Annual EU Studies Conference:  
Researching and Teaching the EU:  
Best Practices and Current Trends in EU Scholarship  

November 9-10, 2018  
http://europe.illinois.edu/eu-studies-conference/  

Organized by  
The European Union Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  

LOCATION FOR ALL EVENTS:  
Levis Faculty Center | 919 W Illinois St | Urbana, IL 61801  

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9  
10:00 am - 6:00 pm  

Location: Levis Faculty Center, 919 W Illinois St, Urbana, IL 61801  
300 Lecture Hall on the 3rd Floor & 210 Conference Room on the 2nd Floor —see below  

Special Pre-Conference Events:  

| 10:00 - 10:30 am | Welcome reception for the Annual EU Day  
Location: 300 Lecture Hall on the 3rd Floor  |
| 10:30 - 11:45 am | “State of the European Union and Transatlantic Relations”  
A Conversation with His Excellency David O’Sullivan, Ambassador of the European Union to the United States, moderated by William Bernhard, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Professor of Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.  
Location: 300 Lecture Hall on the 3rd Floor  |
| 12:00 - 1:30 pm | Annual EU Day Ambassador’s luncheon  
Location: 210 Conference Room, 2nd Floor  |
| 3:00 - 4:30 pm | Roundtable: “Elections and US-EU Relations: A Comparative Look at the Elections to the US Congress and the European Parliament and Implications for Transatlantic Relations”  
Location: 300 Lecture Hall on the 3rd Floor  
Speaker:  
Xinyuan Dai, Political Science, University of Illinois  
Brian Gaines, Political Science, University of Illinois  
Konstantinos Kourtikakis, Political Science, University of Illinois  
Carl Niekerk, Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Illinois  
Robert Evans, former Member of the European Parliament (MEP)  
Moderator: Niala Boodhoo, host and executive producer of The 21st on local NPR-affiliate WILL-AM.  |
| 4:30 - 5:30 pm | Reception following the Roundtable; featuring entertainment by one of our talented alums, Ms. Lauren Turk.  
Location: Outside of 210 Conference Room, 2nd Floor  |
EU Studies Conference: "Researching and Teaching the EU: Best Practices and Current Trends in EU Scholarship"

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>8:00 – 8:30</td>
<td>Coffee/tea and pastries</td>
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| 8:30 – 9:30 | Welcoming Remarks & Opening Keynote Lecture: “Brexit and its Implications for the Rest of EU?”
   Speaker: Robert Evans, former Member of the European Parliament (MEP); Labour Member, Surrey County Council; Stanwell and Stanwell Moor; Politics Tutor, Royal Holloway, University of London |
| 9:30 – 9:45 | Break                                                                |
| 9:45 – 11:30| Research Presentations -- Setting the EU and Member State Agendas: EU and National/Local Institutions, Politics, Interests, and Culture |
   Magda Giurcanu, Teaching Assistant Professor, Political Science, East Carolina University
   “In Search for an Electoral Link between the EU Electorate(s) and the EU proposals: Reality or Wishful Thinking?”
   Petia Kostadinova, Assistant Professor, Political Science, University of Illinois at Chicago
   “Local Elections in Transition Societies: The Role of Party Promises”
   Zsuzsana Fagyal, Associate Professor, French & Italian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (and Victoria Bauer, Graduate Student, EU Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
   Sorin Nastasia, Associate Professor, Program Director for International Studies, Department of Applied Communication Studies and International Studies Program, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
   “Tensions Between Populist Discourse and the EU Framework: A Case Study on the 2018 Marriage Referendum in Romania”
   Elza Ibroscheva, Associate Dean and Professor, School of Communications, Webster University
   “Turbo-Folk, Turbo-Sexism, and Turbo-Politics: The Emerging Cultural and Political Role of Pop-Folk Music in the Balkans”
   15 minutes for each presentation; 30 minutes for Q&A and discussion at the end |
   Speaker: Larry Neal, Founding Director of the European Union Center; Professor Emeritus of Economics University of Illinois |
<p>| 12:45-1:00  | Break                                                                 |</p>
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| 1:00-2:15  | A best practice presentation & Round-table Discussion: “Strategies for Teaching the EU”  

*Best Practice Presentation:*

**Isabel Scarborough**, Associate Professor, Anthropology Program, Department of Social Sciences, *Parkland College*

*“Engaging with the European Union in the Community College Classroom: Pedagogy and Research Best Practices”*

*Syllabi presentations:*

**Ophelia Oglene**, Visiting Scholar (2018-19), European Union Center, University of Illinois; Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science and French, Middlebury College

*“The European Union”*

**Zsuzsana Fagyal**, Associate Professor, French & Italian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

*“Language and Minorities in Europe”*

**Gregory P. Rabb**, Professor and Coordinator of Global Education, Jamestown Community College

*“European Union”*

**Hellen McDonald**, Clinical Associate Professor, School of Social Work, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

*“Domestic and International Perspectives in Social Work: Refugees and Unaccompanied Minors – A Global Perspective”*

**Larry Leck**, Coordinator, Center for Nonviolence, College of Lake County

*“Critical Thinking/Peace Building: Using Critical Thinking Skills and Principles of Nonviolence to Promote Social Justice and the Sustainability of Civil Societies”*

**Karl Dirk Voss**, Professor, History, St. Louis Community College

*“The Modern World History”*

15 minutes for the best practice presentation; 5 minutes for syllabi presentations each; 30 minutes for Q&A and discussion

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<td>Break</td>
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<td>2:30 – 4:30</td>
<td>Graduate Student Research Presentations</td>
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**Justin D. Pierce**, Graduate Student, Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

*“European Identity and Expansion: The effects of Accession of New Member States on European Identity”*
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<tr>
<td>Alberto Miguel Burgos-Rivera</td>
<td>Graduate Student, EU Studies, University of Illinois at Urban-Champaign</td>
<td>“Straight to Brussels or Through Their Respective Member State: The Outermost Region’s Political Representation in the European Union”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genie Melamed</td>
<td>Graduate Student, EU Studies, University of Illinois at Urban-Champaign</td>
<td>“Determining Factors for the Success of Regional Autonomy in EU Member States”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Izabela Kantor</td>
<td>Graduate Student, International Studies, DePaul University</td>
<td>“Democratic Backsliding in Post-communist Europe: The Case of Poland”</td>
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<td>Katherine Brown</td>
<td>Graduate Student and Research Associate, FBI Working Group, Department of Public &amp; International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh</td>
<td>“The Single Voice Dilemma: EU Elite Actor Responses to the Ukrainian Crisis”</td>
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15 minutes for each presentation; 30 minutes for Q&A and discussion at the end

4:30 pm Closing Remarks

The conference and special pre-conference events (EU Day and round-table) are funded in part by a US Department of Education Title VI grant and a Jean Monnet Center for Excellence grant from the European Union.

Former MEP Mr. Robert Evans’ visit is made possible by the European Parliament Former Members Association’s “EP to Campus” program and Candriam.