

# European Union Center of Excellence

## Ten Years and Counting

*Center Marks Tenth Anniversary with Deputy Head of Delegation Angelos Pangratis*

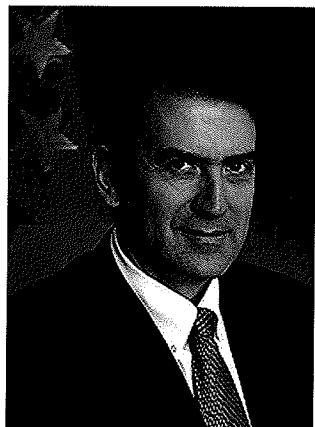


Photo: Angelos Pangratis, Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Commission Delegation to the United States (Photo courtesy of the European Commission Delegation.)

This fall the EU Center of Excellence celebrates the renewal of its European Commission grant (see front page article), as well as its tenth anniversary on our campus and in our community. The center and EU studies at the UW have grown dramatically since the program's founding in 1998, with students and faculty today having many more opportunities to study and research European integration and trans-Atlantic relations. The center's presence has also helped raise the profile of the EU in Seattle and throughout the Pacific Northwest, a core function of the center that will be greatly reinforced by the injection of new grant funds.

Coming to Seattle to help the University of Washington commemorate this special occasion is Angelos Pangratis, Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Commission Delegation to the United States. Mr. Pangratis will be the center's honored guest during a week of activities highlighting the role the EU Centers of Excellence program has played in bringing the

EU closer to our campus and region. During his stay in Seattle, Pangratis will speak about the EU in several UW classes and also give a public lecture on the current state of trans-Atlantic relations in an October 29 event co-sponsored by the Trade Development Alliance of Greater Seattle.

Pangratis, a Greek national and longtime EU diplomat, served as the Ambassador and Head of Delegation for the European Commission's Delegation to Argentina (2003-2005). He also held senior positions in the Delegations of the European Commission in South Africa (1995-1997) and South Korea (1990-1994). Pangratis' career at the EU's headquarters in Brussels includes serving as Head of Unit responsible for relations with China, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan, South Korea and Mongolia (1998-2003). He holds a doctorate in International Economics, Monetary Policies and Finances from the University of Paris I (Panthéon Sorbonne), and has lectured at numerous universities in the US, Europe and Asia.

Also participating in the celebratory week will be Natali Helberger, a

German expert on EU information law from the University of Amsterdam, who will be coming to Seattle as a short-term visiting EU scholar sponsored by the EUCE. During her visit, Helberger will be speaking at the UW School of Law and to Seattle lawyers. The week concludes on October 31 with Hungary's Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Dr. Ferenc Somogyi, addressing UW European Studies students on the theme of Europe's future.

The past decade has not only seen the growth of EU studies locally, but also the development of a much broader EU Centers program in North America and globally. One of ten original US centers, the UW's EUCE is now part of a world network of 22 centers at universities in the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea and Singapore. New centers will also open soon in Hong Kong and Taiwan. The EU Center of Excellence of Seattle looks forward to continuing its work at the UW and in the Pacific Northwest over the next three years, while also building deeper collaborative ties with its partner centers across the country and around the world.



Photo: This past April, staff from the EUCE traveled to Brussels to participate in the first meeting of the World Network of EU Centers, an event organized by the European Commission to highlight the global reach of the centers and to foster greater collaboration between centers in different nations. (Photo courtesy of Christine Caly-Sanchez, Assistant Director of the Miami-Florida European Union Center of Excellence.)