Moynihan European Research Centers


As the former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia/Ukraine/Eurasia in the first Obama administration and a current professor in the American University School of International Service, Dr. Celeste Wallander has a great deal of knowledge about US/Russian relations that she chose to share with Syracuse University students in September. In a talk entitled “Mutually Assured Stability: Establishing US-Russia Security Relations in the New Century,” Dr. Wallander described the ideal defensive relationship between Russia and the United States. Starting with the idea that security issues for both countries have changed dramatically since the end of the Cold War, she asserted that the days of mutually assured destruction were over. Russia is focused more on regional conflicts, such as the war with Georgia in 2008. The United States is focusing on other regions of the world. Although the United States military is currently superior to that of Russia, the nuclear option is seen as a great equalizer by Russia, which worries about new US conventional capabilities and how they might affect the nuclear balance. Similarly, Russia is working on improvements to its military, which also causes tension between the two countries. The Cold War gave the nations precedent for not speaking to each other about major issues, but - for the sake of global stability - this has to be recognized as being in the past. The major bipolarity of that era is gone. It is no longer us versus them; our two nations must work together toward mutually assured stability in order to tackle new and rising threats that occur on a global scale. Dr. Wallander briefly commented on the tensions arising over events in Syria at the time, stating that the world is not a safer place since the end of the Cold War, even if it may seem less threatening.
Director’s Welcome

2013 was another busy year for Moynihan European Research Centers, and our programming reflected the diversity of Europe and of our program.

We had a series of major speakers in 2013 covering all corners of the continent and the past, present, and possible futures for Europe. Details follow in the newsletter, but I would highlight several very timely talks on the Eurozone crisis by Wade Jacoby of Brigham Young University and our own Glyn Morgan, and two even more timely talks on Vladimir Putin's Russia. Fiona Hill of the Brookings Institution spoke about her book *Mr. Putin: Operative in the Kremlin* on the day that the identity of the Tsarnayev brothers (the Boston Marathon bombers with family roots in the North Caucasus) became known, and Celeste Wallander spoke on US–Russian relations the day that Putin published an op-ed in the New York Times on the Syrian conflict. Within weeks of her talk Wallander was named the Senior Director of Russian and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council under President Obama.

Guest speakers, however, are only one small component of what we do at MERC. Our “bread and butter” are continuing programs to serve our undergraduate and graduate students with an interest in European affairs. These programs include our Certificate of Advanced Study in the European Union and Contemporary Europe for graduate students, the ATLANTIS Transatlantic Dual Degree Program, our research grant program for graduate students conducting field research in Europe, and our language tables for novices and native speakers alike. Much of our programming we do in collaboration with other units on campus.

Be sure to visit our website for information on new and ongoing events, and drop us an email if you would like to receive updates on activities and events. We appreciate your interest!

In Memoriam

On September 18, we lost a dear friend, valued colleague and European Research Centers affiliate Dr. William Kelleher Jr., a professor of anthropology at the Maxwell School. Dr. Kelleher came to Syracuse in 2005 after 15 years of teaching at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He received his Ph.D. in cultural anthropology from the University of Michigan, and he received wide acclaim for his studies and writings on Northern Ireland. Dr. Kelleher will be greatly missed in the Moynihan Institute, in the halls of Maxwell, and by all of Syracuse University.
Almost 100 years have passed since the Armenian Genocide, yet the events that occurred in 1915 are still hotly contested. Dr. Ronald Suny – a professor of social and political history at the University of Michigan and co-editor of the book A Question of Genocide: Armenians and Turks at the End of the Ottoman Empire – shared his research and opinions on the matter with the Maxwell School in April 2013. Dr. Suny made no attempt to hide that he had a bias in this matter: his family is Armenian, and though he was born and raised in the United States, he grew up knowing people who remembered and had escaped the genocide. Having dedicated his academic career to research into the events of 1915, Dr. Suny came to the conclusion that there needed to be frank and open discussion among Turkish, Kurdish and Armenian scholars in order to produce a consensus over what had happened. In the past 15 years, there has been a major shift in the manner of dialogue, thanks to the emergence of a new, vibrant Turkish culture, work done by Turkish scholars, and the possibility of Turkish acceptance into the European Union. In Turkey specifically, three major developments since the 1990s have led to a change in both scholarly and public views of the events: emerging works by both Turkish and Armenian scholars who agree on what occurred; the rise to power and developments made by the moderately Islamic AKP, the Justice and Development party, in Turkey; and the realization of how these past events can shape the political climate today, especially in relation to Turkish dealings with Kurds. “The past would not disappear,” Dr. Suny stated. The fact that the Turks and the Armenians are managing to talk together, and even to agree, about the genocide shows that their shared history, good or bad, is not to be forgotten.

Dr. Ronald G. Suny is the author of many books, co-editor of A Question of Genocide: Armenians and Turks at the End of the Ottoman Empire, and one of the leading experts on the non-Russian nationalities of the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union, particularly those of the South Caucasus.
The Atlantis Transatlantic Degree Program in International Security and Development Policy is intended to prepare students to work effectively with security and development practitioners from Europe and the United States and to develop future practitioners who have a mutual understanding of European and American security and development paradigms. This program is two years in length and results in two master’s degrees—one from a university in the United States and one from a university in Europe. It involves post-graduate work at three universities—the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University in the US, the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, and the International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University in The Hague.

Students spend the first year of the program in the US at the Maxwell School earning either a Master’s of International Relations (MAIR) or a Master’s of Public Administration (MPA) degree. In addition to core requirements, students participate in a Workshop on Security and Development Policy in the EU and US and complete a summer internship providing them with practical experience with regard to the making of security and development policy. The second year of the program is spent in Europe. Students spend the first semester of Year 2 in the Hertie School of Governance’s Master’s of Public Policy (MPP) program and their second semester in Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University (ISS)’s Master’s of Development Studies (MDS) program. During this second year they develop and complete a master’s thesis on a topic related to either security or development under the supervision of faculty from all three universities. Four different degree tracks are available to students in the program. They can receive the MPA and MDS degrees, the MPA and MPP degrees, the MAIR and MDS degrees, OR the MAIR and MPP degrees.

Students go through the degree program as a cohort. Stipends are available for 6 EU and 6 US students in each cohort that are intended to cover the costs of living and travel while in the other continent. The stipends are supported by grants from the European Commission and the US Department of Education. Students pay tuition and fees at the institution they are attending at the time. Because of differences in tuition costs between the EU countries and the US, rates have been negotiated to make such costs roughly equivalent. The language of instruction at the three institutions is English; however, German language courses are available at Syracuse University and in Berlin.
Notes from the Cohort in Europe

Andrew Keller:
As the first semester in Europe comes to a close, it’s hard to capture all that has happened in the past few months. I arrived in Berlin early to further my German language skills and I can say that it has proven beneficial in numerous ways to know some German in the capital city. Specifically, it has made finding future employment easier as I seek to stay in Europe following the end of the Atlantis program. The Hertie school offers several events to interact with employers and policy makers in Berlin. Additionally, the university is well regarded and small enough to ensure the success of every student. This in conjunction with all that Berlin has to offer has made this semester very memorable for me.

Meghan Mullen:
I have found the classes at Hertie quite challenging so far and they have given me a great opportunity to hear from different cultural perspectives. In October, we all participated in the Atlantis workshop and that gave us all the chance to present the thesis proposals we have come up so far. I received great feedback from my colleagues, professors from the ISS school, and my Hertie and Maxwell thesis advisors. It will be a challenging few months ahead to complete the thesis, but I am confident I have all the necessary tools and resources to complete it. On a more fun note, despite the challenging courses, I still have managed to find time to do some traveling as well, which has been an a truly amazing experience. So far I have managed to travel to Prague, Munich, Dresden, Salzburg, Zurich, and Ireland and I definitely plan on traveling to more destinations next semester.

Raymond Kaniu:
From the beginning, I have been enthused by the promise of the program which allows us to earn two different degrees in a matter of two years from across the Atlantic. Moving to Europe has been an interesting experience, one that cannot be expressed in writing or told in orations, but rather it is something to be experienced. The exposure to the different cultures, both academically and socially, have been essential in shaping us for the next step. A great core faculty here has contributed to a wealth of information, and the inclusion of thesis advisors has allowed us to remain focused on our studies. Due to the small student size, we have received the adequate academic attention desired and we can only hope to have the same once we move to The Hague.

Stephen Davies:
I’m a dual degree IR/MPP student currently working on my MPP at the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin as part of the second group of Atlantis students. At Maxwell I received a certificate in security studies, and will qualify for a certificate in European affairs once I’ve finished the semester here in Berlin and move on to The Hague. Over the summer I was fortunate to have secured an internship with the U.S. Department of State at the U.S. Mission to NATO in Brussels, Belgium. I gained valuable experience working in the Office of the Defense Advisor, and enjoyed my time in Brussels. I’m also enjoying Berlin, and I’m very impressed with the students and professors at Hertie School. I haven’t fully begun my job search yet, but I plan on taking the State Department Foreign Service Officer Test in February, and then in March I will begin actively looking for job openings and sending out my CV.
A Perspective from the Past

Lindsey Spector

During my time in Europe for the Atlantis program, I participated in two internships. The first, in Berlin, was with the International Civil Society Centre (formerly the Berlin Civil Society Center) and was obtained with the help of SU Professor Tosca Bruno-van Vijfeijken. For this internship I assisted the planning, execution, and evaluation of the Global Perspectives international conference of NGO leaders on the post-2015 development agenda. My second internship was with ActionAid International, implementing shared learning initiatives as part of the Directorate of Organisational Effectiveness. I supported the Intranet and Knowledge Manager by identifying, collating, and editing the information from the annual reporting process and adding it to the organization’s intranet platform.

I am currently residing in my hometown of Rochester, NY, completing several consulting positions at my undergraduate institution, which I acquired while finishing my thesis. My thesis addressed the challenges and opportunities for downward accountability at non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Now that I have completed my degrees, I am seeking opportunities in the field of development at international NGOs, potentially in fundraising.

The Atlantis program enabled me to further my skills as a development professional, including my ability to analyze development programs from a variety of critical perspectives, carry out research projects, and work in a multicultural setting. The connections I made through the Atlantis program are extremely valuable as I move forward in my career. I am tremendously grateful to all of my mentors and peers in the Atlantis program who continue to guide my personal and professional development.

The Current Cohort in Syracuse

Left to right: Carmel Rabin, Lukas Bretzinger, Elisabeth IJmker, Kelsey Shantz, Niklas Anzinger, Krista Tuthill, Alex Paul, Sascha Schuster & Cameron Reed
Sascha: I was born in Berlin and while doing an internship there with the German Council on Foreign Relations, I more or less “stumbled” across the ATLANTIS Program. I was astonished: two years, two Master Degrees, three countries? In a small group? Amazing! So although not coming from an IR background - I am a history major and geography minor - I decided to apply. Having the opportunity to study in this environment with so many interesting people from all over the world is so enriching! Of course grad school is a huge workload, but it is worth every minute of it. I hope the program will go on just like this, because I am very excited to learn more about politic-economic complexes and civil-military relationships - which I want to work on for my master thesis. I am excited to see how the program will move on and to gather some more incredible experiences while being here in the US, and then “back home” in Berlin and finally at The Hague. Applying for Atlantis was one of my best decisions ever and I am honored to work with this group of amazingly smart people!

Kelsey: For me, the decision to join the Atlantis program was an easy one. Where else can you get two masters degrees in two years at three prestigious schools while studying with an international cohort of enthused and motivated young professionals? It’s unlike any other program out there. This program combines the academically rigorous material of a classroom setting with the global knowledge and wisdom of international living and exchange. I have been so impressed with our classes at Maxwell, and the Atlantis program is much more than I could have expected. Our cohort benefits daily from our cultural exchange of language, politics and culture—particularly food. We study German together and explore topics as they relate to each of our interests. My focus is primarily the role of money and international economics, including global markets, financial services for the poor, and research for the Global Black Spots Project. I hope to contribute my abilities honed in the Atlantis program to smart and strategic methods of poverty alleviation and global economic enrichment.

Lukas: Given that I would like to deepen my understanding of both security and development, ATLANTIS represents a unique opportunity. I was especially attracted by the idea to jointly assess security and development matters and their interconnections as part of an integrated academic curriculum. Drawing from international law, economics and policy analysis, none of these disciplines suffice to establish a comprehensive analysis on their own. Challenges in the fields are comparable on both sides of the Atlantic and are often dealt with cooperatively. It appeals to me to research into the area with students from both continents, in schools on both continents. This sort of intellectual cross-fertilizing can breed a better understanding of potentially differing views prior to a professional career. I see my participation in the Program as the logical next step towards my long-term professional goal, an interdisciplinary line of work in an international organization like the World Bank, NATO’s “Emerging Security Challenges Unit” or international risk analysis, conflict analysis or development agencies.

Cameron: My reason for pursuing the MAIR degree at the Maxwell School is to gain a better understanding of the relationships between people, governments, and nations, especially with regard to improving security and development policies between the U.S. and other countries. The Transatlantic Dual Degree Program presents an opportunity for me not only to accomplish my academic goals, but also to expand my knowledge of Europe’s dynamics on the world stage, and to become a more valuable asset to my country. This program provides me with a solid knowledge of security and development paradigms of the EU, the relationship between the U.S. and EU, and effective transnational policies, which will equip me with a well-rounded worldview and real opportunities for interaction with both American and European practitioners. The breadth of knowledge that the Atlantis cohort brings to group and extended research projects widens the intellectual scope of our products, which is beneficial to all parties.
Krista: The Atlantis Program appealed to me because it offers a dynamic educational opportunity. With a partnership of three institutions exuding various approaches to academic thought, I felt this would provide a competitive advantage in terms of approaching policy issues in a pragmatic manner, bolstered by practical experience abroad. In corresponding with previous Atlantis cohorts, I am confident that my initial expectations mirror the outstanding potential for a rewarding career. Considering my professional future, I hope to combine my interests in environmental policy & security and economic development. These interests are currently manifested in my contribution to the Moynihan Institute’s Black Spots Project, researching trends of natural resource consumption in regions of Latin America.

Elisabeth: At the beginning of this year, I accidentally came across the Atlantis program; it took less than 24 hours for me to decide this was a right fit for me. I feel privileged to be part of a program, which allows me to obtain two degrees and study in three different countries. At each of the educational institutions I am looking forward to receiving high quality education so I can develop my interests in both international relations and development. So far the program has matched my expectations, and I enjoy engaging with my professors as well as with my fellow students. As a Dutch national, I especially value the American perspective at the Maxwell school. Furthermore, the research that is going on in the various institutes inspires me to never stop learning new things. Over the coming years, I expect to explore and deepen my various interests more thoroughly, which will make me well-prepared for my future career.

Niklas: After my undergraduate in philosophy and economics, my first goal was to go to the United States. I went to Washington, D.C. for an internship in a think tank and became passionate about US policy. As a self-perceived Trans-Atlantic, I want the US and Europe - in particular Germany, my country of origin - to stand closer and face future challenges together. When I found Atlantis it seemed a natural fit to me. During the first weeks, the quality of the teaching at Maxwell impressed me a lot and fueled my motivation and ambition for my future career. I want to combine my knowledge of economics, energy trade and international security and tailor it towards my career. My American friends in the program have been of great help to me to set base and I will make sure I do the same once we continue our program in Berlin.

Carmel: I completed my undergraduate studies at the University of Cincinnati where I obtained a BA in International Relations and certificates in Middle Eastern Studies and Arabic Language and Culture. My interests include Middle Eastern politics, human rights, forced migration, social movements, and women’s studies. I am looking forward to expanding my knowledge on these issues by focusing on development studies and peace, security and conflict studies. After grad school I want to work on improving the rights of refugees in conflict zones. Having joined the program only a few weeks ago, I was impressed with the friendliness of my fellow students and the excitement among the faculty. With my fellow students I look forward to sharing many long nights of studying with numerous cups of coffee, as well as the inevitable celebratory beers and fried pickles at the end of it all.

Alex: I grew up in west London before I moved to Edinburgh, Scotland for my undergraduate studies; I graduated this past July with an M.A. in International Relations. I wrote my final year thesis on private military companies in peacekeeping. I'm interested in weapons proliferation and security provision and reform in post-conflict societies. Outside of academia, I particularly enjoy cricket and sailing and I'm hoping a Syracuse winter will improve my skiing. Being in this program will allow me to live in three countries on two different continents; to become more open and understanding to new cultures and alternative outlooks on life. I hope to learn to appreciate the big four American sports. I feel I've already got football locked down and my Syracuse season ticket should allow me to master basketball too. My major goals in life are to become a published author and sail across an ocean.
European Research Centers Foreign Language Tables

Свод русского языка - Russian Language Table

Mesa Português - Portuguese Table
Co-sponsored by:
Program on Latin America and the Caribbean;
Latino-Latin American Studies Program

Tavola italiana - Italian Language Table
Co-sponsored by the Italian Language Program

Türkçe Masası - Turkish Table
Co-sponsored by:
Turkish Student Association; Middle Eastern Studies Program; Turkish Language Program
Summer 2014 Research Grants

Call for Proposals

The Center for European Studies of the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs, in the Maxwell School of Syracuse University, announces it will grant awards to graduate students to support summer field research for MA thesis or doctoral research projects in Europe. Graduate students at Syracuse University are eligible and encouraged to apply. The purpose of the award is to provide students the opportunity to gather preliminary data, make contacts, map topics, and increase competitiveness of future proposals for funding. The awards are competitive and proposals are judged on the basis of (i) quality of the proposed research, (ii) organization and thoughtfulness of the proposal, and (iii) appropriateness and feasibility of the research plan in relation to the student’s background and qualifications.

**DEADLINE: Thursday, February 27, 2014**

This year the Center for European Studies (CES) will grant awards to graduate students of up to $1500 to support field research in Europe during the summer of 2014. The purpose of the award is to provide students the opportunity to gather preliminary data, make contacts, map topics, and increase competitiveness of future proposals for funding. Any student enrolled in an MA or PhD program at Syracuse University may apply.

We anticipate award amounts will range from $500-$1000. The awards are thus likely to be only partial support for a research trip, so the applicant will probably need to acquire additional support to fully fund his or her trip.

The awards are competitive and proposals are judged on the basis of i) quality of the proposed research, ii) organization and thoughtfulness of the proposal, and iii) appropriateness and feasibility of the research plan in relation to the student’s background and qualifications.

“Europe” for the purposes of the grant competition includes any country in the standard geographic area west of the Urals and north and west of the Caspian and Black seas, including Russia, the states of the South Caucasus, and Turkey.

You may apply for more than one summer grant from the Moynihan Institute, but you will not receive more than one in a given year. Other types of support that could exclude you from receiving a summer research grant include summer FLAS, summer de Sardon-Glass support, and any other summer support from the Moynihan Institute. Awards are ranked separately, so if your proposal is accepted by more than one committee, you will be awarded the better opportunity. If you win an award this year, you may apply for this or another award next year.

For more information, visit our Grant Application website at http://bit.ly/maxces2014
Grant Recipients 2013

Sherrod Marshall

Bio and Research Report

Sherrod Marshall began his doctoral studies at Syracuse University in 2007 after completing his master's degree in early-modern European history at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas. He passed the three required comprehensive examinations for the doctorate in May 2010, and he successfully defended the dissertation proposal December 7, 2011. Thanks to the Montgomery-Gruber Research Assistantship, he was able to live in Paris and Venice for the academic year 2012-2013 in which time he has been feverishly investigating the rich sources necessary for his project. His research focuses on the culture of diplomacy and the history of state formation at the international level with an eye to the crucial role political ideologies play in the success or failure of diplomatic exchange between states. He uses the example of Franco-Venetian diplomatic relations during the personal rule of Louis XIV as his major topic of research.

Dan Stratila

Bio and Research Report

Dan Stratila is an MA candidate at the Maxwell School and the Hertie School of Governance. After completing a multiple degree program in Romania and Germany, Dan came to Syracuse in 2011 as part of the Atlantis dual-degree program. With regard to the impact shale gas had had in the US context, the research aims to answer the question if a similar development is reproducible in Europe, particularly Central Eastern Europe, being highly dependent on non-EU third party gas imports. Since the debate about and around shale gas exploitation is highly polarized, finding a non-emotional position in the debate is harder than it sounds. The research utilizes a supply/demand index (SDI) developed by the Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands (ECN) in order to measure potential regional advantages in numerical terms, removing any interest driven distortions.

Rebecca Brown

Bio and Research Report

Rebecca Brown is an undergraduate student in the College of Arts and Sciences at Syracuse University. She is studying International Relations with a concentration in international law and organizations. Last spring her research grant from the Moynihan Institute allowed her to travel to the Undergraduate Conference on the European Union in Claremont, California. At the conference she presented her research on the possibility of Britain withdrawing from the European Union. A large component of her research focused on how current British attitudes toward the EU reflect those of British citizens at other times in Britain's history with the EU. She evaluated how we can predict the various possible future actions of Britain in regards to the EU based on past events at similar points in history. At the Claremont conference she had the opportunity to consider wider EU problems as presented by her peers, as well as other concerns within Britain.
Certificate of Advanced Study in the European Union and Contemporary Europe

Program Description

The Certificate of Advanced Study in the European Union and Contemporary Europe is available to Syracuse University students in all graduate programs who are looking to supplement their degree with a strong foundation in the region’s culture and politics or to prepare for a career involving regional specialization. In completing the Certificate Program, students are required to take at least 12 credit hours of study focused on the region, including one of the required courses and nine credits from a set of elective courses and/or approved other activities such as internships, independent study, or capstone experiences.

Why Pursue a Certificate of Advanced Study in the European Union and Contemporary Europe?

The relations between the United States and Europe are historically important. In fairly recent history, the United States sent its troops to free Europe of Nazism and to defend it against global communism. With the end of the Cold War, however, relations between the two sides of the Atlantic, though always close, have become strained. The EU and its component governments have not always shared US points of view on such challenges as terrorism, climate change, and welfare policy; policy approaches to these problems have often differed. And yet, there is continuing interdependence between the United States and the European Union. Consider the security relationship between the two sides of the Atlantic in NATO as well as the facts that the US and EU are each other’s main trading partners, represent three of the five veto players in the United Nations Security Council, and create around 6 million jobs for the other on each side of the Atlantic.

Program Requirements

Twelve credits in four courses must be earned to be eligible for the certificate. These must include:

The choice of one of the required courses:
- PSC 756 Politics of the European Union
- PSC 600 The EU and Beyond: Identity, Politics, and the New Europe
- ANT/HUM/SOC 670 The Culture and Politics of Reconciliation in Central Europe

Nine credits from a set of elective courses and/or approved other activities such as internships, independent study, or capstone experiences.

Obtaining the Certificate

Interested students are encouraged to interact with the Director of the Certificate Program early in their tenure to develop a program of study. Please see our webpage for more details.

http://www.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/merc/welcome

For any further questions, please contact Professor Margaret Hermann by email (mgherman@maxwell.syr.edu)