

MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

SEPTEMBER 7, 2009

THIS WEEK IN LUXEMBOURG...

Schueberfouer

Celebrating its 669th year, this is the biggest fair in Luxembourg! Taking place on the Glacis in Limpertsberg, it is open daily from 2 pm until 1 am (and until 2am on Fridays and Saturdays!) The fair ends on **September 9** with an exciting fireworks display at 22h. Go to funfair.lu for more information on bus lines, trains, times, etc.

Want some wine with that cheese?

Discover the joy of Luxembourgish wine at the Grevenmacher Wine Festival on **September 11, 12, and 13th**! On Saturday and Sunday the festivities include parades and fireworks, but also consider taking a boat trip on the Moselle and exploring some of the wine caves. www.gevenmacher.org

Climb Every Mountain...

Mr. Hoff, an avid hiker, will be taking students on a hike this Sunday! It's a great way to explore the back roads of this beautiful country.

Discover Lux City!

Teams of four can discover the history, culture and gastronomy of Luxembourg City on **Saturday, Sept 12** – think of it as a daylong scavenger hunt with team t-shirts and food! Registration is 50EUR/team. Check out www.discover-luxembourg.lu



MUDEC EVENTS

Blue residence forms

If you haven't registered with the town hall, you need to do it by this **Friday!** Look on page 8 of your "MUDEC Guide" for specifics.

Host family Reception

Make sure you personally invite your Host family to our little welcoming soiree on the 9th!

Student Faculty Council

Interested in making this semester unforgettable? Think about running for the Student Faculty Council! Email Kelley to nominate yourself. One minute speeches and voting will take place during lunch on **Tuesday September 15!**

Joyeux Anniversaire!

A big HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Andrew Maggard (September 12)!

MUDEC CALENDAR

Monday, Sept. 7: First day of class!

Tuesday, Sept 8: Proctor Interviews

Wednesday, Sept 9: Host family reception

Thursday, Sept 10:

Friday, Sept 11:

- **Town Hall Registration Form due to Crici**
- **Excursion to Trier!**

The Monday Morning,

Monday 8, September

There are special days and special weeks.

Undoubtedly the back to school week is a very special one, and still more special for those – including me – who start it in a new place in the world. Of course if we are to compare the menial amazement of coming back to student's or teacher's life to the perennial certitude of our

Château which have seen so many weeks, so many years, so many centuries, the uniqueness of this moment might seem small. Reflecting on it, it occurred to me that, well, that could be a good line for this Dean's Letter. For the first release of the semester, I could decipher some hidden teaching about time, short semesters and long weekends, travels and stays, for the edification of the community and myself.

However, should I confess it? I did not feel like it. I did not for a reason that I hardly dare to confess: when I realized that I had to write the Dean's letter for The Monday Morning, a silly reference crossed my mind that was not at all related to the old stones of the Château, and the century-long wisdom they enclose in the secrecy of their near eternity standing. No. I was thinking of... Garfield. You know the fat, mean, funny and orange cat. And its (in)famous "I hate Mondays". The lesson it teaches (for there's always a lesson to be taught when an academic starts to write even if it's about Garfield) is that anything bad can happen on a Monday, and it's all right. It's Monday. On another day, it would be bad, unjust, un-understandable, untenable. But on Monday, it's ok. Why so? It's OK, because it's OK. If you do not seize that, well, it's just that you do not get what Garfield is all about.

With such a reference in mind, my Dean's letter all of sudden seemed gloomy. And though gloomy is all right on a Monday in Garfield's world, my non-Garfield side rebelled, and I promised to myself that my motto would be on the contrary "anything good should happen on Mondays (too)".

And then I remembered that I had to remind everybody that they had to take their X-rays in order to be in proper standing with the local regulations.

OK, it's Monday.



MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

14 SEPTEMBER 2009

This week in Luxembourg...

FETE AUX POMMES!

Enjoy a favorite fall-time activity and check out the **Apple Gala** in the town of Steinsel the 26/27 of September, the 3/4 and the 10/11 of October! There will be apples, cider, pumpkins, and other harvesty things.

FESTIVAL ON STEITSCH

On **Saturday, September 26**, there will be an arts festival, presenting new artists - think music, dance, film and photography! At the Carre Rotondes (1, rue de l'Acierie), there **FREE** entry from 4pm until midnight!

UNIVERSITY OF LUXEMBOURG

Interested in interacting with Luxembourgish university students? Email Kelley with your name (and the names of two friends!) and she'll connect you with students from the University of Luxembourg! Meet in the city, grab a beer or café, and learn what it's like to be a student in Luxembourg.

BLOG!

Be sure to regularly check www.mudecactivities.wordpress.com for up to date information on things happening in Luxembourg!

MUDEC Events

STUDENT DISCIPLINARY COUNCIL

Looking for ways to be involved with in Chateau leadership? Think about being a student member of the Disciplinary Board. The board will only meet when necessary (hopefully not very often!) to

review cases of student-handbook code violation. In addition to the faculty members sitting on the board, there will be two students and one student alternate! Email Kelley by Friday, Sept 25 to nominate yourself.

WEDNESDAY LECTURE

Get excited for another informative and interesting (and mandatory) lecture! This week we will hear **Professor Emile Haag** give a lecture on the History of Luxembourg! If you are interested a post lecture reception hosted by Dean Leterre with Professor Haag, please sign up outside Kelley's office!

WEEKEND EXCURSION – REIMS!

Check out the blog for more details!

JOYEAUX ANNIVERSAIRE!

A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **David Froimson** and **Rudy Krehbiel** (Sept 22), **Courtney Schilling** (Sept 24), **James Arnold** (Sept 25) and **Nicholas Ambrose** (Sept 27)!



MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Sept. 21:

Tuesday, Sept 22:

Wednesday, Sept 23: Lecture: Professor Haag

Thursday, Sept 24:

Friday, Sept 25: Weekend Excursion to Reims!

DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

Attendance policy

An unknown reader asked me after having read the previous *Monday Morning Dean's* letter: "if you do not like Monday writing, why this self-infliction of a Monday Morning Letter? Why not a *Thursday Morning*?"

While Monday has certainly lots of drawbacks, it has the competitive advantage over the other days to be the first one of the week, and to that extent, to be a rather convenient moment to tell people in advance about what will happen during the week.

But the reader is a tenacious species. Or this one was a particularly tenacious sample of the species. Or it is just that Monday is, after all, inspiring. At any rate, the tenacious reader went on:

"Have you heard of ITs? Rss feeds? Website? Blackboard? Or, like, digital screens? And, oh, by the way, you may have noticed Kelley's Blog
<http://mudecactivities.wordpress.com>?"

I sure do, and am a faithful reader. But there



is a binding reason for this *Monday Morning*: it has legal existence. Precisely in the *Student Handbook* 1.9.B.2 (edition 2009-2010) where it is described as the "weekly student information guide".

The same section states that one of the purposes of the existence of *The Monday Morning* is to explain in "details" the MUDEC attendance policy "at the beginning of each semester in a general statement".

Since I am at it, I should give the details or the attendance policy. They are simple: students should attend all their classes. Otherwise, three strikes (or more precisely 180 minutes) you are out.

What's that: "you're out"?

---directly dropped from the class. It is a unilateral decision of the instructor.

Any appeal?

---Sure. In front of the Committee of Advisers. It is composed of Dr. Shaffer and Mr. Beauchamp.

Does it mean that I can drop 3 classes in one course and I'm fine?

--- R U KIDIN? It just means that you are not dropped out. But you have to assume the consequences of your absences. It may impact your grade at the end of the semester as often stated in syllabi. It will impact your ability to do well at exams. Absences are bad for you GPA. Simple as that.

And should I excuse myself?

---At any rate. You may miss 180 minutes if you excuse yourself.

Otherwise?

---You do not want to know otherwise.

MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

21 SEPTEMBER 2009

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Enjoy a favorite fall-time activity and check out the **Apple Gala** in the town of Steinsel the 26/27 of September, the 3/4 and the 10/11 of October! There will be apples, cider, pumpkins, and other harvesty things.



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FREE TUNES

Need a jazz fix? Not only can you take advantage of **FREE** jazz and blues at Liquid every **Tuesday** and **Thursday**, but you can also head to the Grund on **Sunday at 11:30am** to **Abbaye de Neumunster** to hear some great jazz as well!

'WELCOME DAYS!'

Looking to explore further the charm of Luxembourg City? The University of Luxembourg is offering **FREE** guided tours of the city, starting at 4pm at Place Guillaume on **September 26!** Interested? Email Kelley by September 23rd to RSVP

SING ALONG

Work those vocal pipes in University of Luxembourg Choir this semester! Rehearsals are each **Tuesday from 19:00-22:30** in the city. We will be taking the 18:00 train into the city on **Tuesday, September 22** for choir auditions!

BLOG!

www.mudecactivites.wordpress.com

MUDEC Events

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DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

Food: The Clash of Civilizations.

A warm hello to all from Ohio... Yes, my *Monday Morning Letter* is sent from Oxford, where I will spend the week end visiting our home campus. It is always good to be back. For sure, I have my full plate of meetings all through the week, but---speaking of plates---I still take the time to indulge in some of my favorites, which include a few hearty hamburgers or getting my regular Mexican fix on High street. And Donuts on South Locust street.

I am very well aware that there are enough delectable options (if you have not found out, look out for Kelley's Delicious eats at <http://mudecactivities.wordpress.com/luxembourg-life/>) here in Luxembourg to make it up for not being immersed in the US food culture. Still, I appreciate my brief relocations back to Miami from a culinary point of view.



Food actually is an important topic everywhere in the world, and you may have noticed that it is especially the case in this part of the world.

It is not to say though that our relation to food is everywhere the same. As a matter of fact, it is extremely different depending on cultures, and we should keep in mind that what some of us consider as normal, or at least tolerable, is simply insulting for others. That is the point of our brand new "food policy" in class. You may have noticed that there are little posters explaining that it is not allowed to eat in classrooms. This is the default, which should be strictly respected if you use the room after class hours. However, some of us have the habit of having from time to time a little snack during the day and

the question was asked if this should be permitted or not.

There are places where it is strictly forbidden at all times: the library for instance.

Other than that, there are two aspects to eating in our place. The first one is obviously to keep the rooms clean. Food and drinks are not best friends to local cleanliness and this is a real concern. The second one may be missed by Americans: it is offensive for most Europeans to see people eating while they are teaching. It is deeper than a matter of behaving properly. I am convinced that, if asked, most Europeans would characterize such a habit of eating in class as "disgusting".

Since we are in a multicultural setting, I think the best is to go by a simple rule: the boss's rule. Simply, every instructor declares her or his class "food" or "no-food". If it is "food", I want to remind you that you should keep the room impeccably clean. It is permitted to eat in the room, not a permission to trash the room. Do not hesitate to (kindly) help with friendly words absent-minded fellow students who may forget to put their papers, cups, and... crumbs, in the trash where all those remnants properly belong.

If it is "no food", just wait for the end of class before grabbing a bite. And remember: it is not just an issue of going by the instructor's rule: for many people it is insulting to see people eating in their class. Just avoid another class (oops, sorry, clash) of civilizations...

MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

28 SEPTEMBER 2009

This week in

Luxembourg...

INCONVENIENT TRUTH?

What are your thoughts on the issue of climate change? In December 2009, world leaders will be meeting in Copenhagen to discuss this topic. The US Embassy is hosting an essay contest so you can contribute to this discussion! You are invited to submit a video or written message with your thoughts on climate change. Check out http://luxembourg.usembassy.gov/special_events.html for deadlines and details!

PAPPENDAG/FÊTE DES PÈRES

Luxembourg celebrates Father's Day on the first Sunday of October. Make sure you give your host-day a shout-out on **October 4!**

FETE AUX POMMES!

Enjoy a favorite fall-time activity and check out the **Apple Gala** in the town of Steinsel the 3/4 and the 10/11 of October! There will be apples, cider, pumpkins, and other harvesty things.

JAZZ IT UP...

Be sure to hit up Liquid for FREE jazz and blues every **Tuesday** and **Thursday**, and **Abbaye de Neumunster** in the Grund for musical stylings every **Sunday at 11:30am**

NUIT DES MUSEES

On **Saturday, October 10**, Luxembourg City will be hosting the annual 'night of museums!' For one night only, museums will be open from 18:00 until 1:00 with special exhibits, dancing and 'culinary surprises!' Tickets are 6EUR in advance and 7 EUR the night of and can be purchased at any museum or the tourist office! www.nuit-des-musees.lu

PHILHARMONIC CONCERT!

You have the opportunity to enjoy another FREE concert at the Luxembourg Philharmonie on **Monday, October 5!** Sign up outside Kelley's office!

BLOG!

www.mudecactivites.wordpress.com

MUDEC Events

MINI FIELD STUDY TOUR!!

It is already time to hit the road for four days of culture, learning and fun! To avoid a smelly situation (literally) make sure you **remove your food** from the fridge and clean up your space by Tuesday night.

FRIDAY EXCURSION PREVIEW: NANCY!

We will be exploring Nancy on October 9. Stay tuned for details!

JOYEUX

ANNIVERSAIRE!

A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **Nina Polson** (Sept 29) and **Shanley Pearl** (Oct 3)!!



MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Sept. 28:

Tuesday, Sept 29:

Wednesday, Sept 30: Leave for Mini Field Study!

Thursday, Oct 1:

Friday, Oct 2:

DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

Flu: doing the right thing

While our Oxford campus is grieving the loss of one of our recent graduates, who was suffering from H1N1, it is important for all of us to remember that flu symptoms have to be taken seriously.

A complete set of recommendations is available on Miami University's website:

<http://www.units.muohio.edu/saf/shs/>

Here, in the Chateau, you will find different posters about the right steps to take if you are suffering from flu-like symptoms. However, as none loses his or her time explaining over and over again what is important, I wanted to use this Dean's letter to serve as a simple reminder of the situation.

First, the symptoms: they include (but are not limited to) a fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or 38 degrees Celsius), or simply signs of a fever (having chills, feeling very warm, having a flushed appearance, or sweating), cough or sore throat and—possibly—runny nose, body aches, headache, tiredness, diarrhea, or vomiting.

Should you suffer from those symptoms, it is important to tell your host family that you are not feeling well and to contact the Center immediately (the local number is 58-22-22-1) as well as to stay home in your room and

avoid contact with the family members, friends etc.

Then you should schedule your local medical practitioner for a visit at home—while unusual in the US, home visits are still practiced by European Doctors, and are part of the recommendations of the Luxembourg government as an important precaution to avoid the virus spreading. At any rate, avoid going to the doctor's office when other patients are attending.

It is particularly important to contact your medical practitioner in the greatest urgency, if you have pre-existing conditions or previous illnesses that have compromised your immune system.

Finally, you should have your meals brought to your room. This is why it is imperative to contact the center in order to check how to organize the delivery of your meals.

It is also possible to reduce the risks of infection by adopting simple measures of prevention such as practicing good hygiene by washing your hands frequently with soap, or covering your mouth and your nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.

Miami also recommends being vaccinated when the vaccine is available.

With these precautions in mind, hopefully, we will go through this winter safely and with minimal risks.

MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

5 OCTOBER 2009

This week in Luxembourg...

"WINE AND DINE WITH...?"

Interested in connecting with Luxembourgish locals? The University of Luxembourg has invited up to three students to participate in their Welcome Days activity on **October 11!** You will be invited to share the day and a meal with someone from the University of Luxembourg! **Email Kelley** if you are interested!

NUIT DES MUSEES

On **Saturday, October 10**, Luxembourg City will be hosting the annual 'night of museums!' For one night only, museums will be open from **18:00 until 1:00** with special exhibits, dancing and 'culinary surprises!' Tickets are **6EUR in advance** and **7 EUR the night of** and can be purchased at any museum or the tourist office! www.nuit-des-musees.lu

FETE AUX POMMES!

Enjoy a favorite fall-time activity and check out the **Apple Gala** in the town of Steinsel. This weekend, **October 10 and 11**, is the **LAST** weekend of the festival! There will be apples, cider, pumpkins, and other harvesty things.

JAZZ IT UP...

Be sure to hit up Liquid for **FREE** jazz and blues every **Tuesday** and **Thursday**, and **Abbaye de Neumunster** in the Grund for musical stylings every **Sunday at 11:30am**

MUDEC Events

WEDNESDAY LECTURE!

Yes, it's time for another exciting, mandatory lecture! This week we'll be hearing from **Mr. Mark Biedlingmaier**, Charge d'Affaires A.I. of the U. S.

Embassy at 17:00 in the Dining Hall. In his lecture titled **Tour d'Horizon Diplomatique**, he'll be discussing his recent experiences in Baghdad, impressions of Luxembourg to date, and glimpses of his career in Africa. **Interested in attending a little soiree hosted by Dean Leterre after Wednesday's lecture?** Sign up outside Kelley's office!

MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART!

If you are in Dr. Schaffer's or Dr. Jacks' class, there is a mandatory field trip to the Museum of History and Art on **Thursday October 8!** Buses will leave MUDEC at **16:00**. If you are not in either class, but are interested in going, there is room for 10 more students on the bus. **Bring your student ID card!!**

TUTOR OPPORTUNITY!

Interested in tutoring an adorable 8 year-old in English? Talk to Crici for more details!!!

MUDEC LOUVRE...

Be sure to check out some incredible art from the ART 215 students in our gallery outside the library!

FRIDAY EXCURSION: NANCY!

We will be exploring Nancy on October 9. Check out the Blog for more details!

JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE!

A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **Patrick Muccio** (Oct 5), **Jennifer Miller** (Oct 6), and **Chelsea Fowler** (Oct 11)!!

MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Oct. 5:

Tuesday, Oct. 6:

Wednesday, Oct. 7: Wednesday Lecture at 17:00

Thursday, Oct. 8:

Friday, Oct. 9: Friday Excursion to Nancy!

DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

Let's be safe!

Luxembourg is one of the safest countries in the world, if not the safest. Ranking 13th safest country in the world according to the 2009 Global Peace Index, it even made it to the 1st rank in the 2008 international survey conducted by the group Mercer Human Resource Consulting. In the same surveys, the US respectively ranked 83rd and 40th. In theory, we are far safer in Luxembourg than in the US.

Reality, however, can differ quite sensitively from theory (and it is a political theoretician speaking here). Back home (wherever that is), we more easily decipher signs and have familiar clues about what is going on. We more easily avoid edgy situations, simply because we know better.

Better than whom? Well, basically, visitors.

Sometimes it is a good thing to have no bias: I have myself been in places where locals would not go without some qualms and I did not have any problem. Many times, I have seen tourists candidly walking in streets where I would have been reticent to venture as a local. And there was no problem.

These different issues amount to the same point: we should keep open minds while staying cautious. This is particularly true when we are travelling outside of Luxembourg, but even here in Differdange, we should keep monitoring our surroundings.

Simple safety tips can help you a great deal: a vigilant attitude considerably helps avoiding being the target of unwanted solicitations and, worse, assault.

If possible, avoid walking back home alone at night, and do not hesitate to call for help if you feel that your surroundings are not safe. In many cases, calling your host family is a good option. Call for the Luxembourg police (113) if you feel an

immediate threat. The EU unified emergency number, 112, also works and applies to medical emergencies.

In the unfortunate hypothesis you would have been the victim of a theft or an assault, even (and hopefully) if it is a minor incident, you should let us know, and report to the police. The center will naturally help you with this.

In the spirit of continual improvement, I recently met with the *Bourgmestre* (the Mayor) of Differdange and with the local police. The city hall promised to increase the beats of its agents (who are not policemen) at night around the castle. As for the police, they advise extra-caution on week ends, the most sensitive period in their statistics. They also indicated that though the police station is closed at night, one can always find there shelter, and call through the interphone in the safe booth at the entrance. A patrol will be sent in emergency.

I have also seen to have new tools set up to insure that you can have an immediate answer from us in case of a problem. Our new emergency line is **+352 58 22 22 911**. Please note that it is a real emergency number, which goes directly, day and night to my cell phone... I love to hear from you, but I do not like it in the middle of the night if it is not an actual emergency! You can also write an email to **mudcemergency@muohio.edu**.

In a nutshell: let us have open minds and open eyes!



MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

12 OCTOBER 2009

This week in Luxembourg...

FILM FESTIVAL

Luxembourg City will be hosting "DirActors International Film Festival" starting **Thursday October 15th** and going until **Monday October 19th**. You can catch films by international and local directors! Go to www.diractors.org for prices and the film schedule.

OKTOBERFEST IN LUXEMBOURG?

Friday, October 16th and **Saturday October 17th**, the Clausen will be hosting Oktoberfest! Of course you'll find Oktoberfest beer and a smorgasbord of Bavarian food! Tickets are 10EUR per person, or 50EUR for 8 people.

BOOTLEG BEATLES!

On **Thursdays, October 22**, the Bootleg Beatles, a legendary cover band, will be performing at the Rockhal in Esch! Check out www.rockhal.lu for more information.

FREE TUNES REMINDERS:

FREE jazz and blues every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** at **Liquid**, every **Sunday at 10:30** at **Abbey de Neumunster**. Liquid is also hosting **FREE** concerts every night this week starting at **21:00!**

MUDEC Events

IT'S ON LIKE DONKEY KONG

Ready to prove to the Chateau that your foosball skillz are more than just talk? Enter the **SFC Foosball Tournament!** It is **4EUR** for teams of two and the competition will begin the **week of October 19!** Proceeds go to a local charity with exciting prizes for the winners! Email Kelley to register your team.

T-SHIRT DESIGN

Show off your creativity by entering a design for the **MUDEC Fall 2009 T-shirt!** All T-shirt designs must be submitted to Kelley by **October 26th**. We will vote on the designs during lunch the week before Toussaint!

TOUR BOFFERDING!

Interested in seeing how Bofferding is made? You will have two opportunities to tour the brewery – **Friday, October 23rd** and **Thursday, November 12th**! Sign up outside Kelley's office by **this Wednesday (the 14th)** for the date of your choice!

PHILHARMONIE CONCERT!

Yes! It's true! Another **FREE** symphony opportunity! The concert will be **Monday, October 19th** - check the blog for more details about the program! Sign up outside Kelley's office.

FRIDAY EXCURSION: BASTOGNE!

Check out the Blog for more details!

STAY STREET LEGAL...

If you have not talked to Crici about doctor's appointments and x-rays, stop by her office (even if you've heard some of the details from others!)

JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE!

A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **Meghan Freed** (Oct 15), **Connor McNicholas** (Oct 16) and **Megan Magill** (Oct 17)!

MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Oct. 12:

Tuesday, Oct. 13: Registration for classes begins at 14:00

Wednesday, Oct. 14:

Thursday, Oct. 15:

Friday, Oct. 16: Friday Excursion to Bastogne
Registration closes at 17:59!

DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

The price of Peace

Sweet news for any American institution abroad: the American president was awarded the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize last week. I say "for any American program abroad" because one of the primary objectives of traveling abroad is to foster relations between peoples and people, and to hope that it will serve the purpose of a making the world a more peaceful place to live. There are people immune to the charm of the places where they have stayed for a little while as students. But for most of us, the magic works.

It works so well, that after World War II, one of the first endeavors to strengthen the frail peace between Germany and France, which had been foes for seventy-five years, was to set students exchanges in the two countries. And it worked.

In still more tragic circumstances, back in the early 30's the great French philosopher Raymond Aron visited Germany as a young lecturer, first in Köln, then in Berlin, where he was the desperate witness of the rise of Nazism. He saw at close range the fast development of anti-Semitism, the auto-da-fe of books in the streets and a country becoming the prey of fanaticism and extremism. Less than a decade after these events, he was one of the first to join the Free France, the French organization in London, which refused to stop fighting after the crumbling of the country in June 1940. But after the war was over, he chose to come back to Germany, and from then on visited the country

where he taught on a regular basis. Beyond the tragedy of history, he stayed faithful to something he had discovered as a young man staying in Germany: culture, ways of life, mutual curiosity.

Something similar could be said of another major philosopher of the 20th century, Wittgenstein. A young Austrian, he decided to go to Cambridge (UK) to study philosophy at the beginning of the 20th century. During World War I he fought with courage for his country, and was made a prisoner. His friends from

England (among whom Bertrand Russell, a major British philosopher) did their best to have him freed, and to help him with the publication in English of a book that is often regarded as one of the greatest achievements in the history of philosophy, *The Tractatus logico-philosophicus*.

Aron or Wittgenstein, obviously, had a harder time than we do in our contemporary pacified Europe. Our challenges are different, even if the US, along with its allies from Europe and elsewhere are still fighting a war in Afghanistan. In these very different circumstances, one truth remains: something in us belongs to the places where we developed as young adults and students. And this something is the seed of future peace.

For that reason, whatever we think of last week Nobel award, it still is a reminder that, as an American program abroad, we work to deserve a more silent reward: the priceless prize of peace.



MEINDE & MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

19 OCTOBER 2009

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What are your thoughts on the issue of climate change?



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TIME TO 'FALL BACK'....

CLOCKS CHANGE SATURDAY NIGHT!

Saturday night/Sunday morning, you will have to turn your clocks back one hour (3am becomes 2am)! **This is ESSENTIAL for Sunday travelers!!**

STICKING AROUND FOR THE WEEKEND?

If you're planning on staying in lovely Luxembourg to do some mid-term studying this weekend, check out the blog for information on some **AMAZING concerts** and **fun events** happening Friday and Saturday! (..and I'm talking James Taylor amazing) www.mudecactivites.wordpress.co

MUDEC Events →

THURSDAY FIELD-TRIP

Professor Jacks' and Schaffer's classes will be going to the MUDAM (Luxembourg's museum of contemporary art!) on **Thursday!** If you are interested in tagging along, sing up outside Kelley's office. Buses leave at **16:00**, and the entrance fee is **3EUR**.

T-SHIRT DESIGN

Show off your creativity by entering a design for the **MUDEC Fall 2009 T-shirt!** All T-shirt designs must be submitted to Kelley by **October 26th**. We will vote on the designs during lunch the week before Toussaint! **Winner gets a FREE T-SHIRT!!**

DO THE MONSTER MASH!



On **Wednesday, October 28th**, your SFC will be hosting a **Halloween Cookout** at the Chateau! Stay tuned for details, and start brainstorming those costume ideas...

FREE CONCERT ALERT!

Yes! Another **FREE CONCERT** opportunity at the next Thursday, **October 29th**, at the Philharmonie! Sign up outside Kelley's office!

WEEKEND EXCURSION PREVIEW:

HEIDELBERG & THE BLACK FOREST

Check out the blog for more details! Email Kelley to sign up.

JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE!

A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **Emmalyn Ross** (Oct 23) and **Zach Pohlman** (Oct 25)!

MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Oct. 19:

Tuesday, Oct. 20:

Wednesday, Oct. 21:

Thursday, Oct. 22:

Friday, Oct 23: Friday Excursion: Bofferding Brewery!

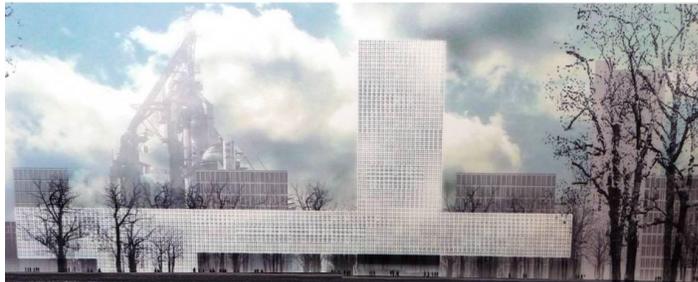
DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

The future of an engaged Dolibois Center

Last week, we had the pleasure to welcome for a short visit to the John E. Dolibois Center Dr. Mary Woodworth, Vice-President of Miami University, and Alyssa Klein, the coordinator of the (famous) “MUDEC office” in Oxford—sometimes called the “Lux Office” (Lux meaning light in Latin, I find the nickname inspirational and... illuminating).

This visit was an opportunity to discuss many aspects of our program, to meet with our Luxembourgish interlocutors and to envisage the future of the John E. Dolibois European Center in Luxembourg.



University of Luxembourg: the new campus

This entails many technical aspects that most of the readers would find unavoidably conducive to a soft nap. I shall skip them, though for us it lead to passionate discussions. As a matter of fact, the visit of Dr. Woodworth and Ms. Klein gave us an exciting opportunity to reflect together on what we do and could do - possibly better- and what we want to do.

What will the future of the John E. Dolibois center look like? I have never been inclined to play Mr. Magical Crystal Ball and I do not pretend to indulge in oracles. But I am convinced that our future connects to a simple fact: Luxembourg is the best place ever to be “an engaged university”.

“An engaged university”: through this theme our university, on the third century of its existence, apprehends what should be the “Miami experience”. An experience where students are still more autonomous in their education, where out-of-class teaching enriches and guides in-class learning, aiming to provide tangible outcomes such as

academic competences as well as intangible ones—all that we recognize as part and parcel of our personal growth.

For all the students, and all the alumni, of the Dolibois Center this ambition echoes deeply with their own experience in Luxembourg. Our task for the future is to expand it, to enhance it, to make it more visible in our curriculum and the expectations we have for it.

This means than more than ever we must be engaged in our community. I had the opportunity to tell Mr. Meisch, the *Bourgmestre* (mayor) of Differdange, how much we enjoyed to have the preschoolers of Differdange come to pick up apples in our gardens, and how this reflects our eagerness to serve this community that welcomes us.

Another significant meeting took place with the President of the *Fonds Belval* (the institution developing the new campus of the university of Luxembourg), Mr. Dondelinger. With him, as well as with the Rector of the University of Luxembourg, Dr. Tarrach, we shared ideas about the future association between our bicentennial institution and the young university of Luxembourg on its new campus in a few years.

We all feel that the program we offer is incomparable. Our ambition is to develop all its outstanding features in the future, engaged in the community that hosts us in a spirit of loyal partnership.

MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

26 OCTOBER 2009

This week in Luxembourg... 20 YEARS LATER...

If you find yourself in back in Luxembourg on **Sunday, November 8**, check out an exciting exhibit commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall! Festivities will be from **15:00-18:30** at **Abbaye de Neumunster** and the entrance is **FREE!**

SMOOTH CRIMINAL

Do you still have dreams of singing along to 'Thriller' in concert? Utopolis will be showing **Michael Jackson's 'This Is It'** movie starting this **Wednesday, October 28** until Saturday, **November 1**. On **Friday, October 30**, check out King of Pop, an exciting tribute concert at the Rockhal: www.rockhal.lu

FREE TUNES REMINDERS:!

FREE jazz and blues every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** at **Liquid**, every **Sunday** at **11:30** at **Abbey de Neumunster**.

MUDEC

Events

MID-TERM STRESS RELIEVERS....

Take a break from studying for mid-terms and enjoy some relaxing, stress relieving activities! At **18:30** head **outside for a game of touch football**, or to **Charles the Bold for a yoga session!** Yogis will need to bring a towel!



STRIKE A POSE

Our semester group photo will be this **Wednesday, October 28th** at **17:00!** We will meet outside the Chateau and head across the street to the church steps!

DO THE MONSTER MASH!

On **Wednesday, October 28th**, your SFC will be hosting a **Halloween Cookout** at the Chateau! The feast begins at **18:30** at the villa and **costumes are strongly encouraged!**

I WANT TO SUCK YOUR BLOOD?

Before there was Twilight, there was Dracula! After the cookout, you are invited to view **Shadow of a Vampire** in our very own spooky castle. **Fun Fact:** Part of the movie was filmed in Luxembourg!!



FREE CONCERT ALERT!

Yes! Another **FREE CONCERT** opportunity at the next Thursday, **October 29th**, at the Philharmonie! Sign up outside Kelley's office by Wednesday!

TOUSSAINT BREAK REMINDERS:

Once again, before you hit the road for a week of fun and adventure, make sure **your space is cleaned up in the cave/library/computer lab**, and that you **dispose of any perishable items in the kitchen!** We don't want to return to a smelly Chateau....

JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE!

A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **Rachel Alexander** (Oct 28), **Faithann Hawkins** (Oct 29), **James**



Luxem (Nov 3), **Alison Synder** (Nov 5), **Alanna Kawiecki** (Nov 6), **Jennifer Trotta** (Nov 7) and **Stephanie Eson** (Nov 5)!!

MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Oct. 26:

Tuesday, Oct. 27: Mid-term stress relief!

Wednesday, Oct. 28: Halloween Cookout

Thursday, Oct. 29:

Friday, Oct 30: Happy Toussaint Break

DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

Halloween Cookout

Irish in its origins, Halloween has become a truly American event. The European continent hardly knows the gore-type festivities that surround the last night of October in North America. Ten years ago, a timid move to implement Halloween in continental Europe happened, but in the following years it did not seem to really develop.

There are many reasons to it. Firstly, Halloween has to compete with the more traditional *All Saints Day* on Nov. 1st where a religious tradition has been combined with the *Day of the Dead*. Instead of the mock references to death we have in the US., people in Europe actually visit cemeteries and put flowers on the graves of their passed away beloved ones. It seems difficult to add the traditional Halloween fun note to moments which are ones of memory, love, and respect to Europeans.

Second, Europeans are often more suspicious of their diet, and the orgy of sweets characterizing Halloween in the US is seen as a dangerous unhealthy habit. Kids asking for candy have potentially devastating effects on the future of the health care system. The trick is in the treat.

Finally, (the mention of this fact is especially dedicated to our Business students) we must take into account a merciless commercial war between the ones who sell candy for the kids and the ones who sell flowers for the dead. It appears that flowers won.

So here we are, an American program in a continent that just ignores Halloween. What should we do? The question is all the harder since Halloween will be on a week end and just before the fall break.

The answer was valiantly provided by the Student Faculty council (many special thanks to its members!): we are going to dress up and go for hamburgers (or Hot dogs) and have a cookout on Wednesday. Just in case Halloween would not work with our plans for the week end.

After all, the meaning of Halloween is to have fun while the season is going not too funny. When days become shorter and colder, and nights longer and sadder, we can give our wonderful barbecue one last chance to warm us up. (By the way, think of putting a fleece under your costume). Plus, we now have soccer and basketball balls: it would be too bad not to use them weather permitting. And if it does not permit, well, we have a plan B (being a positive and superstitious optimist, I will not tell you about it).



At any rate, we will also honor another Halloween tradition and will watch a couple of horror movies: *Shadows of a Vampire* with John Malkovich, and

late at night *Nosferatu* (silent, creepy, old: all the ingredients for real horror).

For those who feel that they need an educational pretext to join, I should mention that these movies will be studied in Dr. Paul Lesch's class (and to go a little further, I'd like to mention too that we now have a collection of the movies for the film class at the library).

So we'll have a multicultural, original, anticipated and educational Halloween of our own. Tricky, is not it?

MEINDE & MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

9 NOVEMBER 2009

This week in Luxembourg...

MIERTCHEN?

This **Saturday, November 14th**, Vianden will be celebrating Miertchen, an old custom ending the harvest and paying tithes to the feudel lords! Think bonfires and cheerful processions...

INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR!

Are you planning on returning to Luxembourg right after your Field Study tour? The American Booth at the International Bazaar (an event benefitting hundreds of charities!) is looking for volunteers on **Saturday, November 28th** and **Sunday, November 29th**! Email Kelley ASAP if you are interested!

FREE TUNES REMINDERS!

FREE jazz and blues every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** at **Liquid**, every **Sunday** at **11:30** at **Abbey de Neumunster**.

MUDEC Events

MIAMI ALUMNUS GATHERING...

M Interested in mingling with some of Luxembourg's Miami Alum? You are invited to a little get-together at Lux City's Chi-Chis to share beer, wine and cheese with Redhawkers! The event starts at **20:00**, this **Tuesday, November 10**. Ole!

WEDNESDAY LECTURE FUN!

Yes that's right! Another exciting (and mandatory!) **Wednesday night lecture starting at 17:00!** This week we'll be hearing a fascinating presentation from Baxter International from Miami Alums who have maximized their study abroad experience after college! **The sign-up for a post-lecture reception chez Dean Leterre is outside Kelley's office**

BOFFERDING TOUR, PART DEUX

Missed out on our Friday excursion to the Bofferding Brewery, but still want to see how the magic is made? Prof. Beauchamps is taking his

business class this **Thursday, November 12** at **15:00** and there are still spots available! Sign up is outside Kelley's office.

LES AMIS D'ECOLE DE MUSIQUE!

Wondering where those Foosball Euros went? **This Thursday** we will be having a little reception for *Les Amis d'Ecole de Musique*, a local non-profit that gives music scholarships to young musicians! **If you would like to donate your spare change, a jar will be in the dining hall!**

COMFORT FOOD FEAST

Sad that you're missing the joy of turkey, mashed potatoes and mandatory elastic waistbands that is Thanksgiving? On **Thursday evening, November 19th**, we will be having a good ol' American comfort food feast with Mac and Cheese, PB&J, plus some Thanksgiving favorites. Stay tuned for details!

NO INTERNET?

Give Crici your completed medical form (with x-ray), or your internet will be blocked at **noon, November 19th**! Once you have everything turned in, you'll get it back ☺

WEEKEND EXCURSION PREVIEW, DEC 4TH AND 5TH : GERMAN MOSEL TOUR

JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE!

A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **Taylor Stechsulte** and **Sara Wortman** (Nov 10), and **Sarah Kennedy** (Nov 12)!



MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Nov. 9:

Tuesday, Nov. 10:

Wednesday, Nov. 11: Mandatory Lecture! 17:00

Thursday, Nov. 12:

Friday, Nov. 13:

DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

Miami Alumni Beer & cheese, Passports, and Helping Children

It is time to say "Welcome back!" after a fall break that I am sure was terrific. For those who preferred terrifying to terrific and who like Garfield lived on pizzas and horror movies, welcome back to healthy food and class material. For those who return from sunnier destinations, welcome back to a true post-Halloween Luxembourg: short days, long rains, getting cold. Pretty much what we would start to get in Ohio, I believe (Ok, a quick glance at the weather forecast proves me wrong. There is still sun in Ohio. Never mind, *we do* have *the true* November weather).

The old Château missed you.... Thanks for bringing it back to life!

Speaking of which, here is the life-saver tip of the week: tomorrow, at 8PM, at Chichi's in Luxembourg-City, **you are all cordially invited by the Luxembourg Chapter of the Miami Alumni for a Beer and cheese event.**

Still better: it is free for real.

I am truly grateful for the dynamism of the Alumni community. Tomorrow's event is only one of the outcomes of their endeavors to support Miami and Miami's students.

Some more life-saver tips: we are now past the first half of the semester. First thing to know: it is going to go fast. More than ever you have to plan for what you absolutely want to do before going

back home. Otherwise, it might be that the end of the semester will surprise you without a warning.

Second life-saving trip: if you want to return to Europe or to extend your stay after the semester, you need to be in good standing with the Luxembourgish authorities. So, do not forget to tend the documents which are still needed in order to have your authorization of stay definitely granted.

This being said, the semester is not over at all. Do not get trapped into being overwhelmed by last minute work. Keep a regular rhythm (whatever that is—conventional wisdom is whatever works for you is OK provided that, or course, it stays in the limits of socially acceptable behavior).

One last life-saving tip. Do not get burdened by the Wintery ambiance. Winter is always a good pretext to stay cozy and warm, and Luxembourg has great places to be so (including in our warm, comfortable Château!)

Winter is also the Christmas season, and you probably have seen that we already have the tree in our lobby. It is a special one, provided by *Toys for Tots*, the Marines Corps organization that the Dolibois Center has supported for many years now. The tree will be decorated with "wish ornaments" to help less fortunate children in Luxembourg experience the joy of Christmas thanks to our contributions.

As you see, there are many healthy, funny, serious and generous ways to keep busy for the second "half" of the semester!



MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

16 NOVEMBER 2009

This week in Luxembourg...

HIKE WITH THE HOFF

For those of you who will be spending the weekend after Field-Study in Luxembourg, Mr. Hoff, hiker-extraordinaire, will be taking students on a stroll through the woods on **Sunday, November 29th**! Email Kelley if you are interested!



INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR!

Are you planning on returning to Luxembourg right after your Field Study tour? The American Booth at the International Bazaar (an event benefitting hundreds of charities!) is looking for volunteers on **Saturday, November 28th** and **Sunday, November 29th**! Email Kelley ASAP if you are interested!

FREE TUNES REMINDERS:!

FREE jazz and blues every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** at **Liquid**, every **Sunday** at **11:30** at **Abbey de Neumunster**.

MUDEC Events

WEDNESDAY LECTURE FUN!

Our **FINAL** exciting (and mandatory) lecture will be this **Wednesday at 17:00!** This week Robert Harmsen will be presenting his lecture "*Eurosceptisim: Even Europeans are confused by the E.U.*" **The sign-up for a post-lecture reception chez Dean Leterre is outside Kelley's office!**

AMERICAN COMFORT FOOD FEAST



This **Thursday, November 19th**, MUDEC invites you to enjoy a good ol' fashioned American Thanksgiving (with Pb&J and Mac-and-Cheese!) **Festivities begin at 17:00 in the Dining hall!** Email Kelley by noon, Tuesday, if you

cannot attend or if you would like a vegetarian meal!

NO INTERNET?

Give Crici your completed medical form (with x-ray), or your internet will be blocked at **noon, November 19th**! Once you have everything turned in, you'll get it back ☺

TOYS FOR TOTS!!

Interested in winning some great local Luxembourg prizes (**i.e. coupons for free pizza, homemade dinner**)? Then get excited for our annual Toys-for-Tots raffle, taking place during our final Dinner on **Dec 9**, and that raises money for their Christmas charity! Check your in-boxes for a note from the SFC.

BON VOYAGE – FIELD STUDY!

Remember to take your perishable food out of the kitchen before we leave for Field-Study on Friday!

WEEKEND EXCURSION PREVIEW, DEC 4TH AND 5TH : GERMAN MOSEL TOUR

Email Kelley by Wednesday if you are interested in joining in on the fun!

JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE!

Happy Birthday (this week and during field study!) to **PJ Callam** (Nov 16), **Shannon Sullivan** (Nov 20), **Brittany Erwin** (Nov 24), **Marty Ackerman** (Nov 26), and **Conor Neville** (Nov 29)!



MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Nov. 9:

Tuesday, Nov. 10:

Wednesday, Nov. 11: Mandatory Lecture! 17:00

Thursday, Nov. 12:

Friday, Nov. 13: Leave for Field Study Tour!!

DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

Time to be thankful

In its collective wisdom the Student Council decided to merge our planned comfort food event and our Thanksgiving dinner. The latter had actually not been planned since on the day of Thanksgiving we will all be scattered across Europe and for some of us, across the US. But discussing the idea of a comfort food feast, it seemed to the council that it made sense to integrate this very special American holiday that Thanksgiving is. So Thanksgiving it will be on this Thursday.

Reflecting on it, this gives me an appropriate pretext to say a few thankful words in this letter.

First of all, I wanted to thank precisely our Student Council which had the idea of this event, and which has been doing a tremendous job. I must confess that I always enjoy our Monday meetings when we plot the festivities for the weeks to come. I have the greatest respect for the dynamism and creativity of its members and of our bilingual Student Activity coordinator.

And of course, I am grateful for the availability and kindness of our cook and our cleaning staff: without the involvement of everyone, such events would just not be possible.

There are, of course, other sorts of activities and other sorts of "food" to be thankful for, and another note of gratitude I would like to share go to our guest lecturers. This semester the Dolibois Center was honored to welcome as lecturers our very own Dr. Shaheen and Dr. Haag, as well as the American Chargé d'Affaires Mr. Mark Biedlingmaier and, last week, alumni Bridget Comiskey and Jon Edwards who told us how valuable an international experience was when hunting for jobs.

This Wednesday, Dr. Robert Harmsen will give a presentation on Euro-skepticism.

These events are part and parcel of your experience at the Dolibois European Center and hence are mandatory. They are intended to offer open views on either experiencing being abroad or on the European situation and are a precious, though informal, way of learning about European and international context.

The lectures are also the image of Miami University and its program in Europe as an American academic community. So, thanks for being there and for supporting the special relationship the Dolibois Center has established with its environment.

Plus, it is always a pleasure to meet for a drink after.

Music being the nutrient of the soul, I am thankful to the tireless kindness of Georges Backes for arranging free tickets to Monday concert by the *Solistes Européens* all through the semester. These are wonderful and enriching cultural experiences to listen to beautiful classical music in one of Europe's finest and magnificent Philharmonie.

Sometime, of course, it is good to go for basics, which we did at last week's International Student Fair in Luxembourg. There were Hershey Chocolate bars thanks to the American Embassy (and its generous sponsor). Miami was there, and the staff who manned our Booth deserves special thanks. The affluence was rather incredible, and we all enjoyed talking about the excitement of learning Miami University provides. With the possibility for students from the University of Luxembourg to attend Miami, the interest in our program was at its pick!

This materializes our ambition to work more closely with the University of Luxembourg, and this is why also we will welcome Luxembourgish students to our Thanksgiving party. I warmly thank them for joining and for offering us what is the true spirit of thanksgiving, a spirit of welcoming guests but also, if one thinks of it, of intercultural meetings.



MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

30 NOVEMBER 2009

This week in Luxembourg...

JOLLY OLD SAINT NICHOLAS...

Here in Luxembourg, St. Nick is celebrated on his feast day, December 6th! On the night of December 5th, St. Nick visits good boys and girls to give them sweets and little presents! Happy St. Nicholas day!

CHRISTMAS MARKETS GALORE!

Take advantage of the great, holiday-cheer tradition of **Christmas Markets!** Think hot wine, handmade trinkets, and delicious goodies...



Here are just a few to check out:
Differdange: Dec 4th – Dec 24th

Lux City (Place d'Armes): Nov 27th – Dec 24th

Trier, Germany: Nov 23rd – Dec 22

Brussels, Belgium: Nov 27th – Jan 3rd

Metz, France: Nov 21st - Dec 23rd

Strasbourg, France: Nov 28th – Dec 31st

Check out the blog for more info!

LACE UP THE SKATES!

Show off your sweet triple-lutz skillz this winter at the ice-skating arena in Luxembourg City! Take the #18 bus to the Kockelscheuer-Patinoire stop.

Check out www.vdl.lu/Patinoire-p-1446010.html for more info.

FREE TUNES REMINDERS:

FREE jazz and blues every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** at **Liquid**, every **Sunday** at **11:30** at **Abbey de Neumunster**.

MUDEC Events

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!

It's time to get all dolled up for **our Final MUDEC feast, on Wednesday, December 9th**, celebrating an incredible semester. Buses will be leaving from the Chateau at 19:00 for some dining and dancing at Il Piccolo Mondo! Email Kelley by **Dec 4th** if you **cannot** attend.



AIRPORT BUSES

If you are still interested in taking the bus to the Paris or Dusseldorf airports at the end of the semester, **email Kelley by Thursday, Dec 3rd to reserve your spot!**

REVERSE CULTURE SHOCK?

Strange but true – sometimes going back home after a semester of travel and adventure can be a little rough! Think about taking IDS 156, a one credit course titled Study Abroad Re-entry Experience!

JINGLE BELLS!

Craving some Christmas carol musical stylings? On **Thursday, December 10th**, the University of Luxembourg will have a **FREE Christmas concert** at the Protestant Church in Luxembourg City. The concert starts at 20:00, and who knows? You may see some familiar MUDEC faces singing....

TOYS FOR TOTS!!

Interested in winning some great local Luxembourg prizes (i.e. **coupons for free pizza, gelato, homemade dinner**)? Then get excited for



our annual Toys-for-Tots raffle, taking place during our final Dinner on **Dec 9**, and that raises money for their Christmas charity! **Tickets are 1 for 1EUR, 5 for 4EUR and 10 for 6EUR – buy them from Kelley!**

JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE!

Happy Birthday to Lisa Floccari (Nov 30) and Randal Purdy (Dec 4)!!

MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Nov. 30: Welcome back!

Tuesday, Dec. 1:

Wednesday, Dec. 2:

Thursday, Dec. 3:

Friday, Dec. 4:

DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

Take (Miami) credit back home

Greetings from Ohio! With classes resuming after the Base courses study tours, I would like to express my appreciation to our faculty and staff who organized and lead last week study tour. I am very well aware of the work involved in facilitating these tours which are part of our program and its signature feature. I am also aware that more than work, it takes talent. From designing the learning outcomes built in the syllabi of the Base courses, to managing the incredibly complicated logistics it takes to turn a project into reality, from minding geographical constraints (we do not want tours that would eventually spend more time in transportation than on the field), to the squeezing of all this and more in a tight budget, it takes many skills, of diverse sorts. It takes also an incredible involvement and dedication. Once more, the team of the John E. Dolibois European Center has demonstrated along its *savoir-faire*, its commitment to make the European experience a unique one, while taking students groups to many fascinating destinations: Paris, Nice, Prague... In these world renowned places, the knowledge accumulated during the semester was given new thoughts, in its right, concrete, context while the material presented in class, was now experienced out of class... Study tours are meant to make teaching more meaningful by embedding those happy, funny, and sometimes also poignant (I think of the tour of Auschwitz) moments we all live in our travels, and also, in our lives.

Many thanks to all the students too, for having checked their immigration status before leaving (Okay, a few doing so a little like last minute). If you have not yet (I dare not believe it...) cleared your immigration status, I urge you to go through the last steps, unless of course, you want to spend your last weeks in Luxembourg without Internet access and risk to have issues at the border. Nothing is worse than being delayed by supplementary immigration controls while leaving a country, especially when there is not much time left to board the plane taking you back home...

As I mentioned it, this letter is written in Ohio. It has been my turn to leave the campus and go on a study tour, Dean's version, back to our home campus in Oxford. The old brick campus (not as old as our very own Château,

but still respectably 200 years old) is looking forward to seeing many of you back next semester. Soon the cold winter of Ohio will make a change from the rainy winter of Luxembourg. Only two little weeks separate us from the end of the semester, three from the end of the final exams period. You may want to take the opportunity to enjoy the traditional "Marchés de Noël" a specialty of the region, whether Luxembourgish, French or German, where you can buy seasonal food, Christmas ornaments and gifts, in a Fair ambiance. The lights of the festivities pierce through the darkness of the season, drinking hot wine (for those who like it) warms up the first cold, and maybe (whether this is a lucky or sad possibility, I leave it to you) the first snows - a few more exceptional moments to cherish.

Of course, after such an intense semester, you may wonder how it is going to be possible for you to get used to the US, now that you have probably (nearly) forgotten all about it! You may want to know also how to make the best use of the wonderful memories you will bring back along with an enriched life experience, many new ideas, and a greater knowledge, not only learned through your classes, but through the fact your classes had a special relation to the environment you have been living in for the last three months.

Here is a useful tip: enroll for a 1 credit sprint course, IDS 156, especially designed for you. There are available seats for spring 2010 in a new course intended for students who have studied abroad. It is a new course for Miami students who have returned from study abroad and want to examine, reflect upon, and evaluate their study abroad experiences.

More details?

This sprint course, which starts on January 12 and ends on March 3, will meet on Tuesdays at 5:00 -6:50 p.m. The instructor is Jacqueline Rioja, assistant director of the Center for American and World Cultures. For more information, do not hesitate to contact Ms. Rioja-Velarde at 529-6518.

There is an afterlife after Luxembourg, and to fully benefit from it, keep the link with the moments you are living now through your classes in Ohio.

MEINDE & MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

7 DECEMBER 2009

This week in Luxembourg...

CHRISTMAS MARKETS GALORE!

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HOST FAMILY EVALUATIONS

In your mailbox, you'll find a **housing evaluation form!** Please get these back to Crici by **Friday, December 11** – your input is essential for future semesters!

RESIDENCE FORMS NEEDED:

Remember those **white residence forms** you got when you registered with your town hall? It's time to turn those back into Crici by **Friday, December 11!** Any questions? Stop by Crici's office and she'll show you what you need!

AIRPORT BUSES

See Fanny by **Tuesday, December 15th** to pay for the airport shuttle!

29.60 USD – Dusseldorf Bus

91.81 USD – Paris Bus

CHATEAU WEEKEND HOURS!

Looking for a quiet place to cram for finals? The Chateau will be open Saturday and Sunday from 10am-5pm!

JINGLE BELLS!

Craving some Christmas carol musical stylings? On **Thursday, December 10th**, the University of Luxembourg will have a **FREE Christmas concert** at the Protestant Church in Luxembourg City. The concert starts at 20:00, and who knows? You may see some familiar MUDEC faces singing....

TOYS FOR TOTS!!

Win some amazing prizes and support a GREAT cause! Buy raffle tickets for our Toys for Tots raffle, taking place during the final dinner! **Tickets are 1 for 1EUR, 5 for 4EUR and 10 for 6EUR – buy them from Kelley!**

MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Dec. 7:

Tuesday, Dec. 8:

Wednesday, Dec. 9: Final Dinner and Dance!

Thursday, Dec. 10:

Friday, Dec. 11: Turn in Housing Evaluations!
Turn in Residence Form!

DEAN'S LETTER

'GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ON MONDAY (TOO)'

Can you believe it? We are already done?

It suddenly hit me, somewhere between Oxford (where I visited last week) Frankfurt (where I landed on my way back) and Differdange (where I am writing this): *really, really?* We are nearly done? It is the last week of class? I cannot believe it! That was the revelation of the week, and a big one. I realized we had reached the last week of classes and that we were preparing for our final banquet. Already three months have passed?

So fast.

Then (like many among us probably, I do not claim any originality in this) I also realized all that had been achieved within these last 3 months. Only 3 months? We have done all this in only 3 months?

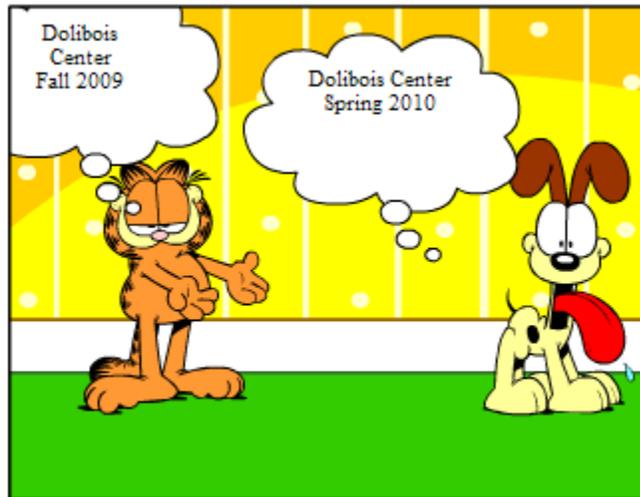
So fast, so many things done.

I have heard from students so many stories about their travels and their experiences, and all that has been learned! I could hardly count on more enthusiastic or diverse reports. I also guess that much more has been done despite the fact that I am not (and how can I put it?—probably should not be), privy to the stories about those things.

Regrets? That it has gone so fast, in a way. But I would have had real regrets if it has been going slow. Yes, it has been sometimes been a little hectic. After all, it is just another way to say that I had not a minute to get bored.

Expectations? Of course. This semester is not yet finished, but I am readying for the next one with a fat “to do” list waiting for me. The first semester of my tenure was dedicated to better understand the program in its most intricate details, to improve some of its aspects, mostly by clarifying our policies, to make contact with our so welcoming city of Differdange, and to make sure that... nobody would be deported from the EU for default of X-Rays!

Ahead of us at the Dolibois Center is the task to continue to integrate ourselves in our extended community and to improve our communication.



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It is very well known that thanks to the inspiration and the dedication of its previous directors, and especially thanks to my immediate predecessor and friend, Dean Stiller, the Dolibois Center has entertained a successful Miami Merger sort of relation with Luxembourg.

But even a strong a relation becomes weaker if it is not sustained and developed.

With the staff and the faculty of the Dolibois Center, I want to continue our reflection on our position as the most ancient American Higher Education Institution in Luxembourg—and in a way, the oldest university present in Luxembourg with our 200 years of existence—as a long standing and faithful partner of the country that hosts our program, but also as one of the largest American running operations in the field of Higher Education in Europe. While European Universities undergo a significant process of reform that is largely inspired from the American model, but from which we can, and should, learn a lot too.

We have much to bring, we have a lot to receive.

MEINDEG MOIEN

"MONDAY MORNING"

14 DECEMBER 2009

This week in Luxembourg...

CHRISTMAS MARKETS GALORE!

Take advantage of the great, holiday-cheer tradition of **Christmas Markets!** Think hot wine, handmade trinkets, and delicious goodies...

Check out the blog for all the details!

FINAL FREE TUNES!

FREE jazz and blues every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** at **Liquid**, every **Sunday** at 11:30 at **Abbey de Neumunster**.

MUDEC Events

BOOK BUY BACKS!

Sell your books back to Laurent, Monday thru Thursday from 14:00 – 16:45! **Check the posters around the Chateau for the books we are buying back.** Please bring all your books at once!

HOST FAMILY EVALUATIONS

In your mailbox, you'll find a **housing evaluation form!** Please get these back to Crici by **Wednesday, December 16** – your input is essential for future semesters!

RESIDENCE FORMS NEEDED:

Remember those **white residence forms** you got when you registered with your town hall? It's time to turn those back into Crici by **Wednesday, December 16!** Any questions? Stop by Crici's office and she'll show you what you need!

AIRPORT BUSES

See Fanny by **Tuesday, December 15th** to pay for the airport shuttle!

29.60 USD – Dusseldorf Bus

91.81 USD – Paris Bus

ONLY 50LBS?

Yup, the weight limit for suitcases is still only **50 lbs (23kg)**. If you are looking to drop some weight, or are running out of room, you can leave clothing, medicine, travel books, school supplies etc. in donation boxes placed throughout the Chateau!



SELL PHONES?

Did you buy a phone from Kelley at the beginning of the year? You can sell your cell for **20 EUR!** Stop by her office for more info ☺

TOYS FOR TOTS!!

The grand total of the money raised for Toys for Tots is...drumroll please...**356 EUR!** A huge 'MERCI' to everyone who helped us **exceed** our goal!

A FEW FINAL THINGS!

Before you head back to the States, please clear out your mail box, dispose of any uneaten food in the kitchen and (**by noon, Wednesday**) clean your lockers of personal items!

JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Samantha Bowker (Dec. 15) and to Kristin Bryant and Eve Ferriel (Dec. 18th!)

MUDEC Calendar

Monday, Dec. 14:

Tuesday, Dec. 15: Pay for Airport Bus deadline

Wednesday, Dec. 16: Housing Evaluation and Residence Form deadline

**Thursday, Dec. 17: Chateau is open until midnight
Airport buses leave the Chateau!**

Friday, Dec. 18:

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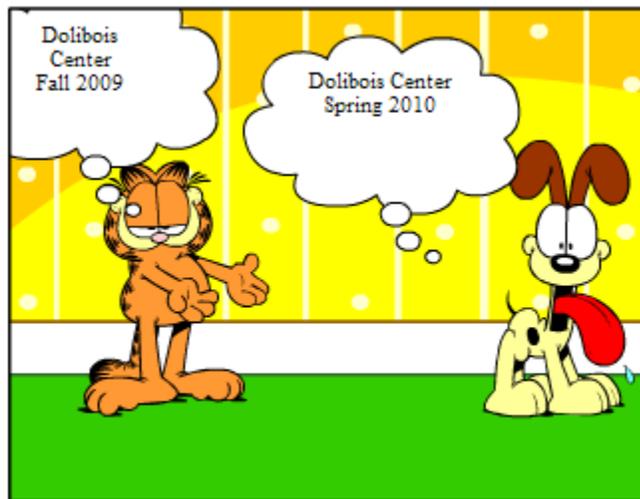
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