Welcome to the 2011-12 academic year!

As the new Head of the European Institute, let me take this opportunity to welcome both our new and returning students. My colleagues and I hope that you will find the coming academic year a very rewarding one.

This year, we will have a total of around 200 new students in the European Institute. As always, we’re delighted that you come from many different backgrounds and countries. This year, we expect about 42 different nationalities to be represented in our EI student body. This is a very rich resource in our teaching.

You find the EI in very good shape. My predecessor as EI Head, Professor Damian Chalmers, is taking a well-earned sabbatical and will spend much of his time in New York. In January, we will welcome Sara Hobolt from Oxford as the first appointee to the new ‘Sutherland Chair on European Institutions’. We also expect to be appointing to the John Paulson Chair in European Political Economy.

The LSE is in a stronger financial position than most universities in Britain. The School’s Acting Director – Professor Judith Rees – is carefully steering us forward, as we make the transition to a new Director in 2012. The School encountered some bad publicity last spring over its links with Libya and the independent report drawn up by Lord Woolf will be submitted in the coming weeks. The School has already taken measures to respond to the implications of the case and will no doubt make further progress with appropriate confidence.

So, I welcome you to the new academic year in a very positive spirit and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

Kevin Featherstone
Head of Institute

Current PhD student, Andreas Kornelakis, has been appointed as a permanent Lecturer in Human Resource Management at the new School of Business, Management and Economics at the University of Sussex. Andreas, who will be starting on 1 October, will be teaching courses on HR and industrial relations, as well as a course on the EU as a business context.

Congratulations Andreas!!
Hellenic Observatory’s new A.N. Hadjiyiannis Research Fellowship appointments

The Hellenic Observatory is very happy to announce the start of its new Research Fellowship, the “A.N. Hadjiyiannis Research Fellowship on Contemporary Cyprus”.

This new fellowship follows on from the generous donation of Mr Andreas Hadjiyiannis, for which the HO is very grateful. This Fellowship will run for a period of 5 years starting September 2011 and the post has been offered to two candidates on a shared programme. This is the first time that the Hellenic Observatory has been able to offer a fellowship for research on contemporary Cyprus and this achievement both complements and expands the HO’s mission in the area.

The two Senior Research Fellows are Dr Rebecca Bryant and Dr Nicos Skoutaris.

Dr Rebecca Bryant
Rebecca joined the HO on 1 September 2011. Positions held include Associate Professor of Anthropology at George Mason University, Virginia, USA and Research Director at the Cyprus Critical History Archive, Nicosia, Cyprus. Over the five years Rebecca will continue with three on-going projects and the initiation of two new projects using ethnographic research in unrecognised, breakaway states to investigate everyday construction of sovereignty in a global or transnational order.

Dr Nicos Skoutaris
Nicos will join the HO on 1 September 2012. Nicos is currently Assistant Professor in International and European Law at Maastricht University, Netherlands. Over the four years, Nicos will develop a research agenda entitled “Accommodating ethno-territorial conflicts in Europe: A comparative approach to the Cyprus issue”.

Hellenic Observatory’s other Appointments

Prof Dimitris Venieris will join the Hellenic Observatory as Visiting Senior Fellow for a 6 month period (1 October 2011 - 31 March 2012). The subject of his research will be “Social Policy in Contemporary Greece: (social) mission impossible”. The primary aim of his research is to navigate the role of social policy in contemporary Greece and its ambiguous perspectives, as well as to assess the impact of the supranational factor in shaping this policy over the last decade. Prof Venieris is Associate Professor of Social Policy in the Department of Social and Educational Policy of the University of Peloponnese. He has published various articles and he is the author of three books: ‘European Social Policy and Social Rights: The end of the Rapsody’ (2009), ‘Social Policy in Greece: Challenges and Perspectives’ (2003) and ‘European Social Charter: The social policy of the European Council’ (2002).

Dr Agapi Kandylaki will join the Hellenic Observatory as Visiting Fellow for a 4 month period (20 October 2011 - 15 January 2012). Her research will be on “Anti-oppressive and Human Rights social work with Muslim Minority and Roma communities in Thrace”. The aim of her paper is to explore and critically discuss the experiences of discrimination of the Roma population and the Muslims (Rom and Gypsies) living in the most disadvantaged and underdeveloped neighbourhoods in the Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace in Greece. Agapi is an Associate Professor in Social Work, in the Department of Social Administration at the Democritus University of Thrace. She is a reviewer in the Journals ‘Koinoniki Ergasia’ and ‘Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies’.
Research on South Eastern Europe’s (LSEE) new Appointments

Dr Aleksandra Nojković will join LSEE as a Visiting Fellow for four months from 1 October 2011. Aleksandra holds a PhD from the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Economics, where she is currently working as an assistant lecturer. Her primary research interest is the econometrics of emerging markets and transition economies. During her time with LSEE, she intends to focus her research on pre- during and post-crisis growth in South Eastern Europe.

Dr Kenneth Morrison joins LSEE as a Visiting Senior Fellow for the duration of the 2011-2012 academic year. Kenneth is Senior Lecturer in Modern European History at the Department of Historical and Social Studies, De Montfort University, Leicester. Kenneth’s collaboration with LSEE has already resulted in a LSEE Paper, Change, Continuity and Consolidation: Assessing Five Years of Montenegro’s Independence, and plans to continue his research of the politics of the Sandžak region during his fellowship.

Publications

- The latest LEQS - LSE ‘Europe in Question’ Discussion Paper Series paper has been published. Paper No. 43, which was written by Prof Damian Chalmers and Mariana Chaves, is entitled “The Reference Points of EU Judicial Politics” (September 2011).

- Two new GreeSE papers were published recently. Paper no. 49, which was written by Dr Vassilis Monastiriotis and Yiannis Psycharlis, is entitled “Without purpose and strategy? A spatio-functional analysis of the regional allocation of public investment in Greece” (August 2011). Paper no. 50 was written by Olga Christodoulaki, Haeran Cho and Piotr Fryzlewich and is entitled “A Reflection of History: Fluctuations in Greek Sovereign Risk between 1914 and 1929” (September 2011).

- Visiting Fellow Dr Olaf Cramme has written an essay on the relationship between European integration and social democracy. The paper is entitled “The power of European Integration: Social democracy in search of a purpose” and published here.

- Dr. Sara Hagemann has written an article on the coming Danish EU Presidency in Government Gazette “Denmark in the Chair: A challenging EU presidency for a member with ‘opt-outs’.

- Sara has also written a chapter entitled “Negotiations of the EU Budget: How decision processes constrain policy ambitions” in G. Benedetto and S. Milio (forthcoming) (eds.) EU Budget Reform: Revenue, Spending, and Institutional Change”, Palgrave.
October 2011

Events

Tuesday 4 October, 18.45, New Theatre, East Building
"Exit Strategies and Lessons Learned: From the Balkans to Afghanistan"
Prof Richard Caplan, Oxford University
Chair: Dr Denisa Kostovicova, LSE
Co-organised by LSEE and the LSE Government’s Conflict Research Group

Wednesday 5 October, 18.30, Old Theatre, Old Building
"Hellenism, Universal Rights and Apartheid"
George Bizos, Advocate
Hellenic Observatory Public Lecture, in association with London Hellenic Society

Tuesday 11 October, 18.15, COW 1.11
"Greece’s European Policy Making"
Prof Yannis Valianakis, Ministry of Finance Senior Research Fellow, Professor of International Relations/Jan Monnet Professor of European Diplomacy, University of Athens
Hellenic Observatory Research and Policy Seminar

Wednesday 12 October, 18.00, Thai Theatre, NAB
Presentation of World Bank report and discussion by academic and policy experts
"Obstacles to Western Balkan Trade in Services?"
Borko Handjiski (World Bank), Ivana Prica (University of Belgrade), Peter Sanfey (EBRD, tbc)
LSEE Research on South East Europe Lecture

Wednesday 12 October, 18.30, Sheikh Zayed Theatre, NAB
"Portugal Delivers"
Mr Paulo Portas, Foreign Minister of Portugal
Chair: Prof Kevin Featherstone
European Institute - APCO Worldwide Perspectives on Europe Series public lecture

Monday 17 October, 18.30, Old Theatre, Old Building
"Is the European Union becoming a market state?"
Prof Philip Bobbitt, Columbia University
Chair: Maurice Fraser
European Institute - APCO Worldwide Perspectives on Europe Series public lecture

Friday 21 October, 16.00, COW 1.11 (by invitation only)
"The European Parliament and Inter-Institutional Relations under the Lisbon Treaty"
Klaus Welle, Secretary General of the European Parliament; former Secretary General of the EPP Group and EPP party
European Institute EU in Practice Series Seminar

Tuesday, 25 October, 18.15, COW 1.11
"The current reform of IKA and the re-establishment of Social Insurance credibility in Greece - Reconciling social dilemmas and funding challenges"
Mr Dimitris Micharikopoulos, Senior Advisor, Social Insurance Institute (IKA-ETAM)
Hellenic Observatory Research and Policy Seminar

Thursday 27 October, 18.30, CLM.302, Clement House
"Crisis, which crisis? The implications for the open society in Europe"
Dr Heather Grabbe, Director of the Open Society Institute-Brussels
Chair: Maurice Fraser
European Institute - APCO Worldwide Perspectives on Europe Series public lecture

Friday 28 October, 16.00, COW 1.11 (by invitation only)
"Insiders, Outsiders and Unofficial Alliances: Influencing Policy within the EU system"
Dr Heather Grabbe, Director of the Open Society Institute-Brussels
European Institute EU in Practice Series Seminar
Sixty-second Interview

….with Dr Alison Johnston, recent PhD graduate, now Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, School of Public Policy, Oregon State University

How does it feel leaving the LSE and London after so many years? What will be the one thing you will miss the most from your student years here at the LSE, and from London in general?

AJ: The thing I miss the most about London and LSE is seeing my friends and peers everyday in J14. We are lucky to have such good camaraderie in the EI, and my fellow students were a second family to me – they were by far the most difficult thing to leave!

And you’re soon taking up your first academic position as Assistant Professor in Comparative Political Economy at Oregon State University! Congratulations! How does that feel? Tell us a few things about your new job.

AJ: It’s a bit daunting, to be honest – I still haven’t gotten used to being called Dr. Johnston! I work in the Department of Political Science and the School of Public Policy, and through the latter I will teach courses in Economics and Sociology, which I’m very excited about. I’m also helping to develop the Ph.D. program in Public Policy, and am working on a problem-based learning quantitative methods module for graduate students. The EI’s interdisciplinary focus was perfect training for this position, and has enabled me to teach in a number of departments and be involved with cross-departmental research projects.

Has your PhD title from the LSE helped you in getting your first academic job, and if so, in what way?

AJ: At first when I was applying for positions in the US, I thought I was going to be at a disadvantage for having a UK degree. When I went for my interviews, however, I was really surprised at how connected the LSE was to American universities. One of the places I interviewed at had sent college deans to LSE to observe its organizational structure, with the intention of applying it to their own programs. Also, the LSE research network really helped me get out publications early, which was crucial for my applications; through my supervisor and other staff at the EI, I was able to get involved with research not only in the EI and other LSE departments but also other colleges in the University of London and elsewhere. It’s quite a resourceful network!

Are you expecting to see any differences between the UK and US higher education system, in terms of teaching, type of students, school life etc?

AJ: I’ve noticed that the US system, particularly for undergraduates, concentrates on breadth rather than depth which has its advantages and disadvantages. It’s really nice for our Masters in Public Policy students, who not only take various quantitative and qualitative methods courses but also writing intensive modules. I notice for my undergraduate courses, however, that I need to be a bit less imposing with material than I could be at LSE/UCL. When I was composing my syllabus for public economics, the former professor for the course thought my reading list was a bit ambitious; I suppose I have become used to assigned reading lists where students are forced to drink from a fire hose!
Sixty-second Interview

Would you recommend US students to take up further studies in the UK?

AJ: Sure! I feel that for graduate studies, it’s really about the people you will interact with and do research with. The EI has a renowned research reputation, and even better, staff are willing to engage and collaborate with students. Funding is more problematic in the UK, particularly for international students (at Oregon State, even our Masters students are funded). But if someone managed to secure funding, I would definitely recommend going abroad.

You are of course a US citizen, but are you from Oregon State originally, or do you come from somewhere else? Tell us a few things about your hometown.

AJ: I was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota. It has Russia’s winters and Thailand’s summers. But it was a great place to grow up, even if 5 months of it was under 6 feet of snow. It’s given me a bit of a Scandi-identity complex…

What was your most memorable holiday ever, and why?

AJ: Recently I would say Turkey; I travelled up the coast with my brother from Bodrum to Istanbul. It was absolutely AMAZING; EU’s loss for not letting them in! The people are very friendly, the country is very beautiful, and there is something for every holiday traveller; the coast, archaeological ruins from every empire and religion you can think of, WW1 memorials, shopping, great food, and a distinct atmosphere!

I know that you love running. What is it about running that you love so much?

AJ: I got into running because my football coach threatened to kick us off the squad if we weren’t in shape. It took me a while to get into it, at first I ran about 6 miles a week, and now I do about 15-18. Once I found my rhythm, it became very addicting; it’s such a good release from studying/working and the endorphins are a real natural high!

Do you like doing other things too in your free time? Any secret hobbies that you have or any activity you’d like to take up in the future?

AJ: I love playing football. While I was in London, I played goal-keeper every Sunday for a team in the Greater London Women’s Football League. I think we set the league record for most injuries and own goals (incurred simultaneously), but it was a great escape from the Ph.D. I’d really love to take up road cycling in the future – my flatmate exposed me to it in Germany, and I was hooked! I also love cooking, although some of my (Italian) friends doubt its quality; I suppose when an American studies in Europe they should not expect their cooking to be admired...
Prof Nicholas Barr is giving the opening keynote on “Future issues in the pension systems of new EU countries” at a Sub-regional Experts Meeting on Pension Reform in Central and Eastern Europe, organised by the ILO in Warsaw on 6 October.

Dr Simon Glendinning is presenting a paper on “The End of the World Designed with Men in Mind” at the Journal of Historical Sociology Conference on ‘The End(s) of History’ in Montreal, Canada, 7-10 October.

Prof Iain Begg is contributing to a high-profile panel organised by Businesseurope at the “Open Days: 9th European week of regions and cities”, in Brussels, 12 October. The panel title is “Breaking the taboo”.

Also on 12 October, Visiting Fellow Dr Olaf Cramme is giving a lecture/talk at the University of St. Andrews, more precisely to the European Society, on “Is a politically and economically unified Europe (still) feasible?”.

Dr Simona Milio is giving a presentation on “The local and regional authorities as drivers of change towards a fully integrated Single Market” at the Open Day held by the European Commission in Brussels, 10-13 October.

Visiting Fellow Dr Anne Corbett is one of the international scholars selected to contribute to a book to be presented to ministers of higher education at the next ministerial meeting of the Bologna Process. The book is research-based. She is presenting her chapter “Principles, problems, policies...What does the historical record of EU cooperation in higher education tell the EHEA generation?” at the research conference, the Future of Higher Education, in Bucharest on October 17-19.

Dr Simon Glendinning is giving a talk on his new book “Derrida: A Very Short Introduction” at the Malmesbury Philosophy Festival on 15 October. Simon is also speaking on “The Blows to Human Narcissism” to the Post-Kantian Philosophy Seminar, Oxford University, 17.00-19.00, Ryle Room, on 19 October.

LSEE’s Dr James Ker-Lindsay is speaking at the Modern Greek Lecture Series, University of Cambridge on 20 October on the topic “Does a Cyprus Solution Still Matter?”

LSEE’s Dr Will Bartlett is presenting a paper on “Skills anticipation and matching systems: challenges facing transition countries in South East Europe” at a conference on “Anticipating and matching the demand and supply of skills in ETF partner countries” at the European Training Foundation, in Turin, Italy, on 24-25 October.

Will is presenting the same paper at the conference on “New Skills for New Jobs” organised by the Regional Cooperation Council in Sarajevo on 27-28 October.

Prof Nicholas Barr will give a presentation on “Pension Coverage and Reforms in OECD Countries” at an OECD/IOPS Global Forum on Private Pensions in Cape Town, on 26 October.

Visiting Fellow Richard Bronk is giving a lecture on “Uncertainty and the dangers of modelling monocultures in finance, policy and research”, and participating in a workshop on Complexity and Simulation, at the Department of Economics in the University of Turin on 27-29 October.

Prof Iain Begg is a keynote speaker at a Polish presidency event on the “Territorial Dimension of the European Social Fund in Warsaw on the 29 September.
EI in the News

Prof Iain Begg gave an interview to BBC’s World Business Report on 5 September, commenting the European bailout of Greece.

HO’s Research Fellow Theodore Panayiotides wrote an article for Greek newspaper To Vima on 5 September entitled “Greece functions with engines switched off”.

LSEE’s Dr James Ker-Lindsay was cited by Deutsche Welle, on 8 September, on current developments between Turkey and Israel. He is reported as saying that he agrees that Turkey is in a strong position with the US, more so perhaps than even Israel. “Turkey is a hugely important ally; militarily and strategically as a member of NATO, and as an energy partner it provides alternative gas and oil transit routes to those running through Russia so it can’t be cut loose,” he told Deutsche Welle.

On 11 September, Prof Kevin Featherstone, in a column for Kathimerini (Athens), wrote of the international implications of ‘9/11’.

Under the title “The EU will Last”, Dr Mareike Kleine’s and Andrew Moravcsik's article was featured in the New York Times Room for Debate opinion page on 12 September. On the same issue, another article was posted by HO’s Research Fellow Theodore Panayiotides entitled “The Lazy South? Think Again”.

On 16 September, Dr Vassilis Monastiriotis gave an interview to BBC Radio 5 Live Drive and commented on Europe’s decisions over Greece and the Euro. On the same day, Vassilis also spoke to Europe Tomorrow, ERA NET 105.8 (Greece) on the prospects of the Greek economy, on the basis of his recent article which was published on the Greece@LSE blog.

LSEE’s Dr James Ker-Lindsay also commented for The National (UAE) on 19 September, on Ankara’s reaction to natural gas exploration off the Cypriot coast. “Cyprus is perfectly within its legitimate, sovereign rights to engage in this [energy exploration] activity”, he said.

Prof Iain Begg commented for Tantao News on 20 September about the Euro-zone crisis and Greece. “This [leaving the euro] would cause its banking system to collapse, hyperinflation and have destabilizing political effects,” said Iain.

Iain was also interviewed by BBC News, Radio 4, on 20 September on the economic warnings from the IMF.

Iain also spoke to VOA News on 21 September and is quoted as saying “In a way, it’s a game of chicken that's going on, with the leaders of the creditor countries saying we want Greece to do more, and Greece saying we can’t do any more because we’re being squeezed so much that our populations are rebelling. And anyway we must have economic growth, otherwise we can’t continue”.

On 22 September, PTC covered the launch of the Serbian language edition of Dr James Ker-Lindsay’s book, Kosovo: The Path to Contested Statehood in the Balkans.

Prof Iain Begg spoke to VOA News on 24 September. In an article entitled “Europe’s Downturn Could Hamper Arab Spring Plans”, Iain is quoted saying that Europe’s economic problems will be felt differently in the various Arab Spring countries.

Iain also spoke to BBC Radio Scotland on 26 September commenting on the rescue plan for the Eurozone.

On 25 September, LSEE’s Dr James Ker-Lindsay said to Poten&Partners that Greece has vowed to defend the Greek Cypriots, commenting on the natural gas drilling dispute that is currently ongoing between Turkey, Israel and Cyprus.
**EI in the News**

**Dr James Ker-Lindsay** also gave an interview to Politika, one of the main newspapers in Serbia, on 26 September, arguing that the partition of Kosovo is a logical solution. The story was also picked up and translated by Greek online paper Anixneuseis.

**Prof Nicholas Barr** was mentioned in an article of the Christian Science Monitor on 25 September. He is reported to be currently writing a book with MIT economist Peter Diamond. This story was also picked up by News 25 and KTIV.

Under the heading “What Italy's Debt downgrade means for Greece?”, **Prof Iain Begg** comments to Xinhua News Agency on 28 September saying that from a Greek perspective, leaving the eurozone would mean its euro-denominated debt would be even higher in a successor currency. "This would cause its banking system to collapse, hyperinflation and have destabilizing political effects," said Iain.

On the same day, Iain also spoke to the Council on Foreign Relations saying "I do not think they will be obliged to leave the eurozone . . . exiting the currency is not the simple change that many commentators seem to suppose".

**EI Alumni News**

**Elias Korosis (Corossis)** (MSc European Political Economy, 2000/01) returned to London from Greece, joining the investment team at Hermes GPE, a global PE fund of funds and direct co-investor. He came from across the pond at Bridgewater Associates in Westport, CT, working in the client-directed research unit.

The European Institute is keen to hear from past students. Please email Euroinst.Alumni@lse.ac.uk with your latest news.