JCMS Annual Review Lecture: The Shattering of Europe’s Illusions

London, 28 September 2011

Tim Haughton, University of Birmingham

European integration used to be like a car moving uphill, argued Loukas Tsoukalis in his recent JCMS Annual Review lecture: ‘the French usually provided the driver, the Commission the map, the Germans paid the petrol and the British oiled the brakes.’ In more recent times, however, ‘it looked like a car without a driver, the map was replaced by a GPS, going on and off, the Poles insisted on taking an insurance policy with God, nobody wanted to pay for the petrol (and some clearly cheated), while those inside had an argument about how many more could fit into the car’.

Now, however, the car appears to be moving downhill and the need for action is even greater to ensure the achievements of European integration do not just slip back down the incline. Tsoukalis opined that we need to rethink the EU’s model of economic governance, put on the agenda more environmentally friendly polices, renegotiate the social contract and better manage global interdependence. He stressed the importance of solidarity, but emphasized that solidarity cannot be thought of in the abstract, rather it needs to be linked clearly to common projects and existing conditions.

Although we are in a period of crisis in which the illusions and optimism of a decade ago have been shattered, Tsoukalis reminded the audience at Kings College London, that

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crises offer opportunities. Moreover, the silver lining to the cloud of the crisis was that it had helped to provoke a debate about European politics within countries, recognizing that in some areas we need less rather than more Europe. Nonetheless, Tsoukalis stressed the need to stand up and fight the ‘monster of populism’ which has reared its ugly head again in European politics.

Tsoukalis’s lecture followed hard on the heels of a special JCMS Annual Review State of the European Union roundtable at the American Political Science Association conference in Seattle. Three of the world’s leading scholars of the EU, Vivien Schmidt, Andrew Moravcsik and Simon Hix, diagnosed the challenges facing the European Union and offered some prescriptions.

Hix sketched out three scenarios: the EU as a supersized Switzerland (i.e. the status quo), crisis and collapse, and emerging democratic politics. Hix sees signs of the third scenario coming to fruition and welcomed such developments, but he argued that the crisis has seen the EU return to intergovernmentalism. Andrew Moravcsik took a similar line, arguing that the crisis has seen both a rise in the power and position of the European Council and a strengthening of the EU as a regulatory state. Nonetheless, the inventor of the liberal intergovernmentalist framework was keen to stress these recent developments highlight institutional continuity. Vivien Schmidt agreed that member states seem to be the key drivers of recent developments, but argued that given the role played by the European Central Bank and the IMF what we are witnessing is Intergovernmental Supranationalism.

Schmidt argued that the eurozone crisis amounts to an existential crisis for the entire EU. The EU however suffers from selbstverzwergung (‘self-dwarfization’). She lambasted austerity policies both for their immediate consequences on the livelihoods of millions of Europeans, but also because austerity fails to solve the deeper crisis of competitiveness which lies at the heart of the fate of the Union in the 21st century.

One member state was mentioned by the speakers more than all of the others combined: Germany. Germany, as William Paterson argues in the latest JCMS Annual Review is a ‘reluctant hegemon’. The speakers and audience in Seattle seemed to concur that the key to the future of the European Union lies as much in Berlin as in Brussels.
Exchanging Ideas on Europe 2011

Cambridge, 5-7 September 2011

Julie Smith, University of Cambridge

Europe’s role in the world was the underlying theme of the UACES 41st Annual Conference held in Cambridge from 5 to 7 September 2011. The conference was oriented around three plenary panels considering global crises - financial, security and climate - and Europe’s responses to them. The conference was launched by an insightful speech from the Polish Minister for Europe, Mikolaj Dowgielewicz, with a response by Andrew Duff MEP.

The first debate focused on the financial crisis, with views from Sharon Bowles MEP, Chair of the European Parliament’s influential Monetary Affairs Committee, former MEP John Stevens, and German Green MEP Sven Giegold. A session on Europe’s external role post Lisbon address by Pierre Vimont (EEAS), Stephen Dalziel (Russo-British Chamber of Commerce) and Fraser Cameron (EU-Russia Centre) led to some lively exchanges about the role of Baroness Ashton. The Conference was rounded off by an intellectually stimulating discussion on climate change, led by John Mitchell (Chatham House), Stephen Tindale (Centre for European Reform) and Sebastian Oberthür (Institute of European Studies) including a fairly heated debate on nuclear energy.

Aside from the plenary debates there were a large number of high quality research panels, which is a testament to the convening power of UACES; although the home team would like to hope that the magnetic attraction of Cambridge helped too. There was even time for some rest and relaxation including an excellent conference dinner in King’s College.

Lifetime Achievement Award 2011

UACES was delighted to be able to honour Wolfgang Wessels as the winner of the 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award for Contemporary European Studies. The presentation was made at the UACES Annual Conference Dinner at King’s College, Cambridge.

Above: Wolfgang Wessels (middle), with Dave Allen (left) and Geoffrey Edwards (right).

Exchanging Ideas on Europe 2012

Old Borders - New Frontiers

Join us next year in Passau, Bavaria, for the UACES 42nd annual conference.

The call for panels and papers is now open.

info: www.uaces.org/passau
The organisation of this conference was inspired by a number of recent changes to global governance from a European Perspective. Last year, we saw reshuffled management at the IMF to the disfavouring the EU Member States, the absence of EU influence at the Copenhagen COP15 climate conference and in New York, there was the difficult process for recognition of an upgraded status for the Union at the United Nations.

These difficulties for the EU prompted the conference organizers to address the following research questions: To what extent will the European Union be capable of influencing the ongoing reorientation of the legal structures and substance of global governance regimes in a re-configured, multi-polar world? Does the EU have the capacity to shape the global system to match its regulatory ambitions - or is that even desirable? Has the EU already missed the opportunity to place its mark on the shaping of global governance regimes?

To organize this event, Copenhagen University Faculty of law joined forces with the Centre for Global Governance Studies at the University of Leuven (Belgium) and the Centre for the law of EU external relations in The Hague. The event had three sponsors: the EURECO initiative (‘European Research in Copenhagen’), the Dreyers fond and UACES.

We invited academics from universities in the USA, EU and Asia, as well as practitioners with extensive experience in the European Union institutions. Present at the event were Member State diplomats to the Union, members of the European Commission, members of the Council Secretariat and representatives of the EEAS. We covered a number of substantive fields, woven together by the single most important question: What role for the EU? Throughout the conference, we discussed international trade, global security, international finance, the global environment and climate change, and a human dimension to global governance.

The outcome of this conference, and suggestions in support of a future role for the EU in global governance, will be published in an edited volume forthcoming with Oxford University Press in 2012.

**Michael Smith Obituary**

Bringing you the sad news that Professor Mike Smith, passed away on 1 October 2011 following surgery.

Mike had a distinguished and varied career. Educated at the University of Cambridge and the London School of Economics; he held a Harkness Fellowship for research in the USA before returning to the Cambridge as a Fellow of Sidney Sussex College.

Posts followed at the University of Hull and Queens University Belfast, where he was founding director of the Institute of European Studies. He was an adviser to the Northern Ireland Assembly and the European Commission, and had served as Chair of the Standing Conference of Heads of European Studies and Vice-Chair of the UK Council of Area Studies.

In 2003 Mike joined Glasgow Caledonian University as Dean of Law and Social Sciences and in 2004 became Pro Vice-Chancellor.

It was with great sadness that Mike’s former colleagues from his time at Queen’s University Belfast learned of his passing last month. Mike arrived at Queen’s as the founding director of the Institute of European Studies (IES) in February 1993. He brought with him a broad vision of what ‘European Studies’ should be - certainly including the study of the European Union (as it would shortly become), but also displaying a deep knowledge and appreciation of national cultures and histories (ensuring that students would ‘get under the skin’ of the countries they were studying, in a favoured phrase). He also, from the outset, was keenly aware of the role that the Institute should play in connecting to wider Northern Irish society, helping to open windows to a wider world that had too often been obscured by the particularities of the local situation. The long-running ‘European Liaison’ seminar series, attracting local policy-makers, was a testament to this vision.

In the decade in which Mike was to remain at Queen’s, the Institute continued to go from ‘strength to strength’ (another favoured phrase). Queen’s was designated as one of the first Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence in the UK in 1998, while the IES enjoyed excellent RAE results in both of the exercises which took place under Mike’s stewardship. At the time of its merger with the School of Politics in 2003 (and Mike’s departure for a deanship at Glasgow Caledonian), Queen’s had established itself as a pre-eminent national and international centre for European Studies. This owed much to Mike’s strategic vision, leadership skills, and gift for narrative.

A talented academic leader, Mike’s leadership style remained rooted in a good humoured demeanour, privileging a ‘gentle prodding’ of colleagues and a deep respect for the different talents and approaches which they brought to the table. Those who worked with Mike during his time at Queen’s will remember his ability to bring together colleagues from diverse disciplinary backgrounds and of often strong characters as a cohesive academic unit. Mike’s view of our profession was a capacious one – liberal, humane, and relishing the eccentricities of academic life. He will be sorely missed.

Robert Harmsen, Lee McGowan and David Phinnemore
Best Book and PhD Prizes

Awarded annually, the UACES Best PhD and Book Prizes celebrate the work that has made the most substantial and original contribution to knowledge in the area of European Studies.

Best PhD

This year’s prize was awarded to Heike Klüver, University of Oxford, for her thesis Lobbying in the European Union submitted to the University of Mannheim. The thesis is a large-scale study of interest group influence on policy formulation in the EU. It synthesizes a vast amount of literature, has a clear and sophisticated research design and follows it through in a very methodical and rigorous way.

The judges acknowledged the ‘major contribution’ the thesis makes to the understanding of interest groups and praised Heike for finding and maintaining ‘her own voice in both conceptual and methodological debates’.

Best Book

2011’s prize was awarded to Kenneth Armstrong, Queen Mary, University of London for his book Governing Social Inclusion: Europeanization through Policy Coordination. This book analyzes the emerging governance of social inclusion in the EU and the use of the OMC as a mechanism of Europeanization of domestic social policy. Grounded in historical institutionalism and the best of EU legal scholarship, the book also presents readers with significant new empirical data. In addition, it is also a normative study, in that it concludes with concrete practical suggestions for reform.

Kenneth’s book was commended by the judges for its significant development of the theoretical literature on Europeanization and its central questions which strike at the heart of the EU’s identity. As one judge commented, ‘this is EU studies at its very best’.

Published by OUP, ISBN: 978-0199278374

UACES chair, Richard Whitman, congratulates Heike Klüver on her award at UACES annual conference in Cambridge.
Central and Eastern Europe after the Global Economic Crisis

Budapest, 30 September 2011

Christian Schweiger, Durham University

The second public workshop of the ‘The EU-27 Single Market in the Global Economy CRN’ was organised by the Centre for EU Enlargement Studies (CENS) at Central University Budapest in Hungary. The purpose of the event was to bring together academic experts and policy makers to discuss the impact of the 2008-2009 global economic crisis and the ongoing eurozone crisis on the economies of the EU member states in Central and Eastern Europe. Discussions at the workshop were dominated by the response of the EU to the turmoil in the global financial markets and the resulting imbalances in individual member states, particularly Greece.

The seminar, which was divided into three panels, was opened by Christian Schweiger, Lecturer in Government, School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University, whilst the keynote speech was given by György Kopits, Senior Scholar, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in the United States and formerly President of the Fiscal Council in Hungary. The other distinguished moderators and speakers of the panels were: István Benczés, Corvinus University, Budapest; Tamás Schenk, Director, Department of Strategic, Planning and Controlling Department, OTP Bank; Atilia Bartha, Institute for Political Science, HAS; Lothar Funk, University of Applied Sciences Düsseldorf; Bela Galgoczi, Senior Researcher, European Trade Union Institute, Brussels; Gábor Oblath, Institute of Economics, HAS; András Deák, Research Director, CENS; Ágnes Csermely, Director, Monetary Strategy and Economic Analysis, Central Bank of Hungary; Tamás Szemlér, Senior Research Fellow, ICEG European Center, Budapest; Krisztina Arató, ELTE Faculty of Law, Institute of Political Science. The seminar was concluded by Péter Balázs, former Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Director of CENS.

Participants emphasised the multiple challenges for the CEE economies in maintaining growth and creating jobs under the crisis conditions. The general consensus amongst speakers was that governments need to make greater efforts to find a concerted response to the Greek crisis and to work towards the coordination of economic and budgetary policies. The crisis has made it less likely that current eurozone ‘outsiders’ such as Hungary and Poland will be able to join in the foreseeable future. It also remains to be seen if a persistently unstable eurozone will still be attractive for the CEE countries. Germany’s central role in resolving the crisis was widely discussed at the event and participants also illustrated the continuing dependence of the CEE economies on the German economy. The two keynote speakers György Kopits and Peter Balázs emphasised the need to exercise leadership under exceptional circumstances and to focus on concrete solutions to the problems rather than to put forward grand strategic plans like the Europe 2020 Strategy.

Further information: www.uaces.org/single

CRN websites

New website - The Governance of Sustainability: Multiple Dimensions, Multiple Approaches
www.uaces.org/sustain

New-look website - Assessing Accession: Central and Eastern Europe in the EU
www.assessingaccession.eu

Romanis in Europe

Timofey Agarin

Over the past year the network has developed into a vibrant forum engaging academics in political and social science, research centres working on policy analysis, national policymakers in several Central and Eastern European states. We are looking forward to the second year of cooperation across a broad range of states and institutions dealing with Romani issues on the daily basis, and have established a network of dedicated scholars on Romani inclusion. With an expanded network board and the appointment of new officers for key day-to-day tasks, we expect the activities of the network to gather momentum in the coming months.

Together with Ada Engebritsen of Norwegian Social Research Institute NOVA, the network has conducted a workshop that brought together several research groups that are currently working on applying for European Commission FP7 research funding earmarked for Romani inclusion in Europe.

With Annabel Tremlett (University of Portsmouth) organising, the network will be holding a symposium ‘Researching with Roma Communities’ on 27 June 2012. This symposium aims at discussing challenges academics face when working with marginalised communities and will discuss opportunities for disseminating research on Roma minorities outside academic fora. A network-affiliated regional workshop on the Romani minorities in the Baltic states is also being organised for March 2012. The event is being arranged by Matthew Kott and will be held at the Centre for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Uppsala University, producing materials for a scheduled journal special issue.

The activities of the network thus far have aimed at bringing together academics from a range of backgrounds working with and on Romani minorities to discuss approaches to methodology, experiences of research, and options for making the best research results available to the communities and policy makers in question. We welcome expressions of interest from members of UACES working on issues of social exclusion and (the lack of) political participation among minority communities in the wider European context, as well as paper proposals for our panel at the 2012 UACES Annual Conference in Passau.

Further information: www.romanis.eu
The EU as a Global Robin Hood?

Brussels, 7 November 2011

Bart Van Vooren, Copenhagen University

In the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, taxation of the financial sector has forcefully re-emerged on the European Union political agenda. This idea recently reached a milestone during Commission President Barosso’s State of the Union speech on 28 September 2011, where he presented a legislative proposal for an EU financial transaction tax installed across the 27 EU Member States. Through this initiative, the EU wishes to lead by example, so that a financial transaction tax could be installed at global level.

The most recent UACES Arena seminar invited Dr Bart Van Vooren from the University of Copenhagen to present his research on this topic, with Sony Kapoor from the think tank Re-Define acting as a discussant. The core question this presentation sought to address is this: if the Union wishes to see this tax levied at global level, what is legally and institutionally necessary to attain that goal? The answer to that question was that it would be necessary to negotiate a global framework convention on a Financial Transaction Tax. From that starting point, the presentation then argued that this would require unprecedented reform to international financial governance, arguably to the systemic benefit of the international economic system. The regime could function as a stepping stone to thoroughly improving regulation of the international system of financial governance, by introducing legal commitment supported by legal dispute resolution where such is currently absent. Indeed, international financial governance is currently defined by club-like international networks which generate non-binding instruments which trickle down to national jurisdictions in diverging and unsatisfactory ways. The financial transaction tax could thus contribute to the regulatory objective of systemic, macro-economic stability.

The event was well-attended by a broad audience from financial institutions, NGO’s, EU institutions, journalists and others, and the seminar allowed participants ample time for an exchange of ideas on political, economic and legal aspects of the FTT proposal. From the political perspective, there was certainly quite a bit of skepticism that the Union could succeed to have this proposal implemented at global level. Where the EU proposal of September 2011 was supposed to generate political momentum towards the Cannes G-20, any political capital of the EU was spent on the Greek drama unfolding at the same time. However, from an economic and legal perspective, the picture was more rosy. Economically, many of the participants agreed that a financial transaction tax had strong merits to counter the perceived excesses of the globalized financial markets. Legally, while the global financial system is currently not geared to accommodate a financial transaction tax, it is not impossible if sufficient political will exists.

10-11 February 2012
Brussels

The 13th annual EU Studies Fair is an education and networking event bringing together prospective students, universities and the EU institutions. Academic institutions from across the globe will be present offering postgraduate programmes in EU Studies, International Relations, Business and Law.

Attending as a visitor is free of charge
Register now at www.eustudiesfair.com

An Economist Group business

For conditions on participation, please contact
Lucia Hricova at luciahricova@economist.com or 00 32 2 540 9076
December...

European Union Foreign Policy after Lisbon: The Role of Parliaments in EU Foreign Policy-making
London, 6 December 2011
www.uaces.org/459

Jack Straw on ‘Britain and Europe’
London, 6 December 2011
www.uaces.org/478

Terrorist Finance Tracking: Any Privacy Left?
Brussels, 7 December 2011
www.uaces.org/467

The Politics of Extreme Austerity: Greece beyond the Crisis
Glasgow, 8-9 December 2011
www.austeritypolitics.com

The European Union’s Economic and Social Model – Still Viable in a Global Crisis?
Leeds, 8-9 December 2011
www.uaces.org/427

January...

The Political Project of the European Union: Current State and Future Perspectives
Lisbon, 8-10 December 2011
www.uaces.org/424

The European Union and the Politicization of Europe
Vienna, 8-10 December 2011
www.uaces.org/406

UACES Arena: The New Euroscepticism: Sources, Patterns and Implications
Brussels, 8 December 2011
www.uaces.org/440

First Annual Sakharov Debate on Human Rights
London, 8 December 2011
www.uaces.org/479

Europe from the Outside In
Berlin, 15-17 December 2011
www.uaces.org/403

Multi-mode Governance: Shaping and Being Shaped by Globalization
Florence, 16-17 December 2011
www.uaces.org/341

Comparative Perspectives on the Substance of EU Democracy Promotion
Ghent, 16-17 December 2011
www.eu-ipods.eu

Norm Entrepreneurship: The Council of Europe in Comparative Perspective
Oxford, 11 January 2011
www.uaces.org/438

EU Research Funding: Workshop on Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities Streams
Brussels, 18-19 January 2012
www.uaces.org/445
EU Foreign Policy after Lisbon  
London, 19 January 2012  
www.uaces.org/460

Exits from the Crisis; Integration versus Disintegration  
Manchester, 20 January 2012  
www.uaces.org/435

Theseus Doctoral Seminar 2012: The EU after Lisbon  
Paris, 26-27 January 2012  
www.uaces.org/446

EU External Relations in the Post-Lisbon Era  
Washington DC, 3-4 February 2012  
www.uaces.org/426

Methodology of EU Law  
Opatija, 3-5 February 2012  
www.uaces.org/473

The Arab Spring: The View from Europe One Year on  
Liverpool, 22 February 2012  
www.uaces.org/433

New funding initiative: UACES Re-EUnion  
Bringing together policy makers and academics to reflect on policy initiatives and events in the EU’s history.  
Call for proposals now open  
www.uaces.org/call

March...

Central and East European Energy Strategies  
Glasgow, 2 March 2012  
www.assessingaccession.eu

International Conference on Social Protection and Migration  
Amsterdam, 13-14 March 2012  
www.uaces.org/441

19th International Conference of Europeanists  
Boston, 22-24 March 2012  
www.councilforeuropeanstudies.org

In Search of Effectiveness  
Dublin, 22 March 2012  
www.uaces.org/464

Communicating European Integration  
Berlin, 30-31 March 2012  
www.heirs-eu.org

New Challenges for the EU Internal Security Strategy  
Dundee, 30 March 2012  
www.uaces.org/policing

European Public Diplomacy: Soft Power at Work  
Los Angeles, 30 March 2012  
www.uaces.org/437
Recent Books

Interest Representation in the European Union
Justin Greenwood
Palgrave Macmillan
ISBN: 978-0230271944
GBP: 25.99

Eastern Partnership: A New Opportunity for the Neighbours?
Elena Korosteleva (ed)
Routledge
ISBN: 978-0415676076
GBP: 80.00

The US-EU Security Relationship: The Tensions Between a European and a Global Agenda
Wyn Rees
Palgrave Macmillan
ISBN: 978-0230221857
GBP: 24.99

The Transformation of Football: Towards the europeanisation of the national game
Arne Niemann, Borja García & Wyn Grant (eds)
Manchester University Press
ISBN: 978-0719085758
GBP: 65.00

Normative Power Europe: Empirical and Theoretical Perspectives
Richard Whitman (ed)
Palgrave Macmillan
ISBN: 978-0230577640
GBP: 60.00

Israel and the European Union: A Documentary History
Sharon Pardo & Joel Peters
Lexington Books
ISBN: 978-0739148129
GBP: 70.00

Freedom, Security and Justice after Lisbon and Stockholm
Sarah Wolff, Flora Goudappel & Jaap de Zwaan (eds)
TMC Asser Press
ISBN: 978-9067043175
EUR: 29.00

The Council of Europe
Structure, History and Issues in European Politics
Martyn Bond
A succinct and much needed introduction to the Council of Europe from its foundation through the early conventions on human rights and culture to its expansion into the fields of social affairs, environment and education.

Providing a wealth of factual information and describing and analysing the key debates within the organization, this work will be of great interest to students and scholars of international organizations, European politics and international relations.

Routledge
ISBN: 978-0415571197
In the midst of uncertainty regarding the future of the Eurozone and even the EU, the UACES Student Forum’s annual European Studies Research Students’ Conference was hosted in early November by the European Commission Representation and the European Parliament’s Information office in the UK. Jonathan Scheele, Head of the European Commission Representation and Michael Shackleton, Head of the European Parliament’s Information Office, delivered a particularly salient keynote address on the EU’s major institutional and economic (if not existential) crisis; discussing the possibility of further multispeed, divergent integration, and the potential negative implications for a UK outside of the core member states.

Later-stage PhD students were on hand through a series of panels to offer advice on some of the key parts of the process; Cristian Nitiou and Miguel Otero-Iglesias offered tips on disseminating work and networking at conferences and Tomas Maltby and Amy Busby offered insights into their experience of designing and carrying out fieldwork, from elite interviews to Amy’s experience of conducting participant observation in the European Parliament.

Dr Simon Usherwood, from the University of Surrey provided reflections on surviving his PhD, highlighting the importance of focusing on the wider experience rather than solely on the thesis to enhance employability; from teaching to publishing, presenting and preparing a post-PhD 3-5 years, as well as submitting a book proposal, whilst, crucially, maintaining a good work-life balance. Professor Simon Hix, of LSE and the Associate Editor of European Union Politics offered valuable insights and guidance into the process of getting work published, and how it is now essential to publish in SSCI ranked journals.

Timothy Less, from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Aleks Szczepański, University of Sussex gave complementary views on two options for careers in which a PhD can be applied; the more traditional academic route, and that of working for the UK government. Whilst uncertainties generated by higher education reform and the recession weigh upon the academic job market in the UK, some solace can be taken in the fact that in the light of the current crisis EU specialists are likely to remain salient and valuable in the job market, both in the UK government and politics departments.

Thank you to all who attended; both the participants who generously gave their time, and those who were part of the audience. After talk of democratic deficits and the worth of direct democracy, the day included the retirement of Simon Orth and Tomas Maltby from the Student Forum Committee, and an election for the new committee members who will begin work on the annual Student Forum research conference in 2012. We look forward to seeing you there.

Effective Abstracts

Writing a well-structured, clear and authoritative abstract that meets the requirements of a Call for Papers is an important step in getting your work accepted for conferences and journals.

PhD student Liz Gloyn’s informative blog, ‘Classically Inclined’, addresses the question of how to write a good abstract and provides plenty of hints and tips.

www.uaces.org/abstract
Appointments

Anke SCHMIDT-FELZMANN has joined the Politics Department at Stockholm University as a post-doctoral fellow with a research grant from the Swedish Research Council.

Sarah WOLFF has been appointed Teaching Fellow in the School of Public Policy, University College London.

Ferdinand WOLLENSCHLÄGER has been appointed Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Augsburg.

The Europe Institute in Auckland hosts a visit by President Barroso

President Barroso visited New Zealand for a day on the 8 September - the first visit by a Commission President since Gaston Thorn. The main purpose of his visit was to participate in the Pacific Island Forum; the EU is now the second largest donor to the Pacific region.

He also took time to visit the University of Auckland, to receive an honorary doctorate, to give a public lecture and to take part in a question answer session with staff and students organised by the Europe Institute. Unlike the Pacific heads of government he left before the opening of the Rugby World Cup the following day.

A copy of his speech, ‘The European Union – a committed partner for the Pacific’ can be viewed at: www.uaces.org/7003

Book launch by EC Vice President

Read what Maros Šefcovíč had to say at the Brussels launch of ‘Interest Representation in the European Union’ by Justin Greenwood.

www.uaces.org/7004

Your rights as a mobile student

A guide to the rights of mobile students in the European Union.

Further information: www.uaces.org/7005

British Academy bulletin

To receive information from the British Academy about funding opportunities and forthcoming events, you can subscribe to their email bulletin.

Further information: www.uaces.org/7006

Who governs Europe?

A new website that brings together electoral developments in Europe. You will find the most recent information on where the power lies in each EU Member State, as well as breaking news with fresh elections results.

Further information: www.uaces.org/7007

From left to right: David Mayes, José Manuel Barroso, George Cunningham and David Daly

Upcoming UACES deadlines

13 January 2012
Funding applications to sponsor a conference or Workshop
www.uaces.org/events/funding

20 January 2012
Call for Papers for the UACES 42nd Annual Conference Passau, 3-5 September 2012
www.uaces.org/passau

31 January 2012
Nominations for the UACES Committee
www.uaces.org/elections

3 February 2012
Copy deadline for the next Newsletter

9 February 2012
Call for Re-EUNion proposals
www.uaces.org/call

9 February 2012
Funding applications to support Collaborative Research Networks
www.uaces.org/networks

17 February 2012
Arena bursary applications
www.uaces.org/arena

2 March 2012
Nominations for the Reporting Europe prize
www.reportingeurope.eu

31 March 2012
Nominations for the Best Book and Best PhD prizes
www.uaces.org/awards
JCER Special Issue

The Journal of Contemporary European Research has recently published a Special Issue on ‘EU-Russia Relations and the International Society Theory’.

The issue was guest-edited by Tom Hashimoto and embeds the discourse on EU-Russia relations in International Society theory in order to create a level-playing field that has thus far eluded scholarly debates.

The JCER is an open access journal which is freely available online.

Further information: www.jcer.net

Ask the EU

Ask the EU has been built by civil society organizations to help members of the public get the information they want about the European Union – by asking for it. The site is currently available in English, French, German and Spanish but volunteer translators are invited to contact the website to broaden the range of languages covered.

Further information: www.asktheeu.org/en

Lifelong Learning Programme

The most recent round of grants for this Jean Monnet Programme saw a number of UACES members successful in their grant applications including:

- Alberto ALEMANNO, HEC Paris (Jean Monnet Chair)
- Andrew GLENCROSS, University of Aberdeen (Module)
- Daniel GÖLER, University of Passau (Jean Monnet Chair)
- Aylin GÜNEY, Yasar University (Jean Monnet Chair)
- Amelia HADFIELD, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Module)
- Stanislaw KONOPACKI, University of Lodz (Jean Monnet Chair)
- Elena KOROSTELEVA, Aberystwyth University (Jean Monnet Chair)
- Georg MENZ, Goldsmiths University of London (Jean Monnet Chair)
- Sinisa RODIN, University of Zagreb (Ad personam Jean Monnet Chair)
- Tatiana ROMANOVA, Saint Petersburg State University (Jean Monnet Chair)
- Dagmar SCHIEK, University of Leeds (Ad personam Jean Monnet Chair)
- Nadezda SISKOVA, Palacký University in Olomouc (Module)

A more comprehensive list can be viewed at www.uaces.org/7001

To make your own funding application, go to: www.uaces.org/7002

Call for papers and articles

11 December 2011
The EU and China – Partners for a Green World
Brussels, 19-20 April 2012
www.uaces.org/466

16 December 2011
Central and East European Energy Strategies: Creating a Sustainable Energy Future within the EU
Glasgow, 2 March 2012
www.assessingaccession.eu

16 December 2011
Seventh Annual Graduate Student Conference on the European Union: Crisis, Cooperation and Change
Pittsburgh, 30-31 March 2012
www.uaces.org/471

15 January 2012
Sixth Pan-European Conference on EU Politics
Tampere, 13-15 September 2012
www.uaces.org/430

15 January 2012
Environmental Protection in the Global Twentieth Century: International Organizations, Networks and Diffusion of Ideas and Policies
Berlin, 25-27 October 2012
www.uaces.org/463

20 January 2012
Old Borders, New Frontiers: UACES 42nd Annual Conference
Passau, 3-5 September 2012
www.uaces.org/passau

10 February 2012
The Governance of Sustainability: The Transformation of Global Environmental Governance
Cambridge, 12-13 April 2012
www.uaces.org/sustain

2 March 2012
Integration or Disintegration? The Future of European Law & Policy
Birmingham, 28-29 June 2012
www.uaces.org/457

1 May 2012
Croatian Yearbook of European Law and Policy
www.cyelp.com

Further information: www.uaces.org/7001
From the Panel to the Pub to the Proposal to the Project

Albrecht Sonntag, ESSCA School of Management

One of the most refreshing aspects of the UACES Annual and Research Conferences is that they really deliver on their motto ‘Exchanging Ideas on Europe’. It’s a forum where you can test different topics and approaches in front of a critical but friendly audience without being afraid to put your academic reputation at risk.

The panel

It was in this spirit that the panel on ‘The European Game: Football’s (underestimated) contribution to the emergence of a European public space’ was set up for the 2008 conference in Edinburgh. The different papers aimed at exploring what the multiple dimensions of this widely shared social practice could teach about European integration beyond issues of sports governance or case law on the freedom of movement.

The pub

Encouraged by the lively debate in what turned out to be a very well-attended panel, the paper-givers headed for a pub in downtown Edinburgh to take the ideas further in front of a Scottish pint (and live football on the flat screens, of course). They came to the conclusion that it would be worth a try developing the different thematic and methodological approaches into a full-fledged, genuinely interdisciplinary, collaborative research project that might even be submitted to the EU’s 7th Framework Programme.

The proposal

A first proposal was drafted and submitted to the 2009 call of the FP7. In hindsight, it is easy to see that it was not fully in line with the call’s precise objectives and was not mature enough to be entirely convincing. In 2011, however, it was: a consortium of researchers, six of whom had been in this room in Edinburgh in September 2008 (and not all of whom are necessarily football fans), won the call ‘The anthropology of European integration’ with a proposal entitled ‘FREE – Football Research in an Enlarged Europe’.

The project

In the Commission terminology the project is ‘small or medium-size’, but the grant of 2.4 million Euros and the organisation of a total of eight academic events over a duration of three years is big enough to intimidate the poor coordinator. FREE will not start before April 2012 and will have opportunities enough in the future to report about its progress and publish its open calls for papers in this newsletter. What is essential at this stage is to say a big ‘thank you’ to UACES for providing an international and multidisciplinary environment in which ‘strange’ or ‘crazy’ ideas can be launched and discussed. Without it, this innovative project covering nine European countries would not have come into existence. Merci beaucoup!
Nominations for UACES Committee now invited

Nominations are now invited from members of UACES for election to the UACES Committee for the following posts:

- Chair
- Committee Members (2 places)

If you are an individual member of UACES and feel that you can contribute to this active working Committee, you are encouraged to nominate yourself.

Further information: www.uaces.org/elections

Thank you

Three of our elected Committee members completed their terms of office in September. We would like to say thank you to Amelia Hadfield (who served as Secretary), Kenneth Armstrong and Judith Clifton for their contributions over the past three years. Kenneth will be helping us out for a little bit longer; he kindly agreed to remain on our Investment working group for another 12 months.

College of Europe Scholarships

As many UACES members will know, the UK government in 2010, following a temporary reprieve, finally decided to cease funding its general scholarships for up to 22 UK students attending the College of Europe. Thanks to the generous efforts of Moya Denman and others, a small number of privately-funded fees-only scholarships are now available through the ‘Bruges-Natolin UK European Scholarships Fund’.

Set up in memory of Sir Roy Denman, the fund, which depends on philanthropic donations and which awarded three scholarships to students studying at the College of Europe in 2011-12, expects to fund at least two ‘Denman’ scholarships in 2012-13. The scholarships are available to students from the UK, who can demonstrate that they would not otherwise be able to fund their study at the College of Europe. All eligible students offered places at the College are considered for a Denman Scholarship.

In addition, a small number of full scholarships continue to be funded by two of the UK’s devolved administrations. Students from Scotland and Wales applying to the College will be considered for scholarships funded by, respectively, the Scottish and Welsh governments. The devolved administration in Northern Ireland has, however, taken the UK government’s lead and ceased scholarship funding for Northern Ireland-domiciled students.

Details of scholarship funding for UK applicants to the College of Europe are available from the ‘Admissions’ page on the College website. This includes details of the scholarships for fast stream civil servants that the UK government’s Department of Business, Innovation and Skills currently funds.

Further information: www.brunatscholars.org.uk

Next Copy Deadline: 3 February 2012

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What is UACES?

UACES is the academic association for contemporary European studies.

UACES is an active, international network of over 1,000 members. It provides an independent, interdisciplinary forum for the exchange of ideas and debate on European issues.

UACES promotes research and teaching in European Studies, bringing together academics with practitioners active in European affairs.

Journals and Publications

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Journal of Contemporary European Research (JCER)
UACES-Routledge Contemporary European Studies book series
UACES News

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The European Parliament’s Committees

Richard Whitaker

This book analyzes the development of the European Parliament’s (EP) committees and their relationship with national political parties in the light of the EP’s increased legislative role over the last three decades.

The book argues that national parties have a greater incentive to care about what goes on in the EP given the growth in its legislative power. Because most of the EP’s detailed legislative work takes place in its committees, national parties should be concerned about their involvement with the EP’s committee system. Based on extensive original research, this book shows how the EP’s committees have changed over time in response to legislative empowerment and analyzes how national parties and individual MEPs use the committee system to further their policy goals. The book makes a theoretical contribution by providing an explanation for the variation in powers of committees between separated and fused systems of government and by adapting theories of legislative organization developed in the context of the US Congress, to the EP.

The European Parliament’s Committees will be of interest to students and scholars studying the European Parliament, EU institutions, policy-making, and the development of legislatures and political parties.

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