Greetings from what was formerly known as West European Studies (WEST), recast this fall of 2013 as the Institute for European Studies (EURO). As many of you know, this facelift—designed to better reflect the trends of comparable academic programs in the United States and to reflect a broader focus on contemporary Europe and the European Union—had been in the works for some time. The i’s have all been dotted and the t’s all crossed, and the change is finally official. If you haven’t already done so, please check out our new look at www.iub.edu/~euroinst. We are indebted to the efforts of past directors, Lois Wise of the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, who directed WEST from 2008 to 2012, and Toivo Raun of the Department of Central Eurasian Studies, interim director for 2012-13.

It has been a busy fall in this, my first semester as EURO director, with several high-profile events. During September, in partnership with the Mathers Museum of World Cultures, we hosted a poster exhibition recounting the signing of the Élysée Treaty. The treaty signaled a formal beginning of the friendship between France and Germany, two long-standing opponents whose capacity to come together after World War II has made possible what is now the 28-member European Union. I want to extend my thanks to the French and German Consuls General from Chicago, Mr. Graham Paul and Dr. Christian Brecht, for visiting our Bloomington campus and addressing members of the IU community. In November, IU hosted the 23rd symposium of the Modern Greek Studies Association, the leading academic organization in North America dedicated to the promotion of Modern Greek Studies. Nearly eighty presentations were given on topics related to the study of Modern Greece. EURO faculty member Frank Hess is to be commended for all his work in making the event an unqualified success. In December, EURO hosted a visit by the Lithuanian Ambassador to the United States, Dr. Žygimantas Pavilionis.

During the past semester, EURO also brought several scholars to campus to share their knowledge of European studies with IU students, faculty, staff, and the wider community. Michael Geary of the University of Maastricht shared his work on the connections between European integration, the global financial crisis, and the prospects...
FACULTY UPDATES

MARGARET GRAY organized a colloquium in honor of the centennial of the publication of Marcel Proust’s volume *Swann’s Way* featuring speakers from the University of Miami, the University of Illinois/Urbana/Champaign and Indiana University scholars Marc Weiner (German), Herbert Marks (Comparative Literature), and Nicolas Valazza (French and Italian). She has also contributed essays to the Norton Critical Edition of *Swann’s Way* and Cambridge UP’s *Marcel Proust in Context* (edited by Adam Watt).

RAE GREINER received a fellowship from the College of Arts and Humanities Institute and is currently on research leave. She published an article in the journal *Critical Quarterly* entitled “Bleak House: Pastoral.” She received a travel grant from the Institute for European Studies for her participation in the North American Victorian Studies Association Conference in Los Angeles, where she presented the paper “Stupid Thackeray, or Barry Lyndon’s War.” In January, she will chair a panel at the MLA convention in Chicago entitled “Stupid Dickens.” Last spring she gave invited lectures at Rutgers and Harvard Universities.


JOHN MCCORMICK gave the keynote address on the role of EU scholars in helping address the current crisis in public confidence in the EU to the annual conference of Jean Monnet chairs in Brussels on November 14. A Jean Monnet chair himself from 2010-13, Prof. McCormick was invited to give the keynote by Jose Manuel Barroso, president of the European Commission.

KEVIN ROTTE will be teaching a course on the Structure of the Breton Language in spring 2014. It has an undergraduate section in the Linguistics Department, L490, and graduate sections in Linguistics (L590) and French & Italian (F581). He is currently teaching Beginning Welsh as an independent study through EURO.

FRANCES TRIX published “Ethnic Minorities of Macedonia: Türks, Roma, and Serbs,” in *Civic and Uncivic Values in Macedonia* (Palgrave, 2013) as well as “Der Kosovo/Kosova-Konflikt- Mythen und Demofrahie” in *The Divided Nation in the 20th Century* (German Institute for Contemporary History, 2103) and “Underwhelmed”— Kosovar Albanians’ Reactions to the Milošević Trial,” in *The Milošević Trial: An Autopsy* (Oxford University Press, 2013). She organized an information session on the EU-brokered First Agreement on Principles for Normalization of Relations between Kosovo and Serbia, April 24, 2013, at the Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, D.C. where she was a Wilson Fellow last academic year.

NICOLAS VALAZZA received the Larry Schehr Memorial Award for the best junior faculty essay presented at the 39th Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, on October 24-26, 2013, in Richmond, Virginia. The essay he presented, “Seuils livresques et horizons textuels, entre Parnasse et Zutisme,” is part of his new book project, provisionally entitled *La Poésie délivrée: le livre en question du Parnasse au Symbolisme*.

ALUMNI UPDATES

SEAN KEEFER was made the legislative director for the Office of Indiana Governor Mike Pence.

**All updates are self-reported. If you have an update you’d like included in our next newsletter, please email us at euoinst@indiana.
No exit, no bail-out, no default... So what next?
The unfeasibility of Europe’s triple denial
by Professor Istvan Benczes

After establishing the single market, the EU was brave enough to launch the single currency project. The peculiarity of the new regime was, however, that the common monetary policy was pursued alongside the decentralised system of fiscal policies. The institutional asymmetry did not cause any major difficulties in the first few years of the Economic and Monetary Union. In fact, the first ten years of the EMU was a remarkable success story.

With the European financial-cum-sovereign-debt-crisis, however, it has become clear that the original design of European economic governance was not feasible any longer. The crisis compelled Europe to admit that the implicit consent of Maastricht of 1992 on a “triple denial” with regard to the euro-zone, i.e., (1) no exit; (2) no bail-out; and (3) no default, was no longer tenable. Europe was forced to acknowledge that in order for the euro-zone to survive, at least one of these denials had to be abandoned.

No exit
Whereas joining the euro-zone requires candidates to meet the Maastricht convergence criteria, no such explicit requirements have been articulated with regard to exit. In fact, no country can decide to leave the EMU, and none of the members can be expelled by the others, either.

In principle, a return to national currency may boost export and economic activity via devaluation, but it would also trigger an immediate increase in debt servicing, as national assets (along with incomes) would come in dramatically devalued domestic currency, whereas all previously accumulated public and private debts would still be denominated in euro. As an exit amplifies uncertainty, rational households, businesses and investors would be more likely to escape from assets denominated in the re-introduced national currency. In case of an exit, a liquidity crisis can easily end up in the total collapse of the domestic economy.

No bail-out
“The Union [or its Member State] shall not be liable for or assume the commitments of central governments, regional, local or other public authorities, other bodies governed by public law, or public undertakings of any Member State” (Lisbon Treaty, Article 125 (1)). The mainstream interpretation of the no bail-out clause is straightforward: as long as the EMU is capable of isolating itself from the troubled nation, there is no contagion threatening the rest. The EU wished to demonstrate that none of its member states’ difficulties could undermine the stability of the euro-zone. Additionally, the founding fathers of the EMU strongly believed in the market forces’ readiness to monitor every member country’s public finances and punish deviant behaviour if required.

However, as it has become well-known by now, the no bail-out clause is ineffective. It has not stopped countries from prudent public finances; contagion has become a real threat. Moreover, the complete lack of market scrutiny fuelled a moral hazard, and countries such as Greece took on a free ride.

No default
At the time of establishing the EMU, a sovereign debt crisis was deemed as simply impossible. Since euro-zone membership went hand-in-hand with the undertaking of certain explicit and implicit rules and norms (as a sort of gentlemen’s agreement), a real default was simply out of consideration, and as a consequence, there was no need to work out its institutional and procedural elements, either.

Of course, countries cannot go bankrupt in the same way as financial and non-financial corporations do (i.e., assets deteriorate so that liabilities cannot be met in full). Instead, default occurs if the borrower country is not willing to pay to its lenders. Default happens if the budgetary consolidation gets so expensive in political terms that incumbents are not willing to take the risk of budgetary adjustments – which is, in principle, impossible to happen in a gentlemen’s club.

continued on page 8
William Winecoff, Professor of History and European Studies, focuses his research on international financial systems and global political economy.

Indiana University, the Political Science Department, and the Institute for European Studies gain an important colleague this year in Professor Kindred Winecoff. Fresh from completing his PhD Dissertation, titled “Firms and Governments in the Global Banking System,” Prof. Winecoff began his career at IU just this fall, adding his own expertise in global political economy and international financial systems to the university. Originally from St. Louis, Missouri, Professor Winecoff attended Southern Illinois University to complete his undergraduate degree in Economics, after which he attended the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill to earn both his Master’s and PhD, both in Political Science.

The move from Economics to Political Science was an important choice in Prof. Winecoff’s decision to study International Political Economy. “I liked a lot of things about studying economics,” he writes, “but by the time I was nearing graduation I became increasingly convinced that economists study the world as they prefer it to be rather than how it actually is... [International Political Economy] is much more practical and engaged with real-world problems than most economists, but still operates with the tradition of rigorous social science.” With this experience, Prof. Winecoff turned his attention to the field of International Political Economy, a range of study with a “broad scope and multidisciplinary history.”

This shift has afforded him the opportunity to restructure his research interests, which now are particularly situated toward the complexities of international financial systems, a focus which allows him to “isolate where power exists in the system, how patterns of interdependence impact the spread of financial crises, and related questions.” Currently, Prof. Winecoff is working on researching the crisis management efforts of major western financial institutions like the European Central Bank, the Bank of England, and the U.S. Federal Reserve since 2007. Concurrently, he is also looking into the question of why financial crises encompass some countries but not others. Both of these research interests have informed recent and future presentations by Prof. Winecoff at conferences for the American Political Science Association and the International Studies Association.

In the classroom, Prof. Winecoff seeks to inspire his students with the same interest in the intricacies of international financial systems. “The international financial system is the lifeblood of the world economy,” he writes. “When that lifeblood is infected by a virus the entire edifice is weakened. This impacts political stability, can lead to civil or international conflicts, and negatively impacts standards of living around the globe. Understanding the financial system is thus critical for understanding all other outcomes in the world economy.” In the spring, Prof. Winecoff will address these and related issues in an undergraduate course on “The Politics of Economic Crises and Reform.” He is particularly excited to teach this course, he writes, because this will be his first opportunity to teach an entire course on the topic. “We will spend a lot of time thinking through the Eurozone crisis and how previous European monetary integration efforts collapsed under strain, in addition to crises in Latin America, Asia, and North America.” Prof. Winecoff writes that he enjoys teaching all his classes and that his favorite aspect of being a professor is “generating research that produces interesting conclusions that I can publish in an academic outlet and bring into my courses.”

We are fortunate to add Prof. Winecoff to our great pool of associate faculty and look forward to working with him as his career at IU develops.
EURO NEWS

EURO Welcomes Megan Immerzeel to the Office

This fall, EURO welcomes Megan Immerzeel to the office as our new administrative secretary. In October our former secretary Wendy Hill moved on to a career in Social Work, and Megan has joined our ranks.

Megan grew up in the Netherlands, living there until the age of 14 when she moved to the US, finishing her high school career in Orleans, Indiana. She then earned her Associate's Degree in General Studies from Ivy Tech, transferring to Indiana University to complete a year of course work in social entrepreneurship. Before joining the staff at EURO, Megan worked in a variety of positions in the food industry from catering to bar tending. Most recently, she worked in the School of Public Health at IU.

Megan has traveled extensively throughout Europe, both while living in the Netherlands and since moving to the US. One of her favorite places to visit, she says, is Croatia, where she has vacationed with her family. She has also traveled in France, Spain, Germany, Italy, and Slovakia.

EURO is lucky to have Megan on staff. Please join us in welcoming her on board!

EURO EXCHANGE - continued from page 1

for European enlargement. Kerstin Hamann of the University of Central Florida gave talks on the state of industrial relations in Europe and the causes of general strikes, the latter comprising a new form of protest in what is becoming an increasingly volatile European political environment. Besir Ceka of the European Union Institute discussed the drivers of public dissatisfaction with the EU. Yannis Varoufakis of the LBJ School at the University of Texas gave a provocative lecture linking the fall of Athenian forms of democracy in ancient Greece with the Euro crisis of the present day. Neni Panourgiá discussed ways in which the tools of cultural anthropology could be leveraged to better understand the totality of the economic crisis in southern Europe. As is evident, the precarious position of “the European Project” provided a theme linking these presentations!

These events—and equally important, our undergraduate and graduate programs—would not be possible without the work of the EURO staff. Kallan Picha continues as our Assistant Director, bringing to the job great organizational skills and invaluable experience with EURO/WEST and the wider university. Wendy Hill, our former Administrative Secretary, left us at the end of the summer to pursue a career in social work. We wish her all the best. While Wendy will be missed, we were very fortunate to have Megan Immerzeel join our team. Jennifer Ashcraft continues to serve as our undergraduate academic adviser, expertly navigating the ins and outs of the requirements for our undergraduate minors in European and EU studies, to which we hope to soon add a certificate option. Last but far from least, our office runs on the much needed help of our fine cadre of graduate assistants: Ana Fumurescu, Katie Hammitt, and Amy Waggoner. More on our incoming graduate students can be found inside the newsletter.

We anticipate much activity coming out of EURO’s offices in the coming months. Please visit our website for upcoming presentations on the changing shape of citizenship and on citizenship in Europe. In April, IU Bloomington will play host to the Midwest Model European Union—a competition which has enjoyed great success previously under the guidance of Jean Monnet Professor John McCormick at IUPUI. Also in the works are grant applications for funding from the Department of Education and the European Union.
On Saturday, September 14, 2013, EURO participated in BDUHS’s first International Day, and the event was a great success for all involved. The weather was fantastic—a balmy 70 degrees—and as we set our European Union display table alongside the sidewalk perimeter, we were promptly welcomed by a gregarious group of Kenyan representatives from a neighboring elementary school bearing helpings of their native dish, posho. Of porridge consistency, this dish is made from ground corn, contains greens and potato chunks, and is eaten with small pieces of ugali, a firm bread also made with ground corn.

As the day progressed we visited other participant booths as well, stopping to play German draughts with a very skillful high school student named Charlie and watching young children learn the French game pétanque. Mid-way through the day, an animal show was held in the gymnasium, showcasing South American macaws, African pythons, and a Brazilian squirrel monkey. Our location directly outside of the gymnasium was the perfect stopping point for many children after the show, as they were eager to share their recent experiences regarding the animals’ antics before dashing away to continue their explorations.

All in all, the day was a wonderful success. Our jigsaw puzzle of European countries was a big hit, as children and adults alike combined their geographical knowledge towards its completion. In addition, not only were we able to educate festival guests and participants about the European Union, we ourselves learned about other global cultures through tasting booths, traditional dress stations and material folklore displays. The festival organizers, headed by Kylee Nelson of BDUHS, were very accommodating and welcoming. A big thank you to them and to all our new friends who stopped by—we at EURO appreciate the opportunity and shared interest in all things European!

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**STUDENT UPDATES**

**JEFFERY HERTEL** is spending the Fall semester conducting thesis research at the Free University of Berlin through an exchange program offered each semester through the Institute for European Studies.

**THOMAS LEONARD** received a Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowship from the African Studies program for Bambara, also known as Bamanankan, a language closely related to Malinké, also known as Maninkakan, which he studied this past summer.
GM in the EU

By Jessie Mroz

A Genetically Modified food is a crop or food product which is the result of direct manipulation of an organism’s DNA for a desired outcome. Typical GM varieties include those which improve color, texture, taste, and overall appearance of the food; increase vitamin content; make them resistant to drought or pesticide; allow them to produce their own pesticide; etc.

In the wake of talks of a free trade agreement between the United States and the European Union, GM foods remain one of the hot-button issues which will cause these two parties to disagree most. The EU has, by far, the strictest regulation of GM foods in the world. They use a precautionary principle-based approach in their regulatory framework that is vastly different from the US or any other regulatory body. They require an extensive process for approval, which includes a risk assessment conducted by the European Food Safety Authority. Once the risk assessment is complete, it goes to a committee under the European Commission for approval. The assessment and approval process can even take up to five years to complete, but some have taken much longer. This is followed by tracking and labeling requirements to make it easy to pull all of these products from the market in the event of a food safety concern. The EU regulates these foods with precautionary measures to prevent food safety hazards, while the US does not.

The US takes a regulatory approach which is not different from their regulation of traditional food and crops, because it was decided nearly two decades ago that all GM products are equivalent to their non-GM counterparts. There are no additional laws in the US which pertain to GM foods alone, except for those which regulate pesticide application for those GM crops that produce pesticides. This is a measure taken under the authority of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to limit the release of pesticides into the environment.

Although extensive measures are taken to regulate GM in the EU, the regulatory structure there relies on the cooperation of the national governments of all EU member states. When it comes to GM food regulation in particular, The Republic of Poland takes issue with the actions the EU has taken to approve GM food. Poland went so far as to issue a statement which was in direct violation of an EU directive regarding their plans to become a GMO-free state. This violates the free movement of goods throughout EU member states and the direct release of genetically modified food and feed into the environment. The Commission has issued multiple complaints against Poland to the European Court of Justice, the latest in June of 2013, but they continue to violate EU policy in this area.

In order to effectively regulate GM food in the way which the EU intends as a whole, it needs the support and cooperation of all member states, which it currently lacks. Another issue the EU faces with regard to GM food is that of the regulatory lag in their approval process, which has come under harsh scrutiny from business. Monsanto, one of the largest agribusinesses in the world recently announced their intention to pull applications for nearly all of their GM products in the EU. They cited their frustration with the approval process, in which they have only seen one product receive final approval for cultivation. The EU faces challenges to regulation of GM food from inside and out. This leads to questions of whether their regulatory structure will hold up in future trade agreements when faced with the US’s much less stringent regulations in place for GM.

To read more, please visit our website for the full policy brief, which can be found here: www.indiana.edu/~eucenter/policy_briefs.shtml

Jessie Mroz was an intern in the European Union Center for Summer 2013.
Modern Greek Studies Association Symposium

From Thursday, November 16 through Saturday, November 16, the Institute for European Studies and the Modern Greek program at IU Bloomington hosted the 23rd biennial symposium for the Modern Greek Studies Association. The largest conference dealing with Modern Greece in North America, the 2013 MGSA Symposium saw preeminent scholars in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Arts speaking on the theme of MGSA Symposia, which is “Greek, Greeks, Greece, Cyprus and ideas of Greece in modern times,” according to the MGSA website.

Thursday evening began with a talk by leading Greek economist Yanis Varoufakis of the University of Athens (currently a visiting scholar at the University of Texas–Austin) on “Democracy: Its Future in the Midst of Rapid Technological Progress and Chronic Economic Crisis.” The talk was cosponsored by the Institute for European Studies and Indiana University’s Tocqueville Program. Presentations within the conference spanned 13 sessions and a Keynote address, again by Prof. Varoufakis, titled, “Being Greek and an Economist While Greece Burns: An intimate account of a peculiar tragedy,” which took place Friday evening. On Saturday evening, the Symposium wrapped up with a lively concert by Greek folk group Rebetiki Istoria in the Neal-Marshall Black Cultural Center, which was free and open to the public.

The Modern Greek Program at IU Bloomington has a long and distinguished background. Within the language component of the program, which has existed since the 1960s, IU Bloomington has produced many noted and influential scholars in the field of Greek studies. Not the least of these is Willis Barnstone who founded West European Studies (now the Institute for European Studies) as well as started Film Studies at IU.

Triple Denial - continued from page 3

So what next?

If the original design of the EMU (including the triple denial) was originally flawed, it now needs to be fixed. But which of the three “no’s” should be abandoned? In the last three years it has been clearly demonstrated by the EU that exit is not an option. Instead, it has reneged on the other two points. On 9 May 2010, the European Financial Stability Mechanism and the European Financial Stability Facility have been created as a means for crisis resolution. Yet, from its very conception, the new rescue construction was considered only as a temporary mechanism with the sole aim to fix liquidity problems. It was by no means surprising that the new rescue mechanism did not convince international financial markets. Therefore, half a year later, a permanent crisis mechanism, the European Stability Mechanism, was agreed upon. The permanent mechanism is to be placed into operation only if the stability of the whole euro-zone is endangered.

The new crisis resolution mechanism should, however, not only assist the troubled sovereign, but also deter countries from applying for community assistance. Therefore, the ESM will provide external financial assistance only if the country meets a rigorous debt sustainability analysis and, more importantly, it is willing to apply a series of unpopular consolidation measures.

Can the ESM be a real solution to the design failure of the EU? Well, unfortunately, it cannot. What the EU needs, instead, is a sui generis approach to its current problems in the form of more (in fact, much more) supranational design... (a topic to be addressed in the next part).

Istvan Benczes is Fulbright Visiting Professor at CEUS and the Department of Economics, ibenczes@indiana.edu
EVENT RECAP

Michael Geary Lecture

By Ana Fumurescu

The Institute for European Studies sponsored its first lecture of the semester on Thursday September 19th with speaker Dr. Michael Geary of Maastricht University. Dr. Geary, also a Fellow in European Studies at the Wilson Center in Washington, DC, spoke on the topic of Europe’s financial crisis in a lecture entitled “Managing Expectations: The European Union’s Sovereign Debt Crisis and the Future of the Integration Process.” The lecture began with an overview of the development of the European Monetary Union (EMU) and proceeded with an explanation of Europe’s economic crisis, ending with suggestions for its alleviation.

Dr. Geary started with one of the most salient points of his lecture—his belief that the apocalyptic discourse concerning the European Union’s fate is unnecessary and unrealistic. According to him, it is very unlikely that the European Union will dissolve at any point in the future, despite the hardships its members are now enduring. Dr. Geary then moved on to an overview of the development of the EMU and of the EU’s sovereign debt crisis and reminded his audience that it was not just EU states’ financial irresponsibility, but also the United States’ sub-prime market, that kicked-off the recent financial crisis in Europe. This notwithstanding, he spent much of the lecture addressing the EU’s culpabilities, pointing out, for example, that when the Euro was implemented in 2002, no member state except Ireland had met the Stability and Growth Pact criteria the EU had imposed upon itself. Within this discussion, he spoke of the distrust between member states and of the high levels of white collar tax evasion that are rampant among the EU’s Mediterranean members. All this, along with unsuccessful reform attempts in the EU’s most debt-ridden countries (Greece being the prime example), makes up Dr. Geary’s explanation of the current state of affairs in Europe. In his conclusion, he stated that in order to alleviate the financial crisis, Europe must focus on innovation and creativity in order to avoid becoming a back-seat player in world affairs. Time will tell if the EU will indeed follow the path advocated by Dr. Geary.

EURO at Winter Fest

On Sunday, December 8, EURO participated in the first annual Winter Fest at the Mather’s Museum. Winter Fest is organized to bring the celebration of November and December holidays from around the world to families in the Bloomington community. Crafts are put together for the children to complete, allowing them to experience different traditions as they learn about the cultures those traditions come from.

At the table for the Institute for European Studies, children (and parents!) could chose from three crafts. The first was a woven heart ornament, a tradition that hails from Sweden and the celebration of Saint Lucia’s Day on December 13. Second in line was a craft celebrating Saint Nicholas for which the children could decorate paper shoes to be filled with candy or small presents. Finally, children could construct and decorate a garland for a Christmas tree, a European tradition that is also well-known in the United States.

Winter Fest was a lively afternoon of crafts and music, as other area studies centers from Indiana University prepared their own crafts and presentations, giving the families who attended a truly multicultural experience.
EURO Welcomes Three New MA Students

Jeremy Cooper is originally from Houston, Texas and he graduated from Northern Arizona University in 2001 with a B.A. in American Political Studies. He has served in the Army since 2002, serving in the Infantry, Special Forces, and most recently as a Foreign Area Officer. While stationed in Germany for 3 years, Jeremy conducted numerous joint training exercises with the German Army as well as with Romanian Special Forces. Stationed in Portugal for one year, he also attended the Portuguese Joint Service Staff College while working in the US Embassy, Lisbon. His research interests included separatist and far-right politics and parties in Europe.

Ana Fumerescu is originally from Romania and received her BA in History, International Studies, and French from Indiana University in 2013. During her undergraduate career, she studied abroad in Athens, Greece. Ana has also spent her summers travelling through France, Romania and Bulgaria, as well as through Ireland, the UK, Belgium, and the Netherlands. She is interested in the issues surrounding EU integration, and in particular the experiences of East European migrants in Western Europe.

Amy Waggoner completed her BA at Indiana University Bloomington with a major in English, a concentration in Creative Writing, and minors in European Studies, German and Medieval Studies. Her research interests center around the history and integration of European cultures from medieval to present day with a special focus on folklore, art and cultural traditions of early Europe. After finishing the EURO MA program, Amy plans to continue her study of European history in pursuit of a PhD.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Greg Bilhartz

As a student, Army officer, and businessman, Greg Bilhartz has traveled Europe under a variety of circumstances. As a 1994 graduate of WEST’s MA program (precursor to EURO), Greg says his time in the program prepared him to engage more fully with the different cultures he encountered in his extensive travels. “I admit I had a good deal of exposure to other cultures before coming to IU,” he writes, “but WEST put some added context to WHY Europeans did things differently from us.”

While at WEST, Greg was drawn to the study of French history and politics, as reflected in the subject of his thesis, “France and the Persian Gulf Crisis.” As soon as he received his degree in January of 1994, Greg moved to France to work at the US Embassy as well as attend the Ecole d’Application de l’Arme Blindée et de la Cavalerie (The French Armor and Cavalry School) in Saumur. He then taught European regional studies at the Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management and served as the Chief of Defense Cooperation at the US Embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria. Since retiring from the Army, Greg has worked in the defense manufacturing sector in international business development, promoting US products international and working for the US subsidiaries of French and British companies. In all of these capacities, he writes, “Hardly a day has gone by in all this intervening time when I do not use some of the skills and knowledge I picked up at Indiana University.”

When asked what advice he would offer to current students, Greg responded, “WEST is a multidisciplinary degree program—make the best of it.” One of the advantages of a program like this is that you can tailor your studies to your specific interests. “Perhaps more importantly,” he writes, “understand the culture you are coming from.” Because the US is so visible on the international stage, being able to speak about its culture and people will be an important asset in the exchange of ideas so important to any intercultural communication. “Become an ambassador for your country,” he advises, and it is clear from his breadth of international experience that such advice is well-founded.
Spring 2014

Midwest Model European Union
April 10-12

If you are interested in participating, or for more information, email EURO at euroinst@indiana.edu.

Study the European Union in Spring 2014

POLS-Y 350 Politics of the European Union
- 3 Credits
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- COLL (Case) Global Civ & Culture Credit
- COL (Case) S&H Breadth of Inquiry Credit
- Instructor: Luke Wood, lukwood@indiana.edu

POLS-X 380 Midwest Model European Union Simulation Rider
- 1 Credit
- Roughly 1 hour and 15 minutes will be spent each week preparing for the April conference
- Meeting time will be arranged based on the availability of participants
- Simulation coach: Matthew Slaboch, mslaboch@indiana.edu

Contact the Institute for European Studies at euroinst@indiana.edu for more info.

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