

# ROME GLOBAL GATEWAY



INTERNATIONAL  
Rome Global Gateway



## 33 GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED, 2014 - 2016

In support of its commitment to research, the Rome Global Gateway has awarded a total of 33 short term graduate fellowships during the academic years 2014-15 and 2015-16. The fellowships enabled graduate students in many disciplines to spend short time periods of research in residence in Rome.

Research topics ranged from archival work at the Pontifical Gregorian University's Library to examine four early-twentieth century works of moral theology (conducted by Craig Iffland, PhD in Theology) to the research conducted by Ji Hye Shin (PhD in Political Science, pictured) at the State Central Archives in Rome (Archivio Centrale dello Stato) and the European Union Archives in Florence on documents relating to patterns of regional institutional development in Western Europe since 1945, just to mention two.

Ji Hye commented: "My most important discovery was Jean Monnet's personal correspondence with various American leaders on US support for European unity... I have collected more than 400 pages of records from this trip, which will play a vital role in not only refining my theory, but also enriching my historical narrative." Their interesting projects include work in the American Academy Library (Architecture), archival studies at Urbaniana University, the Congregation for the Evangelization of people, Biblioteca Angelica (Theology and History), research and interviews at Archivio storico Luce in Cinecittà' (Literature and Italian Studies), research on the effect of conflict on family functioning (Psychology).

"The graduate research fellowship at the RGG marked a definitive progress for my dissertation work," said Maria Genghini, PhD in Literature. "My stay in Rome, albeit short, provided a unique opportunity to explore and engage various aspects of my research, both in terms of case studies as well as methodologically—and was indeed eye opening on the status questions of related areas of investigation" (Mourad Takawi, PhD in Theology). Beginning July 1st we will be accepting applications for projects to be undertaken in the academic year 2016-17.

## Notre Dame Graduate Studies and Research Advisory Council Spring Meeting

The delegation was led by the VP for Research, Bob Bernhard, and the Dean of the Graduate School, Laura Carlson. The meeting discussed the future of ND research and graduate education in Rome with representatives from the University of Rome Sapienza, University of Roma Tre, the Fulbright Commission and the Pontifical Gregorian University, as well as current ND Research in Rome, including projects in Architecture, the study of American Catholicism, Dante Studies, Engineering and collaborations with the Vatican Library.

The delegation visited both the Vatican Library and the American Academy of Rome for further discussions about opportunities for collaborations on graduate education and research. Participants were treated to a special showing of rare books in the Vatican Library by Prof. Ingrid Rowland (pictured), who discussed three manuscript books including the letters of Agostino Chigi (1466-1520) and three printed books including works by Vitruvius and Piranesi.



## THE APPLIANCE OF SCIENCE: ORDERED UNIVERSE IN ROME



The Ordered Universe project, a unique configuration of natural scientists, social scientists and arts and humanities scholars, enjoyed an excellent collaborative reading symposium in Rome at the beginning of April.

The principal object of the collective deliberation was Grosseteste's treatise *De sphaera*, *On the Sphere*. Composed possibly around 1216/17, the treatise is amongst the longer of the scientific works. It is a basic guide to astronomy and remained a popular work, although not to the extent of the contemporaneous work of the same title by John Sacrobosco.

The symposium was a great success, mind-opening and stretching, and a constant reminder of the capacity of medieval thinkers, and the humility, as well as expertise, needed to understand them. Grosseteste may never have been to Rome, although he may have planned to accompany his pupil Adam Rufus of Oxford/Exeter on his journey to the city in 1230/31.

The workshop was sponsored by Notre Dame's partner Durham University, as well as Durham's Institute for Medieval and Early Modern Studies.

## Jackson Jhin and his Internship at the Ente Nazionale per il Microcredito

*Jackson is one of our International Scholars who came to Rome for an exceptional internship. Can you tell us more?*

I have been working with the L'Ente Nazionale per il Microcredito (National Microcredit Agency) which is a financial branch under the office of the Italian Treasury. In some ways the office etiquette is quite similar to the US, but there have been other novel experiences for me like 2 hour lunches that finish with rounds of limoncello shots. Working in a professional setting has really pushed me to practice my formal Italian (and probably the only time in Rome when you actually have to remember to use Lei).



Microcredit refers to small loans given to individuals and companies who might otherwise not have access to credit. Typically, these loans are in the context of economic development, especially in underdeveloped countries. In Italy there are no non-bank microfinance institutions, but rather banks issue all microcredits and are collateralized by a government fund, which is starkly different than the microfinance system in other parts of the world. Here in Italy, microcredit is more of a tool to kickstart entrepreneurship as opposed to being a strictly developmental anti-poverty tool like in underdeveloped countries. The Agency's job is to a) regulate all microcredit loans in Italy b) promote knowledge of microfinance through conferences and summits c) provide mentoring and all traditional microfinance services to the client. It has been extremely interesting to learn about the inner-workings of the Italian microcredit market, and even more eye-opening to see through this agency as a window to the Italian government.

# Student Life

## FIELD TRIP TO SICILY FOR THE ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS



The undergraduate architecture students traveled to Sicily in mid-March for a seven day trip with Profs. Selena Anders, Krupali Krusche, and Ettore Mazzola. Their itinerary included Palermo, Segesta, Enna, Ragusa, Modica, Noto, Siracusa, Ortigia, and Catania. On the second day of the trip the students took time to sketch and watercolor in the cloister of the Monreale Cathedral, one of the greatest existing examples of 12th century Norman architecture. The group stopped for a picture on the steps of San Giovanni Evangelista in Modica. In Siracusa, a city notable for its rich Greek history and architecture, Alex Preudhomme sketched and watercolored the panorama while visting the archeological sites of the Ear of Dyonisius, theatre complex, and Hieron.

## VISIT TO TIVOLI



The final trip of the academic year for the architecture students brought them to the town of Tivoli for a day trip to visit Villa Adriana and Villa d'Este. Tivoli's long history, dating back to the 13th century BC, and geographical location, high up in the hills of Lazio, made it a

strategic and much sought after location for papal control. Villa d'Este was commissioned in the 16th century by Cardinal Ippolito II d'Este (grandson of Pope Alexander VI). Its gardens are home to many of the most elaborate examples of water play structures in a Roman villa. Inspiration for Villa d'Este was drawn from the nearby Villa Adriana where Emperor Hadrian spent retreats initially during his rule and then permanently in his later years. Built in the early part of the 2nd century AD, Hadrian's Villa borrowed from Greek and Egyptian architectural design aspects and melded them with Roman tradition.

## A Student's Eye

*The experience of Anthony Derouin, a student of the SoA in his second semester in Rome*

"My first semester abroad was much harder than this semester. I think some of that can be attributed to missing the football season. So much of the fall was spent thinking of home and struggling with those feelings. After the fall semesters, I had a break month, where I traveled to something like 18 cities in 29 days. It was ridiculous, I know. But in that span of time, it kind of hit me: I can learn to make any place my home. It might not always be easy or fast, but I am capable of it.

I only actually visited the Colosseum this semester, and I've been here for more than half a year! I finally decided to immerse myself fully. I visit an Italian coffee shop before my history class every week. There, I practice my Italian with the old man whose family runs the restaurant. He's constantly correcting me, but I'm doing it. I'm learning. It's hard to hear someone say this and then not get discouraged about an experience abroad.

But you keep trying, and you get the hang of it, and you make memories. And it's formative: I'm very seriously considering doing graduate school or research in Europe.

That's what I've taken from this experience. I can make my home anywhere, and I'd love to continue to use these skills here."



# Faculty News

**Congratulations, Silvia!**



Silvia Dall'Olio, Assistant Director, completed her PhD in Linguistics and Second Language Teaching from the Università per Stranieri di Siena (Italy). Her dissertation examined the development of listening strategies in study abroad language learners in Italy.



## The Truth(s) of Dante's 'Questio' Explained by Ted Cachey in Verona



On January 20, 2016, in the Church of St. Elena in Verona, Ted Cachey, Academic Director of the RGG, gave the lecture “Le verità (e l'imbarazzo) della ‘Questio’ di Dante,” in the same place and on the same day in which Dante Alighieri, nearly seven hundred years earlier, on January 20, 1320, gave the lecture “Questio de aqua et terra.” In this work Dante explained how and why the land emerges from the water according to the providential design of

creation. On April 10, 2016 in the Casa di Dante in Rome, Ted Cachey gave the concluding lecture of the 102nd edition of the annual *Lectura Dantis Romana* on “Inferno XXXIV.”

The Casa di Dante was founded in 1913 at the initiative of Sidney Sonnino, then Italy’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, and since 1921 has been located in the Palazzetto degli Anguillara in Rome’s Trastevere neighborhood.

# ND Alumni

**Bits of History**



In 1960, the Club opened Rome's first Notre Dame Centre across the street from Scoglio di Frisio, in the Palazzo Brancaccio. It operated as headquarters for the Club, and as a hospitality center for visitors, pilgrims, council Fathers and peritii throughout the decade.

Throughout this entire time, Vincent McAloon, former club president and perennial secretary-treasurer served as the full time director and the face of Notre Dame in Rome. The Center was open every afternoon and early evening for any member of the Notre Dame family to stop by. During the Vatican II Council, dozens of U.S. bishops and other Council fathers would congregate at the Notre Dame Centre for aperitivo before dinner at Scoglio.

Throughout the Council, the proprietor Dr. Rossi kept a special registry-guestbook for the bishops to sign on their first visit to the restaurant. After four sessions, 900 bishops had signed in, most having spent time in the ND Center as well. Among the peritii recorded there was Father Francis X. Murphy, who, under the pseudonym Xavier Rynne, published a series of reports that read almost like minutes of the Council.

The Summer 1963 Issue of Notre Dame magazine ran an article on the hospitality of the Notre Dame Club of Italy.