“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

**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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