

**Project: Transatlantic Language Internships (Stockton/EUC Internship Exchange)**

**School: ARHU**

**Proposers: David Roessel and Lisa Honaker**

**Introduction:** The goal of this project is to build a student exchange with a service-learning component between Stockton and the European University Cyprus.

A properly functioning exchange program is set up so that students develop a deep bond between two universities. At the present time, Stockton has exchange programs that function during the summer and study abroad programs for students who want to go for an entire semester. The EUC/Stockton exchange will have student mobility for entire semesters and will use internships to integrate the exchange students into communities. Our goal is to create a successful model for Stockton to use with other institutions so that Stockton will be a vibrant participant in international exchanges, both in sending Stockton students abroad and in having foreign students at Stockton. This program plans to have Stockton and EUC exchange one to two students per year over the next five years. The program will involve the student and faculty who work with the student intern, and also the other semester-long exchange programs Stockton sets up with other universities. An exchange program has many advantages over simply having study abroad opportunities. There is student mobility between the institutions every year, which builds a strong connection between both students and faculty. The students will have an internship on each side, which will allow them to use skills acquired at the home institution during their time abroad.

Further, the students coming from EUC will impact on Stockton students with the work they will be doing to support and further translation work on our campus. Translation is important in both language and literature study. (Indeed, part of the rationale for the incoming hire in Creative Writing is her experience with translation and translation pedagogy. EUC students will work with faculty in LCST and LITT to coordinate translation workshops as well as

a tutoring pedagogy. The program will also bring their experiences to our own writing center and the students who use its services. (More detail on specific activities appears below.)

**Purpose/Goal:** The purpose of our request is to provide funding to set up the Stockton/EUC exchange program with a student internship component.

Although an EU country with a long British colonial history, Cyprus still faces challenges as a small island nation opening itself up to the wider world. Younger generations

speak English as fluently as their grandparents. Our project addresses these problems by creating a transatlantic tutoring system to promote improved language skills for the next generation of English language teachers in Cyprus, while allowing American students to use their language skills abroad. The majority of students of English at the European University Cyprus (EUC) in Nicosia and of American foreign language students at Stockton University in New Jersey will be future global language teachers. The goal then is to reach language teachers-in-training and ultimately future generations of their students across the globe.

On the Stockton side, we needed someone with an intimate knowledge of EUC, including their English language tutoring activities, and who could promote EUC to Stockton and Stockton to EUC. Thus, we thought the above-mentioned Ciara Barrick, a Stockton graduate who spent a year at EUC as an English Teaching Fulbright Fellow, was the perfect person to make this happen. She had worked with faculty on both sides, knew students on both campuses, and had the time to be our representative in working out all the details. Ms. Barrick has coordinated with the faculty and administration at both schools so that the memorandum of agreement has been signed. Indeed, without Ms. Barrick's participation we would not be able to start a successful internship exchange program. Last spring, Ms. Barrick wrote a proposal for a Stockton/EUC exchange that won a prestigious State Department Fulbright Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) grant (only 51 of 829 applications were awarded, only ten in Europe, and this was the first for ever for Cyprus). The grant paid for Ms. Barrick's housing in Nicosia to liaison for Stockton for half of the academic year (the grant does not offer any stipend or travel expenses). This meant that Ms. Barrick, who was hired as Stockton TES to represent us in the exchange, could spend five months at EUC working on our behalf on the exchange with both EUC and the embassy in Nicosia. She has been incredibly successful, and the embassy has recognized that the kinds of activities we have planned could only happen if there is someone like Ms. Barrick to get them done. The goal of her work is about to be reached. In September, Naijasia Thomas, a LITT major and EOF student, will go to EUC as a student intern. In Spring 2018, Christiania Kouvalas will spend a semester at Stockton.

A great deal of thought was put into how to create a continuing exchange program that would consider the benefits each student would bring to his/her respective host institution. Working with her EUC colleagues and using her own experience, Ms. Barrick identified that there was a need for an English Writing Center to assist EUC students with writing assignments. She also found that students were more willing to seek help in a peer-to-peer setting, especially from someone whom they saw in the classroom. In addition, David Roessel had asked Ms. Barrick to get involved with EUC's literary and arts journal *Cadences* that highlights literary translation. The Stockton Text Center and ARHU have discussed encouraging literary translation and having it either become a part of the *Stockpot* or another new creation, and the LCST has plans to offer training in the growing field of Translation Studies. This led to the idea of a weekly translation workshop at Stockton led by an EUC student who had experience working with *Cadences*. The presence of the Cypriot student will promote and encourage Stockton students to engage more deeply in foreign languages. Ciara Barrick has also worked on



the Middle East. (The student EUC has selected to come to Stockton in Spring 2018 is a native Russian speaker.) One of the strengths of the EUC Literature program is its emphasis on linguistics and its course, taught by Dr. Stavros Karayannis, *Literary Translation*. The EUC student coming to Stockton would be discussing the value and process of thinking and writing in a second language.

We have used the term “translation workshop” for the new initiative at Stockton as a working term. Rather than be a new Center with a capital C, this focus on translation from many languages will be part of the existing Stockton Text Center. It has always been the goal of the Stockton Text Center, with its focus on archival, textual, and performance activities, to include translation as a creative art form as well as to connect with the growing field of Translation Studies in cooperation with the Languages and Cultures Studies and Literature programs. David King and Arnaldo Cordero-Roman have supervised translations of Eugene Ionesco into English and Tennessee Williams into Spanish for previous Text Center projects. Those colleagues, like Gorica Majstorovic who is working on a translation studies project at the moment, are eager to assist the effort and to be involved with the languages that they teach and know. Further, the Literature program has just hired Sarah Novic as an incoming Assistant Professor of Creative Writing, in part, because of her work in translation. We will reach out to other people on campus who have done translations from other languages (David Lechner, in the library, Judy Copeland in GENS, JY Zhou, and others on the campus who have been engaged with translation projects.)

The “translation tutor,” then, will be available to talk to students about the unique issues of translation from another language. Like an English tutor, the role of the translation tutor is to assist students with a project and offer suggestions for further thought. The



**\$6,000** will be used to fund Ciara Barrick as a Stockton TES to set up the Writing Center at EUC and the Translation internship at Stockton. (ARHU has already paid for Ms. Barrick's plane fare and expenses for Fall 2016; w

time consideration to this request. We were told by the Globalization Committee in October that the proposal would be deferred and taken up later. We accepted that decision and have only respect for the committee and the chairs who made it. But we do ask that we be given due consideration at this time. We asked to fund Ciara Barrick's work on behalf of this project as part of our budget. ARHU has already fronted the funds for her work in order to bring us to the point that the exchange may actually start. We will send a Ms. Thomas to EUC in September to begin the exchange; Ms. Kouvalas will