RESEARCHING EU-AFRICAN AID AND TRADE SYSTEMS USING THE ARCHIVE OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AND THE EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION COLLECTION

by Philippe Lionnet, Graduate Student at the Center for European and International Studies in Basel, Switzerland

In my MA thesis Beyond Eurafrica?, I attempted to analyze the significance of changing paradigms in the aid and trade relations between Western African states and the area of European integration concerning the conceptualization, establishment, and stabilization of state sovereignty from a research perspective rooted in Neo-Gramscian approaches. Thanks to a recommendation by Professor Christian Gerlach, former lecturer at the University of Pittsburgh and currently professor of Modern History at the University of Bern, I became interested in the Archive of European Integration (AEI) and the European Union Delegation collection in Pittsburgh. After having contacted Dr. Phil Wilkin, the curator of the collection and manager of the AEI, I was convinced that these resources would be a decisive factor for my research, especially concerning the transitory phase between the end of the colonial regimes and the development of a post-colonial framework in the early 1960s. As I began work on the topic, I found that the transition from the colonial model of exclusive relationship to a legal system between formally independent and sovereign states and the implications of this shift on the actual flows of goods and capital are not as thoroughly covered between the regime set up by the Treaty of Rome and the first Yaoundé Convention as they are in the Conventions from the 1970s on. I anticipated that the collections at the University of Pittsburgh would help me fill in this apparent gap in the literature.

As I concentrated on the actual Conventions as legal documents as starting points to apply my theoretical approach, I was especially interested in material produced before and during the negotiations of the treaties. I expected this material

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HIGH SCHOOL MODEL EU

December 5, 2011 marked the seventh annual High School Model EU in the Pittsburgh area. The day-long event gives high school students a chance to learn about the workings of the EU through a hands-on simulation of a recent European Council meeting. This year, the simulation agenda focused on the Greek debt crisis.

The simulation has grown to include nine area high schools, and student participation increased from 55 in 2010 to 106 in 2011. Due to the growth in interest, the EUCE ran three simultaneous simulations in three separate rooms at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association, directly across the street from the University’s Cathedral of Learning, for this year’s event.

The High School Model EU is made possible through the generosity of the University of Pittsburgh, as well as contributions from Global Solutions Pittsburgh and the European Commission. For more information about the High School Model EU, please contact Timothy Thompson at tst@pitt.edu.

WELCOME ITALIAN FULBRIGHT ENZO BORSELLINO

The EUCE/ESC welcomed Professor Enzo Borsellino with an afternoon tea reception on Wednesday, January 25th. Pictured above with EUCE/ESC Director Ronald H. Linden, Professor Borsellino is visiting the University of Pittsburgh from the Università degli Studi “Roma Tre” as Distinguished Italian Fulbright Chair for the spring semester. He will be teaching a graduate course on the origins of the museum in the Department of History of Art and Architecture.

PITT GERMAN PROFESSOR CO-EDITS SEMINAR SPECIAL ISSUE

Sabine von Dirke, Associate Professor of German and Humanities Center Fellow (Spring 2012), recently co-edited a special issue of Seminar: A Journal of Germanic Studies titled “Globalization, German Literature, Film, and the New Economy” along with David N. Coury of the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay. This special issue of a peer-reviewed journal in the field of German Studies contains eight articles that analyze how cultural production, in particular literature and films from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland have responded since the 1990s to global problems, be it the precariousness of wage/salaried-labor ushered in by the New Economy, transnational migration, or terrorism.
CRISIS AND CONSEQUENCES: 
A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE EUROZONE CHALLENGE

by Julie Tremeryn

The ongoing European financial crisis raises significant questions about the future of the motley economic and monetary union known as the Eurozone and, more broadly, the future of Europe itself. To what extent are the destinies of the two bound together? On Tuesday, January 17th, the European Union Center of Excellence at the University of Pittsburgh hosted an interactive videoconference to tackle precisely that question. The event was the first in a series of “Conversations on Europe,” to be held on the third Tuesday of each month, in which participants from multiple universities are linked by video across several sites.

This first session featured a panel of experts on the EU, including: Dr. Alberta Sbragia, Vice Provost of Graduate Studies at the University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Christiane Lemke, Max Weber Chair in German and European Politics at New York University and Professor of Political Science at the Leibniz University of Hannover, Germany; and Larry Neal, Emeritus Professor of Economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Visiting Professor at the London School of Economics. EUCE/ESC Director Ronald H. Linden served as moderator. They were joined in the videoconference by students and faculty from the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Overall, the panelists were optimistic that the current crisis would not spell the doom of either the Eurozone or the EU, though major institutional changes would obviously be necessary. Dr. Sbragia made the point that “the very process of coping with this crisis is actually integrating the EU in ways which would have been almost inconceivable even two or three years ago.” Dr. Neal argued that such increased economic governance is crucial to the Eurozone’s survival. He cited the lack of a central government with full taxing power as one of the fundamental economic problems of the Eurozone. Along similar lines, Dr. Lemke noted that the Eurozone has been suffering from a “crisis of legitimacy.” She argued that, to be successful, the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) created to address the crisis will need to be able to “exactly the kinds of things that the European Central Bank could not do.”

Though the discussion raised more questions than it answered, it was deepened by the participation of students and faculty from multiple institutions. The panelists were met with some thoughtful comments and incisive questions from students and faculty at each of the three participating universities, including two from the University of Pittsburgh. Political science professor Michael Goodhart questioned whether improved economic governance should really be the fundamental objective: “I think a lot of people in the streets would argue precisely the opposite, that [the crisis] proves what critics have been saying for a long time...that market integration has proven to be the downfall of attempts toward regional democracy in Europe.” Political science PhD Candidate Aaron Abbarno also posed that the crisis of legitimacy has less to do with the lack of the ECB’s power and more to do with the fact that “people lack a voice in the regulatory state.”
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to enable me to encapsulate the economic paradigms and motives leading to the respective regime and analyze them comparatively. The resulting overview on the regime of the Treaty of Rome, the two Yaoundé Conventions, the Lomé Conventions and finally the contemporary Cotonou Convention also sheds light on another process: the establishment of a system of independent, sovereign states in the southern hemisphere as a result of decolonization-processes—a concept I focused on to assess the consequences of the regimes.

Generously supported by the Kálmán and Maria Lauer-Stein Foundation in Basel, I had the opportunity to spend three months using the AEI and European Union Delegation Collection resources, making copies, and evaluating the relevance of the documents for my project. What I found in the collection helped me reconstruct the effect the trade systems had on the 18 Associated African states and Madagascar (AASM) and their political structures, as well as the principles of international economic law upon which they were and are based. The support I received from Dr. Wilkin was sincere and effective and saved me hours and hours of searching. Also, I was provided with a workplace right next to the materials which I was allowed to use daily. During my research, I had full access to everything available in the European Union Delegation collection housed in Hillman Library. Many of the documents of the collection are also freely available for full-text search and organized by policy area through the AEI (http://aei.pitt.edu/), which when completed will be an enormous contribution to research related to European integration, complementing sources available through other well-known providers, such as http://www.cvce.eu/ and http://europa.eu.

Besides the official publications by the European Union that may be found in other collections and archives, the European Union Delegation collection includes many unique research folders unavailable elsewhere and which were originally collected by the European Commission delegation to the U.S. in Washington, D.C. beginning in the early 1950s. These folders proved to be incredibly helpful for my research. Ordered chronologically and by topic, they provided me with several original documents not only by the Commission of the European Communities but also by, for example, the French government, which had and has as important role in EU-Africa relations, especially for the AASM. Also, they contained newspaper-articles and press releases, which added material rather difficult to find to my work and gave me an insight into the period that is not as densely covered by literature and research as later episodes like the Lomé system. As the collection is complete and well-organized, it gave me not only material to follow the discourses on state sovereignty but also statistical material and case-studies to enable a verification of effects on the actual reality of trade-flows and social modes of production. For any research concerning a policy area where the Commission had a decisive role—trade and development policy in my case—the nature of the collection allows comprehensive and detailed research.

Basically, the documents I found showed the project of European Integration to be decisive as a provider of a normative and legal framework that supported the dissemination of the Western concept of state sovereignty in the borders defined in the aftermath of the 1884 Berlin Conference, thereby laying the foundation for later processes of “global” economic integration through the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and later through the World Trade Organization (WTO). The trade systems backed by aid flows offered a “non-colonial” way to sustain the existing trade flows and a “third way” for non-aligned states to develop cooperation during the Cold War. Even if the area of European integration (through the European Economic Community and later on the European Union) as such was never the most important player in numbers, its normative effect appears significantly more important and distinctive—even if the influence of concepts of conditionality adopted from World Bank and IMF policies since the late 1980s shows an alignment along paradigms of development policy shaping north-south relations in general. The introduction of political conditionalities that were first used by the European Union in Eastern Europe by the end of the Cold War appears to indicate a nominal conceptual shift. However, the emerging mainstream of neoliberal ideas in the intergovernmental sphere (as demonstrated in the sources) has had less influence on economic realities than the growing volume of declaratory publications implies. Production figures and case studies demonstrate that the actual ability of local governments in Western Africa to transmit these ideas to social modes of production appears to be limited due to their lack of influence on the societies in their territory.

Besides the fascinating research, I enjoyed other aspects of my time in Pittsburgh. The location of the col-
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lection in Hillman Library also provided me with a simple access to additional literature and of course probably the greatest cafeteria to work in on the planet—dozens and dozens of their fantastic coffees accompanied me and my laptop through my writings. Located in the heart of the Pitt campus, it also gave me many impressions of campus life despite the fact that I conducted my independent research work literally down in the basement. Pittsburgh as such was a great place to live as a student, as the campus draws people from all over the world and has all the facilities and places to go to make your stay a time to remember. By the end of my stay in Pittsburgh, a friendly invitation by Dr. Timothy Thompson gave me the opportunity to contribute to the European Union Center of Excellence through a short talk on research possibilities with the AEI and European Union Delegation collection and my topic. This was an interesting and helpful experience to sum up my thesis after months of relatively dry sourcework, and I hope it gave some of the students an idea of the unique research possibilities they have at Pitt. Also, it allowed me to meet the staff and get an insight into the work of the Center, its teaching, and its research. One thing may be said for sure: the AEI and European Union Delegation collection definitely is a huge asset the Center is able to offer its students and visitors and one which I hope will be used for many future projects.

Note: The Archive of European Integration (AEI)—http://aei.pitt.edu—is a website containing thousands of full text documents, mostly EU documents. It is an online repository and archive, available free to everyone.

The European Union Delegation collection is a library collection. It was formerly housed at the European Union Delegation to the U.S. office in Washington, D.C., and the University of Pittsburgh library system acquired it in 2007. It is housed in Hillman Library. Many items from this collection have been scanned and uploaded onto the AEI.

For more information about either resource, please contact Dr. Phil Wilkin at pwilkin@pitt.edu.

Alumni Spotlight

As part of our efforts to enhance the EUCE/ESC alumni network, we will spotlight a different alumnus/a in the newsletter each month. This month’s Alumni Spotlight features a brief Q&A with Carrie Weintraub.

Q: When did you graduate from the University of Pittsburgh? What was your degree and major field of study?

A: I graduated from Pitt in May of 2010 with a Bachelor of Philosophy in International and Area Studies and Communication and Rhetoric, with a focus on the European Union. I also earned a minor in Political Science.

Q: What type of certificate did you earn (EU or Western European Studies)? How has this certificate helped you?

A: I earned certificates in both European Union studies and West European studies. During my sophomore year, I took an International Relations class focused on Europe and became fascinated by the EU. Taking this class led me to pursue the certificates. After graduating from Pitt, I knew I wanted to continue learning about the EU at a graduate level, and I believe having a strong EU background helped make me an attractive graduate school applicant.

Q: What are you doing now?

A: In December of 2011, I graduated from the London School of Economics with a Master of Science in Politics and Government in the European Union. I am now looking for a job focusing on transatlantic relations and other EU related issues. In my spare time, I am helping out with a new online initiative known as European Ideas, which aims to create an open platform for debate about the European Union. European Ideas provides interviews, lectures, and articles from academics and policy-makers. Feel free to check us out at europeani-ideas.eu.
## Upcoming Grant and Fellowship Deadlines

### EUCE/ESC Pre-Dissertation Grant

The European Union Center of Excellence-European Studies Center (EUCE/ESC) at the University of Pittsburgh, announces a competition for University of Pittsburgh advanced graduate student fellowships for research or internships related to post-World War II European integration. The fellowship is for students to pursue their research agenda on-site in Europe or undertake an internship directly related to their research. Fellowship recipients will be announced by the end of March. Travel is required to be completed before August 15, 2012. Fellows are required to present their research results in a EUCE/ESC-sponsored informal lecture and to provide a brief article describing their research experience for the EUCE/ESC Newsletter. Fellowship recipients will be announced by late March-early April. For more information and an application, please visit [http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/content/graduate-student-scholarships-and-fellowships](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/content/graduate-student-scholarships-and-fellowships). Please contact Allyson Delnore at adelnore@pitt.edu or 412-624-5404 with any questions. **The deadline for applications is March 1, 2012.**

### EUCE/ESC Dissertation Grant

The European Union Center of Excellence and European Studies Center (EUCE/ESC) announces a fellowship competition for University of Pittsburgh advanced PhD students who are writing a dissertation on a topic directly related to the European Union’s development, institutions, policies, identities, external relations, and/or relationship with individual member states. The fellowship will support on-site dissertation research or the writing of a dissertation between May of 2012 and April of 2013. The competition is open to University of Pittsburgh students who have completed all required coursework, passed their comprehensive exams, and have an approved or preliminarily approved overview. Fellowship may be awarded for between $6,000 and $12,000. Please note: the fellowship may not be used to pay for tuition or health insurance. Fellowship recipients are required to present their research results in a EUCE/ESC-sponsored informal lecture and to provide a brief article describing their research experience for the EUCE/ESC Newsletter. Fellowship recipients will be announced by late March-early April. For more information and an application, please visit [http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/content/graduate-student-scholarships-and-fellowships](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/content/graduate-student-scholarships-and-fellowships). Please contact Allyson Delnore at adelnore@pitt.edu or 412-624-5404 with any questions. **The deadline for applications is March 1, 2012.**

### Institut d’Études Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po) Exchange

The University of Pittsburgh offers a direct exchange program for GSPIA graduate students with Sciences Po in Paris, France. Courses are taught in English, French and other languages; however, proficiency in French is not required to take classes, write papers, or take exams. Of course, a working knowledge of French will assist students with non-academic practical matters. Applications must be coordinated with and approved by the EUCE/ESC. **For more information, please visit [http://www.international.sciences-po.fr/en](http://www.international.sciences-po.fr/en). To apply, please contact Allyson Delnore at adelnore@pitt.edu or 412-624-5404. The deadline for applications for the fall term 2012, spring term 2012, or academic year 2012-13 is March 1, 2012.**
ON LOCATION IN VIENNA:
RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF INTERWAR TOURISM AND CINEMA

by Andrew Behrendt
PhD Candidate, Department of History

This past summer, I spent two months doing research and language study in Vienna, Austria as the recipient of a European Studies Summer Dissertation Research grant. My dissertation, provisionally titled “Travelers of an Empire that Was: Tourism, Movie-Going, and the Formation of Post-Imperial Identities in Austria and Hungary, 1918-1948,” uses the history of leisure activities to gain new perspectives on how individuals adapted to the decades of change—sometimes thrilling, sometimes horrific—that followed the collapse of the Habsburg Monarchy in 1918. How did Austrians and Hungarians respond to the sudden absence of a vast, diverse empire and a loss of their status as “imperial peoples”? What cultural and social commonalities survived the death of that empire? I propose that an examination of leisure travel and its representation in film can offer us a clearer vision of how people formed a sense of themselves and where they belonged and, therefore, help make better sense of an exceedingly complex time, the consequences of which still confront us today.

Undertaking transnational historical research in multiple languages makes many demands, not the least of which is language study. For the second year in a row, EUCE/ESC funding enabled me to receive intensive, immersive training in the German language. The previous summer I began that training at Middlebury College, my progress nurtured by the Green Mountains and the school’s famous Language Pledge. This time, however, rather than pass by low-slung Adirondack chairs along paths shaded by collegial trees, I came to class each morning having emerged from the U-Bahn into the shadow of Vienna’s great Stephansdom. Every day, the sights and sounds of my very commute reaffirmed that I was in the old imperial capital and nowhere else. Getting to work amidst some of the very locations I was studying made understanding the allure of place that much more personal.

I was enrolled at the Cultura Wien language school, a small but lively institution packed into converted apartments. My classmates were a friendly and truly international bunch: Polish college students swapped stories with Americans on study abroad, while Hungarian and Serbian teenagers acted out instructional dialogues with South American journalists and Belgian computer engineers. Our instructor was Thomas, a native Lower Austrian of great patience and considerable wit, whose obvious ease in this environment made us feel at home. I count myself lucky to have benefited from his help, which not only improved my German but also helped attune it to the more specifically Austrian words and sounds unfamiliar to the standardized Hochdeutsch with which I had begun my studies. It only took two or three weeks to make me feel confident enough to converse with professors and barroom strangers alike.

The other half of my summer I spent split among the Austrian National Library, the Vienna Library, and Filmmarchiv Austria. From these collections I gathered a wealth of primary sources—guidebooks, periodicals, pamphlets, monographs, and, not least of all, movies—that laid a foundation for the research that has since followed and which will continue into next summer, thanks to a

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Social Sciences Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship from the
School of Arts & Sciences.

I have only barely begun work on processing the
many copies and notes that came out of my hours in the
archives; however, they have already led me towards some
interesting observations. For one thing, it became appar-
ent quite early in my Viennese investigations that tourism
and cinema were closely linked in the popular imagina-
tion—to the extent that I believe we cannot really under-
stand their cultural significance if we treat them separately.
Movie-goers had access to a large number of films featur-
ing some aspect of tourist travel or whose images brought
them along on a “virtual” trip. Take for instance Karl
Köfinger’s series of short films, *Im Postkraftwagen durch
Österreichs Alpenwelt*, which not only advertised but repli-
cated the state post office’s tourist bus service throughout
the country. Even those viewers who could not afford fare
on one of the actual buses could, for the price of a cinema
ticket, “join in” a trip to the provinces as an urban observ-
er of country life. Films like these point us towards a bet-
ter grasp of how modern mass media, even in its adoles-
cence, has been used to represent spaces and imbue them
with the signs and meanings of place: those signals which
are meant to say, “you are here and nowhere else; this is
where you fit in.” They suggest that movie-going played a
significant role in shaping how former Habsburg subjects
reimagined their sense of place after the end of empire.

At summer’s end I left Vienna and made my way
to Budapest, the former empire’s second capital. Since
then I have been working mainly in Hungarian and on
the Hungarian aspects of my project. My findings from
the summer, however, set the tone for my subsequent re-
search. Above all, they have convinced me that in many
respects the tale I wish to tell will need to be one of two
cities, of two distinct places sharing a common cultural
space. I am indebted to the EUCE/ESC for its generous
assistance, which gave me the time and resources to begin
to do this tale justice. I hope that my work will, in time,
make a worthy contribution to the efforts of the European
Studies community at Pitt.