



West European Studies

Indiana University, Bloomington

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Newsletter

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Dr. Fritz Breithaupt is Appointed the New Acting Director of WEST

West European



Dr. Fritz Breithaupt

the acting director of WEST. Dr. Breithaupt completed his PhD at Johns Hopkins University, and has been at Indiana University since 1996. His research interests include Goethezeit literature, philosophy, and culture; German and Austrian Modernism, including film; phenomenology and aesthetics; literary

theory; German criminal history and discourses on economics since 1740. His publications include a book on Goethe (*Jenseits der Bilder*, 2000), essays on the history of selfhood before Freud, questions of history and theories of money, as well as edited volumes on Goethe, Wittgenstein, and a forthcoming volume on the culture of money. He also publishes on current affairs, such as 9/11 and the state of the university, in the popular press, such as the German newspaper *Die Zeit*. In 2003-2004, he was in Germany as a Humboldt Fellow to work on his current book-project, *The Ego-Effect of Money*. In our next issue, Dr. Breithaupt will describe his goals for West European Studies as we embark upon a new semester and a new academic year.

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Two WEST Students Gain First-Hand Experience of the EU Through SPEA Summer Course

Michael McLaughlin, a graduate student in WEST and the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA), and Todd Linton, a graduate student in WEST, spent the summer studying the EU – by visiting it. Through a course offered by SPEA entitled “The European Union in the 21st Century,” Mike and Todd joined 14 other area studies, law and SPEA students on a four-week trip across Europe, accompanied by SPEA professor Dr. Eugene McGregor and joined by Dr. David Audretsch in Germany. They stayed in five European cities and visited many major political institutions along the way and gained a fuller understanding of how the EU operates, and what it means for a once-divided continent to pursue a path of peaceful integration.

The class began in Paris, where the students were hosted by the *École Nationale d'Administration* (ENA) – a prestigious training school for high-level civil servants. The students heard presentations by important figures in French public affairs, including representatives from the *Conseil d'État*, the *Magistrature* and the Foreign Ministry, as well as by analysts and academics from European universities and research institutions. The speakers were all engaging and knowledgeable, and gave the students a great amount of insight into the workings of the French government, society and economy, and also into France's place in the wider European context. The class participants were also given rare opportunities to tour the Palais du Luxembourg which houses the French *Sénat*, and the *Hôtel de Ville* – the city hall of Paris.

Despite the busy schedule of lectures and sessions at ENA, the Indiana students still found many opportunities to explore the celebrated City of Lights. *Métro* passes in hand, they spent their free time visiting the famous museums and monuments of the city, strolling through the endless galleries of the Louvre, looking down from the summit of the Eiffel Tower, and enjoying a nighttime boat cruise on the Seine. Some intrepid students even rented a car and paid a visit to the historic beaches and memorials of Normandy. By the end of the week, everyone could navigate the subway system like a seasoned Parisian, and had developed a penchant for the ubiquitous croissants and Nutella.

All too soon, it was time to say good-bye to Paris, and leave by train for Brussels, the capital of Belgium and the seat of the political institutions of the EU. A long weekend afforded the students a chance to visit the historic town of Brugge, and to tour Brussels' famous Grand Place. Then it was back to work, with sessions at the European Commission and the Council of Ministers. After having studied these organizations for so long, it was an incredible opportunity to be able to visit them first-hand, and gain an in-depth understanding of the issues currently confronting the EU. The matter of security policy was then addressed during a visit to NATO, where different perspectives on the Atlantic Alliance were shared by a group of enthusiastic speakers.

After the Brussels portion of the course concluded, the students traveled by bus to the town of Bingen, Germany. A boat ride up the Rhine River, past the region's beautiful castles and vineyards, brought the group to Boppard, a small town on the

Rhine which is home to the *Bundesakademie* – a monastery converted into a training center for German civil servants. After resting for two days in this picturesque town, the students departed by bus for Berlin.

As in Paris and Brussels, the class had a full and busy schedule. After a walking tour of the city, the group attended sessions at the Ministry for Internal Affairs; the Ministry of Economics and Labor; the headquarters of the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union, the current opposition political party; a law firm; and the offices of the weekly newspaper *Die Zeit*. The students gained a strong sense of many different aspects of public policy in Germany, including how the issues which remain from the country's long division are being addressed, and of how Germany is affected by the evolving nature of the EU. The Berlin part of the course concluded with a guided tour of the *Reichstag* – the German parliament building. Everyone climbed to the top of the famous dome for a spectacular view of the city.

The group departed Berlin by bus and next traveled to the German city of Erfurt. There, they participated in a two-day conference at the Erfurt School of Public Policy entitled "Where is Europe Going? (And What Has America to Do With It?)" This conference gave the Indiana University students a remarkable opportunity to discuss the issues they had studied with a group of other students from around the world. Students from the two schools sat together on panels and debated a range of topics, from the future of transatlantic relations to the problems and possibilities associated with EU expansion. A variety of perspectives were presented, and the discussion was stimulating and thought-provoking for everyone. The conference ended with a dinner held at a restored medieval castle

outside of Erfurt. It was a unique and enjoyable experience, and gave the American and European students an opportunity to mingle in a less formal setting. The Erfurt conference was, for many, the highlight of the trip, and a wonderful chance to interact with students from all around the globe, and engage in a dialogue about Europe's place in the world and the future of the EU.



**WEST students Michael McLaughlin and Todd Linton at the EU Council of Ministers.
(picture credit: Monica Endara)**

The next morning, some of the students departed for home, while others went on to Warsaw for the final portion of the course. Todd returned to the United States while Mike remained in Germany for the rest of the summer to do an internship in the town of Jena, which he will describe for us in the next issue of our newsletter. Stay tuned!

Any IU graduate or professional school students who are interested in taking part in the "Europe in the 21st Century" course next summer should watch for announcements about the information sessions which will be held later in this fall, or visit the course information website at:

<http://www.spea.indiana.edu/ids/europe>

Bringing Europe into the Classroom: WEST Holds a Teachers Workshop on EU Expansion and Transatlantic Relations

An awareness of the sweeping transformations in the European Union and countries in Europe is important for college students (especially those in WEST!), but it is equally important that students in middle and high school be familiar with some of the basic developments in the EU. Current information about the EU and post-1989 Europe is frequently absent from secondary school textbooks because the landscape is frequently changing. It is difficult to stay apprised developments such as the introduction of the Euro, the creation of the EU constitution and the recent super-enlargement. In order to help keep teachers up to date on the changes in Europe, West European Studies held a day-long interactive workshop on Friday, May 7, 2004 for area teachers entitled "Teaching About Europe: The European Union and the United States." According to Karen Boschker, the Assistant

Director of WEST and the organizer of the workshop, the theme of the workshop was selected in response to teachers' comments on their need for material to teach post-1989 Europe to AP History students and to meet social studies and foreign language standards.

About thirty educators from Indiana and Ohio gathered in the Oak Room of the Indiana Memorial Union for the start of the workshop. They represented a wide range of teaching fields, from foreign languages to social studies to the fine arts. The participants were welcomed to Indiana University by Karen Boschker. Karen then introduced Dr. Beate Sissenich, a professor from the Political Science Department, and a specialist in EU politics. Dr. Sissenich delivered a lecture which outlined the basic structure and important features of the EU. Following a short break, Dr. Sissenich spoke



Dr. Beate Sissenich moderates a panel of European diplomats and scholars at the "Teaching About Europe" workshop held on May 7, 2004.

again on some of the recent developments in the EU, particularly the recent eastward enlargement, which had occurred on May 1 - only one week before the workshop.

Dr. Sissenich then acted as moderator for a panel discussion which included several distinguished diplomats and scholars. Among the guests who took part in the discussion were Dr. Alexander Petri, the Consul General at the German Consulate in Chicago; Mr. Robert de Leeuw, the Consul General at the Dutch Consulate in Chicago; Dr. Bernd Klewitz and Dr. Christopher Veldhues of the Goethe Institut in Chicago; Mr. Steven Tuchman, the Honorary Danish Consul; and Ms. Veronique Renault, the Attachée Culturelle Adjointe from the French Consulate in Chicago, who participated in the panel via conference call. The panelists discussed their respective countries' positions on the EU, the recent expansion and the current state of U.S.-European relations. After their remarks concluded, the floor was opened to questions from the teachers in the audience, and a lively and interesting exchange of ideas took place. Following the panel session, the workshop participants adjourned to Le Petit Café, a French restaurant in Bloomington, where they enjoyed an authentic European lunch. Language tables were set up to enable those who wished to converse in a foreign language over the meal to do so, and teachers were able to chat with one another and with the discussion panelists.

After lunch, the teachers returned to the IMU and broke into language sessions which were conducted in German, French, Spanish and English. The participants then reconvened for a session entitled "The EU in the Indiana Classroom," which was conducted by Karen Jackson and Adrea Lawrence, both doctoral candidates at the IU School of Education. The teachers in the

audience were presented with useful advice for incorporating information about the EU into their lesson plans and curriculum.

After the workshop, the teachers expressed overwhelmingly positive responses to panel discussion and the information sessions. "The (panel) participants were very knowledgeable and brought an interesting perspective to the EU," enthused one attendee. "This workshop has been a valuable experience," said another.

One participant remarked that the session has been extremely informative, and had provided her with useful ideas on how to incorporate the European Union into her foreign language classes

Another teacher commented on why workshops such as the one organized by WEST are so important for educators. "Social studies and foreign language teachers do need a lot of help in keeping up-to-date with the changing EU and keeping their instructional materials current."

Judging by the positive responses, the workshop clearly provided this much-needed assistance, and was a great asset to the teachers who took part in it.



It's All Greek to Her: WEST Alumna's Passion Encompasses Both Classical and Hellenic Cultures

West European Studies graduate Jennifer Reilly has found a way to pursue her interests in both ancient and contemporary Greece as the Programs Officer at Harvard University's Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, DC. Jennifer first became interested in classical civilizations when she began studying Latin in the seventh grade. Later, in high school, an inspiring Latin teacher encouraged her to continue studying classical languages in college. She enrolled at Beloit College in Wisconsin, where she majored in Classical Philology, studying ancient Latin and Greek. The College Year in Athens program allowed her to spend her junior year studying in Athens, an experience which she credits for exposing her to the richness of modern Greece as well as to its classical past, and which helped her to decide on the direction of her further education. "My year in Athens was a turning point in my intellectual development because while I was intensely studying ancient Greek culture and classical civilization, I was also learning Modern Greek and falling in love with Greece's post-classical history at the same time," says Jennifer. "Ultimately, when I returned to Beloit, I decided that I would pursue a graduate degree in Modern Greek, rather than continue with a PhD in Classical Philology."

Jennifer chose to pursue her graduate education in the WEST Master's degree program at Indiana University. She studied Modern Greek with instructors Olga Kalentzidou and Anna Stroulia, and cites this as a particularly important and rewarding component of her study at WEST. "Individual study with both of these scholars allowed me to work at my own pace, increase my fluency in Modern Greek and pursue topics of interest to me. Both Olga

and Anna guided me towards a more sophisticated fluency in Modern Greek, which is tremendously helpful in my current position."

Jennifer also credits her mentor, the late Professor Bill Cohen of the History Department, as being pivotal to the development of her WEST Master's thesis. Her thesis, entitled *From the Pontos to Rochester: A Pontian Odyssey*, grew out of a graduate history seminar she took with Prof. Cohen, and was completed in 2003. Jennifer found that the freedom and flexibility of the WEST program allowed her to shape a very individualized course of study. "My degree in West European Studies was tailor-made to my interests, and I am grateful for the opportunity to pursue an inter-disciplinary degree suited to my needs."

After completing her studies at Indiana University, Jennifer entered her current position as the Programs Officer at the Center for Hellenic Studies (CHS) in Washington, D.C. The CHS is one of Harvard University's three major off-campus research centers, and is currently under the direction of Indiana University alumnus Dr. Gregory Nagy. According to Jennifer, "The CHS is a dynamic organization that brings together a variety of research and teaching interests encompassing the widest sense of the term 'Hellenic.' As Programs Officer, I coordinate our residential fellowships, electronic and print publications, seminars and conferences, summer program and collaborative research projects. My job is a creative mix of public relations, problem solving and research. It is the kind of work that enhances my learning both professionally and personally."



Distinguished WEST alumna Jennifer Reilly poses with her completed MA thesis -- *From the Pontos to Rochester: A Pontian Odyssey*

Jennifer also organizes study-travel programs in Greece for Harvard alumni, and her work in this area is strongly informed by her enthusiasm for modern Greece. “One of my roles is to encourage our participants to consider the post-classical history of Greece as we travel,” says Jennifer. “I am very passionate about the cultural richness of contemporary Greece and I encourage visitors not to neglect it as they immerse themselves in Greece’s classical past.”

In addition to advocating an awareness of post-classical Greece, Jennifer also stresses the influence that Hellenic culture has had on other regions of the world. “While

ancient Hellenic civilization is the core of contemporary Western civilization, the diffusion of Hellenic culture in ancient times was not limited to what we think of as the ‘West’; the Greeks were a massive cultural presence in Asia, the Middle East and Africa for thousands of years.”

Jennifer sees a parallel between the spread of Hellenism in antiquity, and current developments in the modern EU. “Today, the concept of Europe functions much like Hellenic civilization in ancient times, with the expansion of the European Union in areas that traditionally straddle East and

West – such as Eastern Europe, Cyprus and Turkey.”

Jennifer credits WEST for allowing her to study Hellenic civilization from a variety of perspectives and for broadening her own outlook on the world, which has in turn influenced her work. “The program in West European Studies gave me the opportunity to explore both the ‘eastern’ and ‘western’ aspects of Greece through interdisciplinary coursework and to study contemporary Europe, but also to consider the Ottoman influence through the Turkish Studies and Anthropology Departments,” says Jennifer. “My education at Indiana University helped shape the way I view the world today.”

WEST Announces Faculty Grant Recipients for 2004-2005

The following faculty members were recipients of grants for the academic year 2003-2004 from West European Studies. These grants are funded by the West European Studies National Resource Center and are made possible by a US/DE Title VI Grant.

Travel Grants:

Maryellen Bieder – Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Aurelian Craiutu – Department of Political Science

Michel Chaouli – Department of Germanic Studies

Roy Gardner – Department of Economics

Esther Ham – West European Studies/Department of Germanic Studies

Olga Kalentzidou – West European Studies

Jonathan Sheehan – Department of History

Beate Sissenich – Department of Political Science

Steven Wagschal – Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Curriculum Development Grants:

Joseph Chaney – Department of English, IUSB

Lesley Walker – Department of Foreign Languages, IUSB

Beate Sissenich – Department of Political Science

Faculty Language Grants:

Michel Chaouli – Department of Germanic Studies

Marci Shore – Department of History

Steven Wagschal – Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Gail Whitchurch – Communication Studies Department, IUPUI

WEST Announces Recipients of Teacher Awards

Indiana University's West European Studies National Resource Center has awarded grants to Indiana educators to improve what their students learn about Europe. The center awarded grants ranging from \$500-\$3000 to eight Indiana educators this year. These curriculum awards are made

possible by a US/DE Title VI grant housed by the center

Patricia Aakhus of Evansville, IN, the Director of International Studies at the University of Southern Indiana, received a grant to further her research and course development involving the relationship between contemporary West European festivals and their medieval traditions.

Karen Baumann of Hammond, IN, the chair of the Fine Arts Department at Hammond High School, received a grant to develop a unit for high school fine arts students called "Berlin Wall: A Concrete Canvas," that will explore the political, social, and artistic facets of the remains of the Berlin Wall.

Edith Campbell of Indianapolis, IN, a social studies teacher at Arlington High School, received a grant to explore how the movement of people and ideas create change in her unit, "The Browning of Britain," for high school world geography courses.

Lila Doma and **Liz Grau** of Carmel, IN, who teach 6th grade language arts and social studies at Carmel Jr. High School, each received a grant to develop a curricular unit called "Understanding Europe -- A Cultural Mosaic," for their 6th grade language arts and social studies classrooms.

Nancy Edwards of Jasonville, IN, a French and German teacher at Shakamak Jr.-Sr. High school, received a grant to develop a unit on the history, structure, and evolving organization of the European Union (EU) for students in advanced foreign language and social studies classes.

Keith O'Connell of Osceola, IN, a geography teacher at Penn High School, received a grant to develop a unit on the effects of political turmoil in Northern Ireland on settlement patterns for high school geography students.

Peter Riordan of South Bend, IN, an economics teacher at Penn High School, received a grant to develop a unit dealing with international trade and the value of currencies, focusing specifically on the euro and the dollar, for high school economics classes.

Karen Boschker, Assistant Director of the West European Studies National Resource Center said, "We received a number of very good proposals this year, making the selection of these proposals a great honor."

David Audretsch, Director of the Center and the Ameritech Chair of Economic Development in IU's School of Public and Environmental Affairs, cited these curriculum grants as crucial investments facilitated by the University to promote economic development in Indiana. "In the global economy, the future competitiveness of Indiana depends on our ability to understand issues and events around the world and to relate to and communicate with foreign partners," said Audretsch. "These grants make an important contribution in equipping the future Hoosier workforce with the skills they need to successfully compete in internationally linked markets."

The purpose of the curriculum grants is to encourage scholarship and disseminate information about Western Europe among K-16 teachers and students and to aid educators in their mission. The units prepared by the educators who received the grants will be made available to other teachers in Indiana and the country through the center's various outreach activities. To receive a copy of the curriculum units, please contact West European Studies.