

# EU Studies Conference 2018

“Researching and Teaching the EU:  
Best Practices and Current Trends in  
EU Scholarship”

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November 9-10, 2018

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Levis Faculty Center | 919 W Illinois St | Urbana, IL 61801 | [[map](#)]

Logistical memo, including maps [[PDF](#)]

**Abstract Submission and Registration Deadline was October 12, 2018.**

Registration is now closed.

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## **ABOUT THE CONFERENCE**

This annual conference will bring together regional college faculty with the aim of increasing research on and teaching of the European Union at universities and four-year and two-year colleges in Illinois and the Midwest. It will facilitate the building of a dynamic network for regional educators with interests in EU studies. The conference will include panel discussions in which participants can present their research on the EU, as well as sessions on effective teaching of EU-related subjects.

**Presentations on any topic relevant to EU studies are welcome.**

Colleagues with only a nascent academic interest in the EU are invited to join us without being obligated to present any materials.

**Graduate students are welcome.** We will also consider participation by graduate students. Travel support will also be possible for graduate students whose abstracts are accepted for presentation.

**Registration fee:** There is no registration fee for the conference or pre-conference events.

**Note about lodging:** The EU Center has reserved a block of rooms at the [Illini Union Hotel](#) and will provide one night of free lodging on November 9, 2018. We can also provide overnight accommodation for an extra day on November 10th if you need it and will be driving for more than 150 miles. Please see the link to the registration form above for details. Please note that you do NOT need to contact the hotel; simply indicate whether you will need overnight accommodations or not and for which dates when you register on-line.

The hotel has free parking available. Free wireless access is available in guest rooms and conference room.

#### **Why Attend?**

- Hear timely discussions on contemporary European and transatlantic affairs by prominent diplomats, scholars, practitioners, and activists
- Great networking opportunity
- Learn new strategies for teaching the EU
- Discuss research/teaching interests with colleagues
- Engage in discussions on EU studies as a field
- One-night of free accommodations on UI's Champaign-Urbana campus
- Travel reimbursement grant of up to \$150 available for participating faculty

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**SCHEDULE [[pdf](#)] & ABSTRACTS [[pdf](#)]**

**FRIDAY, November 9, 2018 | SPECIAL PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS:**

**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*

<p><b>10:00 – 10:30 am</b></p>	<p><b>Welcome reception for the Annual EU Day</b>  <i>Location: 300 Lecture Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor — Free and open to public</i></p>
<p><b>10:30 – 10:45 am</b></p>	<p><b><u>“State of the European Union and Transatlantic Relations”</u></b> A Conversation with <b><u>His Excellency David O’Sullivan, Ambassador of the European Union to the United States</u></b>, moderated by <b><u>William Bernhard, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Professor Of Political Science</u></b>, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, preceded by a welcome reception (10:00 am)  <i>Location: 300 Lecture Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor — Free and open to public</i>  <a href="#"><u>EU Day webpage</u></a></p>
<p><b>12:00 -1:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Annual EU Day Ambassador’s luncheon</b>  <i>[For registered conference participants and by invitation only]</i>  <i>Location: 210 Conference Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor</i></p>
<p><b>3:00 – 4:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Roundtable: <u>“Elections and EU-U.S. Relations: A Comparative Look at the Elections to the US Congress and the European Parliament and Implications for Transatlantic Relations”</u></b></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i>  <a href="#"><u>Xinyuan Dai</u></a>, Political Science, University of Illinois  <a href="#"><u>Brian Gaines</u></a>, Political Science, University of Illinois  <a href="#"><u>Konstantinos Kourtikakis</u></a>, Political Science, University of Illinois  <a href="#"><u>Carl Niekerk</u></a>, Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Illinois  <a href="#"><u>Robert Evans</u></a>, former Member of the European Parliament (MEP)  Moderator: <a href="#"><u>Niala Boodhoo</u></a> host and executive producer of <a href="#"><u>The 21st</u></a>.</p> <p><i>Location: 300 Lecture Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor — Free and open to public</i></p>

	<p><i>followed by reception at 4:30 pm, featuring entertainment by one of our talented alums, <a href="#">Ms. Lauren Turk</a>.</i></p> <p><i>Location for the reception: Outside of 210 Conference Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Levis Faculty Center, 919 W Illinois St, Urbana</i></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Roundtable webpage</u></a></p>
<b>4:30 – 5:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Reception following the Roundtable &amp; featuring entertainment by one of our talented alums, <a href="#">Ms. Lauren Turk</a></b></p> <p><i>Location: Outside of 210 Conference Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor — Free and open to public</i></p>

**SATURDAY, November 10, 2018 | EU STUDIES CONFERENCE**

**8:00 am – 4:30 pm**

*Location: Levis Faculty Center, 919 W Illinois St, Urbana, IL 61801 | 210 Conference Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor*

<b>8:00 – 8:30 am</b>	<i>Coffee/tea and pastries</i>
<b>8:30 – 9:30 am</b>	<p><i>Welcoming Remarks &amp; <b>Opening Keynote Lecture: <a href="#">“Brexit and It’s Implications for the Rest of the EU?”</a></b></i></p> <p>Speaker: <b>Robert Evans</b>, former Member of the European Parliament (MEP); Labour Member, Surrey County Council; Stanwell and Stanwell Moor; Politics Tutor, Royal Holloway, University of London</p>
<b>9:30 – 9:45 am</b>	<i>Break</i>
<b>9:45 – 11:30 am</b>	<p><b>Research Presentations — Setting the EU and Member State Agendas: EU and National/Local Institutions, Politics, Interests, and Culture</b></p> <p><b>Magda Giurcanu</b>, Teaching Assistant Professor, Political Science, East Carolina University</p> <p><b>“In Search for an Electoral Link between the EU Electorate(s) and the EU proposals: Reality or Wishful Thinking?”</b><b>Petia Kostadinova</b>, Assistant Professor, Political Science, University of Illinois at Chicago</p>

	<p><b>“Local Elections in Transition Societies: The Role of Party Promises”</b>Zsuzsana Fagyal, Associate Professor, French &amp; Italian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (and Victoria Bauer, Graduate Student, EU Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)</p> <p><b>“Languages of Innovation: National Identities and the Working Languages of the European Unitary Patent System”</b>Sorin Nastasia, Associate Professor, Program Director for International Studie , Department of Applied Communication Studies and International Studies Program, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville</p> <p><b>“Tensions Between Populist Discourse and the EU Framework: A Case Study on the 2018 Marriage Referendum in Romania”</b>Elza Ibroscheva, Associate Dean and Professor, School of Communications, Webster University</p> <p><b>“Turbo-Folk, Turbo-Sexism, and Turbo-Politics: The Emerging Cultural and Political Role of Pop-Folk Music in the Balkans”</b></p> <p><i>15 minutes for each presentation; 30 minutes for Q&amp;A and discussion at the end</i></p>
<p><b>11:30 am – 12:45 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Working Lunch &amp; Keynote Lecture: “The Euro-zone Problem: Whose Sovereign Debt is it Anyway?”</b></p> <p>Speaker: <b>Larry Neal</b>, Founding Director of the European Union Center; Professor Emeritus of Economics University of Illinois</p>
<p><b>12:45 – 1:00 pm</b></p>	<p><i>Break</i></p>
<p><b>1:00 – 12:15 pm</b></p>	<p><b>A best practice presentation &amp; Round-table Discussion: “Strategies for Teaching the EU”</b></p> <p><i>Best Practice Presentation:</i></p> <p><b>Isabel Scarborough</b>, Associate Professor, Anthropology Program, Department of Social Sciences, Parkland College</p> <p><b>“Engaging with the European Union in the Community College Classroom: Pedagogy and Research Best Practices”</b></p> <p><i>Syllabi presentations:</i></p>

	<p><b>Ophelia Eglène</b>, Visiting Scholar (2018-19), European Union Center, University of Illinois; Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science and French, Middlebury College <i>“The European Union”</i></p> <p><b>Zsuzsana Fagyal</b>, Associate Professor, French &amp; Italian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign <i>“Language and Minorities in Europe”</i></p> <p><b>Gregory P. Rabb</b>, Professor and Coordinator of Global Education, Jamestown Community College <i>“European Union”</i></p> <p><b>Hellen McDonald</b>, Clinical Associate Professor, School of Social Work, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign <i>“Domestic and International Perspectives in Social Work: Refugees and Unaccompanied Minors – A Global Perspective”</i></p> <p><b>Larry Leck</b>, Coordinator, Center for Nonviolence, College of Lake County <u><i>“Critical Thinking/Peace Building: Using Critical Thinking Skills and Principles of Nonviolence to Promote Social Justice and the Sustainability of Civil Societies”</i></u></p> <p><b>Karl Dirk Voss</b>, Professor, History, St. Louis Community College <i>“The Modern World History”</i></p> <p><i>15 minutes for the best practice presentation; 5 minutes for syllabi presentations each; 30 minutes for Q&amp;A and discussion</i></p>
<p><b>2:15 – 2:30 pm</b></p>	<p><i>Break</i></p>
<p><b>2:30 – 4:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Graduate Student Research Presentations</b> <b>Justin D. Pierce</b>, Graduate Student, Political Science, University of Illinois at Urban-Champaign</p>

	<p><i>“European Identity and Expansion: The effects of Accession of New Member States on European Identity”</i></p> <p><b>Alberto Miguel Burgos-Rivera</b>, Graduate Student, EU Studies, University of Illinois at Urban-Champaign  <i>“Straight to Brussels or Through Their Respective Member State: The Outermost Region’s Political Representation in the European Union”</i></p> <p><b>Genie Melamed</b>, Graduate Student, EU Studies, University of Illinois at Urban-Champaign  <i>“Determining Factors for the Success of Regional Autonomy in EU Member States”</i></p> <p><b>Izabela Kantor</b>, Undergraduate Student, International Studies, DePaul University  <i>“Democratic Backsliding in Post-communist Europe: The Case of Poland”</i></p> <p><b>Katherine Brown</b>, Graduate Student and Research Associate, FBI Working Group, Department of Public &amp; International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh  <i>“The Single Voice Dilemma: EU Elite Actor Responses to the Ukrainian Crisis”</i></p> <p><b>Kyle Shishkin</b>, BA/MA Student, Economics and International Relations, University of Chicago  <i>“Euromaidan: The Sociopolitical History of the Revolution”</i></p> <p><i>15 minutes for each presentation; 30 minutes for Q&amp;A and discussion at the end</i></p>
<p><b>4:30 pm</b></p>	<p><i>Closing Remarks</i></p>

See full schedule [here](#).