BUILDING A CULTURE OF EUROPEAN STUDIES
THE YEAR IN BRIEF

EXTERNAL REVIEW OF INSTITUTE
DRAW S HIGH PRAISE

NEW CONNECTIONS
WITH HUMANITIES INSTITUTES

GRANT NUMBERS INCREASE ACROSS THE BOARD

UNPRECEDENTED ISLAM AND EUROPEAN LITERATURE CONFERENCE

MASSIVE NEW ARCHIVAL ACQUISITIONS

UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP GROWS

DISTINGUISHED BERLIN WALL ANNIVERSARY

LECTURE AND PANEL

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH WINS NATIONAL AWARD

FACULTY WINS NATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD

INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCES

ENATIONAL PRAISE
We often hear that European studies is in decline in American universities. Students take fewer courses in European fields; the study of European languages is down; entire departments are being eliminated. We haven’t seen any signs of this trend at the Nanovic Institute. The market for European studies at Notre Dame is booming!

This year, we had standing-room-only audiences for many of our European events. We celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall by hosting two of the key insiders in the reunification of Germany, Horst Teltschik and J.D. Bindenagel. It is fascinating to think that many students in attendance were not even alive when the Wall came down. We also organized a unique conference on the place of Islam in contemporary European literature with eleven leading writers and poets from Europe. Despite their stature, many of these individuals had never met each other or even been invited to the United States. This past spring, we also continued our long-standing tradition of bringing major figures in the Catholic Church to Notre Dame: Archbishop Reinhard Marx (Germany), who is widely considered to be one of the Church’s leading intellectuals, presented the Keeley Vatican Lecture.

The interest that students show in our conferences and lectures is reflected in the continued growth in the number of applications for our grants. This year, the Institute supported 115 student proposals. Undergraduate interest in advanced training in modern European languages continued to be very strong. Twelve undergraduates secured European internships. Twelve more conducted research toward their senior theses. We can see the impact of these activities: our students are winning Fulbrights, taking part in research competitions, and even presenting their own research at international conferences. More and more of them are pursuing graduate degrees.

On the graduate side, the numbers are growing even faster. We saw a large jump in the number of applications for year-long fellowships. Demand for travel and research remains strong; demand for language training increased again. The Institute supported 56 of these individual proposals, a 22% increase. We also witnessed a potentially telling increase in small grants that typically support short trips, but this past year were used more frequently to support paper presentations at scholarly conferences. This is a good sign. If Notre Dame’s graduate students are to excel, they need to take advantage of every professional opportunity. To this end, the Institute also supported two exemplary graduate student conferences, the renown of which is spreading regionally, nationally, and even internationally.

The intensity of our students’ interest in the life of the mind has not grown out of a vacuum. It directly reflects their recognition of Notre Dame’s manifest strengths in nearly every aspect of European studies, including political science, theology, architecture, and history.

Finally, the Institute undertook its first external review this year. Three world-class scholars were brought in from other universities to assess our success in building a culture of European studies at Notre Dame. Their final report was wonderfully affirming. Allow me to mention just a few of their comments. The reviewers characterized the Institute as a “European haven.” They observed that we have become “a crucial part of the University’s intellectual and organizational infrastructure” and that “everything the Nanovic Institute does, it does well.”

Personally, I found this comment most gratifying: “Nanovic is seen by all we interviewed as a place where a predominating virtue of hospitality has ended up defining the best spirit of the university.” Hospitality is an ancient virtue (cf. Romans 12:13). Yet it sometimes seems woefully absent at modern institutions of higher education. I don’t know how effectively a spirit of hospitality can be conveyed on the printed page, but perhaps our most recent activities, described in this review, will pique your curiosity enough to make you want to pay us a visit.

A. James McAdams
September 10
FILM SERIES
In partnership with Peter Holland, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, and Shakespeare at Notre Dame, this year’s film series, European Shakespeare, brought to campus Grigori Kozintsev’s Lear, Ernst Lubitsch’s To Be Or Not To Be, Peter Greenaway’s Prospero’s Books, and other remarkable films like the newly-restored 35mm print of Sven Gade’s version of Hamlet from the Deutsche Film Institute. Prominent scholars such as Samuel Crowl, Barbara Hodgdon, Douglas Lanier, Philip Gossett, Jill Godmilow, and Judith Buchanan, introduced each film with multimedia presentations.

October 12
FALL OF THE WALL
Germany, Europe, and the world celebrated the 20th anniversary of an historic event on November 9th: the fall of the Berlin Wall. To give us an insider’s perspective on this event and its implications, Horst Teltschik, former national security advisor to Helmut Kohl and principal architect of German unification, delivered the Nanovic Institute’s Distinguished European Lecture. The event was also supported by the Henkels Lecture program. Ambassador J.D. Bindenagel led a panel discussion about the East German revolution. Bindenagel was deputy ambassador to East Germany and served as ambassador to unified Germany in the mid-1990s. Four faculty from the History Department (Thomas Kselman, Mikolaj Kunicki, Semion Lyandres, and Alexander Martin) were respondents.
October 26 - 30
VISITING SCHOLAR SEMINAR
Antoine Arjakovsky, Professor of Theology and Director of the Institute of Ecumenical Studies, L’viv, Ukraine, offered this year’s Visiting Scholar Seminar. A pioneer in ecumenism in the former USSR and an Orthodox theologian in the Patriarchate of Constantinople, Arjakovsky held daily discussions on such topics as Vladimir Putin’s understanding of peace and Orthodoxy; the geopolitics of Ukrainian ecclesiology, and the state of religious journalism after the USSR.

November 16 - 17
SYMPOSIUM
Award-winning European novelists, playwrights, and scholars gathered at Notre Dame to discuss the place of Islam in contemporary European literature. Leïla Sebbar, Salim Bachi, Malika Mokkedem, Youssef Seddik, Laila Lalami, Robin Yassin-Kassab, and Alek Toumi engaged in two days of lively discussion with scholars Muneeza Shamsie, Hafid Gafaïti, and keynote speaker Azouz Begag. The event included a screening of Le Grand Voyage, introduced by its director, Ismaël Ferroukhi. Organized by the Institute in collaboration with faculty fellows Catherine Perry and Alison Rice, the symposium was co-sponsored by the Kroc Institute, Kellogg Institute, and the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts. Papers from the symposium will be published this coming year in the academic journal Religion & Literature.

January 25
FLASH PANEL
Professors Paolo Carozza, Richard Garnett, and Donald Kommers held a panel discussion on the recent ruling by the European Court of Human Rights against the display of crucifixes in Italian classrooms in the case of Lautsi v. Italy. There was a standing-room only crowd at the Law School. The professors’ remarks will be published by the Institute this summer.
February 15

SHANNON PRIZE

The Institute announced that Roberto M. Dainotto, author of Europe (in Theory) (Duke University Press, 2007), is the winner of the inaugural Laura Shannon Book Prize in Contemporary European Studies for 2010. The lecture and presentation of the $10,000 award will take place on September 23rd at the University of Notre Dame.

April 7

KEELEY VATICAN LECTURE

His Excellency Reinhard Marx, Archbishop of Munich and Freising, gave the 2010 Terrence R. Keeley Vatican Lecture. Addressing a packed audience with “The Social Message of the Church in the Context of Contemporary Challenges,” Archbishop Marx touched upon the themes of his book, Das Kapital (2009), wittily echoing the title of its famous predecessor. The lecture was streamed live on the University website as well as campus cable channel 13.

May 15

GRADUATION OF MINORS


May 28

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES PARTNERSHIP

Director A. James McAdams and Assistant Director Anthony Monta travelled to the Institut Catholique de Paris (Paris, France) to represent the Institute and Notre Dame at the annual meeting of the Catholic Universities Partnership (CUP). A group of seven universities, the CUP focuses on the practical challenges and opportunities facing modern Catholic universities in areas as curriculum, spirituality, leadership, and research.
STUDENT EVENTS

GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCES
The Nanovic Institute continues to support the professionalization of graduate students by awarding grants for staging interdisciplinary conferences conceived and organized by the students themselves. This year, the Institute was the primary sponsor of two conferences: *The Center Cannot Hold: The Movement of Ideas Between Imperial Centers and Peripheries* and *Weltliteratur: Crossing Boundaries*. The conferences brought together graduate students in a variety of disciplines as well as keynote speakers from national and international universities. Conference topics were proposed by Eleanor Pettus of the Department of History and Gretchen Büsl of the Ph.D. in Literature Program.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS
With the Institute’s support, graduate students Naomi Luce, Richard Oosterhoff, Melissa Dinsman, and Heather Treseler presented papers at international scholarly conferences in philosophy, philosophy of science, and literature.

Two seniors, Vu Nguyen and Richard Ybarra, received Nanovic undergraduate initiative grants to present research at the UNIV conference, an annual international gathering in Rome during Holy Week.

Fifteen students who presented at Notre Dame’s 2010 Undergraduate Scholars Conference were current or former Nanovic grant recipients.

CONNECTIONS TO EUROPEANS
It was gratifying this year to see graduate students in History conversing with the principal architect of German unification, Horst Teltschik; doctoral candidates in the Ph.D. in Literature Program conversing with contemporary novelists like Azouz Begag and scholars like Hafid Gafaiti, Muneeza Shamsie, and Alek Toumi; undergraduates in the performing arts chatting with the world authority on Giuseppe Verdi, Philip Gossett; and students in Theology interacting with someone as prominent in the Church as Archbishop Reinhard Marx.

Through these and other co-sponsored activities, the Institute brings students into close contact with the most interesting and prominent people in European studies today.

"The Weltliteratur conference is one the most important initiatives of the Ph.D. in Literature Program which will contribute greatly to our students’ intellectual and professional development, significantly enhance the visibility of the program, and bolster our recruitment efforts."

Joseph Buttigieg
William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of English

Designed by Communications Specialist Jennifer Lechtanski, the poster above will be featured as set dressing in an upcoming, feature-length Hollywood film about an English department (“Larry Crowne”) starring Tom Hanks and Julia Roberts.
From left to right: Michael Mawson, Lucrecia Garcia Iommi, Hayley Dalgleish, Jason Miller, Katherine Mohrig, Collin McCabe, and Richard Oosterhoff
EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT RESEARCH

THE NANOVICE INSTITUTE AWARDED 115 GRANTS TO STUDENTS IN EUROPEAN STUDIES THIS YEAR. EXAMPLES APPEAR BELOW. A COMPLETE LIST IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE.

GRADUATE

THE DOMINICA AND FRANK ANNESE FELLOWSHIP IN GRADUATE STUDIES
Richard Oosterhoff (History and Philosophy of Science) “Jacques Lefèvre d’Étapes, His Pupils, and the Ends of Number: Mathematics and Philosophy in Northern Renaissance”

PAUL G. TOBIN DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS
Lucrecia Garcia-Iommi (Political Science), “The Role of Ideas in the Creation of International Institutions”

Michael Mawson (Theology), “Bonhoeffer, Hegel and the Ethical Life”

Jason Miller (Philosophy), “Subjectivity in Hegel’s Philosophy of Art”

UNDERGRADUATE

THE R. STEPHEN AND RUTH BARRETT FAMILY GRANT FOR BEST UNDERGRADUATE PROPOSAL
Javi Zubizarreta “The Basque and Irish Troubles in Film: Establishing a Connection and Career”

THE SNIDER FAMILY ENDOWMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN EUROPEAN STUDIES
Emma Zainey, for an internship at the Arciconfraternita della Misericordia

Erin Islo, to attend the Bucharest-Princeton Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy

THE DR. CHARLES C. PRICE MEMORIAL FUND FOR EAST-CENTRAL EUROPEAN STUDIES
Katherine Mohrig, “Division, Union, and Formation: The Power of Religion in Modern Ukraine”

EUROPEAN INTERNSHIP AND SERVICE GRANT
Marta Michalska, Research Assistant at the Maria Skłodowska-Curie Institute of Oncology

SENIOR TRAVEL AND RESEARCH GRANT
Collin McCabe, “Gastrointestinal Parasite Burdens in the Barbary Macaques of Gibraltar”

UNDERGRADUATE TRAVEL AND RESEARCH
Claire Brown, “Commodification of Heritage: The Role of the Connemara Pony in Irish Society”

GRADUATE TRAVEL AND RESEARCH
Melissa Dinsman, “Cooperative or Co-opted Communication? Understanding the Early Theory of Radio Plays”

GRADUATE ADVANCED LANGUAGE TRAINING
James Regier, Jagiellonian University — School of Polish Language and Culture

PESSOA GRANT FOR ADVANCED LANGUAGE TRAINING IN PORTUGUESE
Gabriela Austgen University of Lisbon

ALEXANDER PUSHKIN GRANT FOR ADVANCED LANGUAGE TRAINING IN RUSSIAN
Kristine Blyth ACTR/ACCELS Summer Advanced Language and Area Studies Program through the American Councils for International Education

The Institute publishes a complete booklet of grant reports from student researchers annually. Please contact the Institute for a copy.
STUDENT RESEARCH

Javi Zubizarreta (‘10) on location in front of the Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain.

Claire Brown (‘11) interviewing the locals in Connemara, Ireland.
BUILDING A SENIOR THESIS CULTURE

SOMETIMES THE BEST RESEARCH PROJECTS CAN’T BE COMPLETED IN ONE SUMMER.

We believe the future of European studies belongs to those who enter the profession with the best preparation and deepest commitment. Undertaking a senior thesis project represents both, so the Institute shares with the College of Arts & Letters the goal of creating a more robust senior thesis culture at Notre Dame.

For students to commit to writing a thesis, the university must in turn commit to them. At the Institute, we look for students who express sustained interest in particular research projects. We find that their commitment and intellectual agenda not only correlates with academic excellence but with faculty enthusiasm as well. Faculty fellows rave about these students. They mentor their projects. Grant proposals that come out of their interactions are precise, focused, and detailed. This is the kind of intellectual culture we want to foster.

Javi Zubizarreta (‘11, Film, Television, and Theatre) is an excellent example. Before the academic year, Javi traveled to the Basque region of Spain as a rising junior to study the cultural and political environment of Basque cinema. He interviewed the filmmakers, watched their films with them, and wrote a wonderfully detailed report. As a rising senior, Javi continued to refine and enlarge his project into something truly exemplary. For this, he won the Institute’s Barrett Family Grant for Best Undergraduate Proposal.

This summer, he is returning to the Basque country and to Ireland to draft a comparative honors senior thesis on Basque identity and produce a documentary film that explores the nuances of that identity in an international context. Being of Basque descent himself with deep connections in that community, Javi is uniquely prepared to be one of the leading authorities in English on this subject. He has a promising future as an academic in film studies and as a Basque filmmaker himself.

Similarly, Claire Brown (‘11, Anthropology) developed a sustained interest in the Connemara region of Ireland as a rising junior. Working closely with Professor Ian Kuijt in Anthropology, she proposed to study the relationship between Connemara pony culture and regional Irish identity. Returning with loads of interviews and other forms of qualitative data, Claire spent her junior year refining the theoretical framework of the project and focusing her central questions. She then won further Nanovic funding to spend her rising senior summer in Connemara and its nearby regions. Now working on an honors senior thesis, Claire is on track to present her research at the 2010 American Anthropological Association conference. She plans to pursue graduate studies in anthropology.

Significant projects like Javi’s and Claire’s are part of the Institute’s track record of building a senior thesis culture with real impact. Of this, the Institute and Notre Dame can be proud.

BARRETT RECIPIENT WINS FULBRIGHT

In 2008/09, the R. Stephen and Ruth Barrett Family Grant winner for Best Undergraduate Proposal was awarded to Monika Grzesiak (‘10, English and German) for her work on the literary history of Frank Wedekind (1864-1918), a controversial figure in modern German theater. Returning with volumes of notes, Monika crafted an honors senior thesis in German, which she presented at Notre Dame’s Undergraduate Scholars Conference this spring. Her research experience sponsored by the Nanovic made her more confident than before that her next step will be to enter graduate school for literature. Happily, that career will be preceded by more sponsored research in Germany: her project on Frank Wedekind has been awarded a research and study grant by the national Fulbright Program.
In central Europe, Viva Bartkus (Marketing) conducted collaborative research with faculty at Oxford University on the conditions and possibilities of economic reconstruction in Bosnia-Herzegovina. In the same region, Katherine Sredl (Marketing), examined the emerging intersections between local and global marketing in order to challenge US-dominated marketing theories about how consumers experience economic transformation. Mark Cummings (Psychology) received significant support from the Institute to extend his ground-breaking research on the cross-generational carrier mechanisms of political violence in Ireland to the potentially comparable case of contemporary post-war Croatia. The legacy of trauma continued to be a research theme in north-central Europe: Mikolaj Kunicki (History) pursued his research at the Hoover Institution on Church-State relations during communism and traveled to archives in Poland. Monika Nalepa (Political Science) also spent time in Poland conducting interviews and collecting legislative data on strategies of party survival and influence in its parliament; graduate students assisted her with the data stateside.

In western Europe, Nanovic fellows turned mainly to politics, religion, and literature. Andrew Gould (Political Science) continued his interviews into the relationships among the State, Church, and Islam in Portugal. In France, Julia Douthwaite (Romance Languages and Literatures) completed an article on a literary precursor to Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein, for which she was given the Best Article of 2009 award by the editorial board of the European Romantic Review and the executive committee of the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism.
SYMPOSIA

Notre Dame’s London Centre was the site of an increasing number of Institute-supported projects. Dennis Doordan (Art, Art History & Design) brought the Eric Gill Archive (digitization) project to another level in collaboration with a range of British scholars and universities. Peter Holland (English) held a conference on “Shakespeare and the Middle Ages” with the University of Cambridge, the Université Paris-Diderot, and the Globe Theatre. Greg Kucich (English) organized a symposium on the subject of “Irish London,” which began what is a continuing series of scholarly initiatives on the global cities and cosmopolitanism. Margaret Meserve (History) convened a conference at the Centre on “Historia Sacra,” focusing on the impact of religious historical writing on the development and articulation of national identities.

Nanovic fellows were supported at other international conferences as well. In Spain, Carlos Jerez-Farrán (Spanish) delivered a new paper on the cinema of Luis Buñuel at the University of Barcelona. In France, Jane Doering (College Seminar) organized “Simone Weil: A Centennial Celebration.” In Italy, Mary Keys (Political Science) delivered a paper on humility and modern politics and the Christian personalism of Dietrich von Hildebrand at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome. Fred Rush (Philosophy) delivered a new paper at the Eleventh International Kant Congress in Pisa.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

All discussion groups sponsored by the Institute were vigorously active; three of them initiated visits from US and international faculty to Notre Dame:

- EARLY MODERN STUDIES
- EUROPEAN AND MODERN PHILOSOPHY
- WAR AND REVOLUTION
- RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES
- ISLAM AND CONTEMPORARY EUROPE

Earning support was also the cross-departmental Global Modernisms Research Initiative. Its inaugural year focused on Italian Futurism.

SPONSORED SPEAKERS

The Institute supported the visits of fourteen speakers nominated by Notre Dame faculty, including Jan Gross and Caryl Emerson (Princeton University), Marjorie Garber (Harvard University), and Joseph Weiler (New York University). European speakers featured Emmanuel Faye (University of Rouen), Margrit Shildrick (Queen’s University, Belfast) and Maxim Kantor (Russia).

BOOK NEWS

Carlos Jerez-Farrán and Samuel Amago
Editors of Unearthing Franco’s Legacy (University of Notre Dame Press).

Sebastian Rosato
Unite or Die: Balance of Power Politics and the Construction of the European Community (Cornell University Press).

Monika Nalepa
NANOVIC INSTITUTE

A. James McAdams
Director
William M. Scholl Professor of International Studies

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Program of Liberal Studies (Chair) and English (Concurrent Professor)

Alyssa Gillespie
Associate Professor, Russian Language and Literature
Co-Director, Program in Russian and East European Studies

John Paul II Catholic University in Lublin, Poland
VISITING SCHOLARS

FALL 2009

Ferenc Hörcher
Pázmány Péter Catholic University
Piliscsaba and Budapest, Hungary

Julia Lopez
Pompeu Fabra University
Barcelona, Spain

Łukasz Niesiołowski-Spanò,
University of Warsaw
Warsaw, Poland

SPRING 2010

Mauro Pala,
Visiting Fulbright Scholar
University of Cagliari, Italy

Florian Michel,
Visiting Fulbright Scholar
Practical School of Advanced Studies
Paris, France

Enrique Anrubia
University Cardenal Herrera-CEU
Valencia, Spain

SUMMER 2010

Orysya Hachko
Ukrainian Catholic University
L’viv, Ukraine

Ewa Kula
John Paul II Catholic University
Lublin, Poland

Roberto Di Ceglie
Pontifical Lateran University
Rome, Italy

Peter Nemec
Catholic University of Ružomberok
Ružomberok, Slovakia

NEW FELLOWS

John Deak
History

David Fagerberg
Theology

Margot Fassler
Keough-Hesburgh Professor, Theology

Lauren Faulkner
History

Felipe Fernández-Armesto
William P. Reynolds Professor, History

Sabrina Ferri
Romance Languages and Literature

Peter Jeffery
Grace Chair in Medieval Studies, Concurrent Professor of Music and Theology

Sean McGraw, C.S.C.
Political Science

Vittorio Montemaggi
Religion and Literature

Briona Nic Dhiarmada
Concurrent Professor of Irish Language and Literature and Film, Television, and Theatre

Samantha Salden
School of Architecture

Katherine Sredl
Mendoza College of Business

Samir Younés
School of Architecture
NEWS

JAMES ROBERT WEGS, 1937-2010

As this issue of our newsletter goes to press, we are saddened to learn of the passing of the Institute’s founding director and professor of history, J. Robert Wegs. Bob was an eminent Europeanist who specialized on the Austro-Hungarian empire and the Holocaust. His enthusiasm for European studies and his inspired leadership will remain indelibly imprinted on the institute’s identity.

NEW VICE PROVOST FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

“Enhancing and expanding the international components of Notre Dame in all their many dimensions” is the top priority of J. Nicholas Entrikin, Notre Dame’s new Vice President and Associate Provost for Internationalization. Formerly Vice Provost of International Studies at UCLA, Entrikin is a sociologist, geographer, and former Guggenheim Fellow. He is also the author of *The Betweenness of Place: Towards a Geography of Modernity* (1991). Entrikin is excited about the prospects and enthusiasm he has found at Notre Dame.

The Nanovic Institute looks forward to being part of the University’s strategic developments in this area.