Summer 2018

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EUROPEAN STUDIES CENTER

Director's Message

Dear ESC colleagues, students, and friends,

As spring has finally made its way to Pittsburgh, I'm happy to share with you our final newsletter of the 2017-2018 academic year. The past couple of months have been busy: our Global Legacies of '68 series concluded with an insightful panel comprised of the UCIS Center and Program Directors, reflecting on what we have learned from the lectures, symposia, and films each Center sponsored as part of the series. As part of our Getting to Know Europe grant with the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, we welcomed Dutch author Marente de Moor, who won the EU Prize for Literature for her book, *The Dutch Maiden*. De Moor gave a public reading at the Carnegie Library and participated in a creative writing workshop with high school students from CAPA, Pittsburgh Public Schools' creative and performing arts school. In April, Allyson Delnore, ESC Associate Director, and I traveled to Europe with Chancellor Pat Gallagher and Vice Provost for Global Engagement, Ariel Armony. We visited several of our partner universities in Lyon, France and Newcastle, UK, visited study abroad students in London, and finished our visit with an alumni reception in London. It was an exciting and productive week for the Center and for Pitt's continued global engagement. Finally, I want to congratulate our graduating certificate students!

In June, we will be again be taking a group of 40 undergraduates, K-12 educators, and faculty from community colleges and minority serving institutions to Brussels. There, they will have to opportunity to engage with and learn more about the EU and its institutions. As we look ahead to next year, next fall marks the 50th anniversary of UCIS and the 20th anniversary of the ESC's designation as a Jean Monnet EU Center of Excellence. We will be honoring our founder and longtime Director, Alberta Sbragia, with a *festschrift* in Pittsburgh and in Brussels, which will bring together some of the top scholars in EU studies to honor her contributions to the field. Please stay tuned for another exciting year of programming.

Have a productive and restful summer!

Jae-Jae Spoon
Director, European Studies Center

Conversations on Europe

Stay tuned for our Fall 2018 topics!

All conversations are held on Wednesdays from noon to 1:30 P.M. in 4217 Posvar Hall. Conversations are free and open to the public. You may join us in-person or remotely.

CHANCELLOR'S TRIP TO EUROPE

During the week of April 8-14, the European Studies Center provided the logistical support for a visit by Pitt Chancellor Pat Gallagher and Vice Provost for Global Engagement, Ariel Armony, to several of Pitt's partner universities in Europe. The first stop of the week-long tour was in France, where the university has leveraged partnerships growing out of a unique state-region relationship between Pennsylvania and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region of France. ESC Director Jae-Jae Spoon and Associate Director Allyson Delnore joined the Chancellor and Vice Provost in site visits to the Institut National des Sciences Appliqués de Lyon (INSA Lyon), the Université Lumière Lyon II (Lyon 2), the Institute des Etudes Politiques de Lyon (Sciences Po Lyon). The visit was hosted by the Regional Authority for the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, who arranged a meeting with Chancellor Gallagher and Louis Giscard d'Estaing, Vice President of Promotion of the Territory and Mayor of Chalimares (a small town west of Lyon.) Giscard d'Estaing presided over a signing ceremony, covered by French media, during which Pitt signed MOU renewals with Lyon 2 and INSA Lyon, a letter of intention with Sciences Po Lyon, and a faculty exchange agreement with Lyon 2.

Pitt delegation visits the GIANT campus in Grenoble. L to R: Melanie Bourret (Regional Authority), Jae-Jae Spoon, Pat Gallagher, Ariel Armony, Francine Papillon (GIANT program manager), Allyson Delnore.

The region and the city are a fitting partnership for Pitt: Lyon is a city leader in innovation and entrepreneurship in France. The Université de Lyon – the umbrella under which all universities in the region fall – has been awarded the Initiative d'excéllence (IdEX) for their work on bio-health technologies, transportation and urbanization, energy, environment, and "smart" cities. To that end, the Chancellor and Vice Provost also used the opportunity to visit with other research institutions, such as Lyon Biopole, Bioaster, and the Grenoble Institute for Advanced New Technologies to explore other possible collaborations in the biological and physical sciences.

After two days in France, the small Pitt delegation headed to the UK, to Newcastle University—with whom Pitt has a long-standing partnership. In two days of meetings, the delegation met with representatives from across the University: from Engineering to the Medical School; from Arts and Humanities to Computer Science. The highlight of the visit was a public event during which Chancellor Gallagher and Deputy Vice Chancellor Julie Sanders of Newcastle University engaged in a moderated discussion about the partnership, and similarities between Newcastle and Pittsburgh, and the ways in which universities can serve as a public good for the cities and regions in which they operate. The focus of the visit was to bring attention to this place-based university strategy: the Chancellor used this visit to highlight Pitt's new Community Engagement Centers initiative, and to establish partnerships for best practices as a civic university. He was also able to gain a better appreciation for the city of Newcastle during a private tour led by Pitt alumnus and Newcastle faculty member, Tony Zito. Vice Provost Armony proposed the creation of a Visiting Faculty in Residence in Community Engagement that would embed a Newcastle faculty member at Pitt to explore these connections and advance initiatives in university-civic engagement.

Pitt alumnus, Tony Zito, shows Chancellor Gallagher, Vice Provost Armony and Director Spoon the sites of Newcastle, UK.

Leaving Newcastle, the Pitt delegation flew to London, where a full day was spent visiting with students working on their film studies projects at the Derek Jarman Labs (part of a Pitt in London partnership with the Birkbeck Institute) and having high tea with Pitt in London students hosted by Pitt partner, CAPA. The Pitt-CAPA relationship is in its 25th year, and the president of CAPA took the opportunity to present Chancellor Gallagher with a plaque to honor the anniversary. The evening ended with a reception for Pitt alumni that welcomed over 100 attendees. It was a great opportunity to see these former students now thriving in the UK.

This busy week not only reaffirmed university and regional partnerships in France and the UK, but provided many new opportunities for continued collaboration and new partnerships. To learn more about how you or your department might get involved, please contact ESC Associate Director and partnership coordinator for Newcastle and the Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes, Allyson Delnore at adelnore@pitt.edu.

ESC NEWSLETTER

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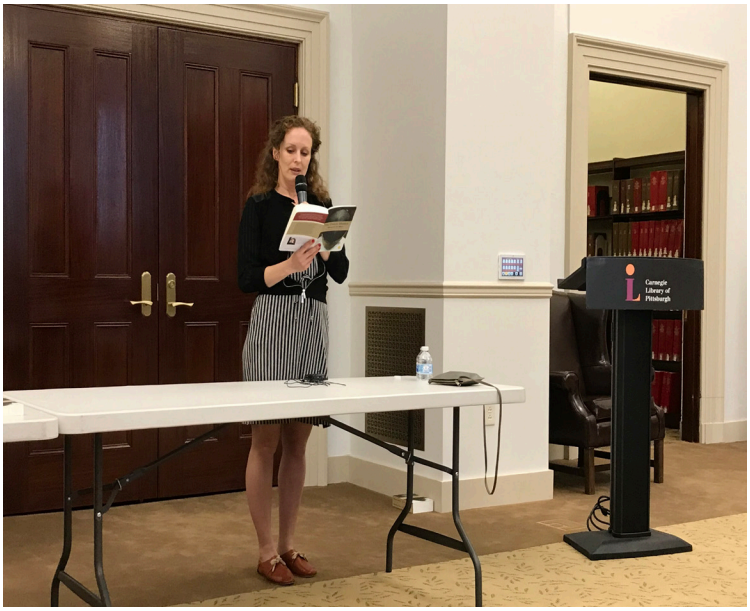
EU Author Visit

As part of the ESC's Getting to Know Europe Grant and in Partnership with the Center for European Studies at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, we were delighted to welcome to Pittsburgh Marente de Moor, a Dutch author who won the European Union Prize for Literature in 2011 for her novel *De Nederlandse maagd* (*The Dutch Maiden,* in English). The book follows a young Dutch girl and her relationship with a mentor in inter-war Germany. Dutch and foreign presses describe the novel as "whirling" and "animalistic", and compare it to the likes of Tolstoy and Jünger. de Moor has authored several award-winning novels and short stories in addition to *De Nederlandse maagd*, and has had her work translated into ten languages.

The EU Prize for Literature (EUPL) is funded by the European Commission through the Commission's Creative Europe program. This program aims to promote international discussion of and formally recognize European art and talent. The prize requires winning books to come from established authors, not be translated into more than three languages, and to be the author's most recent work. Winning books are selected by National Juries chosen by several intra-Europe publishing and editing councils.

Ahead of her visit, the ESC promoted her reading and book though a social media contest. We photographed a copy of her book in different locations around campus, and Pitt students who correctly guessed the location won a copy of *The Dutch Maiden*.



As part of her visit, de Moor gave a public reading from *The Dutch Maiden* at Carnegie Library on April 23, and answered questions from the audience. On April 24, the ESC organized a visit with Pittsburgh's School for the Creative And Preforming Arts students. About 30 high schoolers interested in creative writing participated in a creative-writing workshop and then spoke with de Moor about her writing process.

Prior to her arrival in Pittsburgh, de Moor visited UNC Chapel Hill, where she gave two readings.

Brussels Study Tour 2018

by Steve Lund

The European Studies Center at the University of Pittsburgh has organized a six day trip to Brussels, Belgium for undergraduates, K-12 educators, and faculty teaching at community colleges and minority serving institutions. Chosen in collaboration with university partners from across the nation, the 40 participants will have the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge and experiences to further their understanding of Europe and the European Union.

Site visits will include EU institutions such as the European Council, the European Commission and the European Parliament, as well as the European External Action Service, where policy makers will provide introductions to migration policy, security issues, and transatlantic relations. Additional visits include Bruegel, an economic think tank, the European Network Against Racism, and NATO.

The European School of Brussels, a primary and secondary school where students are taught in seven languages, will also be on the itinerary. Participants will visit classrooms and meet with European teachers to share experiences and best practices.

Upon returning to the United States, faculty on the trip participate in a series of video-conferences to develop lesson plans that reflect their new and deeper knowledge of Europe and the EU. These new units will be taught in their classrooms in the coming school year, and also be made available on the ESC's website so they can serve as resources for other teachers as well. Areas of study represented by this year's participants include English, Economics, History, World Geography, English as a Second Language, technology, and honors level social sciences.

A welcome aspect of the study tours from previous years has been the development of relationships that last long after the trip. When first chosen, participants are introduced to each other through a Brussels Study Tour Facebook page, and by the time they've traveled together and worked as a group to develop their lesson plans they are extremely close. Some Facebook pages have remained active, even years after some of the trips, with teachers sharing headlines and opinions about European news, and brainstorming about lesson plans and classroom resources.

The ESC is delighted to make this opportunity available again this year, and to support the efforts of teachers in bringing Europe and the EU alive in their classrooms across the country.

The ESC has selected the following participants to go on the 2018 Brussels Study Tour:

•Brittany Berry, Springdale School District, Springdale, AR
•Julia Fennell, Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA
•Sarah Jenyk, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH
•Rhea Klenovich, Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA
•Tasha Lindsay, Paradise Valley Unified School District, Phoenix, AZ
•Irene McMahon, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, IL
•Katherine Musselman, Baldwin-Whitehall School District, Pittsburgh, PA
•Amy Palo, Cornell School District, Coraopolis, PA
•Sean Sich, Mahoning County Educational Service Center, Canfield, OH
•Nicole Vickerman, Plano Independent School District, Plano, TX
•Jaime Walker, Springdale School District, Springdale, AR

We're excited to welcome these educators as part of this year's Brussels Study Tour cohort.

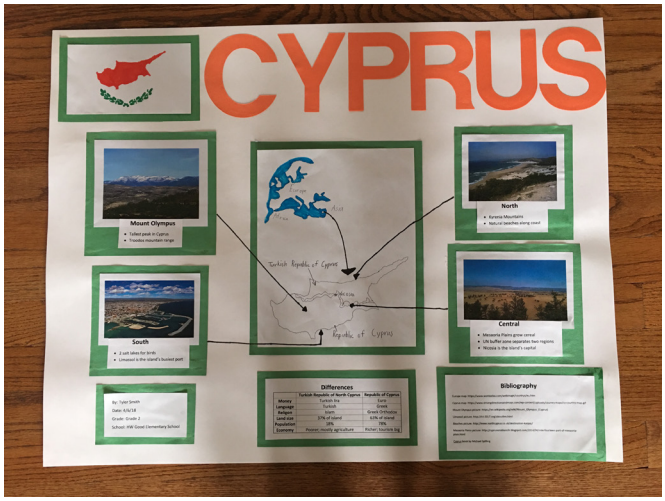
This trip is supported by the Delegation of the European Union to the United States; Title VI National Resource Center grants from the U.S. Department of Education; and the ESC's Getting to Know Europe Grant in Partnership with the Center for European Studies at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. The ESC is delighted to welcome participants from our partner universities, including: University of Wisconsin, Madison; University of California, Berkeley; Denver University; University of Illinois, Urbana-Champagne; University of Washington, Seattle; and Scripps College.

Interested in learning more or applying for next year's trip? Find more information including eligibility requirements and pre-departure assignments, visit our website.

Europe Day Contest Winners

Through participation in our annual Europe Day Contest, K-12 students engaged in an in-depth study of European cultures, people, history, as well as contemporary issues that are relevant to both the United States and European Union. This experience helps students develop research skills and gain expertise on a topic of their interest related to an annual theme. Students are allowed to submit a paper, poster, art portfolio, documentary, podcast, or website.

Awards are given to the best two Europe Day Contest submissions from each division. The first and second place winners from each division receive prizes and are invited to attend the Center's annual EuroFest in September, where prizes will be presented on the main stage and displayed for the public. Additionally, the grand prizewinning student's school will receive a prize package, which includes books, classroom materials, and a field trip.



2018 Themes and Winners

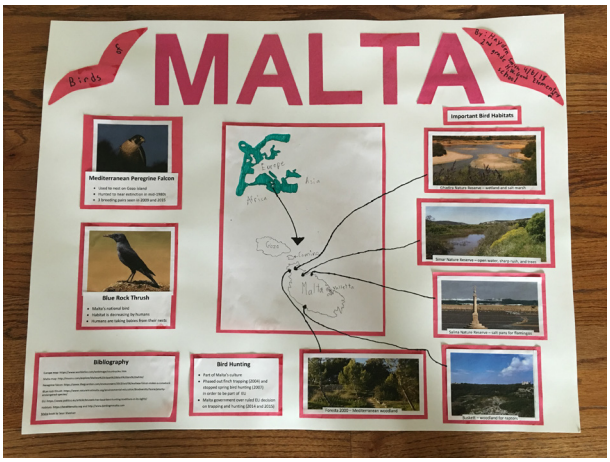
K – 5 THEME: The European Union

Students in grades Kindergarten through five researched the culture of one member nation of the European Union, the geography of a member nation or region of Europe, money, or a variety of other topics as long as they are related to the European Union. Students also researched larger topics related to the theme of participation and democracy, like elections, voting, or representation.

Winners of the K-5 division are:

First place: Hayden Smith, "Malta"

Second place tie: Tyler Smith, "Cyprus" and Kaylee Smith, "France"



Winners of the three through five division:

First place: Emma Kate Adams, "Ireland and Irish Culture in Sports, Food, and Language"

Second place: Carter Shiflett, "The Netherlands"

6 – 12 THEME: #EU4Whom Participation and Democracy in the European Union

Taking up the theme of #EU4Whom, student projects investigated some issue related to Participation and Democracy in the European Union. Possible topics included European Parliamentary elections, the democratic deficit (is it real?), public support for the European Union, Brexit, transparency, immigration or what it mean to be a citizen of the EU. Of course, other related topics were also eligible, as long as it pertained to the theme.

Winners of the six through twelve division:

First place: Grace Waldee for her essay "The Effects of Nationalism and Populism on Political Participation."

Second place: Teresa Huang for her podcast, "Brexit."

Our annual Europe Day Contest was made possible this year through our Getting to Know Europe Grant. To learn more about the contest and how your students can participate, visit our Europe Day Contest page on our website. You can also read Grace's essay and listen to Teresa's podcast on our website.

Congratulations to all of our winners, and thank you to all the schools, teachers, and entrants for participating in our annual Europe Day Contest!

Congratulations 2018 ESC Certificate Graduates!

European Union Certificate

Christopher Biermann
Rebecca Peters
Sarah Yeomans

Certificate in Western European Studies

Melinda Arnold
Nicholas Bersin
Zachary Cylinder
Ashley DiGregorio
Anna Dimitrova
Dakota Downing
Hannah Famili
Elliot Fleischer
Rebekah Franolich
Savanna Grinder
Joshua Hanley
Allison Hill
Rita Keil
Laura Obregon Mendez
Jessica Montone
Alessandra Roberto
Kaleigh Ruiz
Ramon Sison
Kelly Tiernan
Chukwuemeka Ukaga
Victor Vujevich
Stephanie Washington

Related Concentration in European and Eurasian Studies

Simon Galer
Joseph Rogers
Blake Vuocolo

Transatlantic Studies Certificate

Alyssa Zottola

New PhD Program in Critical European Culture Studies

by Randall Halle, Ph.D.

How do you approach Europe? How do we understand the significance of Europe? Where is Europe? When is Europe? Where do the boundaries of Europe begin and end: at the Urals, in Phoenicia, in Iceland, at the council of Trent, out into Eurasia, within the Schengen zone? Who produces European culture: the French and the British, the francophone and anglophone, the agents of cultural policy in Brussels, the actors on the stages of the European Theater Academy in Avignon, or the students at the European International School Ho Chi Minh City?

These are not empty questions; each represents a different possible approach to Europe and its culture. However you may answer, the project of Critical European Culture Studies considers what is at stake in each response.

This year, the Provost approved the PhD program in Critical European Culture Studies (CECS). And we welcomed this news, because the development of this program goes back over five years. Randall Halle and John Lyon developed the initial vision statement for the program out of a recognition that in all the discussions of Europeanization and the role of the EU in shaping contemporary Europe, culture has received little direct attention. Cultural union is one of the stated goals of the EU, alongside political and economic union, and yet there has been little direct study of the process of cultural union, of its impact on contemporary cultural production, of its ramifications for the history and historiography of Europe.

Colleagues from across the humanities became animated by the initial vision statement and came together to develop the proposal. Pitt's European Studies Center/European Union Center of Excellence became directly engaged in the planning. And out of those discussions the proposal for the CECS PhD program emerged.

It is a unique PhD program—no other school brings together the resources and expertise found here at Pitt. And already, even in its earliest stages before students were admitted, it has had a significant impact. The 2017 EUCE faculty research conference, *A Diversity of (European) Identities? From the Subnational to the Supranational*, paid special attention to questions of culture. At the 2018 Council for European Studies conference in Chicago, we organized a panel series on Critical European Culture Studies. And we were instrumental in forming a European Culture Research Network that creates a platform for discussions of European culture to flourish alongside the work of colleagues in the social sciences. Randall Halle is set to give a keynote on CECS at the University of Gießen in May, and in October an international faculty seminar on CECS will be held within the context of the German Studies Association's annual conference. Colleagues at the Viadrina University in Frankfurt a.d. Oder have reached out to work together on a CECS project in 2019.

CECS is looking now to recruit an elite cohort of students to inaugurate the program. The students will come with Master's degrees and high proficiency in English and a European-related foreign language. They will benefit from vibrant cross-departmental and cross-disciplinary training. And that training will foster both scholarly and practical professional skills. It is a selective program, and students will be funded to succeed. The new students will bring their own questions about Europe and its culture into the program, turn them into opportunities for research, and develop professional opportunities out of the answers they find.

Students interested in applying to the program can find information on the CECS Program page: www.cecs.pitt.edu.

ESC Student Profile

Interview by Avery Keatley

Aaron Misera is a Pitt alumnus who currently works in D.C. During his undergraduate career, he worked with the ESC and Study Abroad Office to complete a study abroad program in Amsterdam. After graduating, he landed an internship with the EU Parliament Liaison Office, and then attended graduate school at American University. He currently works in the intelligence community.

What did you study in undergrad, and how did you get connected to the ESC?

I studied Political Science and Communications and transferred to Oakland from Pitt's branch campus in Greensburg. A few International Relations and Foreign Policy classes triggered my interest in all things European, and a professor at Pitt-Greensburg, Dr. Paul Adams, mentioned I should check out ESC when I moved to main campus. That close connection with Dr. Adams sparked my interest in ESC, which eventually led to studying abroad in Amsterdam and my post-grad internship with the EU Parliament Liaison Office (EPLO). Initially, Pitt Admissions claimed I wouldn't be able to transfer campuses, double major, study abroad, and graduate in four years; but with precise course-scheduling and a few summer classes, I graduated on time and enjoyed it all!

How did you choose your study abroad program? Where were you, and what did the program focus on?

I used Pitt's Study Abroad Office and their resources liberally—I was constantly in their office gaming out locations and scenarios, narrowing down which program was the right fit. Eventually, we agreed on a Pitt-affiliated program in Amsterdam. I chose Amsterdam because it was off the beaten path from the ever popular Berlin and London programs. I have always been interested in the unconventional, and I was the only Pitt student in Amsterdam at the time.

Amsterdam is a transient city, but I had a thoroughly Dutch experience: I stayed with a host-family and met people from all over the world. *Zeer gezellig!* The program was very flexible, and I took classes on Dutch Society and Politics, EU Law, and, my personal favorite: a U.S. Media course where I learned what European students thought of the American media atmosphere.

Can you tell us about your post-grad internship with the EPLO? Why did you pursue that internship? What was the most valuable thing you learned or did? How did it influence your graduate studies and career trajectory?

My internship with the EU Parliament Liaison Office was a fantastic experience. After I graduated, I took a gap year before enrolling in graduate school so I could pursue this internship. I worked two months in their D.C. office and three months in a Brussels-based European Parliament (EP) office in the internal foreign policy think tank. At EPLO, we scoured D.C., collecting information from think tanks, universities, and business events pertinent to the EP's interests. In Brussels, I wrote research papers and country assessments focused on the South Caucasus and Central Asia. The most valuable aspect of the entire internship was being able to work and learn in a multicultural environment. After my internship with EPLO, I shifted my interest to foreign policy graduate programs offering Europe-focused classes, and applied to American University's International Relations Program. In D.C. I found a career I enjoy, and at American University, I met my fiancée.

Why should students study the EU now? What kinds of opportunities does that present?

The EU is only going to become more important with time, either because they stick together as a huge, single-world market, or start to drift apart or become a two-speed Europe. Whatever route the EU goes, it is a big deal for U.S. policymakers; I guarantee that many public servants in the U.S. government will be up late at night assessing the latest EU tariff increase, or a Eurosceptic party's election results. As long as the EU is around, there is always a need for students to go into EU-focused jobs in academia, public service, or business.

My advice here is to search broadly, find opportunities, and apply to anything and everything that sounds interesting, even if it is a reach. You never know when the right person will be reading applications and your words will spark their interest.

Can you tell us where you are and what you're doing now?

After my time at Pitt and the EP, I interned at the Council on Foreign Relations and Center for American Progress, and attended graduate school at American University. Since mid-2014 I've been working in the intelligence community at one of those omnipresent three letter agencies in the science and technology field. Once again I find myself doing something a little unconventional in my career, but enjoying the journey as I continue to pursue my interests and passions.

Summer Funded Scholars

This summer, the ESC and the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) awarded three high school teachers a World Language Summer Immersion Travel Grant. These three teachers, all from Pittsburgh Public Schools, will travel to the University of Lisbon for a four-week intensive Portuguese language immersion course. Beginning next year, these teachers will teach Portuguese in three separate campuses of Pittsburgh Public Schools. The grant recipients are Oscar Huber from Pittsburgh Science & Technology Academy; Sara Herrmann from Allderdice High School; and Stephanie Byars from Perry High School.

Oscar Huber is a Spanish teacher at the Pittsburgh Science & Technology Academy, a Pittsburgh Public Schools STEM school, where has taught for eight years. Prior to his current teaching assignment, he completed a 20-year tenure as a teacher and program coordinator for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at the now-defunct Schenley High School. Born to an American father and a Spanish mother, Oscar lived in Madrid, Spain, until the age of 18, at which point he came stateside and enrolled in the University of Pittsburgh. Four years ago, he began studying Portuguese through the Center for Latin American Studies' Outreach Program and has loved every minute of it. Next year, he will teach Portuguese at his school, making it the third Portuguese high school program in the Pittsburgh Public Schools.

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Sara Herrmann is a Spanish teacher in Pittsburgh Allderdice High School. Over the past five years, Sara has been learning Portuguese through the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. Last summer she traveled to Brazil where she attended classes at UEFS (Universidade Estadual de Feira de Santana) in Bahia, Brasil. She spent three weeks improving her Portuguese and deepening her love for Brazilian culture. Next year, her dream to teach Portuguese at Allderdice is coming true! This summer, Sara will spend one month in Lisbon, Portugal at the University of Lisbon thanks to the Center for European Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. There she will explore the Portuguese culture with two other Portuguese teachers in Pittsburgh School District and she is overwhelmed with gratitude to be given another amazing opportunity to learn, grow and connect with others in Portugal.

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Stephanie Byars is a Spanish and Portuguese teacher at Pittsburgh Perry High School, and a proud graduate of Perry Traditional Academy. She is overjoyed to have been able to start Pittsburgh Public Schools' first Portuguese program at her alma mater, with the help of the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. Stephanie graduated from Pitt with a BA in Spanish, a certificate in Latin American Studies, and minors in Portuguese and Linguistics. She studied in Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic in 2011, and in São Luís, Maranhão, Brazil in 2012 with the CLAS field trip. Stephanie completed her Master's in Teaching Spanish in spring of 2016, and continued her development as a Portuguese teacher in Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil in the summer of 2016. She has also served as one of the chairs for the Pittsburgh Public Schools' World Languages Speak-a-Thon for three years, and hosted two World Language Family Nights at Pittsburgh Perry.

Congratulations, Graduates!

2018 ESC Certificate Graduates with UCIS and ESC directors.

From left to right: Chukwuemeka Ukaga, Alessandra Roberto, UCIS Director Ariel Armony, Nicholas Bersin, Blake Vuocolo, Joseph Rogers, Jessica Montona, ESC Director Jae-Jae Spoon, Ashley DiGregorio, Hannah Famili, Anna Dimitrova, Zach Cylinder, ESC Assistant Director Steve Lund, Rebekah Franolich, Dakota Downing, Melinda Arnold, Kaleigh Ruiz, Joshua Hanley, ESC Associate Director Allyson Delnore, Laura Obragon Mendez.