



Newsletter



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National Euro Challenge Competition: We have One Winner from Florida!



On Thursday, April 30th, 2015, the two Florida high schools selected in Miami at the Local Florida Euro Challenge Competition on March 12th, (Felix Varela Senior High School, and Trinity Preparatory School) went to New York to represent Florida at the national Euro Challenge Competition, a program created and run by the Delegation of the European Union to the United States, with assistance from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and support from The Moody's Foundation, Credit Suisse and Deloitte & Touche.

The two teams consisted of five 9th and 10th-grade students each were accompanied by their teachers.

The students were really excited and proud to compete nationally and present their economic challenges and European countries ("Germany and Aging Population"; and "Greece and High government Deficit & Debt") before a panel of prestigious judges from the European Community: ambassadors, consuls, EU Delegation officials, and financial experts. One of the teams made it to the finals and won 5th place.

After a long day of competition for the 25 teams from around the country at the Federal Reserve Bank of New-York (semi

-finals in the morning, and finals in the afternoon), all the students were invited to the Recognition and Award Reception on the 20th Floor of the Moody's Foundation (7 World Trade Center). Ambassador David O'Sullivan, Head of the European Union Delegation to the United States congratulated the winning teams; he said: "It was very impressive to watch today's competition and see how engaged and

knowledgeable these students are and what creative solutions they propose for some of our most urgent economic challenges," "The competition has reached thousands of young



Trinity Preparatory School students receiving their award from Frances G. Laserson, Moody's Foundation's president; and Ambassador David O'Sullivan, Head of the European Union to the US - New-York, April 30th, 2015

Americans. It's a great learning experience for these students as they go beyond the headlines of economic news to fully understand key economic concepts and the complex realities faced by policymakers. The Euro Challenge also helps them to have a better understanding of how deeply Europe and America are connected".

Our winning Florida teams had the privilege to receive a check from the Moody's Foundation president and Ambassador David O'Sullivan, Head of the European



National Euro Challenge Competition: We have one Winner from Florida!



Union Delegation to the United States, and to be congratulated for their outstanding presentation.

They also had the privilege to meet and talk to Ambassador David O'Sullivan, Head of Delegation, European Union Delegation to the United States of America.

"We are very proud to represent Florida at the national competition, and this is an excellent opportunity for our students to shine. It has been eight years since the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence began to recruit and organize the local Florida Euro Challenge Competition. This year, we are extremely proud of our schools. We have one winner: Trinity Preparatory School. They made it to the finals and won 5th place. Since 2007, the MEUCE has selected eighty-three Florida high schools from Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, Lee, Orange, and Alachua counties, and sent twenty-one to New York to compete nationally. One Hundred four students have gone to New York representing their schools," said Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director, MEUCE-FIU and organizer and recruiter of the competition in Florida. "This competition has become a showcase for our Florida schools, and it will continue to grow due to the tremendous response we have received from our local schools".

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez



- ▶ To view competition's photo gallery, [click here](#)
- ▶ To view press release, [click here](#)



Federal Reserve
Bank of
New York



Felix Varela Senior High School team and teachers visiting New York



Trinity Preparatory School, 5th place, receiving their award
From left to right: Lalee Ibssa, Amber Yang, Valerie Trapp,
Lee Place, James Toscano



euro challenge Euro Challenge Contestants Give Testimonials



Over the course of the past eight years, the number of South Florida high schools participating in the Euro Challenge has constantly increased. Ten schools from the counties of Miami-Dade, Broward, Lee, Alachua, and Orange Counties entered this year's competition and impressed the juries with creative and well-researched projects. All of the teams gave ambitious presentations at the final regional round, which took place at FIU on March 12. On April 30th, the best two teams from South Florida

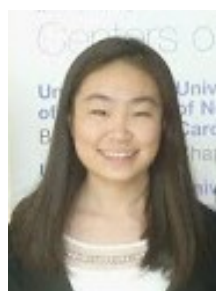
- **Felix Varela Senior High School**
- **Trinity Preparatory School**

even traveled to New York City.

Trinity Preparatory made it to the finals and won the 5th place at the national competition.

MEUCE as Florida's recruiter and organizer of the Euro Challenge would like to thank all the students, teachers, the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Miami Branch, and jury members for the time and effort they put into making 2015 competition a memorable event for everybody involved. In the following, this year's Euro Challengers talk about their personal experiences as participants. It is because of such overwhelmingly positive feedback that MEUCE is very much looking forward to the next Euro Challenge in 2016.

By C. Caly-Sanchez



Amber Yang
Trinity Preparatory School
Grade 10

After being involved with the Euro Challenge competition for two years, I can testify that this was one of the best experiences that

I have had in high school so far. Not only was I able to learn about economic policies and the organization of the Euro Union, but I was able to do so in an innovative manner. Rather than simply reading articles and memorizing facts about the Euro Union, the format of the competition allowed me to think outside of the box. I am now able to analyze economic situations in a whole new light, and I have gained a greater awareness of what is going on in the world. This is what makes the Euro Challenge so rewarding. However, the process

of preparing for the competition took a long time. From weekly meetings with my team to reading articles on my own, the entire process was a great endeavor. My team gained valuable collaboration and teamwork skills when we prepared for the presentation component of the competition, and that is truly what the Euro Challenge promotes. I would like to thank the Federal Reserve Bank of NY, the Moody's Corporation, and the Miami-Florida European Center of Excellence for providing me with this wonderful opportunity. For the past two years, my team competed at the regional level and then placed in the top five at the national level. It was wonderful to compete in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and the Euro Challenge will be an experience that I will never forget.





euro challenge

Euro Challenge Contestants Give Testimonials (cont'd)



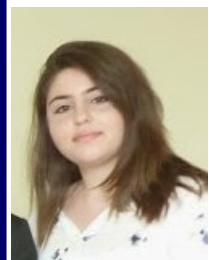
Daniel Vinat
Felix Varela Senior High School
 Social Studies Teacher

The Euro Challenge competition allows students and teacher to immerse themselves in the current economic issues surrounding the EU. Through the process students gain knowledge on research skills, team building as well as an appreciation for how global economies work. They are able to obtain valuable information and insight from a variety of University staff as well as EU Delegation members. There are few opportunities at the high school level for 9th and 10th graders to get this deeply invested in such an academically enriching program. The competition gives the students the proper foundation to be successful in future Social Studies courses. As a teacher I have seen firsthand how students become confident in their ability to present complex ideas and themes to Economics and members of the International community. As an educator I strive to provide experiences outside of the classroom that will enrich the lives of my students and the Euro Challenge gives me that ability.



Mikel Farnsworth
Felix Varela Senior High School
 Grade 10

The Euro Challenge was a very enriching experience, that gave me and my teammates a zeal of hard work. I am now much more versed in the economics that make a country function. And the trip to New York was an enjoyable one that I will never forget. I would like to thank Christine Caly-Sanchez for making all of this possible.



Julian Nowicki
Felix Varela Senior High School
 Grade 9

Euro Challenge has been an amazing experience which allowed me to make new friends, build a strong relationship with my teachers and really allowed for me to immerse myself in the European economic situation as well as learn the real meaning of all the economic indicators and their affects on the lives of the people. The competition was very well organized and I do not regret participating at all. I would recommend this experience to any of my fellow classmates.



Ezekiel Vergara
Felix Varela Senior High School
 Grade 10

Before I participated in Euro Challenge, I probably would've never been concerned, or even known about the various issues plaguing the European Union. Ever since I first participated in

9th grade, continuing through 10th grade, my economic knowledge has greatly broadened, as now I can not only discuss economic problems, but also propose solutions to these economic hurdles and see the globally interconnected world we live in today. Similarly, I have the privilege of participating in this great experience over the past two years. Throughout these two excellent years, my teamwork skills have sharpened, along with my skills in the areas of presentation and critical thinking. Additionally, my work ethic has greatly improved, as hard work truly allowed for success in this program, seen as in 2015 our school was able to go to New York. This experience will stay with me the rest of my life and wouldn't be possible without the help of various parties. First off, my hat goes off to all the judges, in Miami, and New York who all were very approachable and kind; secondly, I would like to thank the Federal Reserve Bank and the Moody's Foundation for funding this project. I would also want to thank all the teachers who helped improve our presentation and teach us the basics of economics. Finally, I would like to thank Florida International University's European Union Center of Excellence for providing us with valuable information and making this a personal experience. However, while this was my last year to compete, I will truly remember, and admire this program for a lifetime.



Gabriel Vergara
Felix Varela Senior High School
 Grade 10

Euro Challenge was a wonderful experience where my teammates and I were able to learn about the concerns facing a major component to the global economy, the European Union: we worked extremely hard and dedicated lots of time to refine our presentation an working on possible answers for questions; it allowed the team not only to develop a unique bond that will never be severed, but it taught us various skills, such as how to present in front of a panel of judges, how to communicate with our peers efficiently, and apply knowledge to areas concerning Germany and its aging population, just to mention a few. The competition also taught me a lot when it came to economic knowledge, GDP, unemployment, inflation, consumer confidence, the list goes on and on; and it also sparked my interest in this field, as now I would like to minor in economics. Euro Challenge provides students with an outlet to gain precious skills and knowledge through a very well organized and designed program that is run by wonderful people who are there for the students. Truth be told, the Euro Challenge and our subsequent trip to New York led to many wonderful memories that I will cherish for the rest of my life. I would like to give a special thanks to all the organizations that help make this possible such as the Moody's Foundation, the Federal Reserve Bank, and an instrumental individual in the success of the program in Florida, Christine Caly-Sanchez.

By C. Caly-Sanchez



For more information on the Euro Challenge Competition, visit the following page:

<http://miamieuc.fiu.edu/outreach/euro-challenge/>



MEUCE Celebrates Europe Day



2015 Recognition Award For European Studies Certificate Earners

May 9th is Europe Day, a holiday that marks each year the pivotal Schuman declaration of 1950 in which Robert Schuman (French foreign minister) proposed the creation of a supranational European community, an idea that laid the foundation for the EU. On May 8th, one day before, MEUCE celebrates the EU and European integration. In honor of Europe Day, the MEUCE held a screening of the Franco-Austrian film "Nous nous sommes tant haïs" (How we hated each other!). The Franco-Austrian film is a love story that takes place

in France and Germany in 1950 and depicts the birth of the European Union.

Also, on that day, a group of aspiring scholars and professionals gathered at Florida International University's (FIU) Modeste A. Maidique campus to be honored for their incredible accomplishments.

These young men and women, all recent graduates, were presented with their European Studies Certificate in a recognition ceremony. These students, by applying their academic energies to understanding more about European history, politics, and culture, earned this prestigious honor that designates their familiarity with European civilization. The [European Studies program](#) at FIU was designed to enhance a student's understanding of European politics, society, and culture, drawing on a broad range of courses in the arts and sciences and thereby to complement the student's major course of study. These certificates, which are available to any undergraduate or graduate student who has an interest in European civilization and culture, requires additional [work](#) by students in courses focused on European languages and cultures. Some of these graduates even augmented their experience by participating in study abroad programs, and were able to experience Europe intimately. Whether in honors college courses in Normandy, or European Art history classes

at FIU's Wolfsonian University, these students have exerted maximum effort to learn about the many nations and peoples of the European community.

On May 8th, the hard work was done, and these students were prepared to be recognized for their achievement. The ceremony began with the European Union Anthem "Ode to Joy" - Beethoven-9th Symphony. Then, Dr. Rebecca Friedman, MEUCE co-director, European Studies Program director and FIU professor of history; and Dr. Markus Thiel, assistant professor and

Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Politics and International Relations, congratulated the students and gave them their Certificates in European Studies.

Dr. Rebecca Friedman addressed the collected students, faculty, and families, and indicated that these graduates had been her students, and indicated her pride at having been part of their education experience. As FIU also offers a graduate

certificate in European Studies, we at FIU hope that many of these students return to increase their familiarity and expertise with the nations of Europe. Once more, a hearty congratulation to these recent graduates.

High school freshmen and sophomores from Miami-Dade, Broward, Lee, Orange, and Alachua counties, who participated in the regional divisions of the 2015 Euro Challenge Competition on March 12th were also recognized at the award ceremony by Christine I. Caly-Sanchez.

After the Award Ceremony, students, Faculty, friends and family gathered around a collation graciously offered by the European Studies Program.



2015 Certificate in European Studies Recognition Award Ceremony—FIU—May 8, 2015.
Between Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, and Dr. Rebecca Friedman, From left to right: Jorge Parellada, Antonio Figueroa, Emilio Fonseca, and Manuel Perez



MEUCE Celebrates Europe Day (cont'd)



2015 Recognition Award For European Studies Certificate Earners



Students receiving their certificate in European Studies
 From left to right: Cinthia Sacasa, Jorge Parellada, Antonio Figueroa, Manuel Perez, and Emilio Fonseca



MEUCE would like to congratulate this year's program graduates, who are listed below

Spring 2015 CERTIFICATES IN EUROPEAN STUDIES

Spring 2015 Awardees

- **Jeremy Almonte** (BA in International Relations)
- **Nicole Bauta** (BA in Political Science – Minor: Public Administration)
- **Antonio Figueroa** (BA in International Relations and Political Science)
- **Emilio Fonseca** (BA in International Relations)
- **Nicolexander Garza** (BA in Economics and History)
- **Joanna Katsoulis** (BA in International Relations)
- **Rosemary Montoya-Flores** (BA in International Relations; Minor in Political Science and French)
- **Jorge Parellada** (BA in History)
- **Paola Paris** (BA in History – Minor in Religion)
- **Manuel Peraza** (BA in Political Science and International Relations Minor in Hospitality Management)
- **Cinthia Sacasa** (BA in International Relations and Business Administration)



CERTIFICATE IN EUROPEAN STUDIES

- The European Studies Certificate program is open to all who have an interest in any aspect of European civilization, past or present.
- It is an interdisciplinary program that draws on a broad range of courses from throughout FIU to complement a student's own interests.
- Approved study-abroad courses, including those offered by the Honors College, may be accepted for certificate credit.
- The program also offers a senior colloquium, "European Identities", that allows students the opportunity to engage in research on topics of their own choosing in close conjunction with a member of the Program Faculty.
- The certificate program is open to all students enrolled at FIU and to interested individuals in the community.
- Since Spring 2011, 133 Students obtained their Certificates in European Studies.

Requirements

The program requires 15 credits hours (5 courses) from at least 3 departments, distributed as follows:

► **Language Requirements (3 credits)**

One course in a European language at the intermediate (2000) level or above.

► **Breadth Requirement (9 credits)**

- **Three courses at 3000-level or above**, not all of which can be in either Social Science or in Humanities.
- Courses must be from an approved list published in the class schedule each term, or else contain substantial European content and approved by the Director. Such courses are offered by the Departments of:
 - Art and Art History,
 - Economics,
 - English, Environmental Studies,
 - History,
 - Humanities,
 - International Relations,
 - Modern Languages,
 - Philosophy,
 - Political Science,
 - and Religion, among others.



► **Exit Requirement (3 credits)**

Interdisciplinary Colloquium, focused on a broad European topic

For more information on the program, visit the following page:
<http://europe.fiu.edu/certificate-programs/undergraduate-advising/>



MEUCE Celebrates Europe Day

(cont'd)

EUROPEAN
UNION
FILM
FESTIVAL

Youth in Europe: European Short Films Festival at FIU | May 4-6



Christine I. Caly-Sanchez (right) of FIU European Student Association members

As part of the weeklong celebration of Europe day, The Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence in collaboration with Eurochannel, Dish network, and FIU Europe Student Association, screened a selection of 27 short films over the course of three days. The selection was from The European Short Films Festival and formed part of the Eurochannel Short Film Tour shown worldwide. The festival offered a glimpse at European cinema through the eyes of 54 pioneering directors, known for their genius, innovation and self-determination. Each day of the film festival at FIU focused on different dimensions of youth: "Youth in Europe: Dreamers", "Family Life", "A Place for Lovers", "The Younger Generation". Just as there can be no sin-

gle definition of youth, there was no single style, attitude, genre or approach in this year's Eurochannel Short Films Tour. Viewers came across both new and experienced filmmakers, who explore the subject of youth in comedy, horror, romance, drama, experimental film and animation. Youth and their contributions to European society were the complex and diverse inspirations for this new edition of the Eurochannel Short Films Tour... And Youth in Europe.

For more information on the European Short Films Festival please visit:

<https://miamieuc.fiu.edu/events/general/2015/meuce-european-short-film-festival-may-2015-fiu/>

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

Short Films Program:

Monday, May 4 | 12:00.—1:30 p.m.

Youth in Europe : "Dreamers"

- Denmark: "Queen of a Day"
- Italy: "Matilde"
- Russia: "Go Up"
- France: "Speed Dating"
- Tukey: "Blue Uniform"
- Hungary: "Coda"

To view detailed program, [click here](#)

Monday, May 4 | 1:30—3:00 p.m.

Family Life

- Spain: "Happily Ever After, for Another Year"
- Netherlands/Turkey: "The Horse and the Nightingale"
- Georgia: "Dinola"
- UK/Scotland: "Nurture"
- Spain: "Epitaphs"
- Italy: "Hakuna Matata"
- Poland: "Hosanna"

To view detailed program, [click here](#)

Tuesday, May 5 | 2:30—4:00 p.m.

A place for lovers

- Spain: "A Hotel Room Story"
- Armenia: "Somebody loves you"
- Czech Republic: "Main Course"
- Finland: "You build me a labyrinth"
- Bulgaria: "The Gift of the Magi"
- Netherlands: "Sevilla"
- Northern Ireland: "Eyeline"

To view detailed program, [click here](#)

Wednesday, May 6 | 2:30—4:00 p.m.

The Younger Generation

- Switzerland: "Ronaldo"
- Germany: "Pick-up Artist"
- Lithuania: "The Swimmer"
- Ireland: "The Sound of People"
- Netherlands: "Through You"
- Croatia: "Little Darling"
- Latvia: "Cat in the Bag"

To view detailed program, [click here](#)





MEUCE Celebrates Europe Day (cont'd)



Our Polish friends share their history



On May 5th as part of the activities for Europe Week, the Miami-Florida European Center of Excellence, in collaboration with the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Poland, and the American Institute for Polish Culture, screened a Polish film, "Jack Strong".

Students in attendance were able to learn more about the true story of a man who dares to challenge the Soviet empire. While planning the maneuvers of the Warsaw Pact forces, Polish army colonel Ryszard Kuklinski has access to top secrets. He gets to know that the American nuclear counterattack against Soviet forces is planned to be executed on Polish territory. Thanks to his determination, he starts a long, lonely and psychologically exhausting cooperation with CIA. From that very moment the life of his family and his own is in constant danger as one careless move may lead to tragedy.

This film was particularly appreciated by the public. We would like to thank the American Institute for Polish Culture, and the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Poland for having given us the opportunity to enjoy this film.

By C. Culy-Sanchez



MEUCE Celebrates Europe Day: Program



Europe Week—May 4-22

- **May 4-22**
Miami Beach Urban Studios
Exhibition: "Anne Frank: A History for Today"
- **May 4-6 | 12:00-5:00 p.m.**
FIU Graham Center—GC 140
European Short Films Festival
- **May 5- | 12:00-2:00 p.m.**
FIU Graham Center-GC 140
European Film : Polish Film
"Jack Strong"
- **May 6- | 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**
FIU—ECS 349
EU Research Workshop
- **May 6 | 12:00-2:00 p.m.**
FIU Graham Center-GC 150
European Concert Film Screening:
"Love in Portofino" With Andrea Bocelli
- **May 7 | 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**
Miami Dade High School
Presentation on the Importance of the European Union
to High School Students

Europe Week—May 4-22

- **May 8 | 1:30-2:30 p.m.**
FIU Graham Center-GC 140
Recognition Award Ceremony for FIU Undergraduate
European Studies Students
- **May 8 | 2:30-4:30 p.m.**
FIU Graham Center-GC 140
European Film: Franco-Austrian
"Nous nous sommes tant hais"
(How we hated each other) which re-enacts the birth of the European Union.
- **May 12 | 11:00 am—12:30 p.m.**
FIU—DM 233
Lecture on "European Identity and Intercultural Communi-
cation" by Hon. Philippe Letrillart, Consul General of France;
and Ulrike Pelissier, Vice Consul, Consulate General of the
Federal Republic of Germany
- **May 22 | 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.**
FIU - MARC 115
High School Teacher Workshop
"Understanding and Teaching the European Union."

For more information on the program, click on the following
link: <https://miamieuc.fiu.edu/events/general/2015/meuce-let-celebrate-europe-day-may-2014-fiu-1/>



Anne Frank: A History for Today Exhibition



The Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence at FIU, the Miami-Dade College of Art and Design and the General Consulate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands have partnered with the Anne Frank Center USA in order to bring the exhibition *Anne Frank: A History for Today* to South Florida. The exhibition has been on view at the Miami Dade College Koubek Center from March 17 to April 3, the Freedom Tower from April 6 to 26, and on view at the FIU Miami-Beach Urban Studios from April 28 to May 22, 2015. In a recent over the phone interview, MEUCE was able to speak to Hilary Stipelman, Director of Outreach and Exhibition, about the exhibition and the Anne Frank Center USA.

working with the history content. It is such an inspirational story to be sharing with communities in the United States and very fulfilling.

MEUCE: Could you tell us more about this particular traveling exhibition?

Stipelman This exhibit is one of several that circulate throughout America. The program we run with

Stipelman: In terms of outreach program we offer a variety of educational programs which accompany our exhibits. They include school guides as well as docent training and training for K-12 educators on how to teach material on the Holocaust. We also sponsor programs such as the Confronting Intolerance program we had at the Koubek Center when the exhibition first

opened. Also, in New York we have on-site school groups visits and we are consistently changing out exhibits at the center. We also have a theatrical program called *Conversations with Anne* that travels all over the country. The program is done on-site at schools and involves an actress delivering passages from Anne's diary. Afterwards, she remains in character and interacts with the audience.



MEUCE: How did you become interested in museum studies?

Stipelman: I have always been in the field of museum education. I was an art history major in college and went to graduate school to get an M.A. in museum education. Since then I have always been interested in museums and history and teaching the story that come from the history and objects in museums. I started working at the Anne Frank Center USA in 2006 and have been really enjoying

Installation of "Anne Frank: a History for Today" Exhibition at the Koubek Memorial Center with Hilary Eddy Stipelman, Director of Outreach and Exhibition, The Anne Frank Center USA (center); the Consulate General of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Miami Team, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, MEUCE, and the FIU Student Ambassadors Team - March 16, 2015

Anne Frank House in Amsterdam helped underwrite the exhibit traveling to Florida. While the Consulate for the Kingdom of the Netherlands has generously funded the exhibition traveling throughout Miami.

MEUCE: The Anne Frank Center USA has various outreach programs. Could you elaborate on what those are?

MEUCE: What is your relation to other Anne Frank Centers around the world?

Stipelman : We are one of five different international organizations that preserve the legacy of Anne Frank and teach her diary and family story. There are other partner organizations in Germany, in the UK, Austria and Argentina.



Anne Frank: A History for Today Exhibition



Installation of "Anne Frank: a History for Today" Exhibition at the Koubek Memorial Center Miami - March 16, 2015

All of the centers work in collaboration with the Anne Frank House and we will share things such as exhibition content. Currently, there's an exhibition about the helpers who would hid Anne and her family at the Anne Frank House and it is traveling here to New York.

MEUCE: What do you hope people will come away with after visiting an exhibition or attending one of your programs?

Stipelman : Our hope is always that people will leave feeling inspired instead of depressed. It's not a happy thing to talk about the Holocaust or genocide. But when you look at the story, and perspectives and the way she grew up in hiding over those two years, she grew amazingly self-reflective and aware of her place in humanity. We're hoping people will take a cue from Anne and see how important it is to support our fellow humans in our communities and that they will also see the power of the written word. The fact that her diary is one of the most widely read works of non-fiction in the world is amazing. If we

can get young adults to realize how much power they have that is amazing..

Normally we do an education program when we go to a public school. .. Our program splits off into two different things. 6-8th grade gets the same story as high schoolers. For elementary students it's different because they haven't had the history yet and because of their age. What we talk about more is Anne as a writer and her relationship to her diary and how important it was to her. We take quotes from the diary, have students read them, and pick one they identify with and talk about it at a personal level, and have them relate to Anne.

MEUCE: What are the future plans for this exhibition?

Stipelman : We confirmed that the exhibit will be moving to Tallahassee in January and going to be displayed at FSU at the Museum of Fine Arts. We're very interested in having it reach Miami-Dade Public Schools during the fall of 2015 so we are looking for schools that are interested in holding the exhibit be-

tween September and December of this year. We are hoping to work directly with high schools this way.

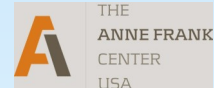
MEUCE: What is the most fulfilling aspect of your job?

Stipelman : For me it's wonderful when I have the opportunity to work with students. One of the programs we have is the docent training with high schools and middle schools. We teach them how to give tours through the exhibit. Not only are they learning Anne's Story, but public presentation skills and confidence by leading normally adults through the exhibition. We get a lot of great feedback from students about that aspect. It's demonstrative about how this program works to impact students and help them realize that they can make a positive change in their communities.

We do the volunteer and docent program for adults as well especially when we put the exhibit in a public library or community center. For them it's the same they are excited about teaching Anne's story and passing on her legacy.



Anne Frank: A History for Today Exhibition



About The Anne Frank Center USA

The Anne Frank Center USA, a partner of the Anne Frank House, uses the diary and spirit of Anne Frank as unique tools to advance her legacy, to educate young people and communities in North America about the dangers of intolerance, antisemitism, racism and discrimination, and to inspire the next generation to build a world based on equal rights and mutual respect. www.annefrank.com

MEUCE: Why do you think the K-12 educator workshops are so important?

Stipelman : The knowledge that educators don't have to be anxious about teaching this material and that it can be done with a positive side is so important. If we can empower educators to feel like, yes they can do this [teach Holocaust

material] and have the tools to do this and to do it well...one of the reasons Anne's diary is such a rich teaching resource because it lets us get to know her and not just regard her as a statistics.

MEUCE would like to sincerely thank our FIU students ambassadors, Isabel Brador, Talia Torbica, and Dayra Carvajal, for their hard

work in helping the Consulate General of the Netherlands and Hilary Stipelman with the installation of the three exhibitions from March 17 to May 22.

MEUCE would also like to thank the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and the Anne Frank Center USA for giving us the opportunity to share this exhibition at FIU Miami Beach Urban Studios.

► For more information on the program, [click here](#)

By Isabel Brador



Installation of "Anne Frank: a History for Today" Exhibition at the Koubek Memorial Center Miami - March 16, 2015 - Isabel, Talia, and Dayra, our FIU students ambassadors.



Kingdom of the Netherlands



The FIU College of Architecture + The Arts | Miami Beach Urban Studios
The Holocaust Memorial Miami Beach
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Anne Frank: A History for Today

Tuesday, April 28 - Friday, May 22, 2015
1618 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach

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MEUCE Celebrates Europe Day (cont'd)

European Identity and Intercultural Communication Panel



Hon. Philippe Létrilliart, Consul General of France in Miami; and Ulrike Pelissier, Vice Consul, Political Department, Consulate General of the Republic of Germany in Miami

On Tuesday, May 12th, the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence had the opportunity to sponsor the European Identity and Intercultural Communication Panel. The panel served as an orientation for a group of students who would be participating in the Cultural Communication Patterns of Europe study abroad program. The program give students the opportunity to learn how different cultures communicate and how cultural identity informs methods of communication and has been offered for two consecutive summers.

In a previous interview, Jose Rodriguez, a professor of

communication, the Assistant Dean of the Honors College at FIU and the head of the program discussed the program's objectives.

"What we do in the class is to try and grasp the idea of a European identity and figure out if it does exist. How are people within Europe able to communicate with one another? So how are the various ways that these places differ in terms of their cultural background, cultural dynamics and cultural expectations hinder or facilitate communication?"

Rather than focus on the whole of Europe, the program focuses on three countries: France, Germany and Belgium.

"The reason I chose those three is because the history of continental Europe is primarily written by France and Germany, especially in the last 150 years. They're also have the two largest economies within the European Union, and each has a very interesting past and present," said Rodriguez.

Along these lines of thinking the panel featured two speakers, Honorable Philippe Létrilliart, Consul General of France to Miami and Ulrike Pélissier, Vice-Consul, Political Department of the Federal Republic of Germany. Both speakers tailored their talks to the



Dr. Jose Rodriguez



Dr. Jose Rodriguez's students with Hon. Philippe Létrilliart, Ulrike Pelissier, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, and Dr. Jose Rodriguez at the presentation on "European Identity and Intercultural Communication" at FIU—May 12, 2015



MEUCE Celebrates Europe Day (cont'd)

European Identity and Intercultural Communication Panel



Hon. Philippe Létriliart,
Consul General of France in Miami



Ulrike Pelissier
Consulate General of Germany

various experiences the students would be having during their trip abroad. In an interview after the panel MEUCE was able to ask the speakers why they thought studying abroad was so important.

"You have to know the world, how it works because we live in an open world. For your future you have to understand other people, other countries and other languages even if you plan on living and working in the United States. Also, it is important for your own experience", Hon. Philippe Létriliart pointed out. He also gave advice on what students should know before going abroad.

"The language is the best way to enter into a different civilization or country. After this, I would say his-

tory is absolutely mandatory. You have to know the past and know where you come from and where the other country is coming from."

Pélissier agreed with Hon. Philippe Létriliart on the importance of knowing a country's history and spoke to personal growth and enrichment that comes from being abroad. "I think it opens your mind and your horizons in a way that a short trip cannot do. You need to really get to know the people and interact with them in order to understand the way their thinking. You get to improve your language skills and to do many normal things besides visiting the museums and the historic sites."

Pélissier also had some last-minute advice on how students could get

the most out of their time abroad, "Figure out which clubs to go to and party with the young. Go to the local food places and take advantage of as many opportunities as possible. Also, ride public transport. You meet the most interesting people."

The students were very happy and thankful to have advice from such distinguished speakers on European identity, intercultural communication for their trip to Europe.

The event was sponsored by the Consulate General of France in Miami, the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, the FIU Department of Communication Arts, and the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence.

By Isabel Brador



Dr. Jose Rodriguez's students



For more
information
on Cultural
Communication
Patterns of Europe
(France, Germany,
Belgium) Program
visit the following
page:

[https://
globalaffairs.fiu.edu/study-
abroad/programs/
european-union/](https://globalaffairs.fiu.edu/study-abroad/programs/european-union/)



Understanding and Teaching the European Union

A workshop for Miami-Dade High School Teachers



C. 2015 Michael Jon Littman

Miami-Dade High School Teachers Workshop on the European Union

The Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence (MEUCE) engages in a broad range of outreach activities designed to teach about the European Union and to communicate its policies. As part of this outreach, MEUCE conducts an annual workshop for secondary school teachers in Florida, which presents an overview of the European Union and addresses issues affecting Europe and EU-US relations. Last year's workshop held at the Spanish High School in Boca Raton, Florida set the bar high, but this year's workshop was just as successful. This year's workshop "Understanding and Teaching the Eu-

ropean Union: Hemispheric, Transatlantic and Global Perspectives", was held on May 22, 2015 at Florida International University. It served as an opportunity to engage with local educators. According to FIU-MEUCE Associate Director Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, the FIU MEUCE has been hosting this seminar for 10 years. "This year we had 35 high school teachers who participated. We would like to sincerely thank Robert Brazofsky, Supervisor, Executive Director, Social Sciences, Miami-Dade Public Schools for helping us in recruiting Miami-Dade Teachers for the workshop.

The workshop was as lively and engaging as ever, as educators were given a broad range of information on topics related on the European Union. The session included a lively discussion led by Dr. Markus Thiel of FIU's Assistant Professor Politics & International Relations Department on "The EU: How does the European Union Work?" "The Institutions & Major Policies of the EU". He also advised these educators on "strategies on how to teach the European Union, and the best teaching practices". Dr. Maria Lorca-Susino, Associate Researcher, European Union Center, Economics and Political Economy for the Depart-

ments of Economics and International Studies, University of Miami made a presentation on The Euro Area Economy an update and Hot Topic of the Euro.

In the afternoon, Dr. Rebecca Friedman, co-director, MEUCE, made a presentation on the EU Resources on the Web, as well as the Euro Challenge Competition. Finally Carlos Fernandez, International Relations Documents, Librarian, FIU, informed the teachers on where to find EU sources at FIU Library. He presented an overview database literacy for EU sources

The material presented in this workshop provided educators with an extensive overview of political, economic, and historical background on the European Union. When these educators return to their classrooms, this background knowledge should be instrumental in allowing the successful transmission of up to date educational material to their pupils. Each educator was also provided with a packet of materials to bring back to their classrooms as a means of facilitating student learning.

For more information on these series of workshops please see :
<https://miamieuc.fiu.edu/outreach/teacher-workshops/>

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez



Dr. Markus Thiel, Assistant Professor Politics & International Relations, FIU



Dr. Maria-Lorca Susino, Economics and Political Economy Professor, UM



Viktoria Bodnarova and Dr. Olaf Heilmayer informing one of the conference's attendee on Horizon 2020

May 1-5: eMerge Americas Conference

Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence, Euraxess, and German Aerospace Center, partners in the BILAT USA-Horizon 2020, were proud of participating in the year's most awaited conference on innovation and research in Miami: eMerge Americas on May 1-5. More than 10,000 people attended the event at the Miami Beach Con-

vention Center. On May 4 and 5, the conference featured keynote speakers, an expo showcasing the latest technologies, country pavilions, a startup showcase, Government Innovation Summit and a Women, Innovation and Technology (WIT) Summit.

Two experts in EU Research and Innovation Funding were at our booth on May 4 and 5; [Dr. Olaf Heilmayer](#), Head of Unit, German

Aerospace Center, Multilateral Cooperation, Monitoring, European and International Cooperation, Bonn, Germany; and [Viktoria Bodnarova](#), Regional Representative, Euraxess Links North America, were able to present funding possibilities for US researchers and company decision makers, and answered questions on Horizon 2020, Euraxess, ERC and Marie Curie Programs. They, along with Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director, MEUCE, were also able to attend all the networking events, where they met Miami-Dade decision makers, European consuls, scientists, and high-tech companies' CEOs from the US, Europe, and Latin America. The Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence would like to thank Mr. Manny Medina, founder of eMerge Americas; Carolina Rendeiro, VP of Strategic Development; and Beth Morgan, VP Public Sector Engage-



Dr. Olaf Heilmayer, Viktoria Bodnarova, FIU President Mark Rosenberg, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

#MeetH2020 at eMerge Americas



Visit BOOTH B-18! Presentations:
Monday, May 4 - 11:00 AM & 2:30 PM

Tuesday, May 5 - 10:30 AM & 2:00 PM



eMerge Americas Symposium—May 1-5, 2015



ment at eMerge Americas for giving us the opportunity of participating in this wonderful conference.

The MEUCE is looking forward to participating in next year's conference, which will take place in Miami in April 2016.

"eMerge Americas is a global idea exchange focusing on how technology and innovation are disrupting industries. The conference serves as a platform connecting revolutionary startups, cutting-edge ideas, and global industry leaders & investors across North America, Europe, and Latin America. It's five intensive, exhilarating days of interactive sessions, networking events in Miami's most iconic venues, and compelling presentations designed to spark conversation & unleash creativity."; "eMerge Americas serves as the preeminent innovative thought exchange helping transform Miami into the technological hub of the Americas" To learn more about the event or to see the agenda and list of speakers, visit www.emergeamericas.org

Read more here:

- <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/business/article6362082.html>
- <http://www.emergeamericas.org/press-release/NBC-01-14-15.html>

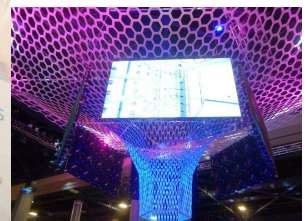
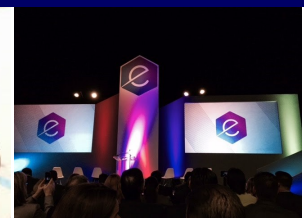
By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez



Viktoria Bodnarova and Christine I. Caly-Sanchez at Horizon 2020/Euraxess Booth



Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Beacon Council President & CEO Larry Williams, Viktoria Bodnarova, Dr. Olaf Heilmayer



V. Bodnarova, O. Heilmayer, C. Caly-Sanchez, Hon. N. Olijslager, Barbara Staal



O. Heilmayer, V. Bodnarova, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez, C. Caly-Sanchez, Michael Kröner



BILAT USA 2.0 Horizon 2020 Workshop at FIU



Dr. Olaf Heilmayer, Head of Unit, German Aerospace Center, DLR



FIU Faculty at the Horizon 2020 Workshop on May 6, 2015

Miami, May 6, 2015 — 9 a.m. –1:30 pm

Following the eMerge Americas Symposium on Research and Innovation on May 4–5 May 2015, BILAT 2.0 USA partners and MEUCE organized a “Practical Workshop on Horizon 2020 and EU Funding possibilities for US Researchers and FIU Faculty”. The session – with over 45 participants – took place at Florida International University Computing & Information Science School on

Wednesday, May 6, 2015 from 9 a.m. - 1:30 pm, and was organized by Florida International University/Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence, DLR and EURAXESS. The participants in the workshop hailed from FIU different departments, including the Office of the Global Affairs, the Computing & Information Science School, the Environment Department, and the School of Medicine. This diverse group participated in a

lively and active discussion over the course of the four hours. Dr. Meredith Newman, Vice Provost for Faculty and Global Affairs; Dr. Giri Narasimhan, Professor & Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, Computing & Information Science; Dr. Iyengar, Director, Computing & Information Sciences, welcomed the audience and speakers. Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director, MEUCE, and organizer of the event, thanked the audience for participating in the workshop and introduced the two speakers: [Dr. Olaf Heilmayer](#), Head of Unit, German Aerospace Center, Multilateral Cooperation, Monitoring, European and International Cooperation, Bonn, Germany; and [Viktoria Bodnarova](#), Regional Representative, Euraxess Links North America.



From left to right: Dr. William Anderson, Viktoria Bodnarova, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Dr. Olaf Heilmayer, Dr. Meredith Newman, Lino Fioretino, and Davide Guerrieri

The first segment of the workshop began with a working roundtable with FIU faculty, an Italian scientific delegation from Rome and the two representatives from BILAT USA 2.0-Horizon 2020. The discussion was about future possibilities of scientific projects between FIU and the Italian scientific delegation members through Horizon 2020. Afterwards, the Italian delegation,



BILAT USA 2.0 Horizon 2020 Workshop



Viktoria Bodnarova, Regional Representative, Euraxess Links North America

along with the two representatives from BILAT, visited the FIU Discovery Laboratory.

After the tour, Dr. Olaf Heilmayer shared a brief introduction to the BILAT 2.0 USA objectives and goals, and made a presentation on Horizon 2020 and the different EU funding possibilities to FIU faculty.

Viktoria Bodnarova presented the objectives and goals of EURAXESS, which focuses less on collaborative projects, and more on individuals, mobility and fellowship. She informed the audience about

the job vacancies and funding opportunities available in 40 European countries.

A lively discussion between the presenters and faculty members continued during a luncheon hosted by the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence at the Computing & Information Science School.

► To view more information on the workshop, [click here](#)

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014 to 2020) – in addition to the private investment that this money will attract. It promises more breakthroughs, discoveries and world-firsts by taking great ideas from the lab to the market. For more information on Horizon 2020, [click here](#)



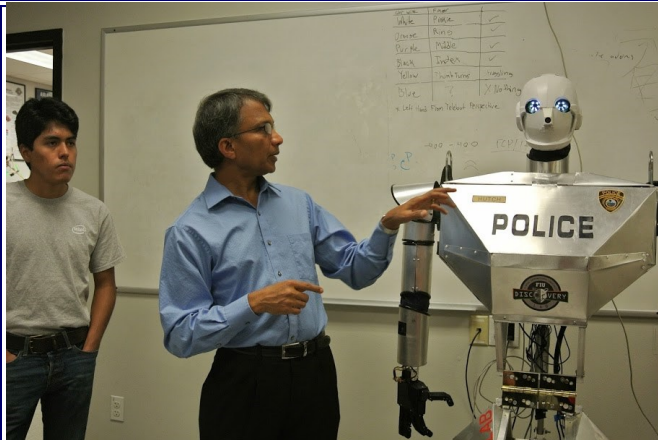
Dr. Iyengar, Director, Computing & Information Sciences

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Viktoria Bodnarova, Dr. Giri Narasimhan, Dr. Olaf Heilmayer

BILAT  USA 2.0

BILAT USA 2.0 Horizon 2020 Workshop

HORIZON 2020



At FIU Discovery Lab, Dr. Nagarajan Prabakar presenting the TeleBot robot



Left: Lino Fioretino experimenting simulation

Right: Fabio de Furia, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Olaf Heilmayer, Viktoria Bodnarova



At FIU Discovery Lab, Italian Scientific Delegation with Dr. Olaf Heilmayer, Christine I. Caly-Ssanchez, and Viktoria Bodnarova



VOI SIETE QUI (You are here) A Grand Tour Redux Project

By Stephanie Sepulveda



Roma

The Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence would like to share with you the wonderful essay-reflection FIU Honors student Stephanie Sepulveda wrote after making her study abroad trip to Italy in June with Professor John Bailly as part of the course, "The Grand Tour Redux".

Introduction: The Grand Tour Redux

The aim of this project is to reexamine the concept of the Grand Tour in a contemporary and personal way. I am a 22-year-old Latin American woman who in no way fits the traditional description of a Grand Tour participant, this gives me the opportunity to explore traditional concepts and ideas through a unique lens. In a way, this project allows us to use tradition and history as a stepping stone for our own personal reflection and development.

The title of this project is Voi Siete Qui, or You Are Here. I chose this title because this phrase, which kept popping up every time I looked at a map, serves as a reminder to take a second and appreciate where I am and what I am doing. Knowing where we are mentally and physically allows us to see ourselves in a bigger context, and, in a way, that is what I am attempting to do with this project. As I explored Italy I not only wanted to understand the places and their history, but I also wanted to immerse myself in them and to see where I would fit in within their context—just like that dot on the

map that tells you where you are when you are lost.

A Brief Explanation:

In order to give structure to the project, I decided to look at each location we visited through a different lens. I chose each of these themes as I explored each city and used them as guidelines for my reflections and research.

These are all topics in which I'm interested in, and although they may not have been traditionally studied in the Grand Tour, I feel that they were essential to my individual experience as I traveled and learned in Italy.

Each section of this website will focus on a different city and will serve as a space for reflection, some are in the form of poetry and others in short reflections on the subject.

ROMA: History and Permanence

Ancient Stone

My body isn't what it used to be,
My weathered skin with creases and
cracks betrays me.

The scorching sun hits my back,
as I carry my brothers and sisters.
I've seen the others fall,
I've seen what the elements can do.
I know failure and I know permanence.

I've been robbed, and hurt.
I've been used, abandoned, and found again.
I watch you pass like I watched those before you.

You have changed, but you haven't.
Time has passed, but it hasn't.

I can't speak out loud,
But I let my appearance tell my story.
I see you today and I'll see the others after you.

Reflection:

It is impossible to visit Rome without being awestruck by the incredible combination of the old and the new. I think it is difficult to find a city more apt to study the passage of time and the permanence of certain cultures in our present lives.

The fact that these ruins continue to stand tall within a modern city is testament not only to the physical endurance of Roman architecture, but also to the permanence of the Roman innovation that has had such an important influence on us.

Personally, every time I visited a new site in Rome I was awestruck by the immensity of the structures. The Baths of Caracalla, for example, left a deep impression on me. Although the place is left in ruins, the sheer size of the structure is enough to let us imagine the greatness of the place in its heyday. The thickness and strength of the walls, dramatically contrast with the intricate and delicate work of the mosaics that remain. Just spending a few hours in this place was enough to take me back in time for a second—to appreciate the greatness of the Romans and the advances that they made.

The examples are endless in Rome—from the Colosseum, to the Forum, to the Circus Maximus, Rome is a city where the past becomes present, where you can live and breathe history. Seeing that first hand, and learning about it in the actual location, is incredibly hum-



VOI SIETE QUI (You are here)

"A Grand Tour Redux Project" By Stephanie Sepulveda



The Vaticano

bling. Our culture has borrowed so much from the Ancient Romans, from architecture and art, to military structure, that actually seeing where all these ideas took place, and walking the roads where these people walked is incredible. Yes, history is always a part of who we are, but in Rome we can actually experience it.

VATICANO: Religion

A Wednesday at the Vatican:

The early morning sun was scorching and the sky was perfectly blue. We were there two hours early to secure a good seat. The plastic chairs that had been neatly assembled were still mostly empty. You could feel the tension in the air as people started to fill St. Peter's Square. Men, women, and children walked slowly, with sleep still fresh in their faces. People from every nationality trickled in and took their seats in front of the imposing facade of St. Peter's Basilica. In what seemed like a second, the entire square was full of people. Some craning their necks to see if they could catch a glimpse of anything, others taking selfies and waving their flags in the air.

A booming voice on the speaker system welcomed the different groups in their respective languages. People clapped and cheered. Pope Francis zoomed into the square. Gone was the bullet proof glass used by previous popes, it was just him in contact with the

people. The mass of people moved like a wave, pointing and waving, some even stood on their chairs to get a better look. The Pope's image was shown on giant screen on either side of the Square, he stopped to kiss babies and bless children. I cheered along with the others and tried frantically to get a photo, and as soon as the service started, the crowd went silent.

Pope Francis spoke evenly and easily. I could somehow make out what he was saying in my very precarious Italian. He spoke of love and commitment, simply and openly. I cried. I wasn't just because of the words, or because of the service, it was because of the atmosphere of the place. I was among thousands of people who had made it all the way to the Vatican to be there at that very moment. It was the fact that I got to see and be a part of a ritual that so many Catholics dream to be a part of. It was a moment of reflection, a way to see how religion and faith moves and affects people.

Reflection:

I wouldn't call myself a religious person. I believe in certain things, but I have never been attached to a particular creed or religion. Because of this, when I said I wanted to see the Pope in the Vatican, people immediately questioned me. "But, you aren't even religious," someone asked us as we rode the bus to the

Vatican to pick up tickets for the Wednesday Papal Audience. After this question, I took a moment to think about why I wanted to go so badly. Was it to say I saw the Pope so that I could cross it off an imaginary list of experiences that I needed to have? Maybe. Was it for my mother who would have loved to attend? Also a possibility. But then I realized that it was so much more than this; it had more to do with the idea of community and of the power that faith has to move people in different ways. I wanted to be part of that energy, to be in the presence of this ritual that has united people for so many years.

Funny enough, that Wednesday at the Vatican was one of the highlights of the trip. I've always been interested in the power of religion, and I was able to experience it that day. It was an amazing sight to see the community that is formed around the ideas of Christianity. The love and excitement that people felt was undeniable and contagious.

We stood there after Pope Francis said his goodbyes and people started making their way out of the square. We stood there in silence for a while, and I think that in that moment we were all thinking the same thing—we had experienced something that many people yearn to experience and we would remember it always.

VOI SIETE QUI (You are here)

"A Grand Tour Redux Project" By Stephanie Sepulveda



Firenze



Cinque Terre

FIRENZE: Feminism

She

You put her in a box.
You glued her to a stand.
You showed her to others.
You taught her to spin.
You forced her to follow the music.

She's not what you thought.
She won't let you stop her.
She'll dream bigger.
She'll work harder.

She does it for her, for them, and for you.

Reflection

I came into the trip thinking that my project was going to be an exploration of the representation of women in Italian art. But it wasn't until Florence that I actually got excited about this idea. As we explored the Uffizi Gallery, we saw the traditional representation of women in art—Virgin Marys or portraits of rich women. Strong women, which were constant subject in classical Rome, were no longer subjects for works of art. It was only until we saw Botticelli's Birth of Venus, that women representations of women started to change.

And if women were underrepresented as the subjects of the artwork, they were even more absent in the form of artists themselves. In all of the museums and churches we saw in Italy, we had not seen a

single piece done by a woman—a testament to the historical exclusion of women that continues to exist to this day. But, finally this changed. In the Uffizi we saw works by Artemisia Gentileschi. It was refreshing to see work by a woman. Beautiful and powerful work that not only showed her talent, but also her ability to persevere and succeed in a world where she was constantly discriminated against for her gender.

This, of course, made me reflect on feminism and the treatment and discrimination of women that continues to exist today. Is the discrimination that women experience as blunt and violent as the one that Artemisia experienced? Not necessarily, at least not in the Western world. But it is still very much a problem. Women continue to be underpaid, to be sexually harassed, to be refused jobs, and denied equal rights. As a woman, I see Artemisia as an inspiration. Her story and her talent show the ability that women have to overcome the obstacles that they face. She is the only woman artist in that museum and her work is good enough to be hung next to a Caravaggio. And now, hundreds of years later, her story is an inspiration to all women who are still victims of unequal rights. I just wish that more people could know her story and see her work.

CINQUE TERRE: Nature

Cinque Terre

It's still and clear,
you can't see where it ends or begins.
It's silent and cool,
you walk with you heartbeat and breaths.
It's uneven and treacherous,
you look down and measure your steps.
It's hot and arduous,
you stop to wipe you face and catch a breath.
It's long and painful,
you keep trekking, step by step.
It's vast and infinite,
you stand on the edge and take it in.

Reflection

Our days in Cinque Terre served as a time out for our minds. They were a moment for us to silently reflect on all we had experienced in the first three weeks of our trip. The sanctuary was a place where we could be apart from the sounds, people, and places of the city. From up there, the horizon was a blur, the blue of the sky melted into the blue of the ocean. It was silent. It was different from anything I'm used to, particularly in Miami where city life makes it so difficult to spend time with nature in silence.

The hike was long and tough. It was the hardest thing I've ever done but it was also the most rewarding. We spent nine hours with ourselves and with nature. For long stretches there was nothing but



VOI SIETE QUI (You are here)

"A Grand Tour Redux Project" By Stephanie Sepulvida



Cinque Terre



Venezia

silence as each one of us used all our physical and mental strength to get through the trail. We swam in the Mediterranean and we explored small towns that have maintained their traditions while embracing tourism. We experienced something different from anything we had seen before.

After weeks of studying history and art, we were allowed to take a breather. This is where I did a lot of my thinking. Both about the trip and the project, but also about the future. This is where I decided on the title of this project—"You Are Here." Particularly when you come in such close contact with the vastness of nature, like we did with the ocean and the trails, you can see where you are. You can attempt to reassess your life, and put it into a correct context. In nature you can take a second to realize that you (really) are here.

ENEZIA: Art

Reflection:

It was difficult to choose art as a lens through which to look at just one city in Italy since art has had such a pervasive influence in the history of this country. Italy is truly a country of art, and this allows us to experience different moments and styles of art as you travel through it. But, it was in Venice, the last leg of the trip, that I was finally

able to look back at the entire experience and reflect. We didn't visit any major museums here like we did in Rome or in Florence, but what we did see was the connection between the history of art in Italy and in Venice, and art in the present day.

In the Biennale, Venice becomes a city of art. The exhibitions, presented by countries around the world, give us an opportunity to experience contemporary art along with the art that has historically been present in this city. Here is where I was finally able to see the result of all the years and years of art history that we studied. Of course, we missed some chapters in this history that we did not get to cover, but overall, to see contemporary art installations set up in a church that is 1,000 years old is art in itself.

It is this juxtaposition between old and new, classic and modern, that not only characterizes Venice and makes it beautiful, but that can also be applied on many different levels to the parts of Italy that we have been fortunate to explore. Art is not just something beautiful, or personal to the artist, but it is a window into cultures and moments in time. By studying art we are able to draw conclusions about moments in history and to trace the development of ideas and traditions. We went from classical Roman art, with

open representations of the human body, to a polar opposite in Christian art that dealt with predominantly religious subjects and the heavenly world. And we finished in Venice, where we saw an eclectic mix of artists that dealt with a variety of different subjects from around the world, all within the beautiful architecture of the famous Venice Palazzos.

History has progressed, globalization has become a growing phenomenon, and the multiculturalism that has been historically characteristic of place like the Roman Empire, or Venice, or our own Miami, is now permeating cities everywhere. And it was in Venice, where this became most evident. And what was most interesting to me, was that it was not the people or the place that made me reflect on this, but it was the art.

By Stephanie Sepulvida



For more information on Italy, Grand Tour Redux program, visit the following page:

<https://ugrad.fiu.edu/studyabroad/Pages/HonorsItaly.aspx>



FIU leads sustainability conversation at EXPO Milano 2015 By FIU News



MILANO 2015

FEEDING THE PLANET
ENERGY FOR LIFE



FIU is one of four U.S. universities participating in the [EXPO Milano 2015](#), a showcase where countries present their best products, technologies and ideas for guaranteeing a healthy, safe and sufficient food supply while respecting the environment.

With the theme "Feeding the Planet, Energy for life," the expo runs through October in Milan, Italy. Nearly half a dozen FIU faculty members from areas including sociology, anthropology, geography, history, biological sciences and environmental studies are currently participating in the expo, representing the university's new food studies program.

"Food studies is a rapidly growing area of interest for our faculty and students alike, and this opportunity to actually be part of Expo Milano, a world's fair dedicated to food and sustainability, is an extraordinary and exciting prospect for all of us," said [A. Douglas Kincaid](#), professor in the [FIU Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies](#) and faculty coordinator for the project. "We have an excellent set of partner universities to help ensure that our food studies program will be on the cutting edge of research and teaching going forward."

FIU teamed up with Appalachian State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of South Florida, to collaborate on academic activities

at the expo as part of an agreement with *Comitato Scientifico Expo 2015*, the scientific committee for the expo. The universities are teaming up with a consortium of Italian universities in Milan to help organize conferences, as well as research and training programs in food studies.

"As a Consul General of Italy in Miami, I am particularly glad of this important achievement that involves four prestigious universities in the United States and the consortium of Italian universities in Milan," said Adolfo Barattolo, consul general of Italy in Miami. "It is particularly significant that the combined endeavor of such prestigious Universities, both in the United State and in the Milan area, will focus their joint efforts in a partnership which has as objective to enhance the theme of the Milan expo."

A platform for the exchange of ideas and shared solutions on the theme of food, stimulating each country's creativity and promoting innovation for a sustainable future, Expo Milano 2015 will give participants the opportunity to learn about and taste the world's best dishes, while discovering the best of the agricultural and gastronomic traditions of each of the exhibitor countries. In addition to the more than 140 exhibitor nations, the expo expects to welcome over 20 million visitors to the global showcase.

"I am delighted to see this project moving ahead," said [John F. Stack, Jr.](#), executive director of [FIU's Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs](#). "It is emblematic of the Green School's commitment to interdisciplinary studies and global partnerships that address the critical issues of our time."

By FIU News

The project has already begun at FIU with the organization of a workshop led by Dr. Kincaid and co-sponsored by the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

On June 26, Dr. Michal Osterweil, Global Studies lecturer at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, presented "In Search of Movement: Food, Environment and New Political Imaginaries in Contemporary Europe" and met FIU faculty.

Dr. Osterweil's visit to Miami is in conjunction with preparations on comparative EU and US food policies to be held at the Expo Milano in October.

► To learn more about Expo Milano 2015, [click here](#)





European Chambers of Commerce Breakfast-Seminar on the TTIP and Oil Prices — Maria Lorca Susino



Dr. Maria Lorca-Susino

The Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence was pleased to partner with the European Chambers of Commerce in Miami for a breakfast seminar on The TTIP on June 4th. Different European chambers of commerce members—British, French, German, Italian, Spanish - and the Miami-Dade community at large attended the event in the offices of GT Greenberg Traurig LLC in Downtown Miami, and were able to hear the latest news on TTIP and oil prices titled "The Price of Energy and Its Impact in the Economics of the US and Eurozone: Implications for the TTIP", by Dr. Maria Lorca-Susino, Associate Researcher, European Union Center; Economics and Political Economy for the Departments of Economics and International Studies, at the University of Miami.

Pascale Villet, Executive Director, French-American Chamber of Commerce, thanked Greenberg Traurig for hosting the event, as well as the audience and the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence for providing the speaker.

Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director, Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence thanked Pascale Villet and all the European chambers of commerce for their partnership, and introduced the keynote speaker.



Christine I. Caly-Sanchez and Dr. Maria Lorca-Susino (center) with European Chambers of Commerce Executive Directors (Spain, Italy, Germany, France, United Kingdom)



European Chambers of Commerce members and Miami-Dade Community at large in the audience—June 4th, 2015



Business Council Miami





European Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Seminar on the TTIP and Oil Prices — Maria Lorca Susino



Dr. Maria Lorca-Susino

After Dr. Lorca-Susino's presentation, the MEUCE met with her and asked her to update the center on the TTIP and oil prices.

Maria Lorca-Susino:

"This academic work analyses the TTIP using a SWOT analysis to discover the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and thread behind this ambitious trade agreement. This agreement is mainly directed to help small and medium size European firms get easier access to the US market.

Among the strengths identified, it is important to highlight that this treaty will not only be an agreement between the two biggest economic blocs, but also will hopefully help the dramatic slowdown of the "de-westernization" and the loss of certain western values such as the respect for the rule of law, freedom of speech, human life and others, creating a standard which will be the example to follow by other countries wishing to sign trade agreements. Secondly, on December 3rd, 2014 EU Foreign affairs representative, Federica Mogherini, met with Secretary of

State J. Kerry to discuss the possibly of introducing a chapter on energy to bolster EU energy security and stop EU's dependency of certain countries natural gas supply.

However, there are significant weaknesses. First of all the economic impact of the TTIP must be regarded with caution since they are built on computable models which might show very optimistic predictions and create false hopes and expectations. Also the TTIP lacks transparency and the documents pertaining to negotiations can only be found on the Commissions web which has raised very critical voices which demand an inclusive way. Finally, the idea of the TTIP was proposed in 2011 and on April 24, 2015 took place the ninth round of negotiations with not common text yet which is causing a significant fall in the support for the TTIP in various EU countries and even in the EU Parliament.

When it comes to the opportunities, there are major opportunities for EU firms as this TTIP is composed of three chapters which aim at smoothing market access, help with regula-



Maria Lorca-Susino,
Ph.D. (MA in Economics
and MBA in Finance)

has been teaching since 2006 economics and political economy for the Departments of Economic and International Studies at the University of Miami. Maria also works as the Associate Editor at the European Union Center of Excellence at the University of Miami wherein she has been publishing her research since January 2006. She is an expert on the euro and on economic and monetary issues that affect the EU and the Eurozone. She recently published a book titled "The euro in the 21st century: Economic crisis and financial uproar" (Ashgate Pub.) Her research looks at the issues of the euro, economic integration, and economics and are available at www.marialorcasusino.com.

tory cooperation and set common rules for EU firms. However, there are some geopolitical opportunities as well. First of all this agreement will help the EU maintain and regain some economic relevance lost not only due to the economic crisis but most importantly lost due to the shift in the center of gravity to Asia. For the U.S., the TTIP will help the US get a strategic position since together with the TTP will give the US an strategic position to control trade and investment in two significant geographical areas which will help the US be at the center of almost two thirds of the world's economy. The main threat analyzed in the study has been the relationship between the dollar and the price of energy represented by the price of Brent and WTI. If the euro remains low but the price of energy reverses its low trend, the export sector in the Eurozone will suffer a very negative impact which will affect the EU export as a whole."

By C. Caly-Sanchez



BILAT Announcement EURAXESS Science Slam: Slam your way to a free trip to Europe!



EURAXESS Science Slam

In 2015, EURAXESS Links North America is once again looking for North America's best science slammers.

Five finalists will battle it out for the title of "EURAXESS Science Slammer North America 2015" in the LIVE slam to be held in Chicago, IL, between October 17 and 21 2015.

The first prize is a free trip to Europe!

Download the flyer [here](#).

Online submission of slam candidacies is open between May 29 and September 21, 2015.

What this is about:

EURAXESS Science Slam North America 2015 is the third edition of a contest giving researchers based in North America the chance to showcase their research projects to their peers and the wider public in a relaxed and joyful atmosphere. It is open to researchers of all nationalities and from all fields of research. Every participant at the final slam to be held in Chicago between October 17 and 21 October 2015 will present a topic related to their research to an audience of non-experts. The slam will be given in English in a max of 10 minutes and can be supported by video and audio material, ppt. slides and any other kind of media available, as well as by scientific

equipment. The performances of the participants will be judged by the audience and the jury based on conceptualization, style and originality. The winner will be awarded a free trip to Europe where he or she will attend a science communication workshop along with the winners of the other EURAXESS Science Slams organized in ASEAN, Brazil, China, India and Japan. He/She will also have the opportunity to go to a European research institution of his/her choice!

For more information, [click here](#)

To view video, [click here](#)

By C. Caly-Sanchez



BILAT Announcement Workshop: Horizon 2020—How to strengthen research collaboration between the U.S. and the European Union



You're invited to join us at valuable (and FREE) workshop:

"Horizon 2020 — How to strengthen research collaboration between the U.S. and the European Union."



August 5, 2015 | 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Venue:

Washington Hilton Hotel
1919 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington DC

Benefits and goals of the workshop include:

- Learn about funding and partnership opportunities under [Horizon 2020](#), the largest European research and innovation program to date with an approximate budget of €80 billion over the next seven years. This program is FULLY OPEN to the US and other nations.
- Contribute your expertise in focused discussions on transatlantic collaboration in the areas of research, technological development, and innovation (RTDI) with researchers, business executives, and innovators.

- Hear from practitioners in EU-funded programs detail their success and challenges.

► For more information, [click here](#)

► To register, click here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/H2020AM57>

By C. Caly-Sanchez





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We at the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence want to thank all of our faculty, students and friends for participating in our events this year.



The activities of the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence will continue in fall 2015.

In the meantime, all of the MEUCE team members wish you a great summer and look forward to seeing you all next fall!

For details please visit: miamieuc.fiu.edu - Events
or contact Christine I. Caly-Sanchez at calyc@fiu.edu