balkans, supporting the stabilization of Bosnia and Croatia after the Dayton Accords. Col. Steinke then returned to academia, becoming an Army Fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He was next sent to Albania during the NATO campaign in Kosovo, and then to the

U.S. Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Virginia.

In August, 2002 Col. Steinke began serving in Paris as the Army Attaché, and in February, 2003 he assumed his current position as U.S. Defense Attaché to France, a

"In spite of obvious recent political differences, the U.S. and French militaries work exceptionally well together."

role which entails numerous responsibilities.

"The duties of a Defense Attaché are myriad," says Col. Steinke. "However, I would characterize my primary functions as advising, representing and coordinating – and of course communicating. The Defense Attaché is the ambassador's principal military advisor and is a principal member of the embassy's Country Team. As such, I spend a fair amount of time briefing U.S. congressional delegations and other visiting U.S. government officials on U.S.-French military relations."

Col. Steinke was also the Embassy Chairman for the ceremonies held last June, which commemorated the 60th anniversary of the

Normandy landings, and cites this as one of the highlights of his tenure as Defense Attaché. "They were wonderful events to be part of. Presidents Bush and Chirac were present, along with several senior government officials and -- most importantly -- hundreds of returning Normandy veterans."

Recently, the predominant issue in U.S.-French relations has been the disagreement between the two countries over the United States' military intervention in Iraq. The conflict in Iraq began just after Col. Steinke assumed the post of Defense Attaché, and he notes that "As one might imagine, it has been a challenging, exciting and interesting time to be serving in Paris."

However, Col. Steinke has praise for the French military, and is optimistic about the high level of cooperation between the two countries on military affairs. "[T]he French have one of the most capable and deployable forces on the continent, with over 30,000 troops deployed around the world, including Afghanistan, Bosnia, Kosovo, Africa, Haiti and French permanent territories," he says. "In spite of obvious recent political differences, the U.S. and French militaries work exceptionally well together."

WEST Faculty News: Dr. Aurelian Craiutu and Dr. Henry Remak Receive Awards

Aurelian Craiutu's (Assistant Professor, Political Science) "Liberalism under Siege: The Political Thought of the French Doctrinaires" (Rowman & Littlefield, Lexington Books, 2003) has won a CHOICE magazine 2004 Outstanding Academic Title award. The CHOICE 2004 OAT list includes 644 books and electronic resources that were chosen by the CHOICE editorial staff from among 7,539

reviewed titles. Titles were judged on their excellence in scholarship and presentation, and the significance of their contribution to their respective academic field.

Henry Remak (Professor Emeritus, Comparative Literature, Germanic Studies) has been selected the first recipient of a new Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the *International Conference on Romanticism*. The letter notifying

Professor Remak of the award reads in part: "Your scholarship cuts across linguistic and national boundaries, has informed more than one generation of fellow scholars, and in many other ways exemplifies the view of Romanticism studies taken by our organization for some fourteen years....[W]e could not have found anyone who more completely represents the type of person who should be the first recipient of this award."

WEST Offers a Cornucopia of Fall Outreach Events

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CIA Officer in Residence Gene Coyle, WEST graduate assistant Todd Linton, and WEST graduate student Matthew Carlton to talk about foreign language learning and professional opportunities for those with language skills.

For those outside of the Bloomington area, WEST also provides programming through International Studies for Indiana Schools (ISIS), an IU outreach program that provides international expertise to remote locations around Indiana and the nation via interactive video. Examples of recent programs WEST provided to schools include a presentation called "Americans Abroad,"

in which WEST associate director Karen Boschker and assistant Katy Balma shared their experiences living and traveling in France, Spain, Italy, and Germany with an International Business class at Zionsville High School; and "Spanish Holiday Traditions," where Katy Balma joined with representatives of the Center for Latin America and Caribbean Studies to talk to Shelbyville High School 1st-year Spanish students about Christmas and other celebrations in various Spanish-speaking countries. Despite the distance between them, students are able to engage and ask questions directly of their present-

ers. "It would only be improved by [having you] with us in the room," commented one of the high school teachers.

In addition to GSS and ISIS, WEST provides a number of other outreach events through professional development opportunities for educators, lecture series and conferences on campus, support of community events, representation at various professional and association conferences, and through the many activities of affiliated faculty. In 2003-2004, WEST reached 19,504 individuals in eleven states through outreach activities.

WEST Holds Student Panel on "How Europeans View America"

A student panel organized by West European Studies entitled "How Europeans View America" was held Tuesday, October 12 in the Oak Room of the Indiana Memorial Union. The panel featured both American and European students, and was moderated by Michael McLaughlin, a joint graduate student in WEST and SPEA, who had spent the summer interning in Germany. The panelists also included Philip Balma, an American graduate student who was raised in Italy; Fabio Benincasa, an Italian graduate student; Ivy Schneider, an undergraduate student who studied abroad in France and Italy, and Andrew Mills, an American graduate stu-

dent who has spent a lot of time in Germany.

The panel began with each member sharing an anecdote to illustrate the differences they experienced between American and European cultures. The panelists also discussed their thoughts on stereotypes of Americans and Europeans, and the general perception of Europeans on the events of 9/11 and the war in Iraq. A lively question-and-answer session generated further discussion of subjects ranging from humorous cultural misunderstandings to foreign policy. More than 20 students and faculty participated in the event, which doubled as an opportunity to increase awareness among undergraduate students of the WEST mi-

nor. The WEST undergraduate minor is an interdisciplinary program in the College of Arts and Sciences that combines courses in the social sciences, humanities and languages to give students a broad understanding of the countries of Western Europe and the European Union.

According to Karen Boschker, the Associate Director of WEST, the idea behind the panel was to provide an event by students, for students, to encourage interest in the region. Judging by the level of enthusiasm shown by all who attended, the program successfully accomplished this aim, and was an insightful experience for all the participants.

WEST Talks to Gene Coyle, IU'S CIA Officer in Residence

When most people think about espionage, they think of cloak-and-dagger exploits with danger at every turn. Since the beginning of the fall 2004 semester, IU students have had the opportunity to learn about the real world of espionage from someone who knows it first-hand — Gene Coyle. Coyle is at IU under the CIA Officer in Residence program, and is here to

teach courses about the role of intelligence in US foreign policy. He arrived at IU in August under the joint auspices of the College of Arts and Sciences and SPEA.

According to Coyle, the Officer in Residence program sends 4-5 CIA officers each year to different universities to teach about some aspect of the intelligence world. The idea be-

hind the program is that the American public should have a good understanding of what the CIA and other intelligence agencies actually do, as opposed to the Hollywood and spy novel versions of reality. CIA Officers in Residence are not recruiters, and Coyle has no other duties during the two year period

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other than teaching courses related to the role of intelligence work in history. Coyle was recently interviewed by WEST, and in the following conversation, he shares his perspectives on topics ranging from his own days as an IU student, to the CIA's current fight against international terrorism.

WEST: *As an alumnus of Indiana University, Bloomington, could you tell us a bit about your background at IU, especially if there was anything you learned that was especially useful to you later in your work as a CIA officer?*

Gene Coyle: I received my BA in American History and Political Science, an MA in East European History the following year and then spent a year at the Stiftung Europa Kolleg in Hamburg, Germany under an exchange program administered by West European Studies. The facts I learned about the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe proved to be especially useful in my CIA career as an operations officer. To be able to show to officials from that part of the world that I knew a good bit about their history and culture immediately created a rapport with the diplomats and intelligence officers of those countries that I was trying to recruit to cooperate with the CIA on a clandestine basis. The best part of my education here at IU came from a few outstanding teachers like Barbara and Charles Jelavich, Robert Ferrell and Maurice Garnier who were always willing to take the extra time and effort with students to pass along their knowledge.

WEST: *Please tell us how you came to work for the CIA, and what skills or experiences contributed to your success in gaining employment with the CIA.*

GC: I had thought since high school that I wanted to join

the Department of State and become a diplomat. With the recommendations of several of my IU professors I was chosen as a summer intern at the Department between my junior and senior years, but through my work duties I came to know a former CIA officer named Rich and by the end of the three month internship I had decided



Gene Coyle, Indiana University alumnus and currently IU's CIA Officer in Residence

that the CIA sounded a lot more interesting to me. I applied to the CIA during my senior year and again after finishing my Masters, but was turned down twice with the message that while my educational background was good, I was still rather young with no experience abroad, such as having been in the military. I tried once more after coming back from my year in Hamburg and that student experience in Europe seems to have made the difference. At age 24 I was still the youngest of the entering Career Trainee class in 1976, but I guess one of the interviewers thought he saw something in my personality that convinced him I was worth giving a try.

WEST: *The movies have fuelled a lot of misconceptions about what CIA officers do, especially about those who do clandestine work. Could you give us a realistic idea of what the life of a CIA officer is like, based on your experiences?*

GC: Those of us in the intelligence world love all those James Bond and other spy movies, but you are right

that they have little connection to the real business of espionage work. There is a big difference between the analysts at CIA who for the most part spend their careers behind desks in Washington and the life of an operations officer like myself who spends most of his or her career abroad. I spent 14 years of my 28 year career living overseas, so I have had a tremendous opportunity to see the world, learn Russian, Portuguese and Greek and get to know other cultures. As for the actual work, while I have never driven an exotic sports car, jumped from a plane and only a few times in my career even carried a weapon, being an operations officer is a quite unique profession. It might be as simple as the person needing extra money to send a child to get a good education or for medical expenses. It might be a complicated psychological situation where the target feels he has not been appreciated by his

government or unfairly passed over for promotion and wants revenge. In many cases, however, it is an ideological motivation. During the Cold War and now since September 11, many people cooperate with the CIA and provide information because they feel it is the "right" thing to do. Most of the Soviets or East Europeans who ever worked with the CIA never felt they were committing treason, rather that they were helping the people of their country to eventually get rid of a failed communist system. At the other end of the spectrum of people the CIA recruits are some pretty unlikable characters who just want the money, particularly when we are trying to recruit sources to provide intelligence in the realm of terrorism or narco-trafficking. This leads into murky ethical or even legal waters, but the simple fact is that if you want information about terrorists, you have to recruit some pretty unsavory characters who run in those circles. I have always likened it to a

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Interview with Gene Coyle

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giant mental chess game. Who has the information I need, how do I meet that person, how do I win their confidence so that I can learn what "dream" I can offer to fulfill for them?

WEST: *What is your assessment of the current state of intelligence-gathering by the United States? How is the CIA adjusting to meet new challenges of the 21st century?*

GC: Going after terrorists is much different than trying to recruit Soviet

diplomats during the Cold War. It is not that the U.S. Intelligence Community did not have an interest in terrorists prior to September 11, but nothing on the scale of personnel and resources that are devoted to counterterrorism today. It is taking the CIA and the FBI and all the agencies time to develop new ways of operating so as to penetrate small groups of terrorist cells who generally don't trust any outsider and that are hard to meet in the first place. It is hard but it is doable.

WEST: *For current IU students who might be considering a career in government service, could you tell us what you consider the best aspects of working for the CIA and the government?*

GC: Well, most current students could go out in the business world and make more money than by entering into government service, but then there are those intangibles, like feeling at the end of the day that you have really made a difference in the world. There are many federal agencies and the U.S. military where one can contribute to the welfare of the American people, particularly with the problem of terrorism in today's world. I know the

most about the CIA so will simply say that I have had an exciting career that has allowed me to see much of the world and be a small part of history. I have always enjoyed the individuality of intelligence work. I don't think there are many other professions where one has a chance to make such an impact by your own actions. If you are putting down a dead drop at night in Moscow or negotiating with some Afghan warlord for his cooperation in hunting for Osama bin Laden, there is no committee, no group. You get preparatory assistance, but when it's "show time" in the world of espionage and there may well be lives on

"I have always likened it to a giant mental chess game. Who has the information I need, how do I meet that person, how do I win their confidence so that I can learn what 'dream' I can offer to fulfill for them?"

the line, you succeed or fail as an individual. I received the CIA's Intelligence Medal of Merit for an operation I once did in Moscow during the Cold War era. I doubt I'd ever get the same adrenalin rush as I got that day back in Moscow when I safely returned from my mission.

WEST: *We understand that you have recently written a novel which has just been published. Could you tell us something about that?*

GC: I started writing a spy novel several years ago and finally finished it. It also took about 8 months to get it reviewed and cleared for publication by the CIA to make sure I was not revealing any classified information, even though it is a fictional work. It was a thrill to finally see *The Dream Merchant of Lisbon* in print. While a fictional composite of events and characters, I tried telling a story that is pretty close to how real espionage is conducted in today's world. The motivations of why people will commit espionage has always fascinated me, so I try to get inside the heads of the American, Russian and Libyan intelligence officers in this story. All of the intertwining plots within plots come to a head in Lisbon, where all is not as it first appears --- how's that for a tease ending to my interview?

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