



EURO EXCHANGE

The Newsletter of the Institute for European Studies

SPRING 2018

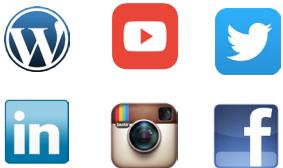
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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Brett Bowles, Director

The spring 2018 semester was full of meaningful developments for the Institute for European Studies (EURO), which continued its tradition of programming, outreach, and scholarship devoted to European politics, society, culture, and history.

Fulfilling its mission as a crossroads for interdisciplinary dialogue, EURO sponsored or co-sponsored a dozen lectures by faculty and graduate students representing units from across IU and beyond. Topics ranged from the politics of historical memory at the Second World War Museum in Gdansk, Poland (Anna Muller, University of Michigan, Dearborn) and the stunning success of the populist, right-wing Alternative fur Deutschland (AfD) party in the October 2017 German Federal Elections (Alex Baker, IUB European Studies) to musical performance as a tool for sustaining the Irish language (Lydia Cullen, IUB Folklore & Ethnomusicology); disillusionment with liberalism in post-Soviet Eastern Europe (John Feffer, Editor of Foreign Policy in Focus at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C.); Gabriel Garcia Lorca's strategies for publishing his work in interwar Spain (Melissa Dinverno, IUB Spanish & Portuguese); the theft and restitution of furniture to French Jews in the context of the Second World War (Shannon Fogg, Missouri University of Science & Technology); French Catholics' attitudes toward Resistance and Collaboration during the war (Vesna Drapac, University of Adelaide); the recent electoral victory and future of right-wing Hungarian prime minister Viktor Orban (Laszlo Borhi, Central Eurasian & Uralic Studies).

EURO's capstone event for the year was the twenty-sixth annual Midwest Model European Union (MMEU), a three-day simulation in which fifteen different colleges and universities from across the country sent delegations representing twenty-two of the twenty-eight EU member states. Supported by our ongoing Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence grant, EURO had the pleasure of welcoming keynote speaker Kerry Longhurst, Senior Research Fellow at the College of Europe in Warsaw. A specialist of the so-called "EU eastern neighborhood" countries of Moldova, Georgia, Belarus, and Ukraine, where she regularly conducts research for the European Union, Dr. Longhurst placed the recent wave of Euroskepticism in a longer-term perspective, emphasizing the EU's striking success as a peace project and as a mechanism for promoting liberal, democratic values while countering the authoritarian influence of Vladimir Putin's Russia.

In passing, Dr. Longhurst also lamented the pending departure of her native United Kingdom from the EU, predicting that "Brexit" will have a positive impact on the future stability of the EU by serving as a cautionary tale highlighting the myopic, self-destructive nature



of isolationism. Her talk was particularly well received by the 125 students in attendance, who following the lecture engaged her in a half-hour of sharply-informed questions on various EU policies and political issues.

The two most notable events this spring in European politics were by far Angela Merkel's hard-fought but in the end successful bid to form a coalition government in the wake of the German Federal Elections mentioned above and the loss of seats by the center-left to the populist right AfD. By far the longest serving prime minister in the EU, Merkel's reelection is a testament to her political acumen and skills in crisis management, one that bodes well for the stability of Germany and the EU as a whole. The second event, in quite the opposite perspective, was the landslide victory of Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, by far the most outspoken critic of the EU despite the clear economic and social benefits it has provided his country in its fourteen years of membership. As Professor Borhi noted in his lecture mentioned above, much of Orban's anti-EU rhetoric is self-serving political discourse to fan the flames of nationalism and populism, while in fact he understands and exploits the economic benefits of the subsidies provided by Brussels. For those readers interested in following the never-ending saga of EU politics, an excellent weekly overview can be found at www.euobserver.com

In our last newsletter, I lamented the end of our long-running disbursement of grants funded by the Mellon Foundation. However, thanks in part to funding provided by the Monnet Center of Excellence Grant, EURO was able once again to offer a series of faculty and graduate student travel and research awards ranging from \$500 to \$2500, as well as an undergraduate award for a research paper on a topic in European Studies.

In passing, I should also note our robust participation in outreach using distance technology. As part of the Monnet Network Grant being pursued jointly with Australian National University (Canberra) and the University of Canterbury (Christchurch, New Zealand), I developed a 45-minute, multi-media presentation titled "the European Union and the Global Migration Crisis" and delivered it to four different partner institutions including

a junior high school, two high schools, a community college, and a senior group spread across the United States.

As ever, the accomplishments outlined above would not have been possible without our team of dedicated staff and graduate assistants: Assistant Director Liese Hilgeman, Program Specialist Megan Immerzeel, and graduate assistants Rafael Macia (Maurer School of Law); Kayla MacDavitt (MA candidate in Russian and East European Institute); and Chandler Roberts (MA candidate in Art History). Thanks also go to EURO undergraduate advisor Joeline Bergonzi, whose advice was integral to the revision of our minor and certificate requirements, and to our faculty advisory board for their input on numerous matters: Hannah Buxbaum (Law), Esther Ham (EURO / Germanic Studies), Frank Hess (EURO / Modern Greek), Carl Ipsen (History), Josh Malitsky (Media School), Jon Risner (Spanish & Portuguese), and Scott Shackelford (Business).

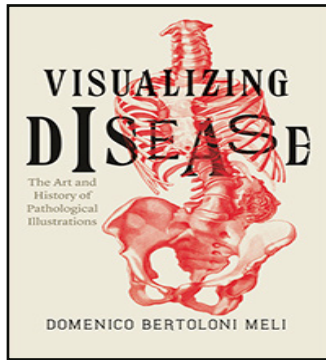
Finally, I would like to invite all our readers to keep up with us by visiting our website (www.iub.edu/-euroinst) and to help us keep up with you by emailing us your news (euroinst@indiana.edu)

With best wishes for an enjoyable summer,

Butt Bowles

Associate Professor of French Studies
Director, European Studies

Domenico Bertoloni Meli



Professor Bertoloni Meli (Department of History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine) recently published a new book, *Visualizing Disease: The Art and History of Pathological Illustrations* (U. Chicago Press, 2018), exploring key questions about the historical evolution of the visual representation of diseased states.

Fritz Breithaupt



Professor Breithaupt (Germanic Studies) has his book *Die dunklen Seiten der Empathie* (Berlin: Suhrkamp, 2017) forthcoming in English under the title *The Dark Sides of Empathy* (Cornell U. Press, 2018). The book features a chapter on Angela Merkel and the refugee situation in Germany. In addition, he was named Provost Professor this winter.

Linda Charnes



Professor Charnes (Department of English) was invited to give three lectures at the University of Padova, Italy, in June of 2017: “Shakespeare and the Orient I: Antony and Cleopatra,” “Shakespeare and the Orient II: Othello,” and “States of Exception: Othello, Elections, and the Uses of Intention.”

Frank Emmert

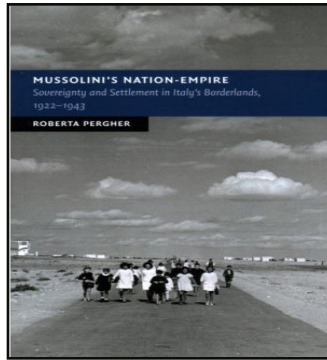


Professor Emmert (Robert H. McKinney School of Law, Indianapolis) has been teaching “European Union Law - Foundations” in the fall and “European Union Law - Doing Business in and with the Internal Market” in the spring with his book *Cases and Materials on European Union Law* (West Academic Publishing, 2015) co-authored with Roger Goebel (Fordham), Eleanor Fox (NYU), George Bermann (Columbia), Jeffrey Atik (Loyola LA), and Damien Gerard (Louvain). His article *The European Union Charter of Fundamental Rights vs. the Council of Europe Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms – a Comparison* (with Chandler Carney) was published in *Fordham Int'l Law Journal* 2017, Vol. 40, No. 4, pp. 1047-1173.

Daniel Knudsen



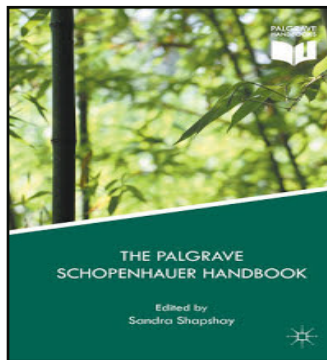
Professor Knudsen (Department of Geography) published a new piece in *Europe: Wilson, J., G. Petino & D. Knudsen, Geographic context of the Green Pistachio of Bronte, a protected designation of origin product*, *Journal of Maps*, Volume 14 Issue 2 (2018).

Roberta Pergher

Professor Pergher (Department of History) published a book last fall titled *Mussolini's Nation-Empire: Sovereignty and Settlement in Italy's Borderlands, 1927-1943* (Cambridge U. Press, 2017).

Anya Peterson Royce

Professor Royce (Department of Anthropology) was chosen for the 2018 Tracy M. Sonneborn award for Distinguished research, creative activity, and teaching. She will be the Distinguished Lecturer for the Annual meetings of the Central States Anthropology Association. Her lecture is titled "Landscapes of the In-Between: Artists Mediating Cultures." In addition, Professor Royce was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Ériu Dance Company, Ireland. She has recently published a chapter in an edited volume, *Being Curated by a Divine Force: The Forty-plus year Success of the Pilobolus Dance Theater*, in *Psycho-Cultural Analysis of Folklore*, (P. Chenna Reddy and M. Sarat Babu, eds., B R Publishing Corporation, Delhi, 2018).

Sandra Shapshay

Professor Shapshay (Department of Philosophy) recently published an edited collection titled *The Palgrave Schopenhauer Handbook* (London: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2017), as part of the series of "Palgrave Handbooks on German Idealism."

Nicolas Valazza

Professor Valazza (Department of French and Italian) has recently published three articles: *L'en-vers de la cellule* in the *Revue Verlaine*, *Maldoror, corps et sang* in the volume *Une littérature comme incantatoire*, and *L'Éditeur et le Graveur en société avec le Poète: Poulet-Malassis, Rops et Baudelaire en Belgique* in *L'Esprit créateur*.

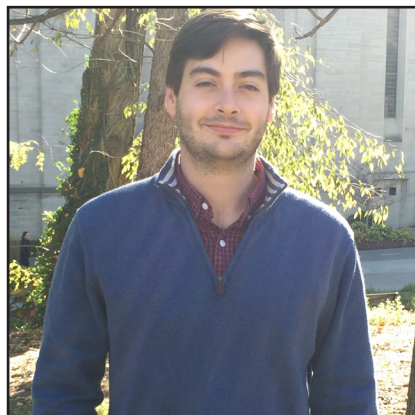
****All updates are self-reported. If you have an update you would like included in our next newsletter, please email us at euoinst@indiana.edu****

STUDENT STAFF UPDATES**Chandler Roberts - EURO Graduate Assistant**

Chandler Roberts is a first year graduate student, pursuing a dual MPA and MA in Arts Administration through the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, who plans to graduate in 2019. Chandler graduated from Marian University in Indianapolis with a BA in Art History, along with minors in Fine Arts and German. Research interests include Modern and Contemporary art and after graduation Chandler plans on working in the field of art museums and galleries.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Alex Baker



For the 2017-2018 academic year I have been studying at Free University Berlin as part of the Graduate Student Direct Exchange Program. The program is something that really caught my eye when I was looking at various Masters opportunities. I was a perfect fit for the Berlin exchange, as my specialization within Europe is Germany, having lived here for a year during my undergraduate studies. This time, I decided to come to Berlin in order to conduct research for my thesis, which deals with the political party Alternative für Deutschland (AfD) in a comparative perspective. At the same time, I have also been taking courses at the Free University. In the fall I had the opportunity to take a class titled, “European Union Foreign Policy in Action: EU Ambitions and Practice of Conflict Management.” The course was part of the EUNPACK project, which analyses EU crisis-response mechanisms and is designed to help students learn how to improve efficiency and conflict sensitivity in EU foreign policy. At this time, I am still in the process of finalizing my schedule for the current semester, but the main challenge will in fact be having to choose only a few from among all the intriguing course offerings.

Berlin has been an ideal spot to develop my research, not just because of the excellent library and academic facilities at the Free University, but also because of the possibility to engage in qualitative research I would otherwise not have been able to conduct in Bloomington. For example, I have had the opportunity to interview AfD politicians, attend AfD events, and speak with experts from the German party-based foundations and other NGOs. Additionally, I have

been able to travel to neighboring states to meet with specialists in the field.

Recently, former IU visiting professor Dr. Peter Kreko was in Berlin. He spoke about the recent Hungarian elections as part of a panel at the German Council on Foreign Relations. Dr. Kreko, with whom I took classes at IU, kindly reached out to me and invited me to attend the event, which featured a number of prominent journalists, experts, and even a surprise visit from the Hungarian ambassador. The event was not only informative, but proved to be a useful networking opportunity. Something I did not realize prior to traveling to Berlin was IU’s worldwide reputation as a top institution. I of course always knew that IU was a great school, but it is special to hear other people, from all parts of the world, recognize that as well.

In addition to my studies, Berlin has been a perfect place to pursue my passion for soccer (fußball). As mentioned earlier, I lived in Germany previously, and during that time I adopted second-tier side Union Berlin as my club. Union Berlin play their home matches in Berlin’s southwest, in the district of Köpenick. I have a season ticket for home games, but also travel with friends for many away matches, which has allowed me to visit places such as Kiel, Fürth, Bochum, and Hamburg. I believe that soccer is an excellent way to learn about culture, history, and society, particularly in a place like Berlin.

My plan upon returning from Germany is to continue my academic career and pursue a PhD. I have no doubt that my experiences here in Berlin, and my EURO MA, will help me realize that goal.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Hannah Buxbaum

By Rafael Macia

Hannah Buxbaum, Professor of Law and John E. Schiller Chair in Legal Ethics at the IU Maurer School of Law, is about to embark on an exciting new journey as part of her career with Indiana University. After roughly twenty years of teaching law, she was recently appointed to serve as the University's Vice President for International Affairs (VP/IA), a role she will be taking over later this summer. Leaving behind her academic focus in order to work full time as a University administrator will certainly entail a significant shift in her career, but Professor Buxbaum is no stranger to senior administration. Among other things, she served as Interim Dean of the law school for over two years, and she is currently the Academic Director of the IU Europe Gateway Office.

Naturally, having dedicated her life to academia, Professor Buxbaum feels that she will miss being a full-time scholar and instructor, especially given her love for teaching. Indeed, being a professor is her vocation, and she knew from the very beginning that she wanted to go into an academic career: as she puts it, although her mother was a lawyer, her father was a professor, so she has always been well aware about which of the two worlds she would be happiest in. Thus, even though she practiced law for a few years after finishing her education, she did so with an eye towards building her experience and better preparing for an academic future. After her tenure as a practitioner, she came to Bloomington to teach law, and has been doing so ever since. Nevertheless, she is looking forward to the new stage in her professional development as a welcome opportunity to involve herself even more deeply in the life of the University, and, particularly, in its international component.



In fact, as Professor Buxbaum herself admits, the only full-time administrative position she could have considered taking is one related to international affairs, that being an aspect she feels passionate about. A cosmopolitan by rearing, having been born in Germany, raised in Berkeley, and holding dual U.S.-German citizenship, Professor Buxbaum conducted her education in both countries, obtaining her Bachelors and J.D. from Cornell along with an LLM from Heidelberg. After finishing her studies, she worked on international securities transactions at a law firm in both New York and Frankfurt before finally settling down in Indiana, where she has nonetheless retained her international orientation. Her research focuses on jurisdictional conflicts in international economic regulation, and she teaches private international law and international business transactions, among other courses. Even at a personal level she is endeavoring to expand her international culture by means of language learning. Already bilingual in English and German, and with a good knowledge of French, she has recently begun to take Spanish through the IU language program. She finds it really exciting to be studying alongside a group of undergrads, participating in the lessons (and in the homework) with the

other students, and learning quite a bit in the process (she gives a special shout-out to her instructor, Andrea Carrillo!).

Perhaps the most important aspect of Professor Buxbaum's international focus here at IU, however, has been her work with the Europe Gateway. In her role as Academic Director, serving as the Bloomington counterpart to the office director in Berlin, she has had the opportunity to engage with scholars and institutions from all over Europe, and she has travelled to several parts of the continent in order to represent IU in its endeavor to expand its international connections. The Gateway program, a relatively new initiative from President McRobbie, facilitates some truly exciting cross-border collaborative research, and serves as a symbol of IU's commitment to these kinds of international interactions so enriching for the life of an academic institution. Professor Buxbaum's work with the Europe office has made her familiar with much of the University's global projection, including IU's European study-abroad programs, and has allowed her to work closely with the people at OVPIA whose direction she will be assuming soon.

Overall, Professor Buxbaum is glad to work at a place that holds such a deep institutional commitment to all things international, a commitment that is shared by both the university's President and its Provost. She similarly appreciates the opportunity to live in a town with a significant international component, both in terms of people and of culture. Indeed, Professor Buxbaum believes that culture is generally more accessible in Bloomington than it is in many larger cities, given the combination of its small-town nature and its wide array of cultural offerings. Music in particular is something that she holds very dear, and

“Faculty Spotlight: Hannah Buxbaum” - Continued

having the Jacobs School in town is a blessing for her. Having grown up playing the piano and the cello, she loves being able to attend weekly performances by some of the most talented musicians in the country, and she is especially thankful about the fact that her children have grown up surrounded by such an amazing degree of exposure to culture and art.

In the end, Professor Buxbaum feels that she gets the best of both worlds, getting to enjoy Bloomington’s small-town feel while being able to live a cos-

mopolitan life through her work and her research. After all, she considers her international orientation to be one of the most important traits in her professional and personal life. And it is precisely for that reason that she is so excited to start her new role as VPIA. From EURO, we would like to congratulate Professor Buxbaum on her appointment, and to thank her for having been such a supportive member of the EURO Advisory Board for the last number of years.

EURO HOSTS 26th MIDWEST MODEL EU

By Rafael Macia

In early April, the Institute for European Studies was proud to host the 26th edition of the Midwest Model European Union (MMEU). The MMEU is the second oldest intercollegiate simulation of the EU in North America. Participating colleges send delegations of 7 members each, representing the 28 EU member states. Over a period of 48 hours, they meet in formal and informal sessions as the European Council, the European Commission, and several different councils of ministers.

From Thursday afternoon through Saturday afternoon, students introduce, discuss, and reach decisions on EU policy. National leaders provide overall direction, ministers huddle to work out the details of policy, commissioners and their directors-general try to give new direction to foreign and security policy, the single market, eastward enlargement, and the development of the euro, and emergency joint meetings are held to break impasses.



This year’s MMEU, held in the IU Bloomington campus, was a resounding success. With 14 participating schools (some of them fielding more than one delegation), a diverse array of students had the opportunity to experience the inner workings of a supranational institution and learn first hand how to navigate the complex environment of high-stakes policy negotiations. The event took place in an atmosphere of professionalism and hard work, as participants took their roles seriously and endeavored to recreate the level of intensity that one would expect of discussions aiming to shape the future of an entire continent. From the very beginning, the students demonstrated their preparation through their active engagement with keynote speaker Dr. Kerry Longhurst (Jean Monnet Professor at Collegium Civitas and senior Researcher at the College of Europe) following her opening remarks, and that same level of engagement carried over into the remainder of the event as each group of delegates began work on their assigned roles.

As in other years, towards the end of the simulation the participants in each of the simulated EU bodies voted to decide what delegation had performed best in their role, once the work of that body had come to a conclusion on Saturday. Although there were many tight vote counts, Iowa State finally emerged as the overall winner, and we at EURO would like to congratulate them for their fantastic performance, as well as all the other schools that gave out their best to make of this year’s MMEU a fantastic experience. We are already looking forward to the next edition of the event in the Spring of 2019!



* If you would like to learn more about the Midwest Model EU please visit: <https://euro.indiana.edu/news-events/mmeu/index.html> *

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Jeff Heerdink

By Rafael Macia

Jeff Heerdink, 2016 MA graduate in European Studies through EURO, is now serving as Director of International Experiences and Undergraduate Grants at IU's Hutton Honors College, a position he was promoted to this last February. His promotion is certainly justified once one looks at his impressive resume, especially regarding all aspects related to international education. Jeff's own educational path has always taken an international orientation. His international-studies major at IU centered both on German and on East Asian Studies, and he eventually chose to make Europe his main area of focus. That choice led him to enroll in the European Studies MA, to which he was attracted because of its area studies component: it was one of the few programs that allowed him to gain specialized knowledge on a particular region without focusing exclusively on language/literature or on the social sciences. During his tenure as a EURO MA student, Jeff travelled to Berlin for a study abroad program, and it was actually while in the German capital that he switched focus from Germany to the Netherlands, based on his constant interactions with Dutch students there as well as on his own Dutch heritage.

It was also during that time that Jeff's profound interest on education as a potential career path took off, and he started taking courses at IU's School of Education. He would eventually go on to obtain a Masters in International and Comparative Education. Simultaneously, he had also been part of the staff at the Honors College since September 2014, working on study-abroad grants for undergraduate students. When Jeff presented Dean Andrea



Ciccarelli with the idea of setting up Hutton's own study abroad program, the Dean immediately became captivated with the prospect, and placed Jeff in charge of putting the program together. Jeff now accordingly directs the entirety of Hutton's grant program along with the Honors College's new international component.

After an initial call for proposals for the Hutton study abroad program, five international programs are now in the plans for the coming years, the first one taking place this very summer. This initial program will take students to The Hague for the purpose of studying the impact of World War II in the Netherlands. As many as twenty students will participate in the trip, which will last four weeks and which will be joined by Jeff as the student services director. He will be in charge of all the logistical aspects of the program, for which his fluency in Dutch should be immensely helpful. Professor Esther Ham, in turn (featured as the faculty spotlight in EURO's Fall 2017 Newsletter), will run the academic side of things, in what will surely be an exciting learning experience for the participating students.

Beyond this summer, however, there are already three programs planned for next year (China, France, and Ghana), as well as one in Germany for the year after. Some of these will in fact consist of semester-long courses based in Bloomington with weeklong trips to the relevant countries of focus (we should note, though, that all of these programs are still in a "tentative" phase). In addition, the Honors College is also implementing, on Jeff's initiative, a cultural series for those students who do not travel abroad, which will hopefully expose them to many of the benefits of international cultural learning without as much as having to leave the university campus.

Despite the success of his proposals and the significant progress towards their implementation, however, Jeff is already looking forward to future ways in which to expand Hutton's international projection. For starters, he would like to see the study abroad program broaden its geographic scope to cover areas not yet included in it, such as Latin America, South-East Asia, or Oceania. He would also love to some day see a stable exchange program put in place, or even a partnership with some other honors college abroad to give students the opportunity to spend longer periods of time studying in a foreign country. After all, Jeff himself knows well the value of international experience in the process of one's own formation. During the period of his college and graduate education, he participated in no less than ten study abroad programs of different durations. Beyond his already-mentioned stay in Germany (where he actually lived twice), he has also been to Austria,

“Alumni Spotlight: Jeff Heerdink” - Continued

Turkey, Belgium, Portugal, Japan (where he spent an entire semester) and Korea (where he spent two summers). He also got to enjoy a study tour through Germany (yet again), the Czech Republic, and Poland. These opportunities helped him expand, not only his global culture, but also his language skills: being fluent in Dutch and German, he has also studied Turkish, Portuguese, Japanese, Korean, and Chinese.

Considering his background, then, Jeff is undoubtedly the ideal person to be taking over the direction of Hutton’s newborn study abroad program. Not only is he well prepared by his own experience to guide the program’s development and the students’ participation in it; he is also passionate about doing so. So much so, that in his job he not only manages the Honor College’s own international programs, but also tries to serve as a sort of hub to help students generally interested in international learning, be it through Hutton’s or through some other department’s study abroad opportunities. After all, in an institution as big as IU, it can otherwise be difficult to realize all the possibilities at hand without the help of some knowledgeable figure.

In the end, what matters for Jeff is the educational and international work he is able to conduct as part of his job, and he sees himself working in the administrative and policy side of higher education in the long term; although he has not discarded the idea of getting a PhD at some point, and maybe teaching a class or two in the future. Eventually, he might even consider moving abroad to continue his work in education policy. But, as Jeff himself admits, every time he has thought he might be leaving Bloomington, IU managed to find some way (his masters, his job) to keep him around. Hopefully, that will remain true for a long time to come!

Find out more about the Hutton International Experience Program at <https://hiep.indiana.edu>

19th Biannual Interdisciplinary Conference on Netherlandic Studies: “The Changing Lowlands”

(American Association for Netherlandic Studies)

June 1 - 2, 2018

IU Bloomington
Global & International Studies Building



School of Global and International Studies
&
Institute for European Studies

<https://euro.indiana.edu/news-events/icns-conference/index.html>

HIGHLIGHT FROM THE EURO BLOG

France and the Power of Art in Diplomacy

By Chandler Roberts



On April 8th, France's president Emmanuel Macron culminated a diplomatic visit with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman (MBS) by taking him on a private tour of the Louvre's Eugene Delacroix retrospective. The retrospective, the first in half a century, is one of the more significant art exhibitions of the year in Paris, and it makes for an interesting choice to end this diplomatic visit. Macron and MBS furthermore enjoyed a private dinner in the museum and talked for over two hours, although the content of this discussion is unknown as the entire museum was closed for the visit. The choice to visit the museum and have pictures taken of them in front of Delacroix's most famous painting, *Liberty Leading the People*, is just the latest move in a pattern of President Macron using cultural diplomacy to engage with the Middle East.

Last November, the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) opened the billion-dollar Louvre Abu Dhabi, which was the product of a decade long partnership with France and the Louvre, the latter having a 30 year and half a billion dollar agreement with the museum. Macron, along with top officials from France and the U.A.E., was there for the grand opening of the museum on November 8th. Soon after that, the record-shattering *Salvator Mundi*, by Leonardo da Vinci, was bought by MBS for \$450 million, and it was subsequently announced that the painting would be headed to the Louvre Abu Dhabi.

This acquisition, along with a number of other cultural initiatives on the part of MBS, has shown that the Saudis are also intent on using cultural diplomacy to further their goals. During MBS's visit to Paris, he signed an agreement with France to develop the Al-Ula region, along with the UNESCO world heritage site of Mada'in Saleh, into a cultural-tourism destination. While Saudi Arabia will be financing the entirety of the \$20 billion project, France will provide support in crafting blueprints for the museum complex that will be three times as large as the Louvre Abu Dhabi, as well as in planning for conservation, transportation, infrastructure, hotels, and training. In addition, Campus France has created a \$150 million deal for education and training in Saudi Arabia.



Chandler Roberts' "France and the Power of Art in Diplomacy" - Continued

Smaller initiatives between France and Saudi Arabia have also developed over the past few months, with plans for Saudi films to enter the Cannes Film Festival for the first time, in addition to the Paris Opera agreeing to help develop a national orchestra and opera in Saudi Arabia. It is evident that President Macron has, along with cultural leaders throughout France like Louvre director Jean-Luc Martinez, a clear plan to strengthen relations with Saudi Arabia and its allies, while simultaneously ensuring that France has a strong presence in the Middle East and the world stage.

While France has shown a strong commitment to working with the Saudis, it has not limited itself to just Saudi Arabia. The Louvre has partnered with Iran and secured a four-year agreement that includes archeological projects as well as exhibitions. This agreement is the first of its kind, as the Louvre was the first major institution to start working with Iran after the lifting of sanctions and embargoes in 2016. In March, an exhibition of works from the Louvre's collection, titled *The Louvre in Tehran*, opened in the National Museum of Iran in Tehran. In addition, an exhibition on Iran's Qajar Dynasty began at the Louvre-Lens in northern France. This agreement is a remarkable change from 2011, when Iran had cut off all cultural ties with France over a dispute in which Iran claimed the Louvre failed to follow-through on an exhibition.

Additionally, the Louvre is present in 75 countries around the world and is planning exhibitions in Sudan, Uzbekistan and Bulgaria. It has widespread training programs and archeological projects in many of these countries and continues to expand. Martinez has shown a commitment to cultural diplomacy and to the influence he is able to wield in his position as director of the Louvre. He recently said in an interview that "the Louvre's operations overseas contribute to France's international outreach and, yes, the museum must take into account the government's priorities and foreign policies." With statements like this, in conjunction with the actions of President Macron, it is clear that art and culture have become successful and central tools in France's foreign policy toolkit.

Sources:

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<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/france-to-help-build-a-new-petra-in-saudi-arabia-with-estimated-usd20bn-development-deal>



For more news and commentary on Europe from the IU community, read the latest blog post at:

<https://iuwest.wordpress.com> or <https://euro.indiana.edu/news-events/blog.html>

GRADUATE PRESENTATION: LYDIA CULLEN

"Music as a Tool for Language Sustainability in Ireland"

By Chandler Roberts

On March 7th EURO hosted Lydia Cullen, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Folklore & Ethnomusicology, who gave a presentation titled "Music as a Tool for Language Sustainability in Ireland." Cullen, who received a EURO travel grant last year, attended an intensive Irish language program in Ireland during the summer of 2017. During her time there she met and studied with Irish musicians who performed in the sean-nós, or "old style", form of traditional Irish music.

Her presentation focused on how music, especially the sean-nós music, is being used by musicians, linguists and teachers to make the Irish language more approachable and easier to learn, in an effort to ensure the continued existence of this language. She highlighted the traditional music of her language program as well as more unorthodox approaches like that of the TG Lurgan School, which creates YouTube videos of their students singing pop music in Irish.

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EURO LECTURE SERIES HIGHLIGHT: SHANNON FOGG

“Reconstructing Jewish Lives in 20th Century France”

By Kayla MacDavitt



On April 18, Shannon Fogg (Professor and Chair of the Department of History and Political Science at Missouri University of Science and Technology) presented a talk at EURO about topics from her new book, *Stealing Home: Looting, Restitution and Reconstructing Jewish Lives in France, 1942-1947*. Her book explores the meaning of home, and the role it played in the reconstruction of Jewish lives, by looking into the looting and restoration of private property in the context of Nazi occupation.

Dr. Fogg began the talk by discussing the memoir of a young Jewish girl who, returning home after the World War II, found her family dwelling to be stripped of all its belongings. This loss of material and memorabilia represented the physical and emotional displacement of Jews in France during the period. After the war, housing shortages only added to the struggles of people seeking to rebuild their lives and homes.

Dr. Fogg discussed the war period mainly by focusing on the Nazi furniture operation and its effects. This operation was the systematic looting of uninhabited Jewish homes in France during occupation. At the start of the war, Paris accounted for two-thirds of Jews in France, many of whom fled the capital after the invasion in 1940. Those who fled were not allowed to return, leaving behind many uninhabited homes. Then, in 1941, Hitler approved the “looting” of these uninhabited Jewish homes, under the logic that the owners would no longer have use for the contents or space. The uninhabited homes’ contents were packaged and shipped as a set to Germany, and the sets were classified by class and apartment size so that German citizens could replace items in their damaged or destroyed homes according to their own class and apartment size. In 1944, when the furniture operation ended, around 38,000 apartments had been emptied and 674 trainloads of goods had been sent to Germany.

Dr. Fogg then examined the impact these material losses had on the French following the war, and especially on Jews. Many Jews remained in camps after the conflict because their homes and belongings were gone and they had no means to live by nor work to come back to. Under the new republican government, the lack of available housing and loss of material items was high on the agenda. A restitution law in 1944 ordained that original occupants could request their return to their old homes if they had “been forced to leave without consent.” Nevertheless, under the terms of the law the subsequent occupants could not be removed if they were bombing victims, POWs, evacuees, soldiers, or spouses or close relatives of a soldier. Dr. Fogg emphasized that this list of exceptions amounted to almost everyone after the war. This led to massive overcrowding while many looked for a permanent housing, as those who did have a house often had multiple people to a room, and some did not have access to hot water. The home was no longer a personal or social dwelling, and became simply a shelter.

Along with trying to get people back into homes, in January 1945, the provisional government passed the Restitution Services of Goods of Victims in order to return personal possessions to their rightful owners. This, however, was especially difficult because the Germans, who usually kept detailed records, kept none for the goods taken from private homes. For those who sought to retrieve their items, the government required a detailed inventory certified by a witness or landlord and stamped by the police. But even among those who met these requirements, few returns were authorized: out of thousands of letters and inventories, only 200 pieces of furniture were ever actually returned.

Dr. Fogg described how the letters that accompanied inventories reflected differences in treatment between foreign and French, as well more traditional gendered norms. Men usually submitted the paperwork highlighting either their maleness or French-ness and often described their fighting or resistance in order to receive a preferential treatment. Widows or unmarried women emphasized their male family members, especially if they were deportees or soldiers. One common factor was the lack of references to the informal, more emotional word for home, foyer. Claimants tended to use the more formal term, maison, reflecting the fact that “home” no longer held the same intimate meaning it had held in the past. This was especially the case with Jews, for whom home and belongings had oftentimes become a trap during the war. After the war, they had to rediscover what “home” meant. Many of those who returned to their pre-war apartments saw only emptiness, and were provided with only bare necessities. The loss of memorabilia was often described as more painful than the loss of materials, and the initial return home became a reminder of all that had been lost.

For more information on Dr. Fogg’s book, please visit

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/stealing-home-9780198787129?cc=us&lang=en&>

EURO'S Annual Valentine's Day Bake-Off



On February 14th, EURO held its Annual Valentine's Day Bake-Off.

Special thanks to our judges:
Brett Bowles, Sarah Philips, and Emily Stern

This year's winners:
First Place: Liese Hilgeman
Second Place: Chandler Roberts
Third Place: Megan Immerzeel

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