Despite more than twenty years of affiliation with WEST, the task of taking on the Directorship is humbling. On the one hand, having the opportunity to build on the accomplishments of the previous directors and associate directors is exciting while on the other hand, the chance to put forward some new ideas for WEST is challenging. In this communication, I mainly want to tell you about our progress thus far. In the next issue, Associate Director Amanda Smith will author this column.

We are now several months into the leadership team transition (see article pp. 5). Amanda and I have benefitted from wonderful support from WEST’s previous directors and associate directors and lots of much appreciated help from the College professional staff and other Title VI Centers. In the midst of all this change, Linda Jean (Administrative Secretary) holds the record for continuity. The contribution of WEST’s team of Graduate Assistants to the success of the Center must be acknowledged from the start—they really are the heart of the machine. This year we’ve already gained much from the help of Alison Behling, Brendan Fay, Tia Trueblood, Ryan Weeks, and Luke Wood. Paul Pass and Amy Luck, two of our 2007-08 GAs, worked through the summer and contributed to a smooth transition and reorganization of WEST.

WEST has not been off to a slow start. During the month of September WEST participated in a Title VI external review, several outreach events for teaching including the Anne Frank Teachers Workshop and, with the help affiliated faculty (Beate Sissenich; Gerhard Glomm; Dan Knudsen; William Corsaro; Margot Gray; Michel Chaouli and Bill Scheuerman), WEST undertook a review of its undergraduate minor. This proposal is now under consideration by the College.

We have a number of conferences and events that will take place during the academic year. One of the most important of these is hosting the Summer Language Institutes for both Dutch and Scandinavian Languages in May and June. These institutes are part of a collaborative relationship among several universities and host responsibilities rotate among them. Language classes in Basic and Advanced Dutch, Basic Swedish and Norwegian will be available for credit and open to the public. The intensive formats of these courses allow individuals to make substantial progress in language skills in a very short time. In fact, a student can achieve the equivalent of one’s academic year’s language training (8 credit hours) in eight weeks. As part of the Summer Institutes, WEST will sponsor two one-credit hour culture courses open to both students and the general public. Professor Michelle Facos will teach Dutch and Nordic Art and Dr. Per Nordahl will offer a comparative course on Nordic and Dutch Immigration.
WEST EXCHANGE
(Cont’d)

We partner with other Title VI Centers and draw on the WEST affiliated faculty and Graduate Assistants to participate in the Voices and Visions project. This initiative seeks to advance understanding between Muslims and Non-Muslims and appreciation of Islam in a global context. The project, which is funded by the Social Science Research Center and led by the Center for the Study of Global Change, will produce a series of podcasts of interest to WEST friends. Among these will be topics such as Muslims and Western Politics, What it Means to be Muslim and European, and Issues related to French and Turkish Headscarf Laws. WEST will contribute films from its library for an event at the Waldron Arts center related to Muslims around the World. There is an online link (muslimvoices) which provides the podcasts and schedule of events.

If you visit WEST (Ballantine 542) you will see we have fully reorganized our office space to make it more efficient for work. We’ve carved out a computer workstation for visiting scholars and other faculty who might need a temporary place to work or check email. Kate Crary, a recent MPA graduate, began working on the webpage and editing the August EUC Newsletter this summer. She’s been a great asset in helping us transition to the new organizational structure, particularly given her training in finance and budgeting. A less apparent, but important change has also occurred in the organizational structure of WEST. Since the grant funding the European Union Center of Excellence expired in August, the European Union Center merged with WEST. The link for the EU Center remains at http://www.indiana.edu/~eucenter/ or you can access it through the main WEST webpage. Beginning with this issue, events and news items pertaining to the European Union Center will be included in this newsletter under a separate heading: “EU@IU: European Center News” (pp. 8).

WEST received an additional boost of $2,500 in our annual Title VI funding to improve our website. Over the next few years, we plan to expand our use of technology including podcasts, videocasting, and polycom software. We plan to partner with different units within the university as well as other organizations to expand our capacity as well as our impact. We hope to expand WEST’s impact with broader outreach to larger audiences partly through more use of technology but also by reaching beyond our traditional constituencies. Of course, WEST continues to pursue the activities that are at the core of West European Studies, including the Foreign Languages across the Curriculum, Model EU Simulation, outreach activities to school teachers and promotion of scholarship and understanding about Western Europe among the faculty.

Our new advisory board consists of both incoming and continuing board members and represents different units within the university. The newly appointed board members are Hanna Buxbaum (Law), Lynn Duggan (Labor Studies); Margot Gray (French); Esther Ham (Germanic/WEST), Dan Knudsen (International Studies/Geography) and William Scheuerman (Political Science/WEST). We are very grateful for their willingness to serve and share their expertise. This is good time to note our appreciation to WEST alumni and friends for their generous contributions this year to WEST European Studies through the IU Foundation. We plan to organize a small committee made up of alumni, faculty and friends of WEST to help advance our giving program. Currently gifts can be made to WEST for the General Foundation Fund, for the Cohen Award, and for the Midwest Model EU.

International programs and initiatives are directly in the spotlight at Indiana University and significant efforts are underway to push the borders of IU’s international presence. The study of Western Europe and its institutions, however, retain their high importance. Socially, culturally, economically and politically the United States and the State of Indiana maintain strong ties to Europe and the European Union. WEST’s efforts to demonstrate the importance of Western Europe and advance knowledge and understanding about the region are highlighted on our webpage-- http://www.indiana.edu/~west/. Visit us there or in Ballantine Hall 542 to keep abreast of our programs and activities.
Small States, Emerging Power?
By Luke Wood

For scholars and students of Western Europe, the once poor and frequently overlooked nations of Ireland, Iceland, Denmark, Spain, and Portugal are persistent focal points as these nations—both collectively and independently—make their presence felt in global institutions and Trans-Atlantic policies.

It is precisely in this context that the Republic of Iceland enters the world stage after decades of economic and political isolation; an island nation in the far reaches of the North Atlantic moving from hardship and poverty to global influence and leadership. Moving from success to success, Iceland embodies a new approach to foreign relations and a political sophistication that cannot be ignored. What is this approach? Energy independence, local government, non-military action, intense diplomacy, emphasis on human rights, and a non-confrontational, non-threatening leadership. Such a platform has allowed Iceland to move smoothly between the centers of power—Europe, the United States, and Russia: Iceland transitions smoothly from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to the European Free Trade Area to approaching Moscow for energy or financial help.

In June 2008, The University of Iceland’s Institute of International Affairs and Center for Small State Studies hosted a series of lectures in Reykjavik. Entitled Small States—Emerging Power? The Larger Role of Smaller States in the 21st Century, the conference sought to provide a platform to “address some of the challenges and key questions regarding the role and responsibility of small states in the 21st Century.”

The speakers at the conference included diplomats and representatives from small nations and islands states like Iceland. The conference was opened by President Ólafur Ragnar Grimsson of Iceland who spoke warmly about the potential of Iceland in the new century and candidly about relations with the United States and Western Europe. Proceeding President Grimsson was former United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Finnish Defense Minister Elisabeth Rehn who spoke on the leadership of small states in global and regional peace-building; and finally Mrs. Ingibjörg Gisladóttir, the Icelandic Minister of Foreign Affairs who closed with remarks on Icelandic ambitions within the United Nations and particularly the potential of Icelandic candidature to the UN Security Council.

The potential for Icelandic election to the Security Council has spurred a tremendous buzz in the international community and within political circles throughout Iceland, representing a foreign policy milestone for the nation and important implications for other small states in Europe and around the world. According to the Icelandic Foreign Minister, Ingibjörg Gisladóttir Iceland hopes to reaffirm its identity as a world player, acting as a bridge between the larger states and the smaller states, and operating in what she termed as “a fundamental global shift—a world no longer divided into blocks.” Iceland’s potential role for the advocacy of peace, human rights, and environmental sustainability is substantial. Iceland is one of twenty-four nations in the UN without armed forces. The conference participants emphasized the significance of Iceland’s non-military approach to global conflict resolution and noted that Iceland enjoys a great deal of trust and legitimacy from other nations.
WEST FOCUS
(Small States—Continued)

The expanding role of Iceland in the United Nations would be matched by its increasing presence in north Atlantic commerce, trade, and security arrangements. Iceland enjoys a prominent position on the Nordic Council, Scandinavia’s localized policy institution, the members of which greatly support Iceland’s candidature to the United Nations Security Council. Iceland touts its position as a NATO member and a European nation independent both of the European Union and the United States and able to act as broker between the two, or between the larger political spheres and other smaller, potentially reluctant states.

The elections of the 63rd United Nations General Assembly proceed in mid-October of this year. Iceland is to compete against Austria and Turkey. The Icelandic agenda on the Security Council includes human rights advocacy, greater inclusion on women in international negotiations, and issue of global climate change and nuclear non-proliferation disarmament. As President Grímsson noted, “Large states continue to fail to see the significance of the rising influence and success of small and medium state actors…Innovation can emerge from any part of the world; its is no longer centralized around large states and mass production.” The President’s remarks are certainly true about Iceland, whose innovative and creative nature has pushed his nation to the forefront of global governance.

Given the economic and financial concerns of today, we cannot exclude information about the Icelandic national economy and financial institutions. After emergency sessions in the Icelandic parliament, the Icelandic government under Gier Haarde has nationalized Iceland’s three major private banks, Landbanki, Kaupþing, and Glitnir. After approaching foreign governments for financial assistance unsuccessfully, Iceland and Russia are considering a set of proposals for a loan of nearly €4 billion. The volatile nature of the global financial institutions has proven to be the largest banking crisis in Iceland’s national history. Click here for further information on Icelandic financial news.

WEST COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Diary of Anne Frank Teacher Workshop

On September 17th, twenty-two Indiana teachers participated in a workshop focused on developing strategies to incorporate the teaching of The Diary of Anne Frank in the classroom. Led by world renowned experts, Dr David Barnouw and Dr Alvin Rosenfeld, the workshop offered teachers the opportunity to examine the historical background of the Holocaust in the Netherlands, as well as the legacy of Anne Frank. Dr. Barnouw is a researcher and spokesperson for the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation. He has written frequently about Anne Frank and her influence in post-war Europe and the USA and is considered to be a leading scholar in the field. Dr. Alvin Rosenfeld is the Director of the Institute for Jewish Culture and the Arts at Indiana University and is author of several books on the Holocaust.

Following the workshop, participants were invited to a special performance of the Wendy Kesselman’s new interpretation of The Diary of Anne Frank performed by Cardinal Stage Company.

In addition to the lecture and performance, teachers received a 30 page supplemental teaching guide on Anne Frank, developed in cooperation with Indiana University’s Esther Ham, Coordinator for the Dutch Language and Culture Program. Teachers also attended a performance of Wendy Kesselman’s play “The Diary of Anne Frank.” Concluding the evening, was a special talk-back session with the playwright, director, and select actors.

The workshop was made possible by a collaborative effort and financial support by West European Studies, Cardinal Stage Company, Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Jewish Studies Program, the Borns Jewish Studies Program’s Institute for Jewish Culture and the Arts, the Office of the Vice President of International Affairs, the Germanic Studies Department, and the Institute for Germanic Studies.
WEST FACULTY AND STAFF
Transition and Accomplishment

2008 has been a year of transition as the Center for West European Studies (WEST) welcomed new faces and said goodbye to old friends. Professor Patricia McManus served as interim director at WEST from 2007-2008. She now is Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Sociology (IUB). Professor Lois R. Wise, a faculty member from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) who has been an affiliated WEST faculty member for over 20 years became Director of West European Studies and the European Union Center in July 2008. Dr. Wise’s research portfolio includes studies of public management reform in Europe, particularly Scandinavia.

WEST also welcomed Amanda Smith as new Associate Director of West European Studies in 2008. She is a recent graduate of the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) and brings over 5 years of administrative experience to the department. Smith assumed the position once occupied by Deborah Piston-Hatlen who is now Assistant Director in the Office of Cultural Immersion Projects in the IUB School of Education. Piston-Hatlen made many important contributions to WEST including the expansion of foreign languages across the curriculum courses (FLAC), and organizing a number of cultural workshops for language teachers. She continues to share her expertise with WEST.

During the summer 2008, WEST was able to grant four faculty fellowships for research. From Germanic studies to Geography and Art History, the topics were diverse. Daniel C. Knudsen and Charles Greer of the Geography Department at IUB completed summer research in Denmark entitled: Beautiful Copenhagen: Nationality and the Danish Landscape Aesthetic. The research explored the concept of the Danish “nationscape” and attempted to draw out and isolate its elements through the employment of abstract concepts such as the sublime, the picturesque, and the beautiful. The study explored the island of Fyn and the city of Copenhagen.

Michelle Facos spent her fellowship time this summer conducting research for her current book project on Jews and the Promotion of Swedish National Identity. Her time in Sweden was divided between Mora and Stockholm, as she conducted interviews and research at the Zorn Museum and Thiel Gallery.

Johannes Türk, Germanic Studies, was able to rewrite and rework substantial portions of an upcoming book. The chapters on Marcel Proust and Niklas Luhmann were of special concern to Türk, as well as reworking the introduction, bibliography, conclusion, and references.

From Left to right: Michelle Facos, Charles Greer, Daniel C. Knudsen, and Johannes Türk
WEST STUDENTS, FACULTY & ALUMNI

News and Updates

John Lary (PhD. History, WEST minor) taught a summer class through the IUB history department, entitled Terror and Technology.

Paul Pass (MA, WEST) held a film screening and discussion on international education at the International Studies Summer Institute Teacher Workshop in July. He’s now completing his thesis.

Christy Holding (WEST minor) completed a study abroad program in Rennes, France during the summer. Study in France allowed for travel through much of Western and Central Europe.

Alex Tipei (History Doctoral student) spent the summer in Athens, Greece taking intensive Modern Greek courses at the Athens Centre with funding from a WEST FLAS fellowship.

Alison Behling (Joint SPEA, WEST MA) worked as a State Department intern this summer in the Global Affairs unit of the Economic section at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Germany.

Brendan Fay, History doctoral student, along with WEST MA students Paul Pass and Tia Trueblood served as staff for the International Summer Studies Institute (ISSI), a two-week conference for U.S. and international educators.

Patrick Gilner (History doctoral student) presented "Dolchstoß Disparity: Reconsidering German Right-Wing Homogeneity and the ‘Stab-in-the-Back’" at the Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference at the University of Colorado, Boulder, September 20.

Milena Neshkova (WEST doctoral minor) completed her PhD in August 2008 and is now working as Assistant Professor at Florida International University.

Audrey Dobrenn and Benedicte Sohier, doctoral students in French, conversed in French via video-conference with students at Lanesville High School September 22. The program is part of a semester-long outreach program organized by WEST with the help of Tristra Newyear of the IUB International Outreach Council.

WEST was able to grant seven Foreign Language Acquisition Scholarships for the 2008-2009 academic year. Congratulations to Jennifer Betters Songe (French, French Linguistics); Hannah Edgerton (Italian, Fine Arts); Brendan Fay (German, History); Sheena Ketchum (Italian, Anthropology); Roger Munson (German, WEST); Kallan Picha (German; WEST); and Wil Raniken (Finnish, Sociolinguistics). FLAS Scholarships for 2009-2010 and Summer 2009 are available through the WEST website. Applications are due February 2009.

WEST Lecturers Esther Ham, Frank Hess and Gergana May joined WEST MA student Alison Behling in introducing incoming freshman to WEST at the College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Majors Fair, held August 28.

WEST graduate students were oriented to the program August 27 with featured speakers Gene Coyle, Adjunct Faculty, SPEA; recent Alum Andrew Satchwell; Crystal Smith of the Career Development Center and Nick Clark representing GPSO. Students then luncheoned with faculty in the Tudor Room and enjoyed a special tour of the library led by librarian Bob Goehlert.

Professor Douglas Hofstadter, (Cognitive Science) published a New York Times Best Seller I Am a Strange Loop, available now in paperback through Basic Books. A copy is also available in the WEST Center Library.

Professor Robert Agranoff (SPEA) attended the Fourth Transatlantic Dialogue at the University of Bocconi, in Milan, Italy July 12-14 2008. The theme of the 4th conference was The Status of Intergovernmental Relations and Multi-Level Governance in Europe and the US. Agranoff presented a paper entitled Toward an Emergent Theory of Governance within IGR. The paper is available at the conference website: http://www.4tad.org/
During my two years in Bloomington (1983-85), I studied German history and politics, with forays into literature, art history, and philosophy. I benefited tremendously from the wisdom and guidance of teachers like Jim Diehl, Albrecht Holschuh, Norm Furniss, and Henry Remak. I spent the academic year 1985-86 on an exchange fellowship at the Christian-Albrechts-Universität in Kiel, where I continued to immerse myself in German studies and – less constructively – abandoned my work to date on my M.A. thesis in favor of a new subject, the 1986 U.S. bombing of Libya as a problem in U.S.-West German relations. After returning to the U.S., I researched while I worked an office job in D.C.. Professor Alfred Diamant, my thesis adviser, showed incredible patience as I sent him bits and pieces for his review over a period of many months. I have a special respect and affection for this unfailingly kind and supportive man; a perfect mentor. I finished the thesis in early 1989 at the same time that I was accepted into the State Department's Foreign Service. My M.A. in West European Studies proved to be a true pre-professional course of study. It provided me with skills that I have drawn on for 19 years. As the recipient of a FLAS, I had studied Danish for two semesters in Bloomington. As a result, I was sent to Copenhagen for my first posting, with only a few weeks' brush-up training to get my Danish to the required proficiency. Since then, I have worked mostly on European affairs. I have had three assignments relating directly to Germany: in the Office of Austrian, German and Swiss Affairs, in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, and at the United States Embassy in Berlin.

The subject of my thesis became directly relevant to my work. In Berlin, I was assigned to monitor the trial of the Libyan agents and their German accomplices who had bombed a Tempelhof nightclub, killing two U.S. servicemen. The incident served as a catalyst for the U.S. strikes against Tripoli and Benghazi in 1986. During my years working on European issues, I had sometimes cast longing glances at more exotic regions, and in 2003 I took a posting as a political officer in Jakarta, Indonesia. I found Indonesia endlessly fascinating. Something of its atmosphere is captured in the Peter Weir film "The Year of Living Dangerously," which made an impression on me when I first saw it in Bloomington. I liked Jakarta so well that for my next assignment I moved next door, to our Embassy in Timor-Leste (formerly East Timor), where I am now Deputy Chief of Mission. When I was studying in WEST, I hoped for a career that involved working in foreign languages, living overseas, shaping current affairs, and continuing to learn about the wider world. I have definitely found that much in the Foreign Service, with the added challenges of explaining my own country to others and advancing its interests.

*Written By Henry Rector (below left); MA West European Studies, Indiana University 1989; He is presently the Deputy Chief of Mission, United States Embassy Timor-Leste. The Republic of Indonesia (below right) with an impressive population of 222 million inhabitants living on nearly 6,000 different islands, continues to be a major regional geopolitical player in Southeast Asia.* (source: www.wikipedia.org) WEST alumni are encouraged to share their career experiences.
EU@IU
European Union Center October News

EU Science Counselor Visits Indiana University

Dr. Laurent Bochereau, Counselor and Head of Science, Technology and Education, Delegation of the European Commission, Washington, D.C. visited both the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses on September 17th as part of an effort to make Indiana University Faculty more aware of research funding opportunities through the European Union Commission and to touch base with visiting European Scholars working at IU this semester.

Dr. Bochereau drew out attention to the EU/US Research and Education Workshop which is an official event of the French Presidency of the EU. The workshop will take place November 17 to 18 in Atlanta. The main part of the workshop is dedicated to discussions of key themes related to stimulation of transatlantic degree programs, innovative curricula for advancing R&D careers; mobility of scientists to contribute to network development; and how mobility can contribute to innovation in a global context. More information can be found at www.dlpe.gatech.edu/EUUS-Workshop. A major focus of the European Union research agenda is promoting researcher mobility as a vehicle for carrying scientific knowledge from one country to another. On the one hand, efforts are made to make the EU a more attractive location for researchers from other countries while on the other efforts are made to reduce barriers to movement of scholars to and from Europe and to develop networks and resources to assure that researchers are informed of opportunities available to them. This includes practical support before, during and after a geographic move to assure that the mobility experience is a successful one.

Under the ERA-Link Network special efforts are made to create and maintain connections among European scholars living in the US. The Link provides information about research in Europe, European research policy, opportunities for research funding, for international collaboration and for trans-national mobility. The members of the network are multidisciplinary and at all stages of their professional careers. The link enables them to remain informed about EU research policies and aware of career opportunities in Europe as well as opportunities for collaboration with European researchers. A goal of the network is to ensure that European researchers are recognized as key a critical resource for the European Research Area, whether they continue to work in the US or decide to return to Europe.

Dr. Bochereau mentioned several different programs that facilitate the exchange of both students and researchers. Some of the research awards are open to non-European scholars in both natural and social sciences. These include the Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowships which specifically target non-European scientists.

Under the 7th Framework Program more than €4.7 billion is available for financing, training and mobility activities. Known as the Marie Curie Actions, training and mobility programs for researchers are aimed at the development and transfer of research competencies, the consolidation and widening of researchers' career prospects and the promotion of excellence in European research. These actions are open to researchers in all fields of scientific and technological research from all over the world. Eligibility for the various schemes is based on research experience and expertise. The actions are also open to businesses, universities and institutions active in research.

Faculty Summer Curriculum Development Awards

Two faculty members received awards for curriculum development. Professor Beate Sissenich (Political Science IUB) developed a course entitled Politics of Gender and Sexuality: The Comparative Politics of Reproductive Health, which is being offered this fall semester (2008) as West European Studies W405/W605. Professor Lisa Zwicker (History—IUSB) Developed a history course focusing on the post World War II period and entitled Europe 1945-2009 (B362). The course is being offered in the Fall 2008 semester.

Faculty Summer Research Awards

The European Union Center offered one summer research award this year to Sergio Fernandez (SPEA). His project is entitled Procurement Policies in the European Union.
IU Hosts the Summer Scandinavian and Dutch Language Institutes
May 11 – July 10, 2009

National Institute of Summer Scandinavian Studies (NISSS) May 18 to July 10 2009
In 2009 WEST and Germanic Studies will host the National Institute of Summer Scandinavian Studies. The Institute offers intensive language instruction in beginning Norwegian and Swedish. Students can earn 8 credit hours but the course is open to non-students as well.

Dutch Summer Institute — May 18 to July 10 2009
WEST and Germanic Studies will host the Dutch Summer Institute. Beginning and intermediate Dutch will be offered simultaneously during the eight weeks. Students can earn 8 credit hours but the course is open to non-students as well.

Two Comparative Dutch/Nordic Courses — May 11 to 15 2009
Additionally, as part of the Summer Institutes, WEST will offer two one-credit cultural courses, Dutch and Nordic Art taught by Professor Michelle Facos and Dutch and Nordic Immigration taught by Dr. Per Nordahl. The Dutch and Nordic Art course will meet from 10:00 am -12:30 pm and the Dutch and Nordic Immigration class will meet from 2:00 to 4:30 pm. The courses are offered to students and the general public. Students can earn one credit hour for each course.

More information on the Summer Scandinavian and Dutch Language Institutes will be available on the WEST website.
West European Studies
European Union Center

WEST Graduate Program
Propective Student Visit Day

West European Studies
Master’s Program

Please join us for an introduction to Graduate Studies at Indiana University and the Center for West European Studies
Friday 14 November 2008
Beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Reception, Coffee, and Pastries
Ballantine Hall 004, 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Dr. Lois R. Wise, Director
Amanda Smith, Associate Director

Graduate Studies at Indiana University
IMU 008, 11:30-12:00
Current WEST Master’s Student

Lunch
Indiana Memorial Union MO88, 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Professor Fritz Breithaupt

Campus Tour and Coffee Hour
Indiana University, Bloomington 1:00-4:00 p.m.
WEST Master’s Students

Send R.S.V.P. no later than November 7, 2008
To west@indiana.edu