20 YEARS ON GERMANY HEALING, SLOWLY

Dr. Horst Freitag, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in New York, highlighted the events leading up to and on November 9th, 2009, the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. The program was co-sponsored by the European Research Centers and German Program within the Department of LLL.

Dr. Freitag spoke on November 5th, 2009, to students and professors about reunification and the transatlantic relationship between Germany and the United States. He said that we share a common idea of the individual and his inviolable dignity, based on the same understanding of freedom and responsibility.

The events continued on the 9th, when a panel of Maxwell and German professors convened to provide 5 unique, firsthand accounts of the events (page 4). The day was capped with the showing of “Das Versprechen,” a film about the splitting of families in Berlin after the construction of the wall.

The events were well attended but somber; a far cry from the joy expressed in the stock footage from that night. 20 years ago history was ending one chapter and starting another. Fear and excitement filled Soviet Europe and there were opportunities abound. The presenters’ words carried the weight of those choices that were made and the shape of the new and emerging world order.

While prosperity has found Germany in the last decade thanks to its resilient export economy and the expansion of the EU, East Germany has survived thanks to the generous welfare state, making it uncompetitive compared to its eastern neighbors. While some of the larger cities in the East are prospering, smaller cities and towns are in decline.

How Germany will look in 20 years is anyone’s guess. It will undoubtedly take many generations before the history of the Berlin Wall can be written in stone.

DIRECTOR’S WELCOME

Welcome to a new semester of fantastic European programming. This spring we’ll be hosting a series of events highlighting Europe’s role in the world. When Czech president Václav Klaus signed the Lisbon Treaty on the 3rd of November, the last barrier to the ratification was removed. When the treaty entered into force in December, it came new powers for the EU to speak with a unified voice on the world stage.
Welcome cont’d

The new President of the EU, the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and the integrated European External Action Service will allow the EU to have a more coherent approach to external relations. In light of these important changes we will be hosting three exciting events this spring: First, our Annual EU Graduate Simulation, this year being held in Washington, D.C., will focus on EU-US cooperation in crisis management on a scenario based on the Somali coast. Second, we will host a video-conference with scholars from Israel, Brussels and the US discussing the future role of the EU in the Middle East peace process. And third, we will be organizing an EU-US Symposium on Global Trade reform, with advocates from Brussels and DC discussing approaches to Fair Trade advocacy and transatlantic cooperation on these reforms. We are also excited to announce the new European Language Tables that are drawing more and more students and scholars interested in strengthening their language skills; throughout the Spring we will be facilitating Turkish, Russian and German language tables. Be sure to check out our new website for updates on all these events.

New Europe Faculty at Maxwell

Laurie Marhoefer
Assistant Professor of History
Dr. Marhoefer received her Ph.D. in history from Rutgers University. In 2008-2009, she was an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at the Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto.

Her research interests include Modern European history (Germany) and gender history. She is working on a book that examines how public debates over the legal status of “immoral” desires, products, and practices (including prostitution, homosexuality, pornography, adultery, and contraception) shaped German notions of state, self, and citizenship.

Kazakhstan, resource rich and the ninth largest country in the world, has been seeking to elevate its international profile since President Nursultan Nazarbaev revealed Kazakhstan 2030, his plan to move Kazakhstan into the top 50 of developed nations in the world. It took a small step in 2007, when it was awarded the chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in 2010. At the time Kazakhstan made many promises to reform their laws and systems to fall in line with OSCE and international standards. Progress over the past three years has been evident, if superficial. Many in the weak opposition have accused the government of reneging on its promises, and international organizations accuse the country of regressing in the areas of human rights and electoral law. Yet for all these problems, it is better to cast the spotlight on the country by forcing it to lead.

The OSCE is comprised of 56 states from Europe, Central Asia and North America and forms the largest regional security organization in the world. It focuses on a spectrum of security related issues from arms control to environmental activities and election monitoring. Kazakhstan will be the first ex-Soviet state to hold the chairmanship, and will focus its presidency on the issues of Central Asia. Kazakh officials have created a bureaucrat bootcamp at OSCE headquarters in Vienna to prepare for the transition, and are planning an OSCE summit in Helsinki, Finland, focused on a “New European Security Architecture.”

Despite its preparedness, many critics still worry that Kazakhstan’s mere association with the chairmanship will thwart the legitimacy of the OSCE. Kazakhstan is a routine violator of policies the OSCE seeks to defend. On September 3, 2009, a human rights activist, Yevgeniy Zhovtis, was sentenced to four years in jail for vehicular manslaughter after a trial that lasted two days and was widely criticized for procedural violations. Although Mr. Zhovtis admitted to hitting a man, he claims there was no criminal intent, and that his rights were often violated.
When: Friday, March 19, 2010 – 9:30am-4pm
Where: Syracuse University’s Greenberg House (2301 Calvert Street, NW Washington, DC 20008-2644)
Who: Open to ALL graduate students of any university interested in the EU’s role in the World
How: Register on-line at: our website starting January 15th
http://www1.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/merc/Welcome/

EU-US Cooperation on Terrorist Crises: The Case of Somalia

Piracy off the coast of Somalia has increased dramatically over the past five years. In response the United States and the European Union have increased their naval presence in the region. The EU is operating EU NAVFOR - Operation Atalanta and the US is overseeing Combined Task Force 151 to “detect and deter piracy in and around the Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean and Red Sea.”

This simulation will confront participants with a terrorist attack scenario on a naval vessel in the Gulf of Aden and challenge them to navigate the waters of international cooperation to make use of the collaborative structures already in place (including the EU Joint Situation Center -SitCen, the European Security and Defense Policy, the Maritime Security Center – Horn of Africa, EU NAVFOR and CTF 151) and develop new vehicles, if needed, to manage the crisis. Participants will explore the new powers granted to the High Representative for Foreign Affairs by the Lisbon Treaty which took effect December 2009.

Our key note speaker will be Thomas Henökl, of the Crisis Management and Prevention Unit of the European Commission’s Directorate General for External Relations. We will also have a representative of the US State Department specializing in Somalia.

Participants will gain a solid understanding of cutting edge anti-terrorism and crisis management cooperation between the United States and the European Union as it continues to evolve.

Facts about Somalia:
In 1960 northern British Somaliland voted to join southern Italian Somaliland to form Somalia
The population is 8,592,000
GDP per capita is U.S. $600
Life expectancy is 46 years
Spoken languages: Somali, Arabic, Italian and English

Dr. Wil Hout
Erasmus University, The Hague
“Between Development and Security: The European Union, Governance and Fragile States”
February 15, 2010 ; 3pm - 341 Eggers

Workshop
“The EU after the Lisbon Treaty: Is it now ready for a major role in the Middle East peace process?”
March 10, 2010; 060 Eggers (Global Collaboratory)

Debate on Global Trade Reform: EU and US Advocacy for Social Justice
Gawain Kripke, Director of Policy and Research for Oxfam America
Dave Tucker, Trade Campaigns Officer for War on Want
April 8, 2010; 1pm - 060 Eggers (Global Collaboratory)

Dr. Pablo Beramendi
University College, Oxford
“Tax Progressivity and Income Inequality in Comparative Perspective”
April 20, 2010; 4pm - 341 Eggers

UPCOMING EVENTS
Berlin Wall Facts:

- Constructed starting August 13, 1961
- 155 kilometers long (96 miles)
- 192 people killed on Berlin Wall
- 259 paths for guard dogs
- 302 watchtowers and 20 bunkers
- 5,000 or more managed to cross

“This was not inevitable,” professor Brian Taylor reminded students at a panel to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. German professor Karina von Tippelskirch echoed that sentiment when relating her personal experience from November 9th, 1989. She had gone to sleep early at her West German home and woken to a quiet morning with her children. The story of the wall falling had to be confirmed by her doctor after she suspected the local paper of running an early April Fool’s joke.

Professors Taylor and von Tippelskirch were joined on the panel by professor Karl Solibakke, professor Hans Peter Schmitz and Dr. Bartosz Stanislawski. It was the first in a series of Monday events cosponsored by the European Research Centers and the German Program within the Department of LLL. Each panelist was given the chance to share their experiences from 1989 and the reunification of Germany, and answered questions from students, many whose knowledge of walls in 1989 consisted mostly of Legos.

Dr. Stanislawski, who grew up in Poland, talked of the symbolism of the wall falling but called it mostly icing on the cake, the conclusion of preceding events and resistance in Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. He recalled crossing the East/West German border as a young man and being amazed by the massive, intimidating killing field that separated the two countries. The 350,000 Soviet troops still stationed in East Germany in 1989 also served as a warning to Western Europe of the Soviet commitment to sustaining its sphere of influence.

The panelists also agreed that many of the cultural differences that once separated East and West Germans are now fading as young Germans are blissfully ignorant of the divides that once existed. Professor von Tippelskirch said that whereas her niece talks of going to Munich, her mother still refers to the southern German city as the “West.”

Continued on page 6
**GLOBAL EUROPE SEMINAR**

One week in Strasbourg has so much more to offer than you could expect. The depth of history of Strasbourg, from the Thirty Years’ War to the First World War, gives a unique atmosphere for this small but metropolitan city. The city’s historic center is one of the UNESCO World Heritage sites. Furthermore, Strasbourg is also a hub of culture and education with the largest university in France, the University of Strasbourg, founded in 1631.

There are numbers of European Institutions in Strasbourg. With such a concentration, it is easy to understand why Strasbourg is sometimes called the capital of Europe. During the Global Europe Seminar, we had the opportunity to visit many of these prestigious institutions such as the European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe, Eurocorps Headquarters, and the European Parliament. It was not a mere sightseeing tour but a meaningful trip with many useful insights given from officials from these institutions. The Global Europe Seminar also offered intense panel discussions and lectures at the SU Center on a variety of Euro-related issues. Students were encouraged to learn, challenge thoughts and be challenged by experts from various fields. Don’t hold back your question and you will appreciate the honesty of an answer given back, sometimes even a little bit shocked!

The Global Europe Seminar was a rather short program, but nevertheless it was a priceless experience for all of us. The seminar was indeed a great start for the adventure that awaits us this fall in Europe. And by the way, don’t forget to dine out while you are in Strasbourg. What’s the recommendation? Well, in France everything is delicious!
Panel cont’d

Many of the questions focused on the developments of the past twenty years, where Germany has been and where it is going. When asked about the German reunification plan, professor Schmitz remarked that the massive subsidies given to East Germans resulted in an ongoing economic decline. This result was not shared by other Eastern economies like Poland and the Czech Republic, who learned the hard lessons of capitalism without the benefit of a Western cushion.

East Germany faces problems such as high unemployment, increased competition from its Eastern neighbors and the flight of its younger generation to the West. Some towns contain apartment blocks with thousands of vacancies, ruins of Soviet planning. The panel was wary about the future of East Germany and uncertain about its direction, although professor Schmitz did mention the pristine landscape that can still be enjoyed. One thing that is certain is that the problems facing a unified Germany today are far more enjoyable than those posed twenty years ago, separated by a wall.

RUSSIAN TABLE

This year the Moynihan Institute brought together students interested in Russian language and culture by hosting the first Russian Table in September, 2009. The event was so successful that it became regular as more and more students joined this informal “Russian club” and enjoyed good company and fellowship. Several informal potlucks were organized during the semester where students shared some tasty Russian food.

On October 30, 2009 Russian Table screened a Russian movie called “Admiral” – a story about polar researcher, patriot and, subsequently, the supreme governor of Russia, Alexander Kolchak. The film showing was followed by an interesting discussion of Kolchak’s life and political situation in Russia at that time.

Please join us for our next Russian Table! All who are interested in learning more about Russian language and culture are welcome to attend.

TURKISH TABLE

Hosting a Turkish Table is a new tradition at the Moynihan European Research Centers. Held once or twice per month, the event draws students interested in learning more about Turkish language, culture and sharing some baklava and tea. In spring semester, Turkish table is going to be led by Jaklin Kornfilt, the Turkish Program Director, Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics. It is a great opportunity to practice the language, meet your fellow students and share interesting facts about this culturally rich country. All levels are welcome to attend (from beginners to native speakers).
Kazakhstan cont’d

Further enraging opponents of Kazakhstan’s chairmanship was the passing this summer of some of the toughest internet laws on the books. The new law classifies blogs, chat rooms and discussion forums as “media”, opening them to a broad range of legislation. Furthermore, Kazakhstan is the portal through which other Central Asian states access the internet, creating a powerful node for information control and manipulation. “This law contradicts the Kazakhstani foreign minister’s promise to other OSCE states that his country would liberalize its legislation governing the media before assuming the OSCE chairmanship in 2010,” said Jennifer Windsor, executive director of Freedom House, a democracy advocacy group.

There is also a concern with Russian manipulation of its CIS partner. Russia was the key player behind Kazakhstan’s election to the chairmanship, and both countries have expressed interest in seeing restrictions placed on the Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the group responsible for monitoring elections. In Madrid both countries supported a rule to limit the number of observers to 50 and to place the monitoring teams under the control of the participating state. ODIHR is well supported and under no immediate threat, but it remains unclear how authoritative it can be under the chairmanship of a country that has never had an internationally recognized free or fair election. And this in a year when Iraqis, Palestinians, Sudanese, Afghans, Brazilians and Venezuelans all go to the polls.

Despite the litany of violations and complaints, there are reasons to favor Kazakhstan. According to UNDP, Kazakhstan ranks highest in the region in human development. It also has a per capita GDP twice as high as Turkmenistan, its closest competitor. This makes Kazakhstan the most important player in an increasingly important region. Its mineral wealth has fueled competition between Russia, China and the West. China has just completed the Turkmenistan-China pipeline for natural gas, and earlier in the year acquired a major stake MangystauMunayGaz (MMG) energy concern in exchange for a 10 billion dollar financial bailout for the Kazakhstani federal government.

The West values the region not only for its mineral wealth but also as a supply line to Afghanistan and Pakistan. The Northern Distribution Network (NDN), set up originally as a non-military supply line is now being expanded to include military freight. The NDN currently runs through Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic, and involves heavy infrastructure investment from the United States and NATO allies. Central Asia is also a key supply line for narcotics coming out of Afghanistan to Russia and Europe.

Kazakhstan’s chairmanship will surely bring more attention to these issues and start a discussion among the international community about the goals and direction for the region, which has been lacking. More important, Kazakhstan will be pushed out in front of the international spotlight and be forced to lead. While there is little hope of Kazakhstan becoming a bastion of Western values immediately, it will be forced to take responsibility, gain respect for the challenges of the international system and try to uphold the values of the OSCE. The chairmanship will also tie Kazakhstan closer to the West, winning influence away from China and other competing forces. For this young country trying to find a place in the international order, the risk posed to the legitimacy of the OSCE is surely less than the risk of alienating a willing partner in a forbidding region.

MERC SPONSORS MODEL UN

As part of our efforts to enrich K-12 education in New York, Moynihan European Research Centers sponsored the Nottingham Model United Nations’ participation in the Manlius Pebble Hill Model UN Conference on Oct. 31. 4 Nottingham students attended the Model UN Conference, representing the delegation of Sweden with Model UN advisor James Doherty. Over 100 high school students from around the Central New York region attended the conference to debate in this single day conference.

http://www.mph.net/campuslife/MUN2009.cfm
Syracuse University’s Center for European Studies announces the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship competitions for Summer 2010 and Academic Year 2010-2011 in European Studies. The Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) Program, funded by the U.S. Department of Education under Title VI, assists students in pursuing training in order to acquire a high level of competence in one or more languages critical to the national needs of the United States, and a fuller understanding of the areas, regions, or countries in which that language is commonly spoken. Eligibility is restricted to undergraduates and graduates who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents AND who are enrolled full-time in a program of study at Syracuse University that includes intensive foreign language and area studies coursework or dissertation work that is enhanced by foreign language training. Undergraduate applicants must have completed at least a year of college-level coursework in the language of study so that they are eligible to enroll at the intermediate level or above.

**SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS**

Deadline: February 12, 2010

The Center for European Studies requests applications from qualified undergraduate and graduate students for FLAS Summer Fellowships. The Center for European Studies Summer 2010 FLAS program provides for tuition up to $4,000 and a stipend of $2,500 for intensive (6 or 8 weeks) study in the United States or abroad at the intermediate or advanced level or at an approved U.S.-based language program for beginning language training. Graduate students can apply for any European language; however, undergraduates will only be funded for the study of a less commonly taught language (Spanish, French or German study will not be funded). Application, additional information and guidelines can be found at [http://www1.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/ces/Funding_Opportunities/](http://www1.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/ces/Funding_Opportunities/).

**ACADEMIC YEAR FELLOWSHIPS**

Deadline: March 12, 2010

The Center for European Studies requests applications from qualified undergraduate and graduate students who wish to enhance their knowledge of a European language to complement their current program of study. Preference will be given to those who wish to learn a less commonly taught language such as Polish, Portuguese, Turkish, Italian and Russian. Furthermore, undergraduates will only be funded for the study of a less commonly taught language (Spanish, French or German study will not be funded). Academic year fellowships consist of a scholarship of $10,000 towards the cost of tuition and $ 5,000 towards living expenses for undergraduates; graduate students receive 24 credits of tuition and a stipend of as much as $15,000. The application, additional information, and guidelines can be found at [http://www1.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/ces/Funding_Opportunities/](http://www1.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/ces/Funding_Opportunities/). All fellowships are contingent upon receipt of external funding.

Please direct all inquiries to CES Assistant Director Havva Karakas Keles, at hkarakas@maxwell.syr.edu

**FLAS FELLOWS: ACADEMIC YEAR 2009-2010**

Seven academic year fellows were selected in 2009 from a competitive pool of applicants. This year’s fellows represent a wide range of disciplines including international relations, political science, history and public administration.

Megan Glick – Turkish  
Selina Carter – Turkish  
Joshua Daley – French  
Alyson Freedman – Turkish  
Andrew Kless – Polish  
Brendan Rohr – French  
Matthew McLean – French

Starting out in college I knew right away what I wanted to study: language and everything to do with it. I knew then that I wanted to pursue a career in the international realm. What better way to surround yourself with language? The FLAS Fellowship has allowed me to excel in both advanced French language training and Maxwell’s prestigious professional training program.

Matthew McLean 2009-2010 AY FLAS