

**“Researching and Teaching the EU:  
Best Practices and Current Trends in EU Scholarship”  
A Working Conference for Regional College Faculty  
October 30-31, 2015**

***Organized by***

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

**Friday, October 30th**

3:00-4:30 pm

Roundtable:

*Testing the Limits of the EU: Greece, the Economy, and Refugee Crises*

***Illini Union, Room 407, reception to follow in Room 406***

*1401 West Green Street Urbana, IL 61801*

**Saturday, October 31st**

8:30 am – 4:00 pm,

Conference:

*Research Presentations, Lunchtime Keynote Address, and Roundtable Discussion on Teaching Strategies*

***Illini Union, Room 210 (General Lounge)***

*1401 West Green Street Urbana, IL 61801*

**Friday, October 30**

2:30 – 3:00 pm

Conference Check-in

3:00 – 4:30 pm

**Roundtable Discussion: Testing the limits of the EU – Greece, the economy and refugee crises**

*Speakers:*

***Stefanos Katsikas***, Director of Modern Greek Studies; School of Literatures, Cultures & Linguistics, University of Illinois

***Benjamin Lough***, Social Work, University of Illinois

***Michael McGowan***, Former Member of the European Parliament and British Journalist

***Kolja Raube***, Visiting Scholar, European Union Center, University of Illinois; Centre for European Studies, KU-Leuven

***Marina Terkourafi***, Linguistics, University of Illinois

Moderator: ***Anna Westerstahl Stenport***, Director of the European Union Center, Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Illinois

***Location: Illini Union, Rm. 407, 1401 W. Green Street, Urbana, IL***

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Reception immediately following Roundtable Discussion

***Location: Illini Union, Rm. 406, 1401 W. Green Street, Urbana, IL***

**Saturday, October 31**

8:00 – 8:30 am

***Coffee/tea and pastries***

8:30 – 9:45 am

**Panel 1: Impact and Effectiveness of EU Institutions and Policy Instruments (Part I – Economy)**

“Will Juncker’s Investment Plan Work?”

***David Cleeton***, Economics, Illinois State University

“Regional Financial Inequality in Turkey: 1988-2013 – Does EU the make a difference?”

***Serpil Kahraman***, Visiting Scholar, Economics, University of Illinois; Yasar University, Turkey

“The EU through the lenses of its poorest member state - evidence from Bulgaria”  
**Paskal Zhelev**, *Visiting Scholar, Economics, University of Illinois; International Economic Relations and Business, University of National and World Economy (UNWE), Bulgaria*

**9:45 – 10:00 am**      **Break**

**10:00 am – 11:15 pm**    **Panel 2: Impact and Effectiveness of EU Policies  
(Part II – Labor, Environment, and Society)**

“A Proposal of Social Clause on TTIP”  
**Juan Ramon Rivera Sanchez**, *Visiting Scholar, EUC, University of Illinois; Law, Alicante University, Spain*

“A New Water Culture on the Iberian Peninsula? Evaluating Epistemic Community Impact on Policy Change”  
**Jeanie Bukowski**, *International Studies, Bradley University*

“Female Bodies for Sale: Regulating the Advertising Industry and Its Portrayals of Women in Bulgaria”  
**Elza Ibroscheva**, *Mass Communications, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville*

**11:15 – 11:30 am**      **Break**

**11:30 am - 1:15 pm**    **Keynote Address and Lunch**

*Keynote Speaker: Michael McGowan, Former Member of the European Parliament and British Journalist*

**1:15 – 2:30 pm**      **Panel 3: EU Governance and EU as a Global Actor**

“Party Group Switching in the European Parliament: Developing a Multi-level Theory”  
**Aaron Russell Martin**, *Political Science, Loyola University Chicago*

“Interparliamentary Cooperation in EU External Action”  
**Kolja Raube**, *Visiting Scholar, Economics, University of Illinois; Centre for European Studies, KU-Leuven, Belgium*

“Doing Global Research on Perception: The Misunderstood Partner”  
**Maxime H.A. Larivé**, *EU Center, University of Illinois*

**2:30 – 2:45 pm**      **Break**

**2:45 – 3:45 pm**      **Roundtable Discussion: “Strategies for Teaching the EU”**

**3:45 – 4:00pm**      **Closing remarks**

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