MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Central European University is celebrating its 24th academic year. One year away from our quarter-century mark, and CEU is entering a new era of challenge and opportunity. This fall we launched **Frontiers of Democracy**—a series of conferences, lectures, and events that explore current challenges to democracy throughout the world. The series has already attracted distinguished policymakers, scholars, and politicians, including The Hon. Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj, President of Mongolia, and Nobel laureate economist Joseph Stiglitz.

It is an honor to lead this university at this momentous time. The challenges are many—we must navigate a world where democracy and the principles upon which our university was founded are challenged at every turn. Yet, on the cusp of our 25th anniversary, this remarkable university is positioned to serve as a linchpin for the principles of open society within higher education and beyond.

JOHN SHATTUCK | President and Rector

We have also initiated a number of new degree programs at CEU. Our Cultural Heritage Studies program welcomed its first class this fall, and CEU’s newly accredited Network Science PhD program will be one of the first in the world.

CEU’s academic standing continues to rise, with a strong endorsement by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, marking the successful conclusion of a five-year review by accrediting authorities in the U.S., and a ranking by the *Times Higher Education* report of CEU among the world’s top 100 universities in the social sciences.

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CEU has launched a new U.S.-accredited PhD program in the promising interdisciplinary academic field of Network Science, the first of its kind in Europe. This discipline is breaking new ground in understanding the role and impact of networks to help tackle crucial social problems as diverse as obesity, financial crises, or political corruption. The inaugural class will begin in September 2015. The doctoral program is one of nearly 50 U.S.-accredited programs offered at CEU.

CULTURAL HERITAGE STUDIES ADDS TO UNIVERSITY’S MISSION

A new degree program at CEU, Cultural Heritage Studies, will advance CEU’s mission in the realm of historic preservation. Professor József Laszlovszky, who heads the Cultural Heritage Studies Program Committee, noted during the program’s first public lecture that cultural heritage is the legacy of various communities and values inherited from the past. CEU’s program, which welcomed its first class in September, will draw upon CEU’s expertise in research, policy, and management to train its students in innovative methods and critical approaches towards tangible and intangible heritage within its social, historical and economic context.
FACULTY WIN MAJOR GRANTS
This semester, five CEU faculty members have been awarded approximately 1 million EUR in funding under the European Commission’s Horizon 2020 Programme. Congratulations to: JANOS KERTESZ, Center for Network Science | UWE PUETTER, Department of Public Policy and Center for European Union Research | DOROTHEE BOHLE, Department of Political Science | NIKOLAI SITTER, Department for Public Policy and Center for Policy Studies | JEAN-LOUIS FABIANI, Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology

CEU RANKED IN TOP 100 UNIVERSITIES
Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2014/15 has named CEU among the world’s top 100 universities in the social sciences for the first time in the University’s history. CEU is one of only 31 European universities to make the list.

EVENTS
UNIQLO FOUNDER VISITS CEU FOR EXECUTIVE SEMINAR
Japanese Fast Retailing and its clothing megabrand, Uniqlo, are on the rise. With ambitions for significant global growth by the year 2020, FR chairman, CEO and Uniqlo founder, TADASHI YANAI, is rightly concerned with understanding and contributing to markets in which he seeks to expand. As the company prepares to create a major new production facility in Turkey, he turned to CEU Business School Dean MEL HORWITCH, following an introduction by alumna MAI NOMURA (MBA 2012), for a broad-ranging introduction to our region. After several visits to Tokyo and continuous exchanges, a carefully crafted Executive Seminar emerged.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3.

CEU WELCOMES VENTURE CAPITALIST AND ENTREPRENEUR
JOVANKA PORSCHE, co-founder and chief executive officer of HP-Capital Partners, visited CEU with stops at the School of Public Policy and CEU Business School, where she delivered an Expert Talk on creating vibrant entrepreneurial economies in Central and Eastern Europe and Asia, drawing on her years of experience in the fields of international investment banking, finance, as well as corporate management and restructuring.

CEU IN THE NEWS
CEU faculty, researchers, and leadership actively inform the debate on the pressing issues of our time. Follow this link to read their latest contributions, blogs, and op-eds, including a Q&A with President and Rector JOHN SHATUCK in The Atlantic, titled “Is a Global System the Future of Graduate Education?”: http://www.ceu.hu/giving/highlights

Jovanka Porsche speaks to CEU Business School students. © CEU/Daniel Vegel
GLOBAL LEADERS AND SCHOLARS EXAMINE DEMOCRACY

Frontiers of Democracy—a far-reaching initiative encompassing a series of conferences, debates, and other events with distinguished speakers, as well as students from the Central European region and beyond—was launched in September. CEU is inviting an open dialogue on the importance and imperfections of democracy around the world. GERALD KNAUS, founding chairman of the European Stability Initiative, and JOHN DUNN, professor of Political Theory at King’s College, Cambridge University, opened the series. The HON. TSAKHIAGIIN ELBEGDORJ, President of Mongolia, addressed the University in October and spoke about the lessons of the transition to democracy in Mongolia. Other keynote speakers in the series this semester have included: THOMAS CAROTHERS, visiting professor at the CEU School of Public Policy and vice president for studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; MICHAEL ROTH, Germany’s minister of state for Europe; and JOSEPH STIGLITZ, Nobel Prize-winning economist and university professor at Columbia University.

A NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

“You are the tapestry of the world,” CEU President and Rector JOHN SHATUCK told the incoming class during the University’s 24th Opening Ceremony. Students represent 87 countries from Albania to Zimbabwe and will be advancing CEU’s mission to support the values of open society through 31 master’s degrees and 11 doctoral programs. Meet this year’s CEU Alumni Scholarship recipients by following this link.

NYC EVENT REFLECTS ON JEWISH LIFE IN HUNGARY

On September 9, CEU and the UJA-Federation of New York co-hosted an evening of conversation entitled 70 Years Later: Contemporary Jewish Life in Hungary. At the end of his presentation, the 30 guests in attendance peppered CEU Jewish Studies Professor MICHAEL MILLER with questions about the future of Jews in Hungary today. Rabbi MICHAEL PALEY, Pearl and Ira Meyer scholar in residence at UJA’s Jewish Resource Center, introduced the evening, and DAVID RUDERMAN, Joseph Meyerhoff professor of modern Jewish history, University of Pennsylvania and fellow at the CEU Institute of Advanced Study, and CEU President JOHN SHATUCK provided commentary.
Dr. Angela Kocze (HUMR ’98, SOCL ’12).

“...”

Dr. Kocze focuses much of her work on the needs of Romani women, who are particularly vulnerable within a population that faces severe, and sometimes violent discrimination. Previously, Kocze served as founding director of the European Roma Information Office (ERIO) in Brussels and director of the human rights education program at the European Roma Rights Centre in Budapest.

STUDENTS AND ALUMNI CREATE A CULTURE OF PHILANTHROPY

The CEU community in Budapest came together on November 13, for the University’s second Philanthropy Awareness Day. Initiated by the CEU Alumni office, this student-led event was inspired by CEU Trustee Richard Blum’s fall 2013 challenge to promote charitable giving among students and alumni. Students, alumni, and staff offered home-baked treats in return for donations to the CEU:next generation scholarship fund and a local homeless charity.

More than 300 people participated, contributing over 281,000 HUF. It was a fantastic day for community-building, and all funds raised for scholarships will be matched by CEU alumnus, Konstantin Kurganov (Ukraine, LEGS ’94), who pledged up to 30,000 USD on a dollar for dollar basis.

Konstantin Kurganov (Ukraine, LEGS ’94) (right) gave the largest alumni gift in CEU history. © CEU

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

With a gift to CEU, you are helping to build and sustain a new model for international education; a center for study of contemporary economic, social, and political challenges; and a source of support for building open and democratic societies that respect human rights. Please consider making a fully tax-deductible contribution today.

Contact Tara Stone, CEU Senior Development Officer, at stonet@ceu.hu or visit www.ceu.edu/giving for more information.