

ROME GLOBAL GATEWAY



INTERNATIONAL
Rome Global Gateway

PONTIFICAL UNIVERSITIES IN ROME OPEN THEIR CLASSROOM DOORS TO NOTRE DAME STUDENTS

A total of 25 undergraduates currently in Rome are taking classes at different Pontifical universities during their study abroad. The opportunity to participate in courses held at some of the most important Vatican universities is one of the newest and most stimulating fruit of the existing collaborations between the RGG and the Pontifical Università Gregoriana, Università della Santa Croce, Facoltà teologica Teresianum, Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI) and Institute for Sacred Music (PIMS).



Of the six students taking classes at Gregoriana, four (see picture) are enrolled in a *Genetics, neurosciences and technological revolution* course, while the other two are taking, respectively, a course on *Social Ethics* and one on *The Fundamental Theology of Joseph Ratzinger*. The six fortunate students are all in Rome as part of the International Scholars program. Others in their cohort are instead taking a class at the University of the Santa Croce, studying subjects ranging from *Music and Liturgy* to *The Galileo Affair* and to *Dogmatic Theology*. A solid group of fourteen students, mostly in the General Education and Engineering programs, is instead focusing on *Mystical Theology* at the Teresianum Institute

Two upcoming conferences at the RGG will also be the expression of these partnerships: *Metaphysical Aspects of nature. Thomistic and Contemporary Perspectives*, in co-sponsorship with the Università della Santa Croce, and professor of Islamic Studies and Theology Gabriel Reynolds' lecture on *Rethinking the Qur'ān's Relationship with the Bible*, in the Annual Lecture Series, in co-sponsorship with PISAI, where students can also consider taking classes.

THE PRIMACY OF RELATION AND THE CHALLENGE OF THE MIGRANT, A CONFERENCE IN ROME

"Catholic universities need to come together to face both the challenging facts and the challenge to theology presented by the migrant." This was the message that Archbishop Silvano Maria Tomasi, former Secretary to the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples, gave to the participants of the conference *The Primacy of Relation and the Challenge of the Migrant* in his opening plenary.



Tomasi pointed to the new challenges presented by minors as migrants as well as to the global dimension of migration. It is not a phenomenon limited to just a few countries.

Whereas some speak of national sovereignty as an imperative that trumps hospitality to the migrant, Scalabrinian priest Leonir Chiarello also introduced the notion of human sovereignty.

Notre Dame anthropologist Maurizio Albahari, an expert on transmediterranean migration, likewise reflected on the sites around globe in which xenophobia and practices of state sovereignty stand in conflict with the notion of the earth as a common home. Dan Groody, CSC focused on a chalice created out of the wood of shipwrecks that was used by Pope Francis when he celebrated Mass for the refugees on the island of Lampedusa. Philosophers and theologians from Lyon, Perugia, Genova, and Rio de Janeiro deepened the reflection about the political and ecclesial idea of prioritizing relation in the face of the challenge of the migrant.

A particular joy was the participation of doctoral candidates from the Università degli Studi di Perugia and elsewhere who made presentations on the conference theme.

PROF. SAM PAOLUCCI INAUGURATES THE ENGINEERING STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM IN ROME



The Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering at the University of Notre Dame has established a study abroad program that allows students to spend the Spring Semester of their Junior year in Rome. For the first time, 7 juniors in Mechanical Engineering were selected to take classes in the Rome Global Gateway. The students are taking three engineering classes: *Heat Transfer*, taught by Prof. Sam Paolucci, *Elements of Machine*

Design and Differential Equations, *Vibrations and Controls II*, taught by Prof. Giuliano Coppotelli and Luca Cortese from the University of La Sapienza.

Prof. Paolucci oversees and guides the start the program. For many years he has had continuing interactions and collaborations with colleagues in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Sapienza University of Rome.

The program is designed to meet the needs of students in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering (AME), but every effort will be made in the future to expand it to suit other engineering students.

Rome is likely to be of interest for engineering students for a number of reasons. Italy is the world's 8th largest economy (4th in Europe) based on nominal GDP, and Italian engineering has produced a broad range of well-known technology and consumer goods. Italian automakers include, for example, *Fiat*, *Ferrari*, *Lamborghini* and *Maserati*. Rome has also, of course, many remains of ancient engineering artifacts and infrastructure that engineering students are likely to find interesting.

ADAM FOLEY - TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR AT THE ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME COURSE

Adam Foley in the spring 2017 will be working as a postdoctoral research assistant with Ted Cachey and Ingrid Rowland on their course All Roads Lead to Rome. From this experience he intends to gain valuable teaching experience while enriching his knowledge of the history of Rome with two experts in the field.



Foley recently received his PhD in the Department of History at the University of Notre Dame, where he wrote his dissertation on the reception of Homer in the Italian Renaissance. In his dissertation he examined the first Latin translations that humanist scholars of the Renaissance made of the two epic poems – the Iliad and the Odyssey – attributed to Homer in antiquity. Often neglected by classical philologists, many of these translations exist only in manuscript form. In his dissertation, Adam noticed that these translations

developed in three stages. First, there was the period Literal or word-for-word translation which he called the "Feather" (1362-1441). Second, there followed the period of Oratorical translation or the "Wing" (1438-1460s). Third, there was the period Poetic or verse translation, which he called the "Flight" (1460s-1500). He spent the year 2015-16 working on this project as a fellow at the American Academy in Rome.

Student Life

CLAIRE KRAMER - STUDENT MINISTER FOR SPRING 2017

Claire Kramer (American Studies Major, Journalism, Ethics & Democracy Minor, Theology Minor) is honored to serve as the Student Minister for the Rome program this semester.



She'll be assisting the wonderful staff of the RGG to plan and facilitate faith-based events, and will serve as a resource for ND students' questions about where, and maybe how, to practice their

faith abroad. "Believe me, we're all learning as we go, but it helps to have a strong community with which to navigate our faith in a new place! In my role, I hope to get to know many of my fellow students and share faith with them in ways we haven't experienced before" she says.

Faith activities will include, among the others, celebrating Mass with fellow students at the Cappella della Sapienza University, joining the Comunità di Sant'Egidio for evening prayer in Trastevere and sharing in an ecumenical service with the Taizè Community.

LET'S MEET ELENA GURSKY

Elena Gursky is originally from South Bend, Indiana, but travelled a lot with her family as she was growing up. She has been living in Italy for two years now and currently she is studying at La Sapienza



University. This semester Elena will be working at the Rome Global Gateway as the new Student Life Assistant, collaborating with her colleagues.

"I'm very excited to be the Student Life Assistant at the RGG because I want to help ND students to make the most out of their time abroad and discover everything that this beautiful city has to offer", Elena says. "I'd like to bridge the gap between Italian students (especially those at La Sapienza University) and ND students in order to promote a sense of community and cultural understanding."

PAWEL FIGURSKI, A THEOLOGICAL STUDIES M.A. STUDENT IN ROME



Pawel Figurski, a master student in Theological studies, won the RGG short-term fellowship and came to Rome for a two-weeks research during the Winter Break.

"There were two goals of the project, both of which were accomplished.

I analyzed the selected medieval liturgical manuscripts preserved in the Roman libraries in order to improve my article, which was initially accepted for the publication in the prestigious journal *Speculum*. Secondly, I not only received the information about the writings of Blessed Basil Moreau preserved in the Vatican archives, but obtained these materials from the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints. These materials will serve to prepare a grant for the edition and translation of the collected works of the founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross." says Pawel.

"The goal of obtaining Moreau's writings was to prepare the NHC grant under the direction of Prof. Fr Kevin Grove CSC, whose project is to edit and translate all the writings of the founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross" Pawel explains, "in the 1950s all Moreau's works were gathered by the Congregation of Holy Cross and sent to Rome for Moreau's beatification process. These writings were initially edited and were preserved in the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints. The volumes prepared for the beatification process are the most comprehensive collections of Moreau's writings, and include the dispersed correspondence of the founder, which cannot be found elsewhere."

It was highly valuable to receive the materials from the Vatican archives, which will be shipped in the coming weeks to the University of Notre Dame and will enlarge the collections of the Notre Dame Archive.

Faculty News

LECTURE BY RAHUL MEHROTRA



Harvard University's Rahul Mehrotra gave a joint lecture to 3rd year School of Architecture students and TU Dresden students in early January.

Mehrotra is professor of Urban Design and Planning at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. In addition to being an educator, he is a practicing architect and urban designer.

He has designed and executed projects for governmental and non-governmental agencies, corporate and private clients.

Mehrotra's lecture entitled *Working in Mumbai: Architecture in a World of Inequity*, discussed his experiences in designing and planning in Mumbai and the very diverse social and economic challenges that accompanied them.

Mehrotra founded his firm, RMA Architects, in 1990 and the firm has now offices in Mumbai and Boston.

BRENDAN AND MEEGHAN HART TEACHING DESIGN STUDIO TO THIRD YEAR SOA STUDENTS



Meeghan and Brendan Hart are new faculty members in the School of Architecture at the University of Notre Dame's Rome Global Gateway program.

Together, they are leading third-year architecture students in a design studio, in which their students are asked to develop a proposal for a new museum focusing on the Roman Forum.

Meeghan and Brendan both graduated from the University of Notre Dame School of Architecture. After graduation, Meeghan and Brendan moved to New York, where they work as licensed architects with the offices of Peter Pennoyer Architects and Robert A.M. Stern Architects, respectively. Meeghan's work focuses primarily on single-family homes and apartments, and she has helped design and oversee the construction of multiple projects in and around the New York area. Brendan's work has centered on the design of academic buildings. He has led the design of the Terry School of Business for the University of Georgia, four residence halls at Marist College, and a new auditorium for a private boarding school in Connecticut, among others.

This past Fall, Brendan was awarded the Rieger Graham Prize by the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art, which offered a three-month fellowship at the American Academy in Rome to pursue independent research in the field of architecture. Brendan's studies focused on the development of the Possesso in Rome, the route of the traditional papal coronation ceremony.

Meeghan and Brendan are thrilled to again be an active part of the University of Notre Dame. They hope to share the skills they have developed both at the University and in the professional field with their students, and are looking forward to learning from their colleagues. Meeghan and Brendan are excited to share their views on the Eternal City and the practice of architecture with Notre Dame's special community at the Rome Global Gateway.

RESEARCHING DANTE IN ROME: DANTE'S FLORENTINE VERNACULAR INTELLECTUAL CONTEXT



The Notre Dame Devers Dante Program, has been funding since September 2015 a major research project on Dante's Florentine vernacular culture (Italian, Old French and Occitan) between 1280 and 1301. The project is conducted by under the leadership of Dr. Luca Lombardo under the guidance of Prof. Zyg Baranski and Prof. Ted Cachey.

We know little or nothing about Dante's early education and his library before his exile in 1302. We have no evidence or sources about his use of books nor do we have any examples of his own writing. Other major projects in recent years have begun to focus on the possible Latin philosophical and theological sources of Dante's early education. This project instead seeks to reconstruct Dante's vernacular library with a special focus on philosophical culture and vernacular translations that have not been adequately studied as inspiration for Dante's early works. The project seeks to answer the crucial question: *what books did Dante read?* We seek to discover the role of vernacular sources in the formation of his prodigiously encyclopedic culture.

The research is divided into two phases: a first three-year phase concentrates on the vernacular materials present in the Florentine archives and on developing appropriate methodological tools for their collation, presentation and analysis, while a second phase will involve a detailed analysis of a selection of these vernacular materials aimed at establishing their possible connections to Dante.

Luca Lombardo presented his work during the *RGG Research in Progress* event on November 23rd, 2016.

Rome News at ND

INTERNING IN ROME FOR THE U.S. MISSIONS: A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

The best way for students to be an active part of the city and use their linguistic and academic knowledge in a working environment is to do an internship, and what better place to start than one of the top three U.S. presences in Italy? As a matter of fact, four Notre Dame students studying abroad in Rome have had the opportunity to intern at the U.S. Embassy in Italy, the U.S. Embassy to the Holy See, and the U.S. Mission to the UN Agencies in Rome, and more are to come.

Emily McConville, a history and Italian studies student who completed her internship in the public affairs department of the U.S. Embassy to the Holy See during summer 2016, said:

"Before the internship, I had little experience with both social media and foreign affairs. Over the course of nine weeks, I learned how embassies work, how large institutions communicate with the public, and the thought

and hard work it takes to carry out a large project like an hour-long speech. I also, of course, improved my Italian and was able to stay in Rome for the summer. I am now considering applying to the foreign service later down the road."



Students who interned at the U.S. Department of State experienced the opportunity to gain insight into U.S. foreign policy and diplomacy, explore new career avenues, and acquire lifelong skills in representing America to Italy.

Margaret Swinehart worked at the U.S. Embassy to Italy in Via Veneto during summer 2016: "I found my internship at the U.S. Embassy to Italy very rewarding. I experienced international relations on a day-to-day basis, showing me how countries interact and the amount of people required to take in intelligence and maintain relations with one another. I feel like a better U.S. citizen after learning how embassies operate and seeing the complexities of building positive foreign policies. This internship fostered my interest in international relations and government work that I know will help me in my career after graduating from Notre Dame."

The University of Notre Dame presence at the U.S. foreign policy offices is also strengthened by the fact that two of the U.S. chief representatives in Rome until January of 2017, the Ambassador to the Italy John Phillips and the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Mission to the UN Agencies in Rome Tom Duffy are successful Notre Dame alumni. The Ambassador to the Holy See Ken Hackett, received an honorary doctorate in 2007 and he was awarded the Laetare Medal in 2012 from the University of Notre Dame.

Kathryn Galioto a Rome International Scholar, political science major, and journalism and business minor currently spending the semester in Rome, is excited about spending this summer at the Public Affairs Department of the U.S. Mission to the UN Agency in Rome: "I'll get to see the kind of role the U.S. plays in its interactions with international organizations like the World Food Program and the Food and Agriculture Organization. I'm a political science major, so I'm excited to get some hands-on experience in areas dealing with food security and humanitarian assistance. Like most public affairs jobs, every day on the job will likely be a little different for me, so I'm looking forward to learning a lot."

Emily strongly recommends this experience, adding, "I was able to be a small part of the United States' foreign relations, and it gave me an invaluable understanding of how the U.S. promotes its interests abroad. Even if I don't become a diplomat, I am a more informed citizen. If anyone is interested, I would recommend applying early and, if accepted, turning in the security clearance materials early. Rome is a great place to work in foreign relations!"