The start of the spring semester is always a busy time of year and this one is no exception. Besides the usual tasks we also have the important job of developing a proposal to renew our Title VI grant from the U.S. Department of Education, so things are hopping for all the staff and our indispensable graduate assistants.

This year’s masters’ applicants are an exciting group who will bring diversity in their academic interests to WEST. Our Associate Director, Amanda Smith, is already organizing campus visits for potential recruits so they can learn more about the many offerings of Indiana University and WEST’s academic program.

For those of you away from campus or just busy, I urge you to check the WEST website, a revamped version of which will be released in March. There you can view and listen to many of our recent faculty lectures and conference speakers. You’ll find our updated website much more visitor friendly and full of useful resources. WEST is making great strides in incorporating advanced digital media into our everyday activities. There’s always a stimulating debate about current events at “Across the Pond” and it’s a good way to stay informed.

The ongoing economic crisis in Greece is perhaps the biggest test the Euro-zone has faced in its young history. It has exposed how national identities, rather than a pan-European identity, still reign supreme across Europe, and forced citizens across the European Union to examine how closely their fortunes are tied to their neighbors’. While the prospect of a EU rescue plan to shore up both the floundering Greek economy and the Euro itself is now all but official, the story is still very much unfolding. Citizens of Germany, the EU’s largest economy, are expressing their dissatisfaction with their role as the nation that would bear most of the bailout burden, while citizens of Greece are angry about the proposed cuts to social welfare and pension programs that would be a part of any EU bailout deal.

A February 15th article in the New York Times cites an opinion survey that determined that two thirds of the German public were opposed to financial assistance for Greece, but the more worrying figure for EU officials was perhaps the 53% of Germans who favored expelling Greece entirely from the Euro-zone if their public debts threatened the currency’s stability. While this is an unprecedented and unlikely scenario, the survey does speak to larger concerns over attempts to build not only an economic union, but also a shared European identity.
For their help in reviewing applicants this spring for admission, FLAS, and other awards, I sincerely thank our WEST-affiliated faculty. The recipient of the Cohen Award for Best Graduate Paper on a topic pertaining to Western Europe is Christopher Molnar for his paper “The ‘Guest Worker Problem’ in Fassbinder’s Films.” The award is accompanied by a $250 prize. Some of you might remember that we have not offered the Cohen Award regularly. We were delighted to receive WEST Foundation donations targeted for the Cohen Award this year. We will be able to offer the competition again this spring with a May 15 deadline for submissions.

WEST is focusing on both enriching and streamlining its MA program and course offerings contribute to those efforts. Summer courses, in particular, are intended to help students move through coursework requirements for the degree more quickly. To advance this objective, Michael Anklin will offer

Political Extremism and Violence in Western Europe after World War II. We are also exploring online course options for distance learning. Esther Ham, for example, will pilot test Intermediate Dutch in a combined in-class and online format this summer. Additionally, the recipient of our Associate Instructor competition for summer teaching, Bogdan Popa, will offer “Reading Western European Cinema: Love, Anger, Grief and Trauma” this summer for undergrads. We very much appreciate their efforts.

There are too many upcoming events to mention all of them but I would like to point to Passionate Convictions as a “must do.” It’s part of a new series of events in our ongoing partnership with the IU ART Museum. This exciting concert will push classic music to extremes with a multilevel-staged production of J. S. Bach’s St. John Passion in the IU Art Museum, February 26 and 27, from 7:00-8:30 pm. WEST will sponsor many events this semester and we hope to see you at some of them!

Germany to Change Course in Afghanistan

Ryan Cooper, WEST MA Student

“Simply continuing as we have is not an option. Neither is walking away and looking away.” So were the words of German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle (FDP) to the Bundestag on February 10 regarding proposed changes by Chancellor Angela Merkel (CDU) to the German strategy in Afghanistan. Although the calls for an increase in German troop levels and financial aid have been openly discussed for over a month, the fate of these changes now rests in the hands of the representatives of the German people.

Currently, Germany has a troop presence of just over 4,400 troops in Afghanistan as a part of NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). Their commitment is the third largest by country behind the United States and United Kingdom. Germany is also in charge of the Regional Command-North (RC-N) which comprises the northern provinces of Afghanistan. The German army, or Bundeswehr, has focused on reconstruction and security in the RC-N.

But Germany has faced pressure from NATO to increase the number of troops on the ground and monetary contributions. On January 28, Chancellor Merkel made clear at the NATO conference in London that she intended to deploy an additional 500 troops and place 350 more on “flexible reserve” if additional security forces become necessary. Furthermore, within the German troops, the number of trainers will be increased from 280 to 1,400. Merkel has also proposed to send €430 million annually from 2010-2013 toward infrastructure and education for Afghans with an additional €50 million over five years pledged to an international program that reintegrates Taliban back into civil society.

There are, however, detractors to Germany’s new military direction in Afghanistan. The left-wing party, Die Linke has called for total withdrawal altogether. The sentiment from Die Linke is one felt by many of the German people as well. A survey by the independent polling institute Forsa showed that nearly 80% of Germans oppose an increase in the German troop commitment while 49% said that they did not personally support the deployment of German soldiers to Afghanistan.

Military and police officials, the keys to the security training

See Germany, Page 6
Greek-American singer John Michael Boyer, Protopsaltis (First Cantor) of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco, and who is most well-known as one of the principal singers of the vocal ensemble Cappella Romana, conducted a workshop in the traditional music of the Greek Orthodox Church at All Saints Orthodox Church the weekend of January 22-24, 2010. This event was sponsored in part by the Indiana University West European Studies Center.

Kicking off the weekend, Boyer delivered an introductory lecture on the historical and theoretical issues concerning Byzantine chant, leading into a practicum dealing with learning and singing the music itself. During the introductory proceedings, Dr. Franklin Hess, Instructor of Modern Greek, received on WEST’s behalf an icon of All Saints from the church as a token of appreciation for the Center’s support. The practicum continued on Saturday, and culminated in the singing of the services for the weekend, including Great Vespers that evening, and the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom on Sunday. Participants sang Sunday’s Divine Liturgy from the English language scores composed by Boyer according to traditional Byzantine practice for Cappella Romana’s recent recording, *The Divine Liturgy in English*.

Over the course of the weekend, over 60 attendees participated, including members of the local Greek-American community and others from as far away as Indianapolis, Evansville, and Louisville, Kentucky.

In addition to the weekend workshop, Boyer recorded an in-

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**Student & Faculty Updates**

Reyes Vila-Belda (HISP) presented her paper on "La poesía de Gloria Fuertes, paradigma de la posmodernidad" at the Congreso Internacional de Literatura popular y de masas en el ámbito hispánico: de la oralidad al best-seller (siglos XX-XXI) in Madrid from February 23 to 25.

Matthew Carlton (WEST) completed his master's degree and defense of his thesis entitled "The Bologna Process: Trends from 1999 to 2009" on January 11, 2010. He is currently employed in international education in Atlanta, Georgia, serving as Designated School Official and community outreach coordinator for international students.

Deborah Deliyannis’ (History) book *Ravenna in Late Antiquity*, published by Cambridge University Press, was released February 1st.

Michelle Facos (Art History) has been made a fellow at the Alfried Krupp Wissenschaftkolleg (Institute for Advanced Study) at Ernst Moritz Arndt University in Greifswald, Germany for the academic year 2010-11.


Roy Gardner (Economics) was on the jury for the Japanese Award for the Most Innovative Development Project awarded at the world congress of the Global Development Network in Prague, 16-18 Jan 2010.

Mark Roseman’s (History) book *Documenting Life and Destruction. Jewish Responses to Persecution, 1933-1946. Volume I, (1933-1938)*, written with Jürgen Matthäus, was released January 16th and his article “Between acceptance, exceptionalism, and continuity: German Jewry, antisemitism and the Holocaust” appeared in the February issue of the journal *Contemporary European History*.

Bret Rothstein (Art History) 11 February: presented his paper "Fusion, Confusion, Vision, Cognition," a study of later 16th-century enigmatology, at the 2010 annual meeting of the College Art Association in Chicago. He has also been appointed to the editorial advisory board of *Art History*, an international peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the Association of Art Historians.

Martin Spechler’s (Economics, IUPUI) paper, "The Trouble with Globalization: It Isn't Global Enough!" will be published in an upcoming volume by University of Rochester Press.

***All updates are self-reported. If you have an update you would like to share, email them to west@indiana.edu with the title “WEST Newsletter-Student/Faculty Updates.”***
Alumni Spotlights:
Tia Trueblood and Alison Behling

Tia Trueblood is a 2009 graduate of the WEST MA degree program. She is currently the program coordinator at Pennsylvania State University’s Office of Global Programs. This entails running such events as new international student orientation, workshops on American culture and society, coordinating field trips to other cities, and generally making the 4,500 international students at Penn State feel welcome in the U.S. and at the university. Tia is also responsible for helping these students promote their own countries and cultures on campus, which she enjoys as this involves attending many cultural events and eating a plethora of traditional dishes from around the world!

Since her interests during her time at IU centered on international education, Tia was able to take a diverse course load to gain a larger understanding of different societies. In her current position, she expands on this socio-cultural knowledge when dealing with students and universities from around the world. Tia may be recognized by prospective WEST students as she was featured in a recruitment video this past August. Her advice to future WEST graduates is to be creative in turning your knowledge into a job and that because a WEST degree can be marketed in a lot of ways, cater your coursework and experiences while in grad school to match that.

Alison Behling is also a WEST 2009 MA/MPA graduate. She has recently begun orientation in the Washington, D.C. area for her position as a Junior Officer with the Foreign Service of the U.S. State Department, learning more about the history, mission, and current work of the Foreign Service. Alison will eventually be working in the economic track, matching her interests and experience in energy, natural resource, environment, and science and technology policy issues. She will receive her first post in March at the culmination of her training.

The WEST experience assisted Alison in her career goals by allowing her to develop her foreign language skills in two WEST languages, improve her research skills during the writing of her thesis, and via the support of professors, administrators, and fellow students. Her advice to future students is to persevere in your job search and be willing to get in contact with people directly to take advantage of the various opportunities to learn from them. In the current job market, telephone interviews and staying touch via email are equally as important as meeting face-to-face. Don’t give up after one or two unsuccessful applications; something interesting will come through.

New WEST Film Arrivals

- Animal Love, German
- Antigone, Greek
- Benny’s Video, German
- Betty, French
- Carol’s Journey, Spanish
- The Castle, German
- Contraband, English
- Death of a Cyclist, Spanish
- Diabolique, French
- The Element of Crime, English
- L’Enfer, French
- Europa, German
- Falling, German
- Fanny & Alexander, Swedish
- Going Home, Dutch
- Interview, Dutch
- Kaspar Hauser, German
- Kings of the Road, German
- The Legend of Rita, German
- Little Sister, Dutch
- The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum, German
- Man Bites Dog, French
- The Ninth Day, German
- The Piano Teacher, French
- Rembetiko, Greek
- Revanche, German
- Rules of the Game, French
- Seduced and Abandoned, Italian
- The Seventh Continent, German
- Storm Bound, Dutch
- Sun Alley, German
- That Day, French
- Tomorrow We Move, French
- The Vanishing, Dutch
- Virgin Machine, German
- Zero Kelvin, Norwegian

You can now search the WEST Media Library from your own computer!
http://www.iub.edu/~west/documents/MediaLibraryWeb020410.xls
National concerns are clearly taking precedent in Germany, which also experienced an economic downturn during the global recession, and, as the New York Times article points out, has spent years cutting unemployment benefits and freezing pensions to increase its own economic competitiveness. German politicians will have to quell fears that Greece is not the only nation who will come calling for a bailout, and convince the public that the long-term benefits for Germany’s assisting Greece outweigh the costs. It remains to be seen if Chancellor Angela Merkel’s government will experience any lasting political fallout from this increasingly unpopular plan, but it is not unreasonable to speculate that if Germany’s economy doesn’t pick up in the midst of bailing out a fellow member of the Euro-zone, she could pay the political price for re-stabilizing the Euro.

Meanwhile, the Greek government is facing two major obstacles in its attempts to deal with its massive amounts of debt. Firstly, the EU economic and monetary affairs commissioner, Olli Rehn, has demanded an explanation as to how and why Greece allowed its government debts to spin out of control. According to a February 16th article in the New York Times, Rehn has demanded to know how derivatives from Goldman Sachs funded much of the government’s spending spree. As of this publishing date, no official answer from Athens has been released. The EU has also insisted on a blueprint from the Greek government explaining how it will cut its deficit from 12.7% of its economic output to 8.7% within a year.

Perhaps even more difficult than answering the thorny questions from the EU, the Greek government must negotiate spending cuts with its own population, which has thus far shown no signs of cooperation. There have been numerous strikes and protests in recent weeks against the government’s austerity measures, particularly freezes to public wages and pension programs, which make up 51 percent of the national budget. Greece, like many other EU member states, has traditionally provided very generous welfare packages to its public servants, but they also have a long history of using money to stave off concerns from various constituencies and to halt strikes. The new government under George Papandreou, has promised to make major spending cuts, but with such vehement public protests against the very idea of austerity spending, many observers fear that Papandreou will lack the necessary fortitude to follow through on his rhetoric.

The way in which Brussels eventually chooses to handle this crisis will have a long-term effect both on EU economic policy, and relationships among its members. Greece is not the only nation struggling within the Euro-zone—Spain also has large amounts of government debt, and there have been concerns raised about the stability of the Portuguese economy. Both of these nations’ problems have been exacerbated by the floundering Euro. The precedent set by a rescue package for Greece could encourage other Euro-zone states to continue their reckless government spending. However, the larger and historically more stable economies, like Germany and France, will no doubt want to see strict requirements and benchmarks set for Greece’s recovery package, both to show to voters they are holding Greece accountable for their actions and to send the message that the EU won’t rescue anyone without strings attached. This ongoing saga will no doubt have lasting implications for the future of the Euro itself, and for the building of a collective European identity across the EU.
Dr. Brigitta Wagner is in her second year at IU, serving as an Assistant Professor in Germanic Studies. She received her Ph.D. in Germanic Languages and Literature and Film and Visual Studies in 2008 from Harvard University. As a DAAD and Fulbright Scholar she attended, from 2000-02 and 2005-2006, the Seminar für Filmwissenschaft at the Freie Universität Berlin, exploring the intersection of urban nostalgia, cinema, and location politics in the post-wall German capital.

In addition to teaching graduate and undergraduate courses Prof. Wagner is currently directing the Indiana University DEFA Project, a four-month research, teaching, and outreach initiative that looks back at the tumultuous period of the Wende or ‘turn’ in East German politics in 1989-90 through Eastern films from this period. Together with students in her graduate seminar, she is running the WENDE FLICKS series (curated by the DEFA Film Library at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst) at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater (January-March) and at the Fine Arts Auditorium (April) on Sunday nights. The project will culminate in April in an international symposium, “Making History ReVisible: East German Cinema after Unification,” with cultural agents and filmmakers from the former German Democratic Republic as well as several North American film scholars.

Prof. Wagner’s most recent publications, “New Paths for German Cinema” in Film Quarterly (Summer 2009) and “1994: X-Filme and the Filmboard Berlin-Brandenburg Pave the Way for New Productions in the Hauptstadt” (forthcoming) consider, respectively, the politics of festival programming and international distribution for German ‘national’ cinema and the convergence of regional film funding initiatives, urban marketing, and film production in Berlin’s post-unification urban development. Additionally, she is in the process of editing a documentary about the geographies of desire between Israel and Berlin.

In her spare time, Prof. Wagner enjoys travelling, hiking, editing her documentary, reading for pleasure and keeping up with new film releases.

**WEST Faculty Spotlight: Brigitta Wagner**

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**>>Germany Continued from Page 2**

mission in Afghanistan, also expressed their discontent with Chancellor Merkel’s proposal. Ulrich Kirsch, head of the German Federal Armed Forces Association, conveyed his skepticism stating, “Five hundred soldiers more or less— that is inconsequential for the success of the mission. That cannot be called a new strategy.” Meanwhile, the head of the German police union GdP, Konrad Freiberg, described the new plan as “utopian” and doubted if there are enough personnel willing to go to Afghanistan to train the Afghan police force. The head of the competing police union DPolG, Rainer Wendt, expressed a sense of futility about the changes. Said Wendt, “We are training fighters for the Taliban. We should be concerned that many of the Afghan police candidates don’t even join the force after their training course. Instead, they go directly to the Taliban. They pay twice as much.”

Those critical of Germany’s new direction in Afghanistan will have to, along with everyone else, wait and see if Chancellor Merkel’s plan is a boom or bust. The request for troops sits now at the feet of the Bundestag. Satisfied by the proposed complete handover of security to Afghan forces by 2014, more than two-thirds of the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) have offered their support to the ruling CDU-FDP coalition. The deployment of additional troops will likely pass. There is an old military adage that “Every plan is good until the first shot is fired.” For Germany, implementation will be the true test.

**>>Boyer Continued from Page 3**

terview at WFIU for later broadcast on the syndicated early music program Harmonia, and spoke at WEST’s brownbag. Boyer has studied Byzantine chant performance, style, advanced theory and orthography extensively with Greek master cantors Lycourgos Angelopoulos and Ioannis Arvanitis. He lectures at workshops and seminars on Eastern Orthodox liturgical music across the United States, and has served as specialty coach for both Chanticleer and the Minnesota Symphony for world premiere performances and recordings of works by John Tavener. Chanticleer’s recording of the music, Lamentations and Praises, won the 2002 Grammy for Best Small Ensemble Performance.

As an outgrowth of the educational aims of his role as Protopsaltis of San Francisco, Boyer is also the director of the Koukouzelis Institute for Liturgical Arts. In addition to his work for the Metropolis, Boyer is the first cantor at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Sacramento, California, Associate Conductor of the ensemble Bay Area Classical Harmonies, and Artistic Director of the Josquin Singers.

For additional information on John Michael Boyer, visit http://www.koukouzelis.org. For additional information on Cappella Romana, visit http://www.cappellaromana.org.
Meet the New GAs

**Name:** Matthew Buchbinder  
**Hometown:** South Lyon, MI  
**Education:** BM from Belmont University (TN) in Saxophone Performance and Music Business; Currently a first year graduate student in Ethnomusicology  
**Research Foci:** Jazz in northern Europe, especially Denmark, cultural institutions, and policy, and African-American popular music  
**Hobbies:** Playing saxophone, Detroit sports, collecting interesting LPs and books

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Meet the New GAs

**Name:** Mike Young  
**Hometown:** Kansas City MSA  
**Education:** BA from Middlebury College (VT) in German and Russian & East European Studies; Currently a first year graduate student in Ethnomusicology  
**Research Foci:** The effect of folk revival movements on music education and concepts of national identity in Norway and Russia  
**Hobbies:** Playing orchestral bass and fiddle, singing Russian folk music in the shower

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**K-12 Curriculum Grant**

Grants of $2000 each are available for teachers who take a course, travel, or conduct research to enhance their knowledge about Western Europe and prepare curricular units accordingly.

**Application MUST Include:**
- Two letters of support (From principal, chair, colleague, or professor)
- 2-3 page proposal for curricular unit, including:
  - Brief explanation of why you would like to create this unit
  - Description of the curricular unit
  - State academic standards that will be addressed and brief explanation of how they will be used
  - What activities you will participate in to enhance your knowledge on the subject matter
- More Info: www.iub.edu/~west/fund_teachers.shtml

**Deadline:** March 1st

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**Screening Schedule**

- **February 28 (BCT):** 7pm, The Tango Player
- **March 7 (BCT):** 6pm, Burning Life
  - 8pm, OSCAR VIEWING PARTY
- **SPRING BREAK**
- **March 21 (BCT):** 7pm, The Mistake
- **March 28 (BCT):** 7pm, The Land Beyond the Rainbow
- **April 4 (FA 015):** 7pm, Miracles
- **April 11 (FA 015):** 7pm, Last Exit to the Do-De-Da-R
- **April 18 (FA 015):** 2pm, DDR/DDR [SPECIAL EVENT]  
  An evening with filmmaker and video artist Amie Siegel

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**Locations**

**Buskirk-Chumley Theater**  
(January-March)  
114 E. Kirkwood Ave.  
Bloomington, IN

**Fine Arts Auditorium**  
(April)  
1201 E. 7th St.  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, IN

**Symposium**

- **April 22 (TBA):** 8pm, 35mm SCREENING
- **April 23 (TBA):** 4pm, 35mm SCREENING
  - 8pm, 35mm SCREENING
- **April 24 (TBA):** 4pm, 35mm SCREENING
  - 8pm, 35mm SCREENING

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