



Newsletter



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Full Schedule for MEUCE: Moving Forward with an Enhanced Mission

For the next two years, South Florida students, teachers, businesses, professionals, politicians, journalists, artists, and academics will continue to have a wealth of information about and connections to Europe at their fingertips. Last fall, the Miami-Florida European Union Center for Excellence (MEUCE) had its life-sustaining grant renewed for the fourth time (three-year cycles) by the European Commission, thereby ensuring the continuation of the Center's activities aimed at promoting the study of the European Union (EU) and EU-U.S. relations. The Center, a consortium with the University of Miami and Florida International University, is one of ten centers of excellence selected in the U.S. by the European Commission to receive this grant. The funds from the grant support numerous programs and activities including, research, teaching and outreach to Miami, South Florida and beyond.

Over the years, MEUCE has become increasingly interested in community outreach, including investing in new social media to communicate with a broader – not only student -- audience. "The Center takes pride in its extensive outreach and close collaboration with the local community," commented Dr. Rebecca Friedman, one of the co-Directors of MEUCE and an Associate Professor in the FIU's History Department. "This is what the EU Commission has encouraged us to do," continued Dr. Friedman, "and we have been successful in doing it." MEUCE has been reaching out not only to the communities in its immediate vicinity (i.e. Miami-Dade and Broward counties) but also to all

of Florida and beyond. Through annual workshops for high school teachers held at various locations, close relationships with business communities, as well as a range of collaborative activities (i.e. sharing guest-speakers, organizing webinars with the other centers of excellence in the U.S.), MEUCE has considerably increased its visibility in the region.

Another manifestation of its accomplishments on a local (and national) level is the successful Euro-Challenge Program, coordinated with enthusiasm and dedication by MEUCE's Associate Director, Ms. Christine I. Caly-Sanchez. The program has grown over the years from a relatively modest competition to one that now spans many counties in South Florida: Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, and possible Orlando and Fort Myers, in a near future. In addition, the EU Educational Outreach Program provides for classroom visits by senior European diplomats and experts to South Florida high schools to promote knowledge about the EU. The Center also takes pride in using the opportunities offered by the new technologies to better fulfill its mission. Since last year, MEUCE has increased its visibility on the web (it is now on Facebook and YouTube), which will make knowledge about the EU accessible to even larger audiences.

As the Center continues to grow, its impact will deepen during this twelfth year of its existence. "Opportunities are multiplying," commented Dr. Friedman, and the Center is looking forward to enhance its previous programs and activities, and to find new opportunities for further developments, especially in its relationship with the community.



Dr. Rebecca Friedman
Co-Director, MEUCE, FIU; and Dr. Joaquín Roy
Co-Director, MEUCE, UM



Full Schedule for MEUCE: Moving Forward with an Enhanced Mission (con't)



For example, in addition to educational, diplomatic, and business activities, "we are planning to work closer with the European Chambers of Commerce," added Dr. Friedman. The Center will expand its relationship with School of Engineering through a new grant that will be launched this year.

The grant will support the efforts of bringing together people from various embassies, from the EU delegation in Washington, faculty and industry, to discuss issues of innovation and to share knowledge.

Further additions to the MEUCE agenda will include a closer collaboration with graduate students whose research interests focus on European and EU studies. Together with providing continuous support for the revived European Student Association (ESA), the Center is planning on adding an interdisciplinary "brown bag" series as a forum for graduate students to exchange ideas and share their research. The recent hiring of new faculty members in the area of European studies at FIU will also strengthen the Center's ability both to teach students about the Europe and the EU and to continue to reach out to communities in various constituencies. Finally, MEUCE will continue to promote the Graduate Certificate in European Studies by encouraging multidisciplinary (and Dr. Friedman is hopeful that the program "will grow into a master's degree one day"), as well as other activities it has done in the past: a series of academic talks that include various diplomats and practitioners, the awarding of grants for faculty and graduate students interested in the study of the European Union, and the European film series.

Upcoming events include a roundtable on "Social Movements in the EU and Beyond," various lectures such as "The EU's Energy Policy: Challenges and Opportunities" by Christian Burgsmüller, Counselor, Head of the Energy, Transportation, Environment and Nuclear Matters Section of the EU Delegation to the U.S., and French Week- all at FIU. Beginning on October 26th the "French Week Mi-

ami" (which is actually a month), organized by the French-American Chamber of Commerce in collaboration with the Consulate General of France in Miami, will include a series of events designed to celebrate French culture, film, art, and cuisine. As a novelty, this year French Week will begin with the first Miami Nice Jazz Festival, which will add excitement to our students, faculty, and community members alike.

Further activities also include the first annual contest essay on the German - U.S. transatlantic relations entitled "Think Transatlantic." Initiated by the German Embassy in Washington D.C., the campus week and "Think Transatlantic Contest Essay" are designed to promote dialogue among students and to exchange the knowledge of best practices on building upon past transatlantic success with new initiatives. A recognition award ceremony will take place on November 19th for FIU undergraduate students. The best three writers in Florida will receive certificates and goodies from Hon. Countess Eva Kendeffy, Consul General of Germany. In addition, there will be a nation-wide conference and a final competition for the university winners which will be held in Washington D.C. early next year. MEUCE will also host its annual "Global Europe" Conference in the spring. This year's topic will focus on international political economy and innovation in a single market.

MEUCE have full agenda this fall and throughout the year. 2012-2013 is already an exciting year as the Center continued to grow and expand its reach during the twelfth year in its existence in Florida.

By Lavinia Bucsa





Summer in Europe and Central America with MEUCE Co-director Dr. Joaquín Roy



Dr. Joaquín Roy, Co-Director, MEUCE, and Jean Monnet Professor "ad personam" at UM

1. Paris Conference and Visits

For Dr. Joaquín Roy, the Director of the European Union Center at the University of Miami, summer is a busy time of the year. Having written extensively on issues pertaining to European politics, economy and culture, as well as on comparative regionalism and EU relations with Latin America, the Jean Monnet Professor "ad personam" at the University of Miami and Co-Director of the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence (MEUCE) is a frequent guest at universities and political institutions across Europe, the United States and Latin America. This summer, Dr. Roy participated in conferences, conducted research and interviews, and visited French government offices in Paris, France. On June 7, he participated in the first conference organized as an academic prelude to the EU-Latin America summit to be held in Santiago de Chile in January of 2013, an event to be attended by all heads of state or government of the European Union, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

The Paris conference was organized by the Institut des Amériques, a research and teaching branch of the Sorbonne University, in co-operation with the newly-established EU-Latin America Foundation, an agency set by the EU to sponsor research and academic activities in both continents. A second conference will take place in Lima, Peru, on October 8-9, 2013. These gatherings happen every two years, alternating between European and Latin American capitals.

In the Paris event, Dr. Roy contributed to the debates on academic programs in both continents dealing with regional integration. A follow-up symposium was held at the French Senate, with the participation of French government officials, representatives from the EU and from several Latin American regional integration organizations. Subsequently, professor Roy conducted research interviews and engaged in briefings at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the French National Assembly. There, he was given a tour of the Salon de L'Horloge, where the Schuman Declaration was issued on May 9, 1950, and the hall of the French legislative institution. In addition, Dr. Roy held meetings at several Paris think tanks and research centers, among them the Institute of International Security (EU), the Jean Monnet Association, the Robert Schuman Foundation, and Notre Europe. Professor Roy's visit coincided with the celebration of the French legislative elections giving him the opportunity to exchange views with scholars, government officials, and observers. As a follow up, events will take place in Miami and Latin America with a focus on research, teaching, and outreach activities.

By Lavinia Bucsa



Benita Ferrero-Waldner, President, EU-LA Foundation former Commissioner of External Relations of the European Commission



Christian Leffler, Managing Director, Americas, European External Action Service (EEAS)



Hector Casanueva, Academic Vice-President, Universidad Pedro de Valdivia, Santiago, Chile, and Director of CELARE



Visits Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Assembly



Summer in Europe and Central America with MEUCE Co-director Dr. Joaquín Roy (con't)

2. Nicaragua: Managua Conference

On August 9, 2012, the Jean Monnet Chair “ad personam,” and Co-Director of the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence was invited to present a key note major paper at a conference held in Managua, Nicaragua, on the recently signed Association Agreement between the European Union Center and Central America. The event was organized by the Central American University (UCA) under the sponsorship of several Nicaraguan organizations and the Delegation of the European Union. Dr. Roy’s participation in this activity is part of his program as Jean Monnet professor. He subsequently held interviews and research briefings with several Nicaraguan and Central American government leaders and was interviewed by the local press on the subject of his presentation. Dr. Roy contributes regular columns to major Managua paper *La Prensa*. It is expected that the Managua event will be followed up by similar conferences organized in other area capitals. This conference is extremely important for Central America because it is the first in its kind signed by the European Union with an integrated sub-regional block. The EU has been contributing to the process of pacification, democratization, development and integration for three decades, making its role a model for other regions in the world.

By Lavinia Bucsa



From left to right: Orlando Mejía, Jean Monnet chair of University of León; Dr. Joaquín Roy, Co-Director, MEUCE and Jean Monnet Professor “ad personam” University of Miami; and Guillermo Borneman, Dean of School of Economics, University of Central America

For more information, please visit
<http://www.as.miami.edu/eucenter/events/summer12>



Javier Sandomingo, EU ambassador



Dr. Joaquín Roy, Co-Director, MEUCE, and Jean Monnet Professor “ad personam” at University of Miami



Orlando Workshop Helps Teachers to Teach Europe



Dr. John Bersia

Ambassador Harriet Elam-Thomas

On June 26th, the FIU-MEUCE yet again reached out to the Central Florida Community and held a 1-day teacher workshop entitled “Understanding and Teaching the European Union: Hemispheric, Transatlantic, and Global Perspectives.” The workshop co-sponsored by the Global Perspectives Office at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, was held in the Key West Room-Student Union UCF and was designed to give educators an overview of the structure of the European Union and address issues affecting Europe and EU/US international relations. According to FIU-MEUCE Associate Director Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, the FIU MEUCE has been hosting this seminar for 8 years. “This year we had 30 high school teachers who participated. We would like to thank Dr. John Bersia--Special Assistant to the President for Global Perspectives, and Director of Global Perspectives Office, University of Central Florida--for co-organizing this event with us.”

The topics covered in the workshop included: Introduction to the EU, History of the EU, EU Institutions, Representation in Florida, EU-US Relations, Political Violence in the EU, The Future of the Euro, Cultures across the Continent, Political Violence in the EU, and the future of the Euro.

British Vice Consul and French Honorary Consul in Orlando gave their points of view on the relations between Europe and the United States and informed the audience about the economic impact of the European companies located in Orlando and how important they were for the American economy. Also the latest current events in the European Union, including the economic crisis and its impact on the Euro and the latest diplomatic relations between the EU and US were presented. In the afternoon, advanced topics were treated, and eminent speakers such as Ambassador Harriet Elam-Thomas, Diplomacy Program UCF, made presentations on the EU-US relations; The workshop

guided educators on how to bring the EU topics into the classroom and the teachers received a packet of materials for classroom use. They also had a Library and Online Resources session to improve their European Studies curriculum. Christine I. Caly-Sanchez made a presentation on the Euro Challenge Competition and finished by giving tips and strategies for incorporating them into the curriculum. Christine I. Caly-Sanchez stated “this workshop is particularly important for two reasons: first, we provide outreach to the community beyond the university, which is important to make the EU more visible, and secondly, we help educate educators. In that sense, there's a great multiplier effect.”

Overall, the teachers enjoyed the presentations on the EU. Many have expressed that the “resources were fantastic” and they are “looking forward to using them in teaching” and “can’t wait to participate with the students.”

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez



Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Associate Director, MEUCE, FIU (center); and Orlando High School Teachers

Dr. Ted Reynolds, UCF; Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, MEUCE, FIU; Ambassador Harriet Elam-Thomas, UCF; Lorraine Daniel-Palmer, British Consulate Orlando; Anne Texier-Fabri, Treasurer, French American Business Council of Orlando; Brigitte Dagot, Honorary Consul of France in Orlando



Faculty Research and Faculty Curriculum Development Grants Awarded by MEUCE

Faculty Research Grant 2012



Peter Funke
USF



Heide Castaneda
USF

Each year, the FIU-MEUCE hosts an annual competition that awards research and curriculum development grants to prospective faculty of FIU and its partner institutions: University of South Florida, University of Central Florida, University of North Florida, and Florida Atlantic University. We also provide research grants to FIU graduate students, for use during the summer months. The competition provides award recipients with financial support for travel, archival/data acquisition, and other important aspects that enable them to successfully carry out their research or create new curriculum. The purpose of the grant is to foster research on the European Union (EU) and its role in global affairs.

"The MEUCE Faculty Research Award was of valuable assistance to my research on social movements and the European Union," commented **Dr. Peter N. Funke** of University of South Florida, one of this year's grantees. "The grant helped me fund my travels and research stay in Europe." Based in Berlin, this summer Dr. Funke conducted interviews with activists and organizers, attended meetings and collected

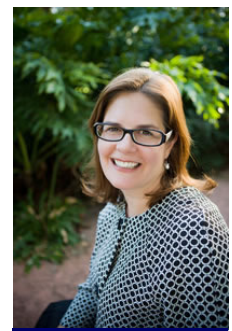
valuable data for his project "*Social movements and the European Union: From Critic to Opposition?*" In addition, Dr. Funke was able to develop new contacts with networks and organizers active in Europe. A preliminary finding of his project was that "the national context is still dominating social movement politics in Europe, preventing or challenging the making of a European social movement," and that "there has not been a robust European Social Movement that is able to mobilize and engage the EU." The data gathered with the help of the MEUCE grant will also serve as a part of an upcoming larger research project on the EU and European social movements.

Another recipient of the MEUCE 2012 Faculty Research Grant was USF professor **Heide Castaneda**. Her research project "*The Impact of the European Union Citizenship on the Roma Minority Living in Germany*" examines, from an ethnographic perspective, how one of the largest and poorest ethnic minorities in Europe – the Roma population – has experienced the transition to EU citizenship. One of the project's main goals was to interrogate, through the case of Roma in Germany, the concept and practice of freedom of movement in the EU and, more broadly, to shed light on the process of Europeanization. A related second goal was to explore continuities and discontinuities in public discourse and social policies for the Roma living in Germany. The MEUCE grant allowed Dr. Castaneda to travel to five cities in Germany with active Roma rights organizations and to meet with their representatives. In addition, due to the generosity of the award, she had the opportunity to retrieve archival materials located at

Faculty Curriculum Development Grant



Hakan Ozoglu
UCF



Judithanne Scourfield
McLauchan—USFSP

the Germany National Library in Frankfurt, including reports and other publications not available through the inter-library loan system in the U.S. "The project's preliminary results," commented Dr. Castaneda, "focus on the discursive framing of causes of Roma displacement (i.e. are they labor migrants? Refugees? Nomads?) and how this has shaped responses at the local and regional levels."

Along with research grants, the MEUCE also awards faculty funds in order to support the development of curricula that is based or infused with European Union content.

One of this year's Faculty Curriculum Development Grant recipient, **Dr. Hakan Ozoglu** from University of Central Florida (UCF), used the funds to develop a graduate course for the History Department devoted to Turkey and European Union. This course will be the first on the UCF catalog that partly or entirely deals with the European Union and Turkey. According to Dr. Ozoglu, more than fifty percent of the course material will be dedicated to the EU-Turkey relations by focusing on:



Faculty Research and Faculty Curriculum Development Grants Awarded by MEUCE (con't)

the arguments for and against Turkey's membership presented in a comparative perspective with other post-candidate countries; the impact of Turkish public opinion on the accession process; and the study of the latest European Commission Progress Report on Turkey in order for the students to understand the current state of affairs in Turkey-EU relations. The course will also include a section on case studies through selected academic articles, which will introduce the students to the academic discussions about the cultural approach to Turkey's membership.

"Thanks to the EU grant for curriculum development," commented Dr. Ozoglu, "I was able to travel to Turkey this summer to personally meet with two scholars from Sabanci University in Istanbul who have been involved in EU-related projects and have taught courses on the subject." Thus, Professor Meltem Muftuler Bac provided valuable suggestions for the syllabus construction and Professor Ayse Kadioglu was instrumental in advising on possible EU-related projects in which the students can take part in. "I also had the chance to interview many locals about their feelings toward Turkey's bid for the EU, as well as journalists such as Ibrahim Koktener and Yunus Sen on the same topic," added Dr. Ozoglu. These oral anecdotes will be used to discuss the changing nature of Turkish public opinion towards the EU. Students will be asked to do research on the Turkey-EU relations and "produce near-publishable quality papers." The hopes are that the course will be offered at UCF in 2014 and Dr. Ozoglu has "every reason to believe" that the enrollment will reach the cap (around 20 students) for a graduate class.

The second recipient of the 2012 Faculty Curriculum Development grant was the USF (St. Petersburg) professor **Judithanne Scourfield Mclauchlan**, who is using the grant for the integration of the EU topics into Public Law courses ("Law and Politics" and "U.S. Constitutional Law 1&2"). "I was thrilled to be awarded the grant," said Dr. Scourfield Mclauchlan. Starting from the observation that there are parallels between the U.S. Supreme Court's mission and the mission of the European Court of Justice, Professor Scourfield Mclauchlan is developing a comparative research project in which students from USFSP would partner with law students in EU countries to conduct research on the European Court of Justice. As a first step, part of the funds awarded by the MEUCE grant will be used to support travel to an upcoming comparative law conference held in London (October 17-22, 2012), where making contacts with law professors in EU countries, as well as academic research exchange will be of primary importance. This new module will be implemented at USFSP in the Spring 2013 semester. **The MEUCE will continue to award Faculty grants and to open the possibilities to potential applicants from their partner institutions.** For more information, please visit: <http://casgroup.fiu.edu/miamieuc/pages.php?id=556>



Nicole Warmington-Granston, PhD candidate in Political Science, Florida International University, and one of the Graduate Research Grantees 2012



FIU's PhD candidate Nicole Warmington-Granston with Sir Edwin Carrington, the former and longest serving CARICOM Secretary General, currently Trinidad Ambassador to CARICOM

FIU-MEUCE annual research grant competition is also open to PhD candidates to support dissertation research. One of this year's grantees, **Nicole Warmington-Granston** from FIU's Department of Politics and International Relations, used the funds to conduct comparative research on the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ). Her dissertation project: "*The Caribbean Court of Justice: An Investigation of the Impact of Elites and Institutions on its Creation and Present Structures as it Relates to Original Jurisdiction*," discusses the creation of the CCJ in comparison with the EU. Warmington-Granston analyzes the involvement of the major elites and institutions in the shaping of the CCJ with an eye toward similarities and differences with EU institutions. Warmington-Granston suggests that, similar to the establishment of the European Court of Justice (ECJ), CARICOM's decision to establish the CCJ would be best explained by using an integrated theory of intergovernmentalism, neo-functionalism and historical institutionalism that addresses the interplay among micro- and macro-level processes and actors.

Graduate Student Research Grants Awarded by MEUCE (con't)

Graduate Research Grant 2012



Bilal Ciplak, PhD candidate in Political Science, FIU

With the support from the MEUCE grant, during this year's spring and summer semesters Nicole embarked on a comparative qualitative analysis of data from Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. She conducted about 50 interviews with elites from both countries in an attempt to test established integration theory hypotheses derived from the EU in the context of the CCJ. The starting assumption was that, as two of the largest and most important contributors to the creation of the CARICOM, the major elites and institutions from these two countries significantly influenced the final ideas regarding the role and the mission of CCJ.

The MEUCE grant "helped me a lot", commented Nicole; it "funded my travel expenses to both countries, which is a great support for a PhD student, and assisted me with other local expenses such as printing, documentation, and access to newspaper archives." The grant also inspired her to take even more seriously the comparison between CCJ and the ECJ.

Another recipient of the MEUCE student research grant was PhD Candidate **Bilal Ciplak** from FIU's Department of Politics and International Relations. The grant allowed Bilal to travel to Turkey and complete preliminary research for his dissertation titled: "*Turkey and Democracy Promotion: Comparing Europe with the U.S.*", which aims at understanding why and under what conditions Bilal's native country, Turkey, has decided to promote democracy in the Arab Middle East. "The funding was a great help for me," commented Bilal, "because the cost of traveling to Turkey is really expensive, particularly for a graduate student. Thanks to the EU grant, the time I spent there (Turkey) to complete preliminary research was more productive than I expected," added Bilal.

In an attempt to identify similarities and differences in democracy promoting activities conducted by Europe and the U.S. in Turkey (in areas such as: election, political parties, civil society, business associations/trade

unions, rule of law), Bilal conducted archival research and interviews with various elites who are highly influential in policy-making processes: Members of Parliament (MPs), heads of important civil society organizations, political parties, economic associations, and scholars. In this phase, his research goal was to identify the similarities and differences between the strategies of Europe and the U.S., and the rationale behind those strategies. In addition, Bilal also wanted to determine, from a comparative perspective, what was Turkey's preferred set of democracy promotion strategies in the Middle East, and the reason for its preferences.

With support from MEUCE, Bilal visited the capital, Ankara, and Gaziantep, a major city close to Syria's border. While in Ankara, he met with various members of Turkish Parliament and civil society leaders, among which Emrullah Isler, the adviser of the Prime Minister Erdogan, and the Deputy Head of the Nationalist Movement Party, Tugrul Turkes. Other interviewees included the MPs of Gaziantep and Diyarbakir (the Kurdish cultural capital), Ali Sahin, and, respectively, Nursel Aydogan." The grant, concluded Bilal, "helped me not only to interview elites, but also to establish new contacts and networks," which will prove instrumental for the next stages of his research. In addition to conducting interviews, he visited the Library of the Turkish Parliament, as well as two universities, in Ankara.

Once completed, this project "will help foster a better understanding of why states prefer some strategies of democracy promotion over other," said FIU's PhD student in Political Science. Due in part to its potential role in promoting democracy in the Middle East, this understanding is particularly important in the case of Turkey, mentioned Bilal who, as a result of this research trip funded by MEUCE, ended up receiving two important job offers from universities in Gaziantep.

By: Lavinia Bucsa



Tugrul Turkes, Deputy Governor of Nationalist Movement Party and Member of Parliament

Italy for the Summer—Student testimonial



Rommy G. Saavedra
BA in International Relations/
Minor in Political Science

This summer, Florida International University students participated in yet another exciting study abroad program: the one Genoa, Italy. The program is offered by the FIU European Studies program in conjunction with the University of Genoa and it offered students the opportunity to improve their understanding of capitalism as a social and economic system, through studies carried out during a five-week stay in Genoa preceded by a month of coursework in Miami. FIU students who completed the program qualify for up to 50% of the required credits for the Certificate in European Studies.

"Study Abroad, something that few people do, yet one of the most amazing experiences one could have. My name is Rommy G. Saavedra and I am now a senior at FIU. This past Summer I decided to go on the European Studies Program, and I must say it has been

the best decision ever. Being an International Relations major studying in Genova- Italy was absolutely startling. With this trip I was able to see the similarities and differences between the cultures, each on a different side of the world. Studying abroad not only gives you the opportunity to study in a different university but it gives you the opportunity to become a local in a complete different culture. I remember arriving to Genoa and having to walk through a Vicolo (very Small Street) on my way to my beautiful apartment and thinking to myself "I wonder who has walked down these streets." Everything in Italy is history and it is just so amazing that you can imagine how that same street looked hundreds of years ago.

During my Study Abroad I was able to make friends, try foods I had never tried before, see places that I had only read about or seen in movies, and gain a knowledge that will not only benefit me in my career but also in my personal life. The people you meet are people that you have a chance to become life-

time friends with. Food in Italy is nothing like the "Italian" food here in the States, food in Italy is fresh and delicious. With this being said, I have to mention the late night walks through this antique city with an amazing Gelato in your hand is just priceless. I loved Studying Abroad!"

By Lavinia Bucsa



Roomy G. Saavedra in Italy



Perched between the Apennine Mountains and the sea, Genoa has been a Mediterranean port city for more than 2,500 years. Today, with a population of about 600,000, it is Italy's most important port as well as a sister port of Miami. From the 14th through the 16th century Genoese bankers were the medieval equivalent of Wall Street, supporting the Spanish and Portuguese voyages of conquest, and their magnificent palazzos still dominate the city center. At its core Genoa has Europe's largest preserved medieval city center, which remains a vibrant maze of shops, restaurants, and residences."



Genoa—Summer 2012
Dr. Kincaid (in the back) with FIU students in Genoa

For more information please contact
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or please visit

<http://casgroup.fiu.edu/europe/pages.php?id=3292>

Summer Abroad in Europe for FIU Students—Testimonials



This summer, FIU students had the unique opportunity to learn – up close – about the institutional makeup of the European Union and to explore the complexities of multilevel regional governance in Europe. The summer abroad course, Multilevel Governance in Europe (INR 3214) taught by Dr. Markus Thiel, Assistant Professor in Department of Politics and International Relations at FIU, allowed students to learn about policies and current political issues in Europe by closely looking at the European Union as an international actor in global politics. After an initial two-week orientation session and introductory course module at FIU, students traveled to Switzerland, France and Belgium and visited major international organizations. Students explored the complexities of multiple levels of regional governance in Europe by visiting the EU institutions in Brussels and Strasbourg, the Council of Europe, as well as United Nations (UN) organizations in Geneva and Paris. Students also participated in excursions and had free days for themselves to explore the surroundings in each city and thus to experience the diversity of the European culture.

As their own testimonials illustrate, for the students participating in this year's "Multilevel Governance in Europe" program, this was a life-changing experience. Not only did they gain a broader understanding of the complexities of the European system of multilevel governance, but also they interacted with students from various cultures, practiced foreign languages, made new friends, experienced local foods, and saw some of the most historic cities in Europe. Everybody agreed that studying abroad was an unforgettable experience.

For more information please contact
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 Associate Director of the MEUCE,
 by email at calyc@fiu.edu
 or please visit

<http://casgroup.fiu.edu/europe/pages.php?id=3814>



Diana Galban
 BA in International Relations

"Participating in the study abroad program for "Multilevel Governance in Europe" was not only an unforgettable opportunity and experience on its own, but it changed the course of my academic plans thereafter. Before participating in the program, I had a vague idea of what I wanted to do in the field of International Relations with a focus on Europe. After visiting many institutions of the EU, from Brussels to Strasbourg, and the branch of the United Nations in Geneva, as both a student and a wide-eyed tourist, I became absolutely certain that this is the course of action I wanted to take. The knowledge and experience I gained abroad opened many doors to me back home almost immediately. I gained a deeper understanding of how the EU works and with a little courage, the French I used throughout the trip to ask for pastries or metro directions, led to the end of my paralyzing fear of speaking in public and thus allowed me to evolve ever since.

Moreover, this experience allowed me to view my peers and my professor in a completely different light. So often we spend semester after semester sharing a classroom with people we barely get to know, so traveling with them allow you to see who they are and what they think about a wide range of topics through conversations you normally wouldn't have in the classroom.

With all certainty, I can say this program changed everything for me in my academic, professional, and personal life. I have since then highly encouraged those around me to take the step and do the same; and if I could do it again, I would do so without hesitating... but this time I think I'd pack a bit lighter."

To view Diana's blog, visit : <https://ugrad.fiu.edu/studyabroad/blog/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=55>



Adelina Georgieva Garkova
 BA in in Political Science
 Minor in International
 Relations

"Multilevel Governance in Europe" was a challenging and rewarding experience that I took this summer. We were sixteen people from eleven nationalities – Bulgaria, Cuba, Argentina, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Brazil, Columbia, Germany, Peru and the USA. I enjoyed not only the trip but the cultural experience that I have got from each of the participating students.

I am a Bulgarian, a proud European and obviously it was not my first time in Europe but it was my first time experiencing Europe from institutional point of view. My major is Political Science and I have a minor in International Relations. We visited the main institutions of the European Union – the European Parliament and NATO in Brussels, United Nations in Geneva – Switzerland, the European Court of Human Rights and the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. It was a priceless experience to actually see what we have read in our textbooks, have an inside view of how these institutions are run and meet up with very influential people that work there. I am glad that when I came back, I was eligible to apply for the Certificate in European Studies which is great having in mind the European personality that I have. We also did a political/historical/cultural tour to Paris – France, Bruges – Belgium, Colmar and Riquewihr – France.

I enjoyed the little trips as well because they showed me another perspective of the country and I could see the major differences between the city and country life style. If you want to open your mind to another world, interact with totally different cultures, learn about the ancient European traditions and customs, this program is for you. If you want to meet up with young, ambitious, knowledgeable, energetic, intelligent and diverse students who can become your friends for life – choosing this program is the right choice to take. You have the opportunity now when you are a student, grab it with both hands, if it changes your life, let it!"

By Lavinia Bucsa

“Vaclav Havel’s Legacy of Freedom” by Madeleine Albright



Dr. Mark Rosenberg, President, FIU

On September 13, 2012, as part of the Ruth K. and Shepard Broad Distinguished Lecture Series, the Miami Florida European Union Center of Excellence (MEUCE) in collaboration with School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Florida International University (FIU), organized an event celebrating the legacy of the famous Czech dissident, politician, playwright, essayist and poet, Vaclav Havel. With this occasion, the FIU community had the honor and the privilege to welcome the presence of a distinguished keynote speaker: the former U.S. Secretary of State, Madeleine K. Albright. A honorary member of the larger FIU community, Madeleine Albright shared with a large and enthusiastic audience present at the FIU's GC Ballroom, valuable insights on Havel's personality and on his legacy as an advocate for freedom and universal human rights.

The event begun with a moment of silence in the memory of the former U.S. Ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, and his team, who tragically

lost their lives in the recent attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. Then, in a brief address, the FIU President, Dr. Mark Rosenberg, praised Havel's vision and optimism, and underlined the profound impact that his 1978 essay “The Power of the Powerless” had on people of Eastern Europe fighting the communist oppression. Havel's essay on the subject of freedom and power maintains its relevance today, added Dr. Rosenberg. The FIU President concluded his remarks by expressing the hope that one day, in recognition of Havel's contribution to bringing freedom around the world, the “Vaclav Havel Center for Human Rights and Diplomacy” will become “a dream come true” at our campus.

Herself a native of Czechoslovakia, the former U.S. Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, began her presentation by evoking some memories of her friendship with President Vaclav Havel, as well as with another Czech dissident and signatory of Charter 77, Dr. Martin Palous, currently a Distinguished Visiting Professor at FIU. If one would wonder what real connections could possible exist between FIU and a Czech dissident and politician, thousand of miles apart, separated from each other by an ocean, Madeleine Albright offered a simple answer. It is Havel's inspiring approach to life, his free spirit and inquisitive mind, and, not in the last place, his passion for truth and justice. In Albright's words, Havel believed that “with a little effort and a healthy slice of courage, we can make the world a better place.” Even though he was the product of a specific culture (he was a Czech patriot), Havel's real commitment was to truth. “He thought, spoke and acted on behalf of principles

that will always matter” in any corner of the world: freedom, justice, and the pursuit of truth. “This is what makes Havel relevant anywhere,” stressed Madeleine Albright.

There were other important traits that defined Havel and that made him such a respected and inspiring political figure. According to Madeleine Albright, Havel was “authentic and really surprising,” always paying attention to challenges that lied ahead. He had no interest in political rhetoric that divide people into various camps, or that exploits anger, resentments, or fear. Considering ideology “a specious way of relating to the world” (as he puts it in his 1978 essay), the Czech dissident manifested an extraordinary sense of moral responsibility, never focusing on ideology and politics, but on moral obligations people have to one another. It was his major belief that narrow interests of all kinds must give away to universal principles and concerns.



Former U.S. Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright

“Vaclav Havel’s Legacy of Freedom” by Madeleine Albright (con’t)



From left to right: Tomas Klvana; Carl Gershman, President, National Endowment for Democracy; The. Hon. Petr Gandalovic, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the US; Tom Dine, American Friends of the Czech Republic



Ambassador Martin Palous, Director of Václav Havel Library in Prague and Senior Fellow at the School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University

The Associate Director of the Office of Global Learning Initiative, Stephanie Doscher, asked how did the former U.S. Secretary of State see the future of American “boots on the ground” working for democracy in the Arab World. Madeleine Albright underscored the idea that “work on the ground needs to be continued.” To this end, various American actors, such as non-profit organizations, together with local partners, can play an important role in promoting democracy. Such is the case, for example, of the National Endowment for Democracy Foundation (and the other institutions it supports and houses). The former U.S. Secretary of State suggested that the U.S. should not try to impose democracy (“one cannot militarize democracy”); its efforts should aim instead at providing the tools of it. The long-term national interest of the U.S. is to promote democratic governments, but not to impose it. In addition, one needs to acknowledge that “American-style” democracy is not “the only kind of democracy,” and that locals themselves should play an important role in bringing democracy to their specific countries, added Madeleine Albright.

When asked by another FIU student how did she perceive the expansion of non-democratic values in some Latin American countries, Albright suggested that if “democracy does not deliver,” and if political and economic development do not come together, people tend to be attracted by demagogues.” Finally, in regards to the question of the future of Europe as a whole, Madeleine

Albright expressed her concerns with the fact that some advancements in Europe seem to be regressing. Another worrying phenomena, noticed Albright, is Europeans’ increasingly negative attitude toward immigrants. In this context, the former U.S. Secretary of State expressed her hope that European countries will realize once and for all the value of a united Europe. “An Europe where ethnic divisions disappear would be much stronger,” concluded Albright.

The second part of this inspiring event consisted of an insightful discussion on the significance of Havel’s last visit to FIU in 2002 by a panel of distinguished scholars and practitioners which included: Peter Gandalovic, current Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the U.S.; Thomas Dine, former President of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Czech Service headquarter in Prague, President of the American Friends of the Czech Republic; Carl Gershman, President of the National Endowment for Democracy; Tomas Klvana, former Press Secretary and Policy Adviser to President Havel; Dr. Martin Palous, former Czech Ambassador to the United States and Distinguished Visiting Professor at FIU; and Dr. Marifeli Perez-Stable, Professor of Sociology and Interim Director of FIU’s Latin American Caribbean Center.

In their remarks, each speaker talked about Havel’s legacy form their own perspectives and personal experiences. For example, Tomas Dine, citing his own experience with president Havel, portrayed him as a visionary and a

strategist who led the Czech Republic to NATO and EU, and who stepped-in to American decision-making process to save the dismissal of Radio Free Europe in 1992. As a result, and by moving its headquarter from Munich to Prague, Radio Free Europe was able to continue its broadcasting in support of democracy in the region.

Another distinguished panelist, the current Czech Ambassador to the U.S., Peter Gandalovic, pointed out that the best way for the Czech foreign policy to honor Havel’s legacy is “to continue to stay on the side of those who are still fighting for democracy.” The example of Oswaldo Paya Sardinias, the prominent Cuban dissident and longstanding activist, recently killed in a car crash under suspicious circumstances, was brought into discussion many times by panelists. As someone who experienced communism first-hand, Havel’s support for the Cuban Liberation Movement led by Paya is a testimony of his solidarity with the Cuban people and their aspirations for freedom and dignity. This idea was underscored by Dr. Martin Palous, and, in various forms, by all members of the panel.

A second question and answer section for the panel concluded this memorable and inspiring event that marked the ten-years anniversary of President Václav Havel’s visit to FIU to deliver memorable remarks about freedom in support for a peaceful transition to democracy in Cuba.

To view video, click on: <http://realone.fiu.edu/asxgen/Albright09132012.wmv.aspx>



MEUCE Roundtable: Gun Control Divides Transatlantic Panel and Sparkes Lively Discussion



In the last decade, the “gun issue” has been pushed off the American political agenda. Recently, however, with the Colorado movie theater shooting, the topic of gun control took central stage in public debates. Against the backdrop of these most recent circumstances, the Miami-Florida European Center of Excellence (MEUCE), in collaboration with the European Studies Program, and the College of Law, organized a Roundtable entitled: “*Gun Control: A Transatlantic Comparison between the Europe and the USA.*” The event took place on September 24, at the FIU’s College of Law, Courtroom 1000, where a large student audience welcomed a panel of two distinguished European diplomats, law practitioners, and FIU professors, who tackled the gun control issue from a comparative perspective. Long and spirited, the transatlantic exchange produced no convergence on this highly controversial topic. Instead, it revealed significant differences in the way the United States and Europe perceive the gun control issue.

In the U.S., most debates concerning gun control break down into two camps. In one camp are those who see easy access to firearms as a root cause of thousands of murders each year, as well as numerous shooting injuries. This side argues that guns should be regulated and, in the case of the most lethal, banned or, at the very least, made to carry fewer bullets. By contrast, the opposing camp argues that banning guns would be a violation of the Second Amendment of the American Constitution and that more guns actually equals less crime. In addition, the argument goes, “guns do not kill people, people do,” which suggests that one should look for the root cause of increasing violence in America somewhere else. From this perspective, sociological factors (economic, social, cultural circumstances) are more important than the availability of weapons in determining gun violence in society.



Professor Fairlie

The roundtable conversation was open by Dr. Megan Fairlie, Assistant Professor at the FIU’s College of Law, who pointed out that similar events have been organized by MEUCE since 2008, including the one hosted by FIU last December on capital punishment. “Our topic today is certainly a timely one,” commented Professor Fairlie. In 2008, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a five to four decision (District of Columbia vs. Heller), made it clear that the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution protects an individual’s rights to bear arms for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense. However, in the light of recent public massacres, gun control has become a major issue in American politics, although no generally agreed upon solutions have been proposed yet. “By opening up the public space for conversation and by being receptive to different perspectives, we could learn from one another, including from this transatlantic exchange”, suggested Dr. Fairlie.

The next panelist from the American side, Dr. Noah Weisbord, Assistant Professor of Law and SIPA fellow, extended the geographical spectrum of the debate by including in his discussion some comments on gun ownership in Canada. “I do not know where I stand on this issue,” said the Canadian-born panelist; “my ideas are in infancy and I hope that they will evolve and change during this conversation.” Puzzled by the obvious discrepancy between the official statistics showing that every day, more than thirty people are killed by guns in the U.S., and the American resistance to gun regulations, professor Weisbord rhetorically asked: “What would it take in the U.S. for a shooting to become a “transformational moment,” some sort of a social movement pushing for increased gun control regulations similar, for example, to the one triggered in Canada by the 1989 Montreal massacre? The 1989 Canadian movement brought the issue of gun control to national discussion, therefore proving instrumental in the adoption of the “Canadian Fire Arms Act.”



From left to right : Judge Jorge Perez; Hon. Gaël de Maisonneuve, Consul General of France; Hon. Kevin McGurgan, British Consul General



MEUCE Roundtable: Gun Control Divides Transatlantic Panel and Sparkes Lively Discussion (con't)



Professor Weisbord

By contrast, noticed Dr. Weisbord, in America, the fire arms sale dramatically increased after the recent shootings--and this is not the kind of "transformational moment" that helps the matter. "Are we

so much under the spell of some half-fake ideas of freedom that we can no longer process new information?" asked professor Weisbord. In his view, if people and politicians are not willing to ban guns, then a much sober public approach to gun violence would save a lot of lives without compromising the freedom of those people who use guns responsibly. One solution could be the adoption of those ideas who proved helpful in reducing gun violence in other countries, including: background checks, training courses, and stricter limits on guns and ammunition designed to kill larger number of people. Professor Weisbord's expectations for change did not seem optimistic, however. He suggested that "as long as the uncompromising narrative of freedom and the Constitution occupies the rhetorical space," there is not much hope for "a calibrated response" to the gun issue in America.

In response to Dr. Weisbord's remark, former circuit court judge Jorge Perez argued that there is no proved relationship between the level of gun control regulation and violence in society. In the U.S., some of the states that have the most liberal gun control laws (Utah, Wyoming) have the lower crime rates in the



Judge Jorge Perez

country, while states with stricter gun laws (District of Columbia) have one of the highest murder rate, stressed Mr. Perez. Similarly, some countries around the world have strict gun control regulations, yet the crime rate is higher than in the U.S., such in the case of Brazil. The former circuit judge believed that the cause of crime and violence stems more from culture, rather than weapon and, therefore, one should approach the gun control issue from a

holistic, sociological approach. It is the persistence of such issues as disparities in income, the existence of corrupt practices within the judiciary or law enforcement systems, that are more closely related to violence, rather than whether people own guns or not. "The fact that one has a weapon does not make one to use it," concluded the panelist, who agreed that restraints on assault weapons are desirable, without restricting, however, the right of individuals to bear guns.

Not surprisingly, the European side of the panel, hold a different opinion. In part due to significant differences in their historical circumstances and cultural traditions, the European countries' view on guns and gun control laws is very different than the American one, having much more in common with the Canadian approach. Underscoring this idea, the Consul General of France in Miami, Hon. Gaël de Maisonneuve, summarized the French perspective on gun control as follows: "The less guns you owe, the less people you kill." The lack of a gun culture in France means that only 35 people per year are killed voluntarily by weapons (or 0.5 homicides/1 million people, as opposed to 38 homicides/1 million people in the U.S.); the rest are hunting accidents. The role of historical experience is also relevant. The current French legislation is inherited from 1939 when French officials at the time considered that, in order to avoid the development of various militia, as happened in Russia after WWI, stricter gun control legislation was needed. The revision that took place in 2012 was needed mostly due to the complexity of gun classification. However, even after this revision, carrying a gun is absolutely prohibited in France, transporting one is very much controlled, and exceptions are limited.

The British offered a similar perspective. In his presentation, HM British Consul General in Miami, Hon. Kevin McGurgan, highlighted the differences between the U.S. and Britain on the issue of gun control. Unlike the U.S., Britain has a history of gun control that goes back 200 years. The lack of a gun culture is also revealed by the general acceptance by the British population of the idea that there is no constitutional right for individuals to bear arms for self-defense. In addition, the strong cross-party political consensus on the need for gun control, together with a high popular opposition to low gun control regulations, settles the stage for a



Hon. Gaël de Maisonneuve

different narrative. In stark contrast to the U.S., each individual or mass gun killing incident brought about even stronger demand for stricter legislation.

The last part of the event was dedicated to a Q&A

section. The issues for further reflection raised by the panelists, and the questions posed by the audience centered around a couple of interrelated themes: (1) Why are Americans stuck with the gun control culture? What factors explains this attitude, almost incomprehensible by Europeans, and, not in the last place, as professor Weisbord put it: What is the fundamental value for society of individual freedom to possess weapons?; (2) Is there a clear-cut relationship between the presence/absence of social safety nets (i.e. the welfare system) and violence?; (3) To what extent is the European perspective/European gun control model, applicable to the realities of the U.S., a much larger and more diverse country? (4) Is American legislation on gun control too permissive, is it too easy for the wrong people to get a gun?

There was no convergence of opinions on almost any of these themes. While the American side, represented by the former judge Perez, defended the idea of



Hon. Kevin McGurgan

individual rights against the state ("Americans own guns because they are free to own guns"); questioned the usefulness of a stricter gun control legislation in reducing violence; rejected the notion that gun control

laws should originate at the federal, instead of the state level; and seriously questioned the possibility of applying European model in the U.S. context, his European colleagues seemed unconvinced by the arguments. The transatlantic debate initiated a lively discussion and was a great opportunity to exchange ideas on this very sensitive issue. It was certainly another successful evening for MEUCE. To view video, click on: <http://casgroup.fiu.edu/miamieuc/events.php?id=2689>

Dr. Roy's media outreach contributions



EL PAÍS THE HUFFINGTON POST

Dr. Joaquin Roy, the Co-Director of MEUCE has increased his media outreach contributions. He was invited to maintain a personal international affairs blog and write columns for the prestigious Spanish newspaper **El País**. The Madrid-based daily, and the most prestigious of the Spanish speaker world, is the product of the rebirth of Spanish democracy in 1976. It has a daily circulation of 424,000 copies, as well as several international editions printed in a dozen foreign capitals. El País internet editions, open freely to readers, is certified as having over five million hits. Dr. Roy's most recent contributions in El País were on Cuba, Spanish-Latin American relations, the economic crisis in Europe, French and Greek elections, and general aspects of trans-Atlantic relations.

To visit *El País* website, please follow this link: www.elpais.com; for Dr. Roy's blog click on: <http://blogs.elpais.com/atlantis/>

In addition to El País contributions, Dr. Roy has started regular commentaries for a second blog in **El Huffington Post**, the Spanish version of the on-line U.S. publication. In El País, through the motto of "Atlantis," he deals with the triangular relationship of Europe, the United States., and Latin America. In the Huffington he will specialize on U.S. issues, with analysis on the background and consequences of the presidential election.

To visit *El Huffington*, please follow this link: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com>

Dr. Roy contributes with regular columns to about fifty newspapers around the world, through Inter Press Service (IPS), and as independent columnist to El Nuevo Herald.

To visit IPS, please follow this link: <http://www.ips.org/institutional>



His frequent radio and television interviews include commentaries in the international affairs programs of **CNN en español** (<http://cnnespanol.cnn.com/>), where his most recent intervention was on the Libyan crisis.

Dr. Aimee Kanner Arias appointed Chair of the Political Science Department at Florida Atlantic University



Dr. Aimee Kanner Arias
Chair of the Political Science Department at Florida Atlantic University

With outmost honor, MEUCE would like to share with our community the news that Dr. Aimee Kanner Arias, PhD in International Studies at University of Miami, Florida, and former Associate Director of the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence (2001-2005), has been promoted to tenured Associated Professor, and appointed Chair of the Political Science Department at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida.

"We still remember her hard work as a PhD student and her contribution to the early stages of the Center," commented Dr. Joaquín Roy, the Jean Monnet Chair "ad personam," and co-director of MEUCE. "This is proof that our policy at the Center and the Jean Monnet Chair of priming the support of students like her is ultimately rewarded, and we intend to continue this policy," added Dr. Roy.

Congratulations, Dr. Kanner Arias!

Bio:

Dr. Arias received her B.A. in International relations from the George Washington university in 1995; her M.A. in Inter-American Studies from the University of Miami in 1997; and her PhD in International Studies from the University of Miami in 2001. She was the Associate Director of the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence from 2001 to 2005. Dr. Arias' work has appeared in several journals including *The International Journal of Human Rights* and *The International Journal of the Humanities*. She has published numerous chapters in edited volumes and co-authored the *Historical Dictionary of the European Union*. Her research and teaching interests include regional integration (Europe and Latin America); human rights and development issues in Europe and Latin America; and the role of women in the political development of Latin America. She coordinates the EU Center Observatory of EU-Latin America relations

(info at: <http://www.as.miami.edu/eucenter/observatories/eulat>)



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MIAMI-FLORIDA EUROPEAN UNION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
FALL Semester Activities 2012– September-October-November

Web sites: miamieuc.fiu.edu / europe.fiu.edu

September 2012

Wednesday, Sept. 12 | 8:30pm– 9:30pm

Books & Books—265 Aragon Avenue—Coral Gables

MEUCE Book Presentation

“European Identity and Culture”

- Dr. Rebecca Friedman, Director, MEUCE, FIU
Associate Professor, History, FIU
- Dr. Markus Thiel, Assistant Professor
Politics & International Relations, FIU

Thursday, Sept. 13 | 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center Ballroom

SIPA / MEUCE Lecture

“Vaclav Havel’s Legacy of Freedom”

- Madeleine K. Albright, Former U.S. Secretary of State

Monday, Sept. 24 | 8:30 pm – 9:30pm

FIU, MMC - College of Law—Courtroom 1000

**MEUCE Roundtable: “Gun Control: A Transatlantic
Comparison between Europe and the USA”**

► **European Consuls General in Miami**

- Hon. Gaël de Maisonneuve, Consul General of France
- Hon. Kevin McGurgan, British Consul General

► **FIU Faculty**

- Professor Megan Fairlie, Assistant Professor
College of Law, FIU
- Professor Noah Weisbord, Assistant Professor
College of Law, FIU, SIPA Fellow

Tuesday, Sept. 25 | 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center—GC 140

MEUCE European Film Series-Spanish Film

“Pan’s Labyrinth”

October 2012

Friday, Oct. 4 | 11:00am – 12:30pm

FIU, MMC - Green Library—GL 220

MEUCE Lecture

*“Democracy, Promotion in Turkey: Comparing Europe
with the US”*

- Bilal Ciplak, PhD Student in Political Science, FIU

Wednesday, Oct. 10 | 01:00pm – 3:00pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center-Panther Suite (3rd Floor)

MEUCE / EU-ASIAN STUDIES Annual Symposium

*“A Comparison of Foreign Language Teaching
Methodologies and Policies”*

- Dr. Margaret E. Malone, Associate Vice President,
Center of Applied Linguistics, Washington D.C.
- Dr. Chuaren Ke, Director, Confucius Institute,
and Professor of Chinese, The University of Iowa

October 2012

Friday, Oct. 19 | 1:30pm - 5:30pm

FIU, MMC - SIPA 502-503

MEUCE Euro Challenge Competition Teacher Orientation

Wednesday, Oct. 24 | 2:30pm – 5:00pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center—GC 140

European Film Screening—Russian Film—“Burnt By the Sun”

Oct. 26-28 | Miami Nice Jazz Festival

Olympia Theater Gusman Theater Downtown Miami

Tuesday, Oct. 30 | 8:00pm – 9:30pm

Miami Beach—Betsy Hotel

MEUCE Lecture - “German Poetry”

- German Poet, Jan Wagner

November 2012

November month—French Week—Oct.26-Nov.30

FIU, MMC

*The MEUCE is organizing a variety of activities during French Week:
Miami Nice Jazz Festival, Lecture, Film Series, Exhibition
(see detail of the program in our website)*

Friday, Nov. 2 | 10:30am – 12:00pm

FIU, MMC - Frost Art Museum—Room 107

MEUCE Lecture

“France and the United States at the Core of Innovation”

- His Excellency François Delattre,
Ambassador of France to the United States

Wednesday, Nov. 7 | 1:30pm – 3:00pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center—GC 150

MEUCE European Film Series—French Film: “Paris, je t’aime”

November 8-28—Think Transatlantic Campus Weeks

FIU, MMC

*The MEUCE is participating in this program which is organized by the
Germany Embassy, and is involved in a variety of activities during Fall
2012: Contest Essay, Lecture, Film Series (see detail of the program in our website)*

Thursday, Nov. 8 | 12:00pm – 2:00pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center—GC 150

MEUCE European Film Series—Franco-Austrian Film

“Nous nous sommes tant hais!”

Friday, Nov. 9 | 12:00pm – 2:00pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center—GC 150

MEUCE European Film Series—German Film

“Good Bye Lenin”

For Additional Information:

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MIAMI-FLORIDA EUROPEAN UNION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
FALL Semester Activities 2011– November-December

Web sites: miamieuc.fiu.edu / europe.fiu.edu

November 2012

Tuesday, Nov. 13 | 5:00pm – 7:00pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center—Faculty Club

MEUCE Theater Performance— Comedy “Art”

• Corine Timon, Laurence Ismael, Constant Rissel

Wednesday, Nov. 14 | 12:00pm - 1:00pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center—Panther Suite

Patisserie Workshop: “A Taste of France”

A French Chef will teach how to make a typical French
“Mousse au Chocolat”.

Wednesday, Nov. 14 | 1:30pm - 3:30 p.m.

FIU, MMC - Graham Center— GC 140

French Film Series: “Rives”

Thursday, Nov. 15 | 11:00am – 12:30pm

FIU, MMC - Green Library—GL 220

MEUCE Conference

“Love in the French Literature through the Centuries”

• Dr. Marcelle Maistre Welch

Thursday, Nov. 15 | 2:00am – 3:30pm

FIU, MMC - Green Library—GL 220

MEUCE Roundtable

*“Transatlantic Experience in France in the USA: A feedback
from French and American Students”*

Thursday, Nov. 15 | 3:30 pm –4:30pm

FIU, MMC - Frost Art Museum

“A tour of the Frost Art Museum”

• Dr. Maria-Antonieta Garcia,

French Program Coordinator & Senior French Instructor
Dept. of Modern Languages, FIU

Saturday, Nov. 17 | 1:30pm – 3:00pm

MEUCE Lecture

Miami International Bookfair

• French best-selling author Marc Levy

Monday, Nov. 19 | 10:30am – 12:00pm

FIU, MMC - Green Library—GL 220

MEUCE Recognition Award Ceremony

FIU Undergraduate Students Think Transatlantic Contest Essay

Monday, Nov. 19 | 2:00pm – 3:30pm

FIU, MMC - SIPA 503

MEUCE Lecture

*“The UK, Europe and Iran: Contemporary Problems and
Perspectives”*

• Edmund Herzig, Oxford University

November 2012

Thursday, Nov. 20 | 12:00 pm –2:00pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center —GC 243

Chansons Francophones & Potluck

Wednesday, Nov. 28 | 10:30am – 12:00pm

FIU, MMC - SIPA 220

MEUCE Lecture

“The Transatlantic Relations between Germany and the USA”

• Hon. Countess Eva Kendeffy, Consul General of the
Federal Republic of Germany in Miami

Wednesday, Nov. 28 | 2:00pm – 3:30pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center—GC 140

MEUCE Lecture

*“The Czech Republic between the Past and the Future— Reflections
on International Politics in the beginning of the 21st Century from
the perspectives of a small state”*

• Ambassador Martin Palouš, Director of Václav Havel
Library in Prague and Senior Fellow at the School of International
and Public Affairs, FIU

Wednesday, Nov. 28 | 2:00 pm – 4:00pm

FIU, MMC - ECS 143

MEUCE Roundtable

“Social Movements in the European Union and Beyond”

• Dr. Peter N. Funke, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Government and
International Affairs, University of South Florida
• Dr. Ruth Reitan, Assistant Professor, Dept. of International
Studies, University of Miami
• Dr. Markus Thiel, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Politics &
International Relations, FIU

Thursday, Nov. 29 | 12:30pm - 3:00 p.m.

FIU, MMC - Graham Center— GC 150

MEUCE Polish Series: From Solidarity to Freedom

Showing of Polish Film: “Interrogation”

December 2012

Thursday, Dec. 4 | 12:30pm - 3:00 p.m.

FIU, MMC - Graham Center— GC 150

MEUCE Polish Series: From Solidarity to Freedom

*Talk on “Work and the Human Person: John Paul II,
Solidarity, and Social Justice” by Dr. Piotr H. Kosicki
and Showing of Documentary “From Solidarity to Freedom”*

Friday, Dec. 7 | 08:30am – 2:30pm

FIU, MMC - Graham Center—GC 243

Euro Challenge Student Orientation

For Additional Information:

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MEUCE Associate Director, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez with Euro-Challenge student participants from Coral Gables Senior High school, and Ambassador João Vale de Almeida, Head of the EU Delegation to the US in Washington D.C.

NY, 04/30/12

Euro Challenge Competition 2013

High school teachers and students are invited to participate in the sixth annual Euro Challenge competition. The Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence (MEUCE) has once again invited teachers and students from fifteen different high-schools to participate and learn about European history, currency, and economy for a chance to win not only cash prizes, but also a trip to New York City and Washington, DC. This year's student orientation will be held on December 7. An official from the Delegation of the European Union in Washington D.C., Valérie Rouxel-Laxton, Head of the Economic and Financial Affairs, will lecture on the topic: "Competition Overview", "From Europe to the Euro", "The Euro Crisis: An Update", and "Key economic concepts." The selected students will then compete in Miami on March 14, 2013.

► **Two-day Trip to New York for three Florida high schools winners (15 students + 3 teachers)**

For details please visit: www.euro-challenge.org/wordpress/
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