A Welcome from the Director of the European Research Centers

Welcome to a new year of influential speakers, exciting discussions, and strong support for students interested in Europe and the European Union. We are happy to host the Deputy Head of the European Commission this semester to talk about cutting edge issues related to the transatlantic relationship. We have visiting speakers and scholars, as well as those in residence, conducting and presenting new research on questions that are of fundamental importance to the EU as it attempts to democratize its supranational institutions and engage with an increasingly complex world. We are happy to launch a new student group which will be fostering frank discussions of today’s most pressing and controversial European issues. Finally, we are happy to announce our continuing support for students interested in Europe through our Global Europe Fellowships and FLAS fellowships for language acquisition.

I hope you enjoy reading more about our activities and how you might be involved.

Matthew Duncan—On September 25th, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to the United States Angelos Pangratis spoke to a collection of students and faculty as a part of the Moynihan European Research Centers’ speaker series. Mr. Pangratis is a Greek citizen and a career diplomat who has served as E.U. Ambassador to Argentina and other senior positions in South Africa and South Korea and offered Maxwell students a unique look at the EU-US relationship and European perspectives of the United States.

Focusing primarily on the economic and political relationship between Europe and America, Pangratis said that the two share the values of democracy, market economy and human rights. However, he mentioned that though the two nations share these values, they sometimes do not share the same ethical outlook, referencing the use of the death penalty in some
Megan German —
I landed in Tirana, Albania around midnight on the first of June, the night before I was to start in the political/economic section of the US Embassy. I had never traveled any further than Italy, so for me going to the Balkans was like going to the other side of the world. Despite the fact that Albania is situated on a beautiful strip of the Adriatic, just across the sea from Italy, north of Greece, and a few hours drive from Croatia and other hot tourist spots—Albania felt far away from “Western civilization” in a pleasantly, strange way. Albania feels like a region trapped between two worlds, pulled to the West by Europe and then inescapably taunted by its influences from the East.

A country full of contradictions, Albania was fascinating while at the same time frustrating. It was recently invited into NATO, but the security dilemmas and corruption within the country make it hard to imagine they were ever ready for such an invitation. It boasts some of the last stretches of virgin beaches in the Mediterranean, but poor roads and infrastructure keep Albania off the lists of most tourists. Viewed as a bit of a last bastion in the region and in Europe, Albania is antiquated and behind the times, but this is also a part of its charm.

Oftentimes popular destinations seem clogged and “touristy”—a result of globalization and the ease of modern travel. I experienced this phenomenon while visiting Prague this summer. I left exhausted and drained by the mobs and longed for the tourist-free sites of Albania—where I

Graduate Student Simulation on EU Immigration Policy

Matthew Duncan —
On April 10th, 2008 over 40 Masters Students gathered in Skaneateles, NY to participate in a Graduate Student Conference and E.U. simulation. The two day event included a simulation on E.U. immigration policy, guest speaker Trevor Hublin on U.S. and E.U. efforts in Chad, and discussions of student paper topics.

The simulation centered around an E.U. summit on immigration issues. Immigration is a contentious topic in Europe today. Many countries are concerned that too many migrants might overburden services, while others contend that more immigration is needed to help alleviate Europe’s growing population decline. The body of participating students represented close to 15 countries, most of them from the US and Europe. Additionally, six students from the Middle East Partnership Initiative’s “Leaders for Democracy Partnership Program” (sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and held at the Maxwell School), joined the simulation. Their participation offered a unique perspective on issues concerning Islam.

Following the simulation, students listened to Trevor Hublin, a graduate of the Maxwell Masters of International Relations program, entitled “Ending the Carnage: U.S. and European Union Security Policy and Efforts in Chad.” Hublin offered an account of the violence plaguing the central

“To the other side of the world”—Notes from Albania

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“When entering the European Union” — Croatia and the E.U.

Goran Amidzic—

In spite of the prevailing aspirations for superior growth in standard of living, few countries in the Balkan region have managed to build and maintain institutions necessary for sustainable growth. Talking either about Kosovo’s declaration of independence or Serbia’s recent elections, complex political situations seem to be widespread throughout the region.

In this context, Croatia can serve as an example of how incongruence and lack of sustainability in leadership of the ruling political scene can impede its accession to European Union. While postponing the date of accession to EU for the end of 2010 or possibly throughout the mid 2011, Croatia’s example can serve as a case-study for all the countries in transition which hurry towards the greater inter-regional integration.

Croatia is among the top 10 reformers in the World Bank’s Doing Business Report for 2007, keeping inflation to single digits and maintaining growth of 5-6 percent. As businesses thrive in a stable, transparent environment, consistency is particularly crucial in transition economies given the overhaul of legislation required by the EU accession process. As such, Croatia’s political and business leaders correctly perceived that the cost to Croatia of being left out of the EU is increasing as the number of European countries joins the club. As two-thirds of trade in this region is dependent on exports to the various European Union partners, the business community will benefit substantially from EU accession and should be one of the biggest supporters for EU membership. Yet, disrupting the current status quo seems to be incurring the greater political cost than losing the market opportunities brought by greater inter-regional integration. Against such background, it is hard to build a broad-based societal consensus on the desirability of market-oriented reforms. This seems almost impossible if recognizing prevailing political conflict between the old-school politicians and the new but fledgling class of young technocrats mainly influenced by westernized ideas. Frequently criticized for lacking substantial delegating powers, Prime Minister Ivo Sanader reminds us of the HDZ’s tendency to look for a Tudjman-era figure, rather than a leader who governs through democratic consensus. Considering that the next parliamentary elections are in January 2011, it is likely that the ruling HDZ

Black Spots Paper Published in ISR

In an interconnected world, old problems have assumed new and threatening forms for which international boundaries have less meaning. Black Spots represent territories from which both transnational organized crime and terrorism operate. They are places in the shadows of global attention, off the beaten track, not covered by the mainstream media and usually below the radar of security agencies. This is can be seen in the former Soviet Union where para-state entities have emerged and disappeared in places like Chechnya and Tajikistan.

Dr. Bartosz Stanislawski, of the Moynihan European Research Centers, edited a paper published in the June 2008 issue of International Studies Review looking at the phenomenon of Black Spots throughout the world. Contributors included Katarzyna Pelczyńska-Należy, Krzysztof Strachota, and Maciej Fajkowski from the Center for Eastern Studies in Warsaw, David Crane of the College of Law at Syracuse, the former Chief Prosecutor of the U.N.’s Special Court for Sierra Leone, and former Ambassador Melvyn Levitsky of the Ford School at the University of Michigan and current U.S. representative to the U.N.’s International Narcotics Control Board. Each highlights particular elements of black spots that are important to international security. This will be an ongoing project of significant importance.

Continued on Page 6
New Europe Faculty at Maxwell

Glyn Morgan
Associate Professor of Political Science

Dr. Morgan comes to the Political Science Department from Harvard University and received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. He is the author of The Idea of a European Superstate: Public Justification and European Integration (Princeton University Press, 2005) and Missionary Liberalism: Interventions towards Progress (Princeton University Press, forthcoming). Recent writings include: “Realism and European Integration,” European Political Studies (July 2005); “The Realism of Raymond Geuss,” Government and Opposition (Winter 2005); and “Hayek, Habermas, and European Integration,” Critical Review (Summer 2003). He is currently writing a book on Just and Unjust Forms of Political Violence and co-directing (with Margarita Estevez-Abe) a research project on Social Justice and the Varieties of Capitalism. Morgan’s interests include contemporary political philosophy, modern social theory, the philosophy of the social sciences, theories of international relations, nationalism, federalism, and European integration. He was awarded Harvard's Roslyn Abram Award for excellence and sensitivity in teaching undergraduates in 2001.

Seth Jolly
Assistant Professor of Political Science

Dr. Jolly is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Syracuse University. He received his Ph.D. from Duke University in 2006 and graduated from Centre College in 1998. He was formerly an Instructor and Postdoctoral Fellow at the Committee on International Relations at the University of Chicago where he taught International Political Economy and European Union courses in the master’s program. At Syracuse, he teaches European politics, comparative political parties, and ethnic conflict. Jolly’s research includes regionalist political parties in Europe, political institutions and political economy. His current book project is entitled A Europe of Regions? Regional Integration, Sub-National Mobilization and the Optimal Size of States.

Faculty Publication— Brussels Versus the Beltway by Christine Mahoney

This book presents the first large-scale study of lobbying strategies and outcomes in the United States and the European Union, two of the most powerful political systems in the world. Every day, tens of thousands of lobbyists in Washington and Brussels are working to protect and promote their interests in the policy-making process. Policies emanating from these two spheres have global impacts—they set global standards, they influence global markets, and they determine global politics. Armed with extensive new data, Christine Mahoney challenges the conventional stereotypes that attribute any differences between the two systems as cultural ones—the American a partisan and combative approach, the European a consensus-based one.

Mahoney draws from interviews involving 47 issues to detail how institutional structures, the nature of specific issues, and characteristics of the interest groups combine to determine decisions about how to approach a political fight, what arguments to use, and how to frame an issue. She looks at how lobbyists choose lobbying tactics, public relations strategies, and networking and coalition activities. Her analysis demonstrates that advocacy can be better understood when we study the lobbying of interest groups in their institutional and issue context.

"Brussels vs. the Beltway is an important, carefully crafted work that breaks new ground in both the study of the EU and of interest groups."

—Jeffrey M. Berry, Tufts University
Maxwell Students Embark on Global Europe 2008

As in previous years, a group of Syracuse University graduate students participated in the Global Europe program. They traveled to Strasbourg, France, for a week-long seminar during which they visited the headquarters of Eurocorps, the European Parliament, the European Court of Human Rights, and the Council of Europe. Additionally, students participated in a series of lectures and presentations covering topics of EU’s economics, normative impact of the Council of Europe and European Court of Human Rights, question of Turkey’s admission into the European Union, and the EU’s evolving defense capabilities.

The week-long seminar in Strasbourg is an intensive course in the reality of the European Union and sets the practical stage for Global Europe participants, who later depart for their internship locations at various locations in Europe. Students also got to witness a little reported incident involving the parliament building itself; a few pieces of the ceiling fell, interestingly, on the sector of the Parliament usually occupied by the Euroskeptics. Luckily, the parliament was not in session at the time, so nobody was hurt, but stories began circulating about the symbolic meaning of that event.

But what was also interesting was that very little was reported on that fact. On the one hand, it is probably not an important event to report on. On the other, it would add a little bit of salt to the so frequently heard praise of “EU standards.” Just a thought.

New Moynihan European Research Centers Student Interest Group

On September 24th, 2009, twenty-two Maxwell students gathered at the Moynihan Institute to discuss the recent conflict in South Ossetia. The discussion benefited from many different viewpoints, including Russian students and those who had lived in Russia. This was the first event hosted by the new Moynihan European Research Centers Student Interest Group. Headed by the European Research Centers graduate assistants Linda Jirouskova, Lindsey Ohmit and Matthew Duncan, this is an informal group that will host discussions, show films and further discussion on the important issues facing Europe today. All done in an informal setting, usually with some type of food, this a great opportunity to come and learn from your fellow students. The next event will be the showing of the Polish language film Katyn, with English subtitles, on Wednesday, October 22nd at 7pm in Eggers 341 in the Moynihan Institute. We hope to see you there!

REMINDER: THE DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR GLOBAL EUROPE 2009 IS OCT. 17TH!

Katyn will be presented Weds, 10/22/09 at 7pm
In Eggers 341
“For Albania, times are exciting. It will be a challenging course as it moves towards full NATO membership and as it also strives for membership within the European Union.”

Angelos Pangratis, Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Commission to the United States

American states and the treatment of enemy combatants at Guantanamo Bay. Despite these differences, Pangratis noted the important historical role the U.S. has played in the development of modern Europe. As a result, the relationship between the two has grown from that of a sponsor-client relationship to an equal partnership. This partnership has been mutually beneficial for the two, as shown by the fact that together the E.U. and the U.S. account for 60% of the global nominal GDP and 40% of all global trade.

Mr. Pangratis shared European opinion on the U.S. elections, but said that many Europeans do not think that much will change regardless of who is elected. This attitude is related to a fundamental difference in how both sides view the use of force in foreign policy. Many Europeans, he said, do not support large military budgets and using the military to spread democracy. These perspectives, along with a lack of U.S. leadership on climate change, have given rise to anti-American sentiment against U.S. policies.

During his visit, Pangratis was given a private tour of the "Michelangelo: The Man and the Myth" exhibit at the SU Art Gallery by Domenic Iacono, director of the SU Art Galleries and was the guest of honor at dinner held by SU Chancellor Nancy Cantor. The Moynihan European Research Centers were proud to host such an important speaker and would like to thank all who participated in the visit.

In mid August I headed towards the tourist-packed city of Madrid. As I left, I was almost disappointed that I would no longer have the unpredictability and sense of adventure I felt in Albania: the lack of bus schedules, (potentially) free admission to sites, working or not-working electricity, cold showers or no-showers in the morning… As I left, I hoped that Albania’s mysterious and unpredictable charm would not disappear as it confronted the challenges of development. It may one day come closer to the West, but in doing so; I hope it does not lose those endearing, peaceful qualities that you can only find on the “other side of the world.”

Megan German is a M.A. Candidate in International Relations at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University

“Notes from Albania” — continued from Page 2

felt that traveling and exploring the country was still an adventure. Albanian sights, such as the beach town of Saranda or the ancient Roman city of Butrint, offer the same charm and allure as their Western counterparts, but in a more relaxed (and cheaper) setting. Restaurants are never packed, the food is fresh, delicious and affordable, the people are warm and friendly, beaches are void of tourists, and the people know how to enjoy a slower pace of life.

Albania, however, harbors a darker side. Corruption and poor governance are endemic, bribes are a cultural norm, civil society and the media are frequently intimidated by the government, and poverty—especially in the rural areas—is devastating. Basic elements of infrastructure, such as waste removal, medical facilities, water, and transportation, are weak and unpredictable. Even in the capital city, citizens will go weeks without water and power outages are routine. Moreover, normal Albanians are unable to vent their frustrations by a society that prevents them from speaking out.

For Albania, times are exciting. It will be a challenging course as it moves towards full NATO membership and as it also strives for membership within the European Union. Next year, Albania will have national elections and is working towards its first major highway system from the north to the main port city of Durres. Efforts to curb corruption and improve governance hope to attract more foreign investors and improve infrastructure. For Albania, times are slowly changing.

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African country and the role the EU and U.S. must take to end it.  

The main goal of the conference was to give students the opportunity to discuss their paper topics. Topics included: European energy security (Brian Holuj), legally mandated inclusive education in Italy (Cynthia Smith), the EU and its attempt for a common immigration policy (Megan German), the U.S-EU steel tariff trade dispute (Uwe Gneiting), the impact of the “Local Government Assistance Program by the British Know-How-Fund in Poland (Iryna Bilotserkivska), fears of worker immigration in the EU (Senol Yilmaz), and Turkish youth in Germany (Jana Morgan). The conference gave students an opportunity to present their work and to receive feedback from their peers. Participants left Skaneateles with a better understanding of the EU and the various challenges it faces.

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“EU Conference and Simulation” — continued from Page 2

“Entering the European Union” — continued from Page 3
FLAS Fellowship Competition

Syracuse University’s Center for European Studies announces the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship competitions for Summer 2008 and Academic Year 2008-2009 in European Studies. The FLAS program provides tuition and stipend for SU graduate students who are US citizens or permanent residents to undertake intensive language training and area studies that complements their program of study. FLAS awards are open to SU graduate students in any program, with interests in contemporary European Studies.

Summer FLAS Fellowships may be used toward study abroad in any accredited language program at the intermediate level or above in any European language. Fellowships may provide up to $4000 for tuition with an additional $2500 stipend. Proposals for internships or dissertation research are generally not accepted unless they contain a substantial language training component.

Summer Fellowships are also available to qualifying graduate students at other universities. We anticipate awarding six Academic Year FLAS Fellowships for 2007-2008 that will provide a $15,000 stipend and up to 24 credit hours of tuition coverage shared by the Center for European Studies and the Graduate School. Preference for academic year FLAS awards may be given to those studying at the advanced level in one of the commonly taught European languages at SU (French, German, Spanish, Russian, and Italian) or at beginning or intermediate levels in the less commonly taught European languages at SU (Polish, Turkish, or Portuguese). Preference may also be given to professional program students and those who may work in public service in future. Generally, FLAS fellowships are awarded to students undertaking coursework, but may be available for dissertation writing under restrictive conditions and subject to special approval.

Fellowship Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a graduate student
- Must be a citizen, national or permanent resident of the U.S.
- Must be enrolled (or accepted for enrollment) in a program that combines modern foreign language with area studies training with professional or disciplinary study
- Successful applicants will show potential for high academic achievement based on such indices as grade point average, class ranking, recommendations or similar measures that the institution may determine.

Watch for Application Deadlines Early in the Spring Semester

Please direct all inquiries to CES Director Mitchell Orenstien, at maorenst@maxwell.syr.edu
For an application, please visit http://www.maxwell.syr.edu/euc/funding

CURRENT FLAS FELLOWS: ACADEMIC YEAR ‘08-’09

Four summer Foreign Language and Areas Studies (FLAS) fellows and six academic year fellows were selected in 2008 from a competitive pool of applicants. This year’s fellows represent a wide range of disciplines including international relations, political science, history, science education, public administration, English, and religion.

Ben Orndorff – Russian
Natalie Pullen – Turkish
Nicole Macagna – Polish
Anthony McGovern – Portuguese
Tamara Polyakova – German
Brian Futagaki – Turkish