The EUCE/ESC Reflects on the Fall of the Berlin Wall: 20 Years Later

by Julie Draper, Editor, EUCE/ESC Newsletter

November 9, 2009 marked the twentieth anniversary of a pivotal moment in European history: the fall of the Berlin Wall dividing East and West Germany. In partnership with the Center for Russian and East European Studies, the Department of German, the Department of History, and the University Center for International Studies, the European Union Center of Excellence and European Studies Center (EUCE/ESC) sponsored a series of events during the fall of 2009 to commemorate and reflect upon the fall of the Wall and its significant impact on the world political landscape.

The commemoration began with a lecture on October 6th by Dr. Martin Sabrow titled “Turning Point or Revolution? Remembering 1989 in United Germany.” As Director of the Center for Research on Contemporary History (Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung – ZZF) in Potsdam, Germany, and Professor of Contemporary History at Humboldt University of Berlin, Dr. Sabrow is one of the leading specialists of the history and memory of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the Weimar Republic.

The events also included a film series during late October and early November. The first film was *Behind The Wall: Perfectly Normal Lives in the GDR?*, a documentary that explores German history and identity by examining the lives of ordinary people living in the GDR between the Wall’s 1961 construction and the tumultuous time prior to its fall in 1989. The second film, *Good Bye Lenin*, is a comedy drama about a German youth who tries to keep the fall of the Berlin Wall and the GDR a secret from his mother who just awoke from a coma. The last film *After the Fall* considered the impact of the Wall on the lives of individuals connected with it and the danger of forgetting its existence.

Also in early November, freelance Berlin photographer Norbert Wiesneth presented a series of photographs titled “Interior Monologues.” These photographs were taken at the former central state prison of the intelligence service of the GDR in Hohenschoenhausen, Berlin. Wiesneth received the IBB Award for Photography in 2007 and was recently named a member of the German Academy of Photography.

This series of events culminated in a symposium titled “Reflections on the Fall of the Berlin Wall: 20 Years Later,” which brought together scholars and practitioners from a variety of disciplines and fields to offer reflections on the fall of the Wall and its broader implications. Presenters included: Dr. Alberta Sbragia, Director, European Union Center of Excellence and European Studies Center; Dr. Robert Hayden, Director, Center for Russian and East European Studies; Dr. Julia Gray, Professor, Department of Political Science; Dr. Jonathan Harris, Professor, Department of Political Science; Dr. Arpad von Klimo, DAAD Professor, Department of History; Dr. Sabine Von Dirke, Professor, Department of German; and Mr. David Shribman, Executive Editor for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

As 2009 draws to a close, this expanded issue of the EUCE/ESC newsletter is a continuation of that commemoration, offering some additional reflections and resources specifically concerning the fall of the Wall, as well as a variety of other pieces that tell the stories of German-born Fred Bruhns, German exchange student Florian Rieger, and American student William T. Daniel studying the German language.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 12
European Colloquium Lecture:
“Religion Unbound: Converting Transnational Communities in America and the Habsburg Empire, 1890-1914”
Joel Brady, Department of Religious Studies, University of Pittsburgh. 3:00 p.m., 3703 Posvar Hall. For more information, please contact Irina Livezeanu at irinal@pitt.edu.

Faculty, Student, and Alumni News

NOTE TO EUCE/ESC AFFILIATED FACULTY, STUDENTS, & ALUMNI:
Please keep us informed about your professional achievements pertaining to the study of the EU and Europe. Send news of awards, grants, publications, job appointments, etc., to the newsletter editor at eucnews@pitt.edu.

Congratulations DAAD Graduate Study Scholarship Recipients
Current University of Pittsburgh students Brianne Cohen, Harrison Grafos, and Alexandra Newton were recently announced as recipients of the 2009-2010 German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Graduate Study Scholarships. DAAD Study Scholarships provide highly qualified graduate students with an opportunity to conduct independent study in Germany or to complete a full Master's degree program at a German university. For the full announcement, please visit www.daad.org/?p=winners09.

Coming in January...
The EUCE/ESC newsletter turns the spotlight on Turkey with articles examining its new activist foreign policy, the extent to which NGOs act as agents of Europeanization, and the predicament of Bulgarian Turks as an internally fragmented ethnic minority.

Congratulations to “The Berlin Wall and the Fall of Communism in Europe, 1989-2009: Myths and Realities” Undergraduate Essay Contest Winners

In conjunction with University of Pittsburgh events commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the EUCE/ESC and the Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES) co-sponsored an undergraduate essay contest on the topic “The Berlin Wall and the Fall of Communism in Europe, 1989-2009: Myths and Realities.” All of the students who entered wrote three to five page papers addressing the myths and realities surrounding the infamous wall and the fall of Communism in Europe.

Winners of the contest were as follows:

First Place, $300—Krista Williams
Second Place, $200—Alex Russell
Third Place, $100—Ravi Patel

The prizes were announced at the closing reception of an interdisciplinary symposium on November 5th featuring University of Pittsburgh faculty and other professional colleagues in a day-long exchange concerning the issues and events leading up to the destruction of the wall in 1989. Congratulations once more to the winners and thanks to all who participated and helped to make these events a success!

Alumni Publication:
EU Integration with North Africa
Carl Dawson published a book this year titled EU Integration with North Africa: Trade Negotiations and Democracy Deficits in Morocco. This book analyzes the process by which a sub-optimal agreement between the EU and North Africa was ratified despite being unfavorable both to Morocco and to EU economic development objectives for North Africa. Dawson earned his PhD in public and international affairs at the University of Pittsburgh in 2007.
Nineteen eighty-nine began with Europe divided, as it had been since the end of World War II. More than one hundred million people lived in states dominated by the Soviet Union and national communist parties of East Europe. Václav Havel, a renowned playwright and proponent of human rights, languished in jail in Czechoslovakia; Nicolae Ceausescu and Todor Zhivkov were in their third and fourth decades of tyrannical rule in Romania and Bulgaria, respectively. And in Germany a 12-foot high wall cutting through and around the city of Berlin symbolized most poignantly the real and symbolic division of the continent.

By the end of the year Václav Havel was president of Czechoslovakia, dictatorships from the Balkans to the Baltic Sea were overturned, and the people of East Europe, having regained their sovereignty, began the task of building democracies and free economies. The opening of the Berlin Wall on the night of November 9, 1989 was emblematic of the end of the separation of Europe.

Apart from the breathtaking speed and scope of these events, several features make them remarkable. First, while analysts and political actors had noted the deficiencies of communist regimes, their nearly simultaneous fall in East Europe was unexpected. Previous challenges usually had been confined to a single country. This time, the demonstrations and societal demands were infectious—and the results sped from the replacement of the communist prime minister in Poland at the end of August to the execution of Nicolae Ceausescu in Romania on Christmas Day.

In addition, with the exception of Romania, the revolutionary changes were nonviolent. The regimes were challenged not by foreign armies, but by their own peoples, convinced that the governing doctrines of the past forty years had brought not liberation but repression.

But the upheaval went beyond mere dissatisfaction with failed policies. These events also demonstrated the importance of governing legitimacy, the idea that governments have the right—not just the power—to rule. From the beginning, East Europeans viewed local communist rulers not as “theirs” but rather as the product of Soviet domination. When Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader who had been pushing reform in his own country, removed the threat of intervention, the derivative regimes of East Europe were swept away.

Two other factors made possible the end of communism and the fall of the Berlin Wall. One was the spread of information, both about the West and about the real situation in East Europe. Knowledge about the how West Europeans and Americans were governed, and how they lived, enhanced the appeal of alternative models. While notions of democracy and freedom in East Europe may not have been fully specified, the knowledge that these concepts worked elsewhere proved a powerful motive.

None of this would have mattered had the people of the region not shown the courage and vision to seize the moment, to recognize that their time had come to undertake the tasks of both tearing down—as they did the Berlin Wall in 1989—and building up—as they do now every day in newly democratic societies.
The Fall of the Berlin Wall and German Reunification: Online Resources for Further Research

The following list of web resources concerning the fall of the Berlin Wall and German reunification was compiled by Dr. Phillip Wilkin, bibliographer of West European Studies in the University Library System (ULS) at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Wilkin has also developed the Archive of European Integration (AEI). The AEI is an electronic repository and archive for research materials on the topic of European integration and unification. The AEI collects two types of materials: certain types of independently-produced research materials and official European Community/European Union documents. The ULS also holds the European Union Delegation Collection, a virtually complete collection of all official publications and documents produced by the European Economic Community/European Community/European Union from the early 1950s to 2004.

The Library Research Advisor represents another resource for University of Pittsburgh students writing a paper on any topic related to Western Europe or the EU. The advisor can help with assessing the feasibility of the research paper, as well as with locating primary documents and secondary literature. For more information, please visit www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/students/advisor/index.html.

Websites

“1989-2009-Europe Whole and Free - 20th Anniversary of the Fall of the Iron Curtain” - Official EU website

German Unification Case Study by Foothill College
http://www.foothill.fhda.edu/divisions/unification/

“The Berlin Wall: 20 years on” by newspaper The Guardian

Free Technology for Teachers video on fall of Berlin wall

“Berlin remembers fall of the wall” - BBC video
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/8349742.stm

Berlin Wall - Wikipedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Berlin_Wall

Documents

http://aei.pitt.edu/2931/

The Impact of German Unification on the European Community.
http://aei.pitt.edu/4899/


http://aei.pitt.edu/5199/

http://aei.pitt.edu/2931/

http://aei.pitt.edu/2931/

http://aei.pitt.edu/3608/

http://aei.pitt.edu/4636/

http://aei.pitt.edu/7173/
The Domino Action: A Collective Artistic Performance to Celebrate the 20-year Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

The following announcement and photos are courtesy of the European Commission Audiovisual Service.

The European Commission sponsored the Domino Action to involve young students of the Brussels Art School Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Visuels de la Cambre (ENSAV) in the commemoration day of the 20-year anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. On November 7th, more than a thousand of these dominoes formed a two kilometer long gallery along the original route of the Berlin Wall, between the Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate and the Potsdamer Platz. On November 9th, artists, politicians, and representatives of the cultural community toppled dominoes for a collective performance symbolizing both the fall of the barriers and the Wall. ♦

Above: Close-up of one domino; Left: Thomas Ferrando at work; Below: European Commission President José Manuel Barroso poses with a giant domino and the pupils of the school of Etterbeek.

EUCE/ESC European Policy Paper Series
The EUCE/ESC provides opportunities for presenting research through the Policy Paper Series and Working Papers Series. The most recent paper in the series is “Air Transport and the EU’s Emissions Trading Scheme,” by Martin Staniland, Professor and International Affairs Division Director, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, June 2009. To read the paper, please visit: www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/pub/policypapers/2009-Air Transport Emissions.pdf.

EU Bookshop Digital Library Launched
12 million scanned pages in more than 110,000 EU publications are now available free of charge for download in the new EU Bookshop Digital Library. For more information, please visit: www.bookshop.europa.eu/eubookshop/index.action?request_locale=EN.

EU Focus and EU Insight Newsletters
New informational newsletters are available from the Delegation of the European Commission to the U.S. Please take one from the current EUCE/ESC literature display or see a staff member for copies.

EUSA Review
The European Union Studies Association (EUSA) is the premier scholarly and professional organization focusing on the EU, the ongoing integration process, and transatlantic relations. The fall 2009 EUSA Review is now available for downloading in .html and .pdf version at www.eustudies.org.

Research in Germany.de Launches New Newsletter
The Internet portal "Research in Germany" now offers a bimonthly newsletter reporting on projects and research opportunities for cooperation and cutting-edge developments in the fields of high-tech strategy in Germany. Check out the portal at www.research-in-germany.de. Subscribe to the newsletter at www.research-in-germany.de/newsletter.

Sciences Po Newsletter
The latest edition of the Sciences Po International Affairs Division (DAIE) monthly newsletter is now available at international.sciences-po.fr/globalhorizons/nltrDAIEsept09.pdf. Comments and suggestions are welcome and can be submitted to bulletin.daie@sciences-po.fr.
Fred Bruhns was a remarkable man. Many of you in this audience did not have a chance to know him, but he was truly a remarkable man. In many ways, he was an exemplar of the Greatest Generation. That generation fought World War II and then powered the U.S. economy toward an affluence that could hardly have been imagined in the pre-war period. It was also very unassuming and matter of fact as if defeating Hitler’s armies was something that was in the end rather ordinary because it simply had to be done.

Fred was seventeen years old when Hitler came to power. He joined the German resistance which brought together social democrats, church people, leftists, those on the right, and Catholics. They published banned anti-Nazi literature. Fred was caught, arrested, and became a political prisoner. He was sentenced to two years of prison for high treason. After he had served his term, he was able to sneak out of Germany illegally in 1938 and flee to Switzerland. France granted him asylum and official recognition as a political refugee. He applied for an American visa right before war broke out.

When his visa came through, he left Marseilles in March 1941. Remember that the U.S. entered the war after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941—the war in Europe had been going on for two years before the U.S. entered it. While Fred had not been allowed to fight Hitler’s armies in France, he was allowed to fight them in the U.S. Army. As Fred put it, “Freedom is the most important thing in my life, and I had to fight for mine.” Fred served in the U.S. Army from January 1942 until January 1946. For two of those years he fought with the Fifth Army in Italy. When he returned from Europe, he received his degree from Ohio State University—and met Maxine. They began what came to be an extraordinary life together.

Fred exemplified international studies and the study of international affairs. He worked for five years with the United Nations, including a stint as the diplomatic representative for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. He worked for the State Department for ten years, first as a refugee specialist in South Vietnam, resettling refugees from North Vietnam, and later as a program officer in Cambodia, Iran, and Gabon. He received his Master’s degree in sociology from Stanford and his PhD from the University of Pittsburgh in 1969.

Maxine accompanied him as he worked around the world. When they came to Pittsburgh in 1965, she accepted a part-time position in the Nationality Rooms Program. The rest is history. She and Fred became an integral part of Pitt’s history as he became a Professor in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) and she became the Director of the Nationality Rooms.

I did not know Fred Bruhns while he was a professor in GSPIA. I met him after one of my colleagues in the political science department told me that someone had called there searching for me. When I finally got the number and called him back, he said he would like to have lunch with me, and we went to the University Club as it was then. We had a fascinating lunch as Fred was an extraordinarily accomplished and interesting person. We talked widely about international affairs, the European Union, and the EU Center. He then told me that he wanted to give the European Union Center an endowment—I was floored as I had absolutely no idea that this was being thought about by anyone.

Fred believed passionately in the European Union. He firmly believed that the success or failure of the EU is the most important issue for the Western world in the twenty-first

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century. For him, that fact that we have abandoned ideologies expressed by people like Hitler, Lenin, and Marx—which led to Nazism and Communism—represented the twentieth century’s most important accomplishment. Fred viewed the EU, for its part, as representing the possibility that European nations which had fought each other in innumerable bloody wars could finally—and permanently—work together and move forward together.

For Fred, peace in Europe—the EU—enhanced American security. Lower EU conflict would result in lower American conflict, since the U.S. had fought in two European wars. The EU Center, he believed, would help Americans understand how the EU benefits American trade, commerce, and politics. In his words, because of the EU, “mothers’ sons won’t have to go to war,” and the EU Center would help students understand its historic importance both to Europe and more generally to international affairs writ large.

It seems very fitting that we are unveiling this portrait the week after Commission President Barroso received an honorary degree from the University of Pittsburgh. I only wish that Fred could have been at the ceremony as he would have cherished every minute of it. That event brought together so many strands of Fred’s life—his childhood, his Pitt connections, his extraordinary life with Maxine, the EU Center which now has been designated by the European Commission as an EU Center of Excellence, and the graduate students whom he spent his life in Pittsburgh teaching.

Fred Bruhns, Dr. Fred Bruhns, was an extraordinary man with vision, a profound sense of history and of how history shapes the present, and a love for the University of Pittsburgh. His life with Maxine gave him tremendous pleasure, and I am so delighted that she is here with us to witness this unveiling. The European Union Center of Excellence will be forever in his debt, as will the many students which his endowment will allow the Center to educate about one of the most remarkable and historic achievements in the world of international affairs. Professor Fred Bruhns, on behalf of the generations of students and faculty whom your legacy will support, I thank you.

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A Letter from Augsburg: “My Experiences at the University of Pittsburgh”

A graduate student of philosophy at the University of Augsburg, Germany, Florian Rieger came to the University of Pittsburgh for the 2008-2009 academic year with the support of UCIS. In the following letter, he reflects upon his experiences studying and living in Pittsburgh.

My name is Florian Rieger. I am a twenty-six year old philosophy student from the University of Augsburg (Germany), and I have spent the last year (from September 2008 until April 2009) in Pittsburgh in order to study philosophy as a non-degree visiting graduate student at the renowned Department of Philosophy at the University of Pittsburgh. It all began in October 2007, when I first heard of a special partnership between the two universities in Augsburg and Pittsburgh and that by means of this collaboration a tuition-free scholarship is granted each year to one student from the University of Augsburg to study in Pittsburgh. I applied for the scholarship and was accepted later in December 2007. Following some procedures in the spring of 2008, the Augsburg-Program sponsored by the University Center for International Studies (UCIS) confirmed my taking part in the program in Pittsburgh.

But what was my motivation to apply for the scholarship in the first place? Well, since I am studying philosophy and am also interested in the contemporary tendencies of modern philosophy, i.e. the Anglo-Saxon philosophy influenced by Wittgenstein, Russell, and the Vienna Circle, Pitt’s Department of Philosophy has always been an attraction to me. I developed some interest in the lines of thought of some of its professors, especially the works of Distinguished University Professor John McDowell. I finally decided that it would be best for my development to get a chance to work with Prof. McDowell and other professors of the department. It is probably no surprise that I was overwhelmed when I heard of my acceptance for the scholarship. I knew immediately that the time in Pittsburgh would be an experience I would never forget and that I would learn much by studying in such an outstanding...
people on and off campus, and I think I will always remember keenly living in Pittsburgh. I met a lot of interesting and nice experiences were already worth all the efforts I made to get to my home to me.

But this pleasant anticipation of my time in Pittsburgh began to merge with feelings of worry and anxiety as the day of my departure from Germany in August 2008 drew closer and closer. Since it was the first time I left my native country (and in this case my native continent as well), it goes without saying that I became very nervous and excited when I finally left Germany. It was somehow helpful to overcome my nervousness on my first trip to the U.S. that I started my year in Pittsburgh with three other students from the University of Augsburg. These students were sponsored by another scholarship from the University of Pittsburgh, which enabled them to earn Masters degrees in German Literature while working as Teaching Assistants in the Department of German. They became my roommates in Pittsburgh since we shared the rent for a nice house in Oakland.

Although we helped each other in our first weeks in Pittsburgh, the time before the start of the fall term was very stressful for us. We had to deal with the problems every tenant (perhaps all around the world) has to deal with, i.e. problems with the gas company or problems of getting furniture and everything needed to make oneself comfortable. Perhaps these are the usual problems one encounters all around the world, but it's more difficult in a foreign country, when one is not familiar enough with the language and other social peculiarities. But despite all adversities in the first month, we managed to establish a nice and friendly living community in our house in Oakland. We had a quiet neighborhood and the daily walk to the Cathedral of Learning was manageable in ten to twelve minutes. The Pitt recreational facilities were also close, so we didn't miss much in our vicinity.

This living situation unfortunately changed somewhat as the winter drew closer, because it became very cold (colder than one is used to in Germany), and the expenses to heat our house increased drastically. Being on top of a steep hill with large amounts of snow in the winter also made it more difficult to get to the campus and to buy groceries. But I don't want to complain too much; in the end I was very content with the house and the neighborhood in which I lived. Even when two of my roommates moved to another neighborhood in January and some new roommates moved in, I became more and more used to my new living environment. It felt very much like my home to me.

Altogether, I think these ordinary, non-University life experiences were already worth all the efforts I made to get to enjoy living in Pittsburgh. I met a lot of interesting and nice people on and off campus, and I think I will always remember them. I also learned a lot of things that you can only learn while studying abroad: a new language (of course I spoke English before, but I really improved my English skills while in Pittsburgh), the skill to handle everyday life problems on one's own, the peculiarities of a different cultural environment, and many other things. In retrospect, these experiences represent a major factor of why it was good decision for me to study in Pittsburgh.

But this is not the most impressive aspect of what I can report about my time in Pittsburgh. Although I was quite content and not overwhelmed about the off-campus life in Pittsburgh, what I have to tell about my academic life is quite different. First of all, it made an enormous impression on me to just to enter the Cathedral of Learning. I have never been in such an astonishing building, just built for the purpose of education. Then, probably the most impressive aspect of my studies in Pittsburgh was the chance to attend one of the best Departments of Philosophy in the world.

Perhaps you will think I am exaggerating, but in my eyes the time I spent at the Department of Philosophy was the best in my educational life. I learned a lot about Philosophy and advanced in my own philosophical development—I couldn’t have dreamed of such progress before my travel to Pittsburgh. It was not just the faculty (one of the most renowned in contemporary Philosophy); I was also impressed by my fellow graduate students, who were very advanced in their thinking and who helped me a lot to understand some philosophical issues. Especially some additional reading groups and problem sessions (for example in formal logic) were really helpful for my understanding of some materials discussed in seminars. I was somewhat surprised in the seminars because I expected them to be less lecture-orientated, with a stronger focus on discussions. But since all the professors took every effort to talk with students personally, I profited from these out-of-class discussions with the professors. My disappointment with the seminars was forgotten in no time. All in all, this learning environment was perhaps the most impressive feature of my stay in Pittsburgh. I believe I could not find anything more effective anywhere else.

In the end, I have to say that the decision to study in Pittsburgh was the best decision I have ever made. The things I learned at the Department of Philosophy made it worth traveling to Pittsburgh. I am already planning to return to the Department of Philosophy as a Visiting Scholar after I have finished my Master's thesis in Germany. But although that's still ahead in the future, my wish to return to Pittsburgh grows stronger every time I recall my experiences from my first stay in the U.S.

Augsburg, 15th September 2009,

Florian Rieger
Of Goethe and Cows: an Unlikely German Summer in Vermont

by William T. Daniel

PhD Student, Department of Political Science

William T. Daniel was the recipient of a Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship for the summer of 2009.

This past summer, the European Union Center of Excellence and European Studies Center (EUCE/ESC) graciously provided me with funding to pursue seven weeks of intensive German language training at Middlebury College in northern Vermont. As a student of European politics and a French speaker, German was a logical selection for a target language. It is, after all, the most widely spoken native language in Europe. Middlebury College was also a logical place to study. The college is well known for its Language Pledge—a formal commitment on the part of its Language School students to speak, read, write, and listen only to the target language studied throughout the duration of the program—and has applied it every summer since 1915 to students learning German. From the outset of the project, my goals and ambitions for the summer were fairly straightforward: invest seven weeks of my time, learn a new language, and return to Pittsburgh, ready to use German in my research. What I did not anticipate from a summer of study in Vermont, however, was the engaging community of academics I would meet who would help to reshape my view of foreign language study’s benefits across academic disciplines.

Over the course of the program, I came to realize that what set my experience apart from others was not so much the quality of instruction, nor the intensity of the Language Pledge, but rather the remarkable community that had assembled within the German School. The program was comprised of approximately 130 students—mostly graduate students in various humanities and social science fields—held together by a common bond of enthusiasm for and interest in the German language. In this way, everyone brought something different to the learning process. Literature roundtables solicited evaluations of Goethe and Brecht from historians, political theorists, philosophers, religious scholars, and musicians. Film symposia featured movies on wide ranging topics, from the standard historically inspired fare to the experimental and avant garde. Research presentations led to heated debates over the upcoming German federal elections. Music recitals presented classic German Lieder from Schubert alongside modern atonal works from Berg. In such a rich learning community, I realized that we were accomplishing much more than simply learning German. We were representing the many disciplines that rely heavily on a knowledge of German and learning about our scholarship from one another.

In such an engaging environment, typical aspects of classroom learning took on atypical importance. In one particularly memorable event, I was required to present a brief oral report on a notable figure from the German-speaking world. I used the forum to showcase some of my work on radical right-wing extremist parties in Western Europe, introducing the class to Jörg Haider, the recently deceased former leader of the Austrian Freedom Party. As was often the case with such presentations, what should have been only a ten-minute biography of Haider evolved into an hour-long seminar discussion of right-wing extremism and its effects on racial intolerance, xenophobia, populism, Euroskepticism, and extreme nationalism in European politics. More notable, however, was that the entire research process leading up to the presentation, the talk itself, and ensuing discussion with the class were conducted entirely in German!

While I do not expect to be asked to lecture in German about right-wing extremism or any other political subject again soon, the anecdote does do a good job of encapsulating a lot of the reasons that I feel investing time and money in learning a foreign language are still a necessity. While much of the political science literature today is available in English, a good deal of writing about Austria, Germany, and Switzerland is still done only in German. Furthermore, government archives and instructional material on technical matters, as well as the most respected media sources in these countries are still almost entirely auf Deutsch. My seven weeks of German helped to decode some of this corpus of work and apply it to a research topic that interested me. I was then able to present not only my topic but also discuss it at further length with young academics from a number of other disciplines.

My summer was about more than learning German verb tenses and seeing how I could apply them to my academic research agenda; it was about taking my interests in academics, research, and teaching, and seeing how I could improve them with increased knowledge of a foreign language. Before my summer, I expected a quality academic experience that would efficiently teach me German. Surprisingly, what I found was a thriving intellectual community among the hills and cows of Vermont that was determined to demonstrate to me the extent to which knowledge of multiple languages can make for more than just interesting cocktail conversation but also productive research and learning.
**EUCE Faculty Research Grant Competition**
The EUCE, with partial funding from the European Commission, offers grants for research related to post-World War II European integration for University of Pittsburgh faculty in any department or school. Grants will be awarded competitively with significant consideration given to how the proposal contributes to the EUCE’s priorities. For more information, please visit [www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/faculty/funding/EUCEGrant.html](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/faculty/funding/EUCEGrant.html). The deadline for the 2009-2010 competition is December 11, 2009. Please direct questions to Timothy S. Thompson, Associate Director, EUCE/ESC, at tst@pitt.edu or 412-624-3503.

**Call for Papers: 7th Annual GOSECA Conference**
The Graduate Organization for the Study of Europe and Central Asia (GOSECA) at the University of Pittsburgh invites students enrolled in graduate programs to submit abstracts no more than 250 words long, along with an academic CV (limited to two pages) to gosecaconference@yahoo.com for its 7th Annual Conference: “Environment, Identities, and Space in Europe and Central Asia.” The deadline for proposals is December 15, 2009. For more information, please visit [www.pitt.edu/~sorc/goseca/Goseca2010/](http://www.pitt.edu/~sorc/goseca/Goseca2010/).

**UCIS-EUCE Faculty Fellowship**
Faculty in European Union studies are invited to apply for the UCIS and the EUCE Faculty Fellowship for fall 2010 or spring 2011. The deadline for applications is January 15, 2010. For more information and application procedures, please visit [www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/faculty/funding/UCIS-EUCE-Fellowship10-11.pdf](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/faculty/funding/UCIS-EUCE-Fellowship10-11.pdf).

**Nationality Rooms Summer Study Abroad Scholarships**
The Nationality Rooms Summer Study Abroad Scholarship Program provides University of Pittsburgh graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to have an in-depth immersion experience of another culture for at least five weeks. A number of scholarships are available for study in European countries. For a complete listing, please visit [www.ucis.pitt.edu/natrooms](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/natrooms). Undergraduate applications are due by 12:00 noon, January 20, 2010; graduate applications are due by 12:00 noon, January 21, 2010. Questions may be addressed to Eileen Kiley, Scholarship Advisor, at kiley@pitt.edu.

**2010 Critical Language Scholarships for Intensive Summer Institutes**
The U.S. Department of State is pleased to announce the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) competition for the summer of 2010 for overseas intensive summer language institutes in thirteen critical need foreign languages. The CLS Program is part of a U.S. government interagency effort to dramatically expand the number of Americans studying and mastering critical need foreign languages. All candidates must have completed at least their first year of university-level study by the summer of 2010. Undergraduate or graduate students may apply. Applicants must be U.S. citizens. The deadline to apply is December 18, 2009. Please visit [www.CLScholarship.org](http://www.CLScholarship.org) for more information.

**Call for Papers: 8th Biennial ECSA-Canada Conference**
The European Community Studies Association-Canada (ECSA-Canada) invites paper and panel proposals for its upcoming conference “Whither Europe?” The conference will focus on: important aspects of European integration; continuity and change in European institutions; the relationship between the member states and Brussels; key policy areas within Europe; European migration, citizenship, and identity; the economics and politics of enlargement; the EU’s role in the global arena; and other areas. The deadline for proposals is December 31, 2009. For more information, please visit [web.uvic.ca/ecsac](http://web.uvic.ca/ecsac).

**2010 EUSA Haas Fund Fellowship Competition**
The 2009-2011 EUSA Executive Committee is pleased to announce the 2010 EUSA Haas Fund Fellowship Competition, an annual fellowship for graduate students conducting EU-related dissertation research. The deadline for applications is January 8, 2010. For more information, please visit [www.eustudies.org/files/haas_2010.pdf](http://www.eustudies.org/files/haas_2010.pdf).

**European Economic Integration Workshop**
The Economics Interest Section of the European Union Studies Association (EUSA) and the Globalization & Monetary Policy Institute of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas invite papers for an upcoming workshop titled “EU Economic Integration: Lessons of the Past, and What Does the Future Hold?” Please send abstracts by January 10, 2010 to Patrick Crowley at patrick.crowley@tamucc.edu and David Mayes at d.mayes@auckland.ac.nz. Please indicate in your submission whether you would also be willing to serve as a chair and/or discussant.

**Call for Papers and Panel Proposals: Fifth Pan-European Conference on EU Politics**
The European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) invites paper and panel proposals for its Fifth Pan-European Conference to be hosted by the Faculty of Economics of the Continued on page 11
University of Oporto and the University Fernando Pessoa in Porto, Portugal from June 24-26, 2010. The Standing Group’s Pan-European Conference is the largest academic conference on the European Union in Europe and brings together scholars working on the European Union from all over the world. The deadline for proposals is January 15, 2010. For more information, please visit www.jhube.it/ecpr-porto/.

CALL FOR PAPERS: UACES 40TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE
The University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES) invites proposals for panels and papers for its upcoming conference in Bruges, “Exchanging Ideas on Europe 2010: Europe at a Crossroads.” The deadline for proposals is January 22, 2010. For more information, please visit www.uaces.org/bruges.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PANELS: 5TH ANNUAL SPORT&EU CONFERENCE
The Association for the Study of Sport and the EU (Sport&EU) invites the submission of paper and panel proposals addressing issues pertaining to sport governance and to the role of public authorities including but not limited to the EU and non-governmental sports organizations at different levels in the governance of sport. The organizers will value proposals that do not focus only on professional sport; papers analyzing the consequences of the Lisbon Treaty are welcome as well. The deadline for proposals is January 25, 2010. For more information, please visit www.pswx.ugent.be/seuc2010. Please contact charlotte.vantuyckkom@ugent.be or b.garcia-garcia@lboro.ac.uk with any questions.

Jack Wilson Fund Scholarship for Research in International Contexts
The Jack Wilson Fund Scholarship was created to provide financial assistance for innovative, international opportunities that foster an appreciation of and better understanding among different cultures. Priority will be given to ideas that promote peace and community development. Applicants must have completed their junior year of undergraduate studies by the summer of 2010 or be enrolled in a graduate program. Their field of study must be international affairs, political science, world cultures, inter-cultural communications, social work, education, art, or music. For more information, please visit www.pittsburghfoundation.org/images/JackWilsonApplication31.pdf. The deadline for submissions is January 29, 2010. Please contact Deorah Turner at tunnerd@pghfdn.org with any questions.

Funded Journalism Internship Program in Berlin, Germany
Freie Universität Berlin and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) are pleased to announce the third year of an intensive scholarship-supported summer seminar/internship program in Berlin for American journalism and communications students. This is a new and exciting opportunity targeted primarily at currently enrolled undergraduate students, but a limited number of graduating seniors, recent graduates and Master's students may be accepted as well. For the first six weeks of the eleven-week program, participants will take part in a seminar series to expand their academic understanding of the politics, society and culture of Germany, as well as the country's current social conditions and media scene. Students will also go on excursions within Germany together with journalism students from the Independent States of the former Soviet Union. The final five weeks include an intensive internship with a German newspaper, magazine, radio station or PR firm in or near Berlin. Applicants must have at least advanced intermediate German skills to take part in the program, as the seminars and internships take place in the German language. The application deadline is January 31, 2010. The 40 applicants who are invited to a selection interview in New York City (in early March) will receive up to $300 toward the cost of their flight to the interview location. To find out more about eligibility and the application requirements, please visit www.daad.org/page/internxchange/.

MPIfG Postdoctoral Fellowships
The Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies (MPIfG) offers up to four postdoctoral fellowships a year, including one especially designed for researchers from Central and Eastern Europe. During their tenure, fellows are expected to reside in Cologne and participate in the intellectual life of the institute. The deadline for applications is January 31, 2010. For more information, please visit www.mpifg.de//forschung/postdoc_program_en.asp.

ECPR Press Jean Blondel Prize
Each year, the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), in association with ECPR Press, awards the Jean Blondel Prize for the best thesis in politics, including international relations, political theory, and public administration. For more guidelines regarding nomination and the submission of entries, please visit www.ecprnet.eu/funding_and_awards/prizes_phd_index.asp. The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2010. Please contact Mark Kench at mkench@essex.ac.uk with any questions.
If you would like to be added to the EUCE/ESC newsletter’s electronic distribution list, please email the Center at euce@pitt.edu. Include the subject line “Newsletter” and your name, address, and affiliation. You can also call us at 412-648-7405 or send a fax to 412-648-2199. In addition, the latest edition of the newsletter and a complete, updated list of events can always be found at our website: www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/euce.html.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- **December 12** - Lecture: “Religion Unbound.” 3:00 p.m., 3703 Posvar Hall.