

European and Eurasian Studies Program



Dear alumni,

The [SAIS European and Eurasian Studies Program \(EES\)](#) has concluded another stimulating year with 23 graduates from China, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. All but two of these students began the two-year MA program at SAIS Europe and a record 30% were invited to sit for the all-school honors exam. An additional seven students earned a minor in EES, the second year in which this option was offered. We are especially delighted to congratulate MA alumnus Andrew Whitworth (B'09,'10) on the completion of his PhD with a thesis on the *Political Economy of Bank Regulation in the UK*.



EES faculty and students in Bologna, May 2017

In a period when comparative studies have become the prominent offering in international relations, we believe there has never been a more important time to develop deep regional expertise. The job market for our recent graduates confirms this hypothesis and we are able to report near full-employment for the class of 2017 ranging from public service to strategy consulting to financial services. Employers who have snapped up our May graduates include: Alpha Fellowship (Moscow), The Camstoll Group (Los Angeles), Eurasia Group (New York), Goldman Sachs (New York), In Pursuit Of (Arlington), JP

Morgan (London), Lundquist (Milan), Munich Security Conference, S&P Global Platts (Houston), Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and Environment (Madrid), ReD Associates (Copenhagen), World Bank Analyst Program (Washington, DC), and the US Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Washington, DC). As if this list wasn't impressive enough - the winner of the annual SAIS talent competition held in Washington, DC was indeed an EES student.

The unique pedagogical approach of the EES program trains students to develop an analytical framework that they can then apply to any region of the world. In March, a group of our students had the opportunity to do just that, investigating Islamic finance and financial market integration in Southeast Asia during a 10-day study trip to Kuala Lumpur (KL). The starting point for our preparation was an examination of the European economic crisis and basic criteria the financial industry should embrace to achieve stability in a geographically integrated financial market. Our delegation was comprised of first- and second-year students from the EES and Middle East Studies programs from the Bologna and Washington, DC campuses. EES Associate Director [Kathryn Knowles](#) (B'01,'02) organized a series of meetings with Malaysia's central bank, securities commission, members of parliament, industry



Prof Erik Jones, Kathryn Knowles, & EES-MES delegation in Malaysia, Spring Break, 2017

regulatory bodies, and universities. A highlight of the trip was a discussion on multiculturalism in Malaysia, co-hosted with a student group from the University of Nottingham's KL campus. I am as convinced as ever that experiential learning is a critical component of the Johns Hopkins SAIS experience and the reason that we as an academic program continue to invest so heavily in the development of summer internship opportunities across Europe and Eurasia. Once again this year as many as 50% of our program internships are filled by non-EES students, a result which we hope will foster even greater interest in the region. Please get in touch if you would like to know more about hosting a summer intern in 2018.

The year ahead is one of transitions for our program. The first of these is the retirement of [Bruce Parrott](#), who directed the Russian and Eurasian Studies Program (and its previous iterations) for more than 30 years until its merger with European Studies in 2013. Many readers of this letter will remember his courses *Russia: The Making of a Superpower* and *Nations, States, and Nationalism in Comparative Perspective* as seminal to their time at SAIS. One of Bruce's many contributions to the school has been his methods training of doctoral candidates. He will continue to lead the introductory PhD seminar for the next two years as he completes a book for prospective dissertation-writers, entitled *Becoming a Social-Science Researcher: An Existential Guide*. We have begun a search for a Russia specialist and are fortunate to have the contributions of two new adjunct faculty, [Alina Polyakova](#), Director of Research, Europe and Eurasia at the Atlantic Council, and [Marsha McGraw Olive](#) (PhD '15), who previously worked as Country Program Coordinator of Russia and Country Manager for Tajikistan at the World Bank.



Professor Lisel Hintz

We are thrilled to welcome [Lisel Hintz](#) and [Alice Pannier](#) to the EES program this fall. Lisel Hintz joins us from the Department of Political Science at Barnard College, Columbia University where she was Visiting Assistant Professor. Her research investigates how contestation over various forms of identity spills over from domestic politics to shape, and be shaped by, foreign policy. She has spoken and written widely on Turkey-EU and Turkey-Syria relations (particularly on the refugee crisis), the Kurdish Question, and how what she terms Ottoman Islamism shaped Turkey's aggressive policies abroad as well as its authoritarian turn back

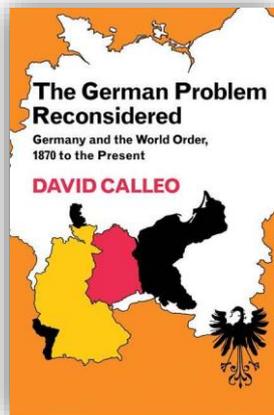
home. Alice Pannier comes to us from the Centre for International Research (CERI) at Sciences Po where she was a Research Associate and from the Institute for Strategic Research of the French Ministry of Defence (IRSEM) where she was a Postdoctoral Fellow. Her research areas include European security and transatlantic relations, French and British foreign and defense policies, contemporary military interventions and International Relations theories.



Professor Alice Pannier

Hintz and Pannier will serve as full-time assistant professors in the EES program and will be based in Washington, DC where EES Academic Program Manager [Cristina Benitez](#) keeps everything running in top form.

At SAIS Europe we will welcome back long-time friend and former faculty member [Sir Michael Leigh](#), Senior Fellow at The German Marshall Fund of the United States and former Director-General for Enlargement with the European Commission. He will teach a new spring course with the provocative title: *Will the EU Survive until 2025?*



*Professor David P. Calleo's classic work,
(1978)*

While I am not taking bets on the answer to Sir Michael's question, we have been working on the long-term strategy for raising the profile of the study of Europe. In my 2016 letter I announced the creation of the [David P. Calleo](#) Initiative for European Studies, a project which aims to foster collaboration among the intergenerational community of SAIS European Studies scholars and promote the wider school of thought that David nurtured as program director for 44 years. This winter we formally constituted a steering committee of 20 PhD alumni, led by [Dana Allin](#) (B'85,'86, PhD'90). A core activity will be to organize periodic meetings, bringing together David's friends and former students to talk about big ideas. The first of these meetings is entitled "The German Problem Returns" and will be held in Washington, DC in May 2018. The starting point will be David's classic work *The German*

Problem Reconsidered (1978). The conference is scheduled to coincide with commencement so that alumni and participants will have the chance to meet with graduating students, a key step in guaranteeing the sustainability of the initiative. We will keep alumni informed as plans for the conference develop and invite you to mark your calendars now for May 25-26, 2018.

In the meantime, we hope you stay in touch via the [SAIS Europe LinkedIn](#) group and via the numerous [EES social media platforms](#). If you are interested in reading my regular commentary on Europe, please also visit my [website](#) and share your feedback.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support.

[Erik Jones](#) (B'89,'90, PhD'96)

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