



**The Viessmann European Research Centre**

**Annual Report  
April 30, 2007**

**by**

**Pierre L. Siklos  
Director**

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## **Introduction**

As in previous years, the Centre had a very active, enriching, and successful set of activities during its sixth year of operation. The Centre was also the subject of a first comprehensive review of its activities since it was founded in 2001. I report on the outcome of this review below. What following is a report on the Centre's activities covering the period May 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007.

Activities during the 2006-2007 included our 2006 Annual Conference, the Centre's sixth, held at Philipps University Marburg, Germany in May 2006, as well as one workshop held in Capri, Italy. In addition, special sessions were organized by the Centre as part of the Annual American conference of Geographers in San Francisco, and the European Union Studies Association (EUSA) in Montreal. The Capri workshop was co-organized with the University of Münster, Germany. The Annual Conference was co-organized with Alfred Pletsch of Philipps University. Details on these and other activities follow below. Complete details about the Centre, and its work, can be found at [www.wlu.ca/viessmann](http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann). The web site is managed by the Director.

For readers who are unaware, the Centre was established on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2001 by the Senate of Wilfrid Laurier University and originally named **The Viessmann Research Centre on Modern Europe at Laurier** (see [Appendix A](#)). The appointment of the director, Al Hecht, was made in July of the same year, and its budget was established from an endowment provided by the late Dr. Hans Viessmann, together with funds from WLU's Academic Development Fund. The Director reports to the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, and the Centre is also governed by an Advisory Board that meets twice a year. Shortly after I took over as Director the Centre in 2005 it was renamed the **Viessmann European Research Centre (VERC)**. Physical space is now located on the main floor of 232 King Street since September 2007. We now hope that this space is permanent. The Centre is grateful to Dr. Susan Horton, Vice-President: Academic, for underwriting the majority of the costs of moving from our temporary offices in the basement of 232 King St. There are two main offices, one each for the Director, and the Associate Director. The first floor also has a seminar room which is shared with the Laurier Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies. In addition, there is office space for two visitors. The Centre receives no formal administrative support from the University. Hence,

all administrative matters are handled by the Director, or the Associate Director when the Director is absent.

### **Activities of the VERC at Laurier in 2006/2007**

At an Advisory Board meeting in 2004, it was agreed that the Centre should aim to organize, or co-organize, small workshops on more focused subjects of interest to members and friends of the VERC. One such workshop was held in 2006-2007 and several more are in the planning stages. A workshop was held in Capri, Italy, on May 24-26, 2006, on the theme “[The Architecture of Financial System Stability: From Market Microstructure to Monetary Policy](#)”. It was co-organized with Dr. Martin Bohl, from the University of Münster, and who is also on the VERC’s Advisory Board. A call for papers went out through several outlets, including the Social Science Research Network ([www.ssrn.com](http://www.ssrn.com)). Only completed papers were considered. At the time of the deadline for submissions (November 30, 2005), we received almost 100 submissions. Only 10 papers could be accepted resulting in a rejection rate of almost 90%. In addition, two distinguished speakers agreed to present papers. Professor Charles Goodhart from the LSE, and formerly a member of the Bank of England’s Monetary Policy Committee, as well as Dr. Claudio Borio from the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), gave keynote presentations. The complete program and papers are available at <http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/Capri/Capri.htm>. There were approximately 20 participants from academia and central banks from Europe and North America.

The Centre’s 2006 Annual conference was a continuation of the 2005 Conference under the theme “[Current Challenges in Post-Secondary Education: Developments in Canada and Germany](#)”. Over 50 participants attended the conference, including WLU’s VP: Academic, Dr. Susan Horton. The complete program and can be found at [http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/Conference%206/Sixth\\_conference.htm](http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/Conference%206/Sixth_conference.htm).

In 2006, the Centre’s web site was redesigned and a Visitors page was added. In addition, the first of what we hope are several “Europolicy briefs” was published in January 2007. These are short articles that deal with key aspects of life and society in Europe. See [http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/html\\_pages/briefs.htm](http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/html_pages/briefs.htm). More are planned for the coming year and will be reported in subsequent Annual Reports.

## **Advisory Board Activities**

The advisory board held one meeting, in the fall of 2006. The Spring 2007 meeting was cancelled in view of the absence of agenda items. Our international members were able to attend at least one of meetings. [Appendix B](#) provides the agenda and the minutes of the September 2006 meeting. Dr. Tracy Snoddon, Economics, joined our Advisory Board in 2006 replacing Paul Heinbecker. The current membership of the Advisory Board members can be found at [http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/html\\_pages/researchers.htm](http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/html_pages/researchers.htm).

## **Funding**

The Centre's endowment funds earned approximately \$12,000. The Centre again received \$12,000 from WLU's Academic Development Fund. The Director also applied the final \$6000 of a separate grant from the Academic Development Fund to the Centre's activities while a grant from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, joint with Dr, Martin Bohl, from Münster, in the amount of \$20,000 was also used to help fund the Centre's activities. To be able to run our annual Conference in Marburg in 2006, the Centre received a grant of 12,000 Euros, 10,000 from The Viessmann Werke GmbH & Co KG, Allendorf a.d. Eder, Germany and 2,000 from the Dr. (h.c.) Hans-Viessmann-Stiftung, Hof, Germany. Some smaller amounts were provided directly by the other co-sponsors of the conference. Since these funds were obtained from separate **external** budgets in **Europe**, the amounts do not appear in the report on the financial activities of the Centre. The Associate Director, Al Hecht, also contributed some funding based on his research on regional economic developments in Russia. However, in light of the Office of Research Services Report, delivered in February 2007, future Annual Reports will record all funds used to support the Centre's activities, direct or indirect. We continue to apply for outside funding from the SSHRC and the EU.

## **Forthcoming Activities**

Originally, plans for the 2007 Annual Conference to be held at WLU were well underway, with a tentative agreement to hold a Conference in cooperation with the Humboldt Association of Canada. Unfortunately, it became clear by early July 2006 that the representatives

of the Humboldt Association of Canada would not let the VERC have any control either over the scientific program or how the funding was to be disbursed, in spite of the fact that Al Hecht spent a considerable amount of time liaising with the AvH in Bonn in order to set the stage for obtaining some funding from the Foundation. Obviously, the VERC could not consider raising the funds and hosting the conference while being relegated to a secondary role in setting up the scientific program and losing all control over budgetary matters. Consequently, the offer to host the Humboldt Association of Canada in 2007 was withdrawn. Instead, the Centre chose to organize a conference dealing with Climate Change that was held in September 2007. A more complete report on this conference will be made in the Annual Report on the Centre's activities for 2007-2008.

The National Bank of Hungary, the VERC, and the University of Münster co-organized a conference in May 2007 as part of a volume being published by Elsevier and edited by Pierre Siklos, Martin Bohl, and Mark Wohar (University of Nebraska) tentatively entitled *Frontiers in Central Banking*. A call for papers went out in July 2006, and again in August 2006, to a select group of economists and political economists, as well as in two advertisements in the Social Science Research Network ([www.ssrn.com](http://www.ssrn.com)). The selection of papers was made in the Fall of 2006 and the final program and conference papers are posted on the website. Over 30 chapter proposals were made but 15 only were accepted. Appendix C shows the call for papers as well as the outline for the planned volume that is to be published sometime during 2008 or early 2009. The VERC also sponsored a session at the upcoming EUSA 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Conference in Montreal. A call for papers went out in August 2006. In keeping with the new aims and scope of a Journal that I began managing in 2007 the theme of the session is “European Integration and the Global Market”<sup>1</sup>. The call for papers is attached as Appendix D. The centre also organised two sessions at the forthcoming American Association of Geographers annual meeting in San Francisco, April 17-21, 2007. The sessions focus on “Regional Development in Eastern Europe and North America: A Comparison”. Once again all activities, both past and present, are continuously updated on the Centre's website.

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<sup>1</sup> *North American Journal of Economics and Finance*;  
[http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws\\_home/620163/description#description](http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/620163/description#description).

A number of other research related activities are planned for the 2007-2008 budget year, and beyond. Again, up to date listings of current and future activities are to be found on the Viessmann Centre's website.

### **Response to Centre Review**

Although the Centre was reviewed in November 2006, the Centre's Director did not receive the Report from the Office of Research Services until late February 2007. There was no time to convene the Advisory Board to consider the contents of the Report before the Centre's mandate to be reviewed by Senate. Accordingly, it was decided to postpone discussion of the Report until September 2007. Next year's Annual Report will contain the minutes of the meeting held in September 2007 to consider the Review, as well as other agenda items. In the event, the Centre's mandate was renewed for another five years beginning May 1, 2007. A copy of the Review is attached as Appendix E.

Nevertheless, it is appropriate to consider some of the comments and recommendations made in the Review.

- The Review points out that it is difficult to ascertain how much subsidiary funding advances the mandate of the Centre. This refers to funds, such as the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation grant of the Director, that do not appear directly on the revenue/expenditure accounts of the Centre. This is no doubt true but likely applies to all research Centres. In anticipation of the Centre's review, I did request more specific information from individuals involved with the Centre but received no further information. It is doubtful that this situation will change in future though attempts will be made to solicit the necessary information.
- The Review points out that 'non-conference' activities are dominated by the research output of the Director and Associate Director. This may well be accurate but the Centre does not have the resources to continue operating a discussion paper series as in the past. Moreover, previous attempts to have members associated with the Centre publish their working papers on our site have failed largely because there are far better alternatives to do so. For example, the Social Science Research Network ([www.ssrn.com](http://www.ssrn.com)), and research Papers in Economics (<http://repec.org/>) reach far more individuals than any Centre's

working paper series. What the Centre has done is to encourage Fellows of the Centre to acknowledge the help, wherever appropriate, from the Centre and to list the Centre as an affiliation.

- The Centre has not been successful in engaging students. This is somewhat misleading since both the Director and Associate Director, among others, have supervised graduate students some of them working on European issues. Nevertheless, the structure of graduate programs at WLU makes it very difficult to attract students to work directly with the Centre. Mention of the new MIPP program as a vehicle to attract students faces similar obstacles. In addition, attempts so far to attract a Balsillie scholar to work with the program have not been successful since these students are directly attached to CIGI. Until the structure of graduate programs permits students to integrate more easily with our research centre, any such links will continue to be indirect. We also have had a difficult time finding out from Laurier International which undergraduate students received funding from Viessmann scholarships. We had thought of organizing a one day meeting at the Centre so these students could interact with other students and faculty and relate their experiences and promote the Viessmann 'brand'. We now have some of the necessary information and Laurier International is interested, in principle, in cooperating with the VERC. However, as this is written, the details are unclear. Hopefully, next year's Annual Report will contain an update on the status of this effort. Nevertheless, as we are a research centre, it is unclear why we are expected to devote resources to such activities. The Review does not address this question.
- The Review asks why the Centre does not create 'synergies' with other groups interested in European issues or form formal partnerships with similar organizations elsewhere. Frankly, it is the view of the Director, the Associate Director (and the Advisory Board, as the minutes of the September 2007 meeting make clear) that this statement is uncalled for. We have had continuing formal links with Philipps University in Germany, the Viadrina University, and now the University of Münster, both in Germany, for years. As next year's Annual Report will also point out, we also now have a formal link with the Joint Vienna Institute in Vienna, and others are in the works. Moreover, we have

generated 'synergies' with several central banks and other organizations such as the European Studies Association. We have even tried to communicate with similar Canadian research groups interested in European Affairs. They appear largely uninterested since they not only see us as competitors for funding and attention but also because, when there is a hint of interest, other such European research centres in Canada very much see us as junior partners. If an opportunity that is beneficial to all parties comes to light then the VERC will certainly take advantage of it. In the meantime, we have excellent and extensive links with many European institutions and groups.

### **Budget**

As part of the general operation the Centre always submits a proposed budget for the year just ended, as well as the upcoming academic year (Appendix F and G).

## Appendix A

### **The Viessmann Research Centre on Modern Europe at Laurier**

**(In part an outgrowth of the Laurier European Interest Group started in 1992)**

**(A. Hecht and Pierre L. Siklos, January 20, 2001)**

#### **Mandate:**

The Centre is to foster research on *new and dynamic issues facing Europe* in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The focus on new and dynamic development does not preclude retrospective analyses that have a bearing on the shape and evolution of the European experience up to the present day. More importantly perhaps, the Centre is intended to be a multi-disciplinary institution. Relevant topics of research would include European integration, regional development, external linkages, trade and political expansion as well as other overarching socio-economic problems. An important focus of the Centre would revolve around the so-called accession countries, that is, the countries currently hoping to join the European Union and how they relate to the older established countries. It is envisioned that faculty in the social science and humanities disciplines would be the most active members in the Centre. It is highly desirable that this Centre form co-operative arrangements with similar institutions in Europe or in other parts of the world. An attractive and informative web site explaining the Centre's activities would be one of the ongoing tasks.

#### **Justification**

Europe has for a long time been a major player in the socio-economic realm of the world. It was and is an important political, economic, geographic and military entity and has become even more so since the formation of the EU and its constant expansion. To many North Americans it represents the ancestral homeland and as such conjures up many emotional and intellectual questions. It is imperative that Canadian academics, be they professors or students, research the evolution of the new Europe for our own understanding and secondly to be able to relate meaningfully to European perspectives and its evolution.

Over time there has been a substantial interest by faculty and students at Laurier in Europe. A large number of courses in different departments focus on European and a number of faculty have major research interests in Europe. Laurier has over 20 co-operative partnerships with European universities and many students study for a semester or two in Europe. For these reasons alone it would be prudent for this University to have a multidisciplinary research Centre on Europe. The initial start for such a centre already occurred in 1992 when a number of WLU professors formed an informal research interest group on Europe. It kept in touch and worked loosely together with a similar interest group at the Philipps University in Marburg, Germany, a partner institution of WLU. It has held a number of symposia over time, hosted guest lectures, and published a discussion paper series on Europe, first as hard copies but lately as papers on the

Internet. However one of the problems was inadequate funding and the absence of release time for a faculty member to carry the day to day burdens of such and endeavour.

### **Research Activities and Output**

European research output could/would appear as a discussion paper in the already existing WLU Viessmann Discussion Paper Series on Europe to be renamed Viessmann-Laurier Papers on Modern Europe. However it is expected that research supported by the Centre would eventually be published in refereed journals, edited books, and other forms of peer-reviewed research. Articles for the popular press will also to be encouraged. In addition the Centre is to hold a one or two-day conference at WLU on the weekend on or near October 1<sup>st</sup>, the day of German unification. The theme of each Conference would vary year to year according to the discipline primarily represented at the conference. It is also expected that senior undergraduate and graduate mentoring, in the form of projects/thesis/dissertation research, will be a highly desirable by-product of the Centre's activities.

### **Operating structure:**

The Centre is to be run by a Director with a seven member advisory board that would meet at least twice a year. The Directorship is appointed for a three-year term and is renewable only once. He or she must be an active European researcher. The remuneration for the director is a two-term course reduction. He or she reports to the Board and the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research. The Associate-Director would represent the Centre when the Director is absent and it is expected that, once the existing Director leaves office, the Associate Director would become Director of the Centre. Members of the Advisory Board would be chosen from across several disciplines within the University. They have a three-year term but can be re-appointed.

Associate membership from within Laurier and from outside institutions would be encouraged. These members are academics with interest in Europe and possible contribute to a bigger research team. In terms of access to research funds from the centre they would have the same rights and privileges as members of the Board. The Board makes the decision on future associate research members on making an application to the board or being recommended by a board member and voted on by the Board.

### **Members of the Advisory Board:** (with relevant research interests)

A. Hecht, WLU -Geography (Director - Industrial Restructuring in Central Europe)

P. Siklos, WLU- Economics (Associate Director - European Monetary policy and central banking)

T. Hueglin, WLU- Pol. Sc. (Political Institution upheavals in Europe)

D. Monod, WLU- History (Modern German Historical Issues)

I. McKillop, WLU- Business (Administration of EU Health Systems)

Each year two different WLU associate research members sit on the Board

*(Honorary member: Hans Viessmann Dr. Dr. (h.c.'s), of Hof, Germany)*

### **Associated Researchers**

- J. Bater, UW- Geography (Urban Housing Dynamics in former East Europe)
- B. Boots, WLU – Geography (spatial topology of Russia)
- G. Braun, Free University of Berlin (European Urban System Restructuring)
- A. Brydon, WLU – Anthropology (Iceland and its modern whaling culture)
- L. Friesen, WLU – History (Imperial Russia, Soviet Union)
- E. Haberer, WLU – History (20th-Century Europe)
- K. Hewitt WLU – Geography (Bombing and reconstruction of European cities)
- M. Imort, WLU – Geography (Environmental images and their use in Germany)
- T. Miljan, WLU – Pol. Sc. (European Political International Relations)
- A. Murray, WLU – Business (Canadian export to Europe)
- J. Nipper, Cologne, Germany - Geography (Commercial Restructuring in small cities)
- A. Pletsch, Philipps Uni. Marburg - Geography (Rural Restructuring in East Europe)
- B. Sharpe, WLU – Geography (Community Development and European use of Cyberspace)
- G. Urbaniak, WLU – History (Modern Europe, Poland and Eastern Europe)
- M. Bohl, European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder) (Finance)
- Others will be added if they do have active research records on present day Europe.

**Co-operative Institutions** (these and others will be contacted after the centre is established)

Philips University of Marburg,  
 University of Cologne,  
 University of Applied Sciences Hof,  
 Canadian Centre for German & European Studies at York University  
 Free University of Berlin  
 European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder)  
 Other to be determined later

*(It is expected that these institutions might jointly sponsor research, hold symposia, provide research space for Laurier researchers, exchange data sources, provide relevant Internet links to our web sites, etc)*

**Responsibility of Director**

The main task of the director is to conduct, direct and facilitate European focused research at WLU or in collaboration with other individuals and institutions in North America or Europe. The Director must also write an annual report of not less than ten pages highlighting the activities of the Centre for the past year and his/her plans for the future, both short and long term. This report must be distributed widely. Secondly the Director must maintain the Viessmann Discussion Paper Series on Europe (VDPSE) web site at WLU and explore all of the research coming out of the research Centre. He or she must also organize and/or supervise the annual conference on Europe.

**Researchers:**

Emerging as well as established scholars should be involved in the Centre, working in teams or by themselves. Where possible, collaborative research with European or other Canadian scholars

should be pursued. The Director, Associate Director, and one member of the Advisory Board will vet request for research or travel funds. No one grant can be greater than \$2,000 and publication of the work, preferably in a refereed publication, is expected. Although the selection will be based on academic merit, projects with matching funds from other sources will be given preference. Student thesis and dissertation research is eligible for funding. The faculty supervisor of the thesis/dissertation would administer the funds and apply jointly with the student. All funded researchers must acknowledge the support of the Centre at conference presentations and provide a copy of the paper that will be placed on the Centre's web site. In general, the rules established by SCRAP for adjudication of grants will be followed. Copies of the research findings will be made available as hard copies or CD,s disks for a reasonable price. In addition, the Centre may commission monographs from distinguished researchers on subjects of vital interest to interested researchers and analysts of European issues. A grant of \$3,000 would be provided for such works. Drafts would be subject to peer review and published and sold on the Centre's Website. All relevant applications will be made available from the Centre's web site. Only members of the Laurier academic community are eligible for research grants.

**Operating Space:**

The Centre is to have at least two offices for its operation. One office is to be used by the director, the other by outside visitors and researchers. The offices should have telephones, computers with Internet connections and printers. These rooms would be offered free of charge by WLU, but the Centre would pay for the operating expenses.

**Financial Sustainability of the Centre:**

**Income Model:**

The interest from the initial Viessmann grant (8% \*250,000) of \$20,000 is to be used in combination with an annual grant of \$15,000 from WLU Academic Development Fund (course reduction = \$9,000, and administration = \$7,000) to come up with the proposed minimum annual operating budget of \$35,000. The 8% return rate of the capital may seem somewhat high compared to present GIC rates. Laurier could guarantee this rate over the next 5 years and renegotiate in 5 years. It would be hoped that through matching funds, sponsorships, etc. another \$15,000 could be raised from other external sources to bring the annual expenditure to \$50,000. For instance the annual conference could be jointly sponsored between the European Research Centre, Laurier Research office, Laurier International, selective Departments, the Faculties of Arts and SBE and possible additional outside sponsors.

**Proposed Annual Budget (May 1, 2001 - April 30, 2002)**

<i>Income:</i> Investment Income from Viessmann Endowment fund*	= \$ 20,000
WLU Research Centre support from ADF	= \$15,000
Other (possible matching funds for Symposium, etc.)	= \$ 0
Total	= \$35,000

<u>Expenditure:</u> Two course release for Director	= \$ 9,000
Telephone	= \$ 500
Fax	= \$ 500
Mail	= \$ 1,000
Conference/Symposia expenses	= \$10,000
Research/Travel support	= \$10,000
Web site support/ publication	= \$ 2,000
Incidentals	= \$ 2,000
	<hr/>
Total	= \$35,000

(\* If for some reason the Centre is closed the endowment funds will be equally distributed to the two other Hans Viessmann endowment funds at Laurier the (a)Viessmann Laurier International Student Travel and the (b) Viessmann Geography and Environmental Studies Computer Endowment Funds.)

(Revised with inputs from R. Campbell and B. McPherson)

# Appendix B

## AGENDA

Viessmann European Research Centre  
Advisory Board Meeting

Advisory VRCME Board Meeting, September 13, 2006  
232 King Street, B16, 4-5:30 PM

### Agenda

1. Minutes of the previous meeting
2. Upcoming Centre review
3. Current and Future Centre plans and project
  - 3.1 2007 Annual Conference
  - 3.2 Workshop in 2007
  - 3.3 Joint “ventures”
4. New letterhead and website revisions
5. Changing the name of the VRCME
6. other business

Present were: P. Siklos, A. Hecht, B. Sharpe, M. Bohl, B. Honig, J. Konieczny and D. Guzina

Regrets from A. Pletsch, D. Docherty, P. Heinbecker and E. Hochreiter

1. The meeting started at 4:10
2. The agenda was accepted as circulated
3. Business arising out of the minutes

a. Pierre reported that the 2006 EUSA Economic Interest Section and the Viessmann European Research Centre had hosted a very successful symposium at Laurier entitled ‘Whither EU Integration and Cooperation’ on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The papers attracted between 25 and 35 attendees. A number were Laurier faculty and students, in all 12 papers were presented.

b. Al reported that the annual conference, May 18-19, 2006, in Marburg, Germany entitled, *Current Challenges in Post-Secondary Education: Developments in Canada and Germany* was a great success as well. Total number of registrants was over 70 people. It was held in cooperation with the with the ‘Zentrum für Kanada-Studien at Philipps-Universität Marburg’ and the ‘Interdisziplinäre Arbeitsgruppe Europa’ at the Philipps-Universität. Much of the expenses of the conference were covered by a grant of 10,000 Euros from Viessmann Werke GmbH & Co KG, Germany. Other local sponsors were: The Canadian Embassy / L’Ambassade du Canada, Berlin, The Marburger Geographische Gesellschaft (MGG), The Gesellschaft für Kanada-Studien (GKS), The Philipps-Universität Marburg (PhU) and The Ursula Kuhlmann-Fonds. The main local organizer was Alfred Pletsch and out thanks goes out to him for a job well done! Many of the papers presented can be read on our web site.

A pre-conference lecture series by Al Hecht and Alfred Pletsch at the Fachhochschule Hof, Bavaria, Germany, was sponsored to the tune of 2000 Euro by Die Dr. (h.c.) Hans Vießmann-

Stiftung, Hof, Germany. It also helped to finance the overall cost of the conference.

#### 4. Upcoming Centre review

The first review of the centre will take place this fall. It is presently being written by Pierre. As part of the review all potential members of the centre were asked for their up to date CVs. A summary of their activities since 2001, when the centre was started, was also acceptable. At least three request calls were sent out by Al. Individuals were also told that if they did not respond it was assumed that they were no longer interested in being a research associate of the centre. As of October 2, 2006 the listed individuals had responded positively. Some others replied their interest had changed and were no longer interested in participating. Some just did not respond. The Board affirmed that these individuals would form the bases for our review and be the associated research members for the coming year. All people listed earlier and who had not responded would be stricken from our list of associated members.

#### **Active Associated Researchers, 2006**

Banús, Dr. Enrique (University of Navarre)

Bater, Dr. James (University of Waterloo)

Bohl, Dr. Martin (Muenster University)

Boots, Dr. Barry (Wilfrid Laurier)

Braun, Dr. Gerhard (Freie Universitaet-Berlin)

Cristi, Dr. Renato (Wilfrid Laurier)

Doherty, Dr. Sean (Wilfrid Laurier)

Edgar, Dr. Alistair (Wilfrid Laurier)

Fischer, Dr. Thomas (Liverpool)

Gillen, Dr. David (Wilfrid Laurier and UBC)

Guzina, Dr. Dejan (Wilfrid Laurier)

Hecht, Dr. Al (Wilfrid Laurier)

Heinbecker, Dr. (h.c) Paul (Wilfrid Laurier)

Hochreiter, Dr. Eduard (University of Vienna)

Honig, Dr. Benson (Wilfrid Laurier)

Imort, Dr. Michael (Wilfrid Laurier)

Kitchen, Dr. Harry (Trent University)

Komiczny, Dr. Jerzy (Wilfrid Laurier)

Lederman, Mr. Lew (Knowledge-Evolutions)

Lischke, Dr. Ute (Wilfrid Laurier)

Mueller-Wille, Dr. Ludger (McGill)

Nipper, Dr. Joseph (Universitat Koeln)

Pletsch, Dr. Alfred (Philipps University)

Porumb, Dr. Elena Marilena (Babes Bolyai University, Rumania)

Rowinsky-Geurtz, Dr. Mercedes (Wilfrid Laurier)

Salvador, Dr. Regina (Universidade Nova de Lisboa)

Samonis, Val, (The Web Professor of Global Management(SM), National American University; and Vilnius University, Lithuania)

Sharpe, Dr. Bob (Wilfrid Laurier)

Stellin, Monica (Wilfrid Laurier)

Siklos, Dr. Pierre (Wilfrid Laurier)  
Tüselmann, Dr. Heinz (University of Plymouth)

#### 5. 2007 annual conference

Al Hecht reported that the earlier planned 2007 conference to be held in conjunction with the second national meeting of the Canadian Humboldt Association with our proposed titled "Present Research of Past, Present and Future Canadian Alexander von Humboldt Fellows": (contributions from the hard, biological, and social sciences and humanities) is not going to materialize. The CHA wanted to impose a different conference title and take control of all financial aspects of the meeting. In addition the centre was expected to contribute at least \$5-6000 to the cost of the centre. Given this we said no.

Pierre and Benson Honig (Centre for the Study of Nascent Entrepreneurship and the eXploitation of Technology) have proposed to hold a joint conference in the fall of 2007. More details will emerge as time moves on.

#### 6. Workshop in 2007

At the initiative of Pierre the centre will hold a workshop at the end of May 2007, on the theme of 'developments in central banking' in Budapest, Hungary in cooperation with the National Bank of Hungary.

At present he is also working with the EUSA to hold a work shop in Montreal on the tentative theme of the world's EU integration.

Al is organizing a double session on the theme; "Regional Socio-Economic Development in Eastern Europe and North America: a comparison". The presentations will take place at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in San Francisco, California, on April 17-21, 2007. A call for papers has gone out.

It was generally thought that joint efforts pay substantial dividends in terms of forming research interest links and reduce administrative efforts.

#### 7. New letterhead and website revisions

It was agreed that a new letter head and a revised web site were a good thing. Pierre has relocated our web site from the Geography department site to the general university one. This should substantially increase the probability of search engines to find us. The new letter head proposed was to have an old map of Europe on the left and a 'present' one on the right and in between the name of the centre. After some discussion it was agreed that we should go ahead with this format.

#### 8. Changing the name of the VRCME

The board accepted the proposed new name “Viessmann European Research Centre at Laurier” without any major discussion. It removes the contentious word ‘Modern’ and shortens the name somewhat. On the letter head it would read “*Viessmann European Research Centre @Laurier*”.

With no other business arising the Board adjourned at 5:30

AH

## Appendix C

This is the call for papers that appears on [www.ssrn.com](http://www.ssrn.com).

ELSEVIER NEW SERIES: FRONTIERS IN ECONOMICS  
AND GLOBALIZATION

VOLUME: FRONTIERS IN CENTRAL BANKING

Edited by:

Pierre L. Siklos, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada

Martin T. Bohl, Westfälische Wilhelms-University,

Munster, Germany

Mark Wohar, University of Nebraska at Omaha, USA

Elsevier has launched the new series Frontiers of Economics and Globalization to publish the state of the art in a variety of disciplines in economics. As such, it may be thought of as the successor of the well-known and often cited Handbook series. We are editing a volume entitled Frontiers in Central Banking and inviting researchers to consider contributing a chapter to this volume. Papers relevant for the volume should belong to the following three areas of research:

- institutional structure and governance of central banks;
- determinants of monetary policy instruments and the implementation of monetary policy;
- range of tasks and responsibilities appropriate for a central banking institution.

We expect to publish research of the highest quality, and all submissions will be refereed in the usual manner. In addition, we will be holding a workshop where selected papers will be presented.

TOPICS:

Any papers that fit the themes outlined above will be considered for the volume.

### SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

Extended abstracts with a maximum of 2 pages (electronic MS Word or pdf versions only) should be e-mailed by 30 September 2006 to:

Email: [MAILTO:psiklos@wlu.ca](mailto:MAILTO:psiklos@wlu.ca)

Contributors whose submission has been accepted will be notified by 15 November 2006. Authors should confirm their participation to the volume by 30 November 2006.

### WORKSHOP:

The workshop will take place at the National Bank of Hungary, Budapest on 11-13 May 2007. Expenses for travel (economy class round-trip) and accommodation will be at least partially covered for speakers.

WEBSITE:

More detailed information on the volume and the workshop will be available soon at: [www.wlu.ca/viessmann](http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann)

## Appendix D

**Special Session at the EUSA 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial conference in  
Montreal May 17-19 2007**

**On**

**European Integration and the Global Market**

### ***CALL FOR PAPERS***

As part of the organisation for the conference by the Economics Interest Section ([www.eustudies.org](http://www.eustudies.org)) we are delighted to announce a proposal for a special session at the conference organised with the Viessmann Research Centre on Europe ([www.wlu.ca/viessmann/](http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/)). Some limited travel financing for those without access to their own source of funding will be available from the Viessmann Centre. Furthermore the papers will be considered for publication by the North American Journal of Economics and Finance ([www.naefa.org/Journal.htm](http://www.naefa.org/Journal.htm)), subject to the usual refereeing requirements. Papers that deal with the evolution, past, present, or future of integration, over a wide range of markets are most welcome: financial, goods, services, labour, money etc. We are especially interested in empirical papers or papers with policy implications.

Please make sure when you send either your completed paper or abstract that you include all your personal details: address, phone, fax and affiliation.

The deadline is 10<sup>th</sup> September 2006. Please send your submission to David Mayes at [d.mayes@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.mayes@auckland.ac.nz).

PLEASE NOTE: any papers not selected for the special session will automatically be sent on to the EUSA conference organisers as individual submissions, so please do not send your paper twice. It would help if you ensure that the abstract of the paper at least is in Word or in an email message so we can do an easy cut and paste.

For questions relating to the Economics Interest Section please contact David Mayes, or Patrick Crowley at [pcrowley@cob.tamucc.edu](mailto:pcrowley@cob.tamucc.edu). For questions relating to the Viessmann Centre, the North American Journal of Economics and Finance, and travel financing, please contact Pierre Siklos at [psiklos@wlu.ca](mailto:psiklos@wlu.ca)

# LAURIER



*Research Services*

## Appendix E

**Wilfrid Laurier University**  
Office of Research Services

**Review of the  
Viessmann European Research Centre @ Laurier**

January 15, 2007



[www.wlu.ca/research](http://www.wlu.ca/research)

519-884-0710, x3130

4th floor, Aird Building

research@wlu.ca

## **Review of the Viessmann European Research Centre @ Laurier**

### **Terms of Reference**

Wilfrid Laurier University has numerous centres created to foster scholarly research in selected areas. To assess the viability of those centres, Senate has mandated that all centres and research institutes undergo a periodic review. Currently, the review regimen requires that

All Research Centres/Institutes established by the University (Type A and B) must be reviewed after the first three years of operation, and thereafter every five years. Centres/Institutes established with substantial external funding for a set period of time must be reviewed after five years, or earlier, if the external funding expires prior to the initial five year period.

The review is to be conducted by an ad hoc review committee convened and chaired by the Associate Vice-President: Research. The membership of the committee will comprise

- the Associate Vice-President: Research or designate, who will act as chairperson,
- a member of the faculty affiliated with another centre/institute at Wilfrid Laurier University,
- two senior faculty members who are not members of the centre/institute, and
- one faculty member from the Senate Committee on Research and Publications who is not in the discipline most closely associated with the centre/institute.

To facilitate the review of the centre, the director will give the review committee

- the Annual Reports of the centre/institute, including membership and minutes of the Management Board,
- a three- or five-year progress report, which should include a statement describing how and why the centre/institute has achieved or revised its original objectives, a detailed listing of research accomplishments (reports to funding agencies, scholarly publications/presentations; other presentations/publications), an updated membership list, and a detailed financial statement for the previous three or five years,
- a five-year plan, which should identify future directions and development strategies, and how the centre/institute will continue to meet the mission of the University and of the primary home academic unit.
- statements from appropriate department chairpersons and deans, and from members of the Management Board, indicating continued support for the centre/institute.

The report of the review committee will be submitted to the Senate Academic Planning Committee with a recommendation. This recommendation must indicate whether the centre/institute will

- continue with a review in five years,
- continue, with a report to Senate in the next two years or less dealing with problems and concerns that were identified by the Senate Academic Planning Committee,
- cease operation within 12 months.

### **Members of the Review Committee**

Paul Maxim, Associate Vice-President: Research (committee chair),  
 Marc Kilgour, Professor, Department of Mathematics; member and former co-director of LCMSDS,  
 James Wong, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy  
 John Laband, Professor, Department of History, SCRAP member  
 Paula Fetcher, Associate Professor, Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education

### **Review Process**

As requested, the Centre submitted a consolidated five-year report outlining the activities of the Centre. A copy of that report is attached as Appendix A. The Review Committee also met with Dr. Siklos, director of the centre, in person on November 10, 2006.

### **Mandate of the Centre**

In the early 1990s, the Laurier European Interest Group was set up with an initial seed grant of \$13,000 from the late Dr. Hans Viessmann to promote research on European Issues. The estate of Dr. Viessmann provided the Centre with a subsequent endowment of \$288,000. In 2001, the *Viessmann Research Centre on Modern Europe* was established as a Type A centre by the Senate of Wilfrid Laurier University. In 2006, the directors changed the name of the Centre to the *Viessmann European Research Centre @ Laurier*, although the mandate of the Centre remained unchanged. In their submission to Senate, Drs. Hecht and Siklos identified the intended mandate of the Centre as follows.

The Centre is to foster research on new and dynamic issues facing Europe in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The focus on new and dynamic development does not preclude retrospective analyses that have a bearing on the shape and evolution of the European experience up to the present day. More importantly perhaps, the Centre is intended to be a multi-disciplinary institution. Relevant topics of research would include European integration, regional development, external linkages, trade and political expansion as well as other overarching socio-economic problems. An important focus of the Centre would revolve around the so-called accession countries, that is, the countries currently hoping to join the European Union and how they relate to the older established countries. It is envisioned that faculty in the social sciences and humanities disciplines would be the most active members in the Centre. It is highly desirable that this Centre form co-operative arrangements with similar institutions in Europe or in other parts of the world.

## **Management**

Since its inception in 2001 and until recently, Dr. Al Hecht has been the director of the Centre and Dr. Peter Siklos has been the associate director. With Dr. Hecht's retirement in the past year, these roles have been reversed. As mandated by Senate, the Centre has established an advisory board. During the first three years of its operations, all members of the advisory board have been faculty members at Laurier. In the past two years, however, two members on the board have been drawn from German universities.

The Centre has submitted annual progress reports as required and appears to have met all other requirements mandated by Senate during its past five years of operation.

## **Centre Support**

Core funding for the Centre comes from interest and transfers from an initial endowment of \$288,000 provided by Dr. Hans Viessmann. As at July 1, 2006, the value of the endowment was assessed at \$332,900. The Centre has also received \$12,000 per year from the Academic Development Fund since the 2001/02 budget year. This amount provides two, one-term course remissions for the director of the Centre. Over the past five years, the Centre's reports indicated that it has raised an additional \$32,400 in matching and other external funds. Documents submitted by the Centre for this review indicate that affiliated members have also received additional, independent funding that has supported research activities consistent with the mandate of the Centre, but which did not flow through the Centre. How much this subsidiary funding may or may not have contributed to advancing the mandate of the Centre is not easily determinable.

Laurier provides additional support for the Centre by making available space for the Centre's activities at 232 King St. This space includes offices for the director, the associate director, and an office for visitors. A temporary board room is also available for Centre activities.

## **Scholarly Output**

According to the documentation submitted by the Centre for this review and a subsequent in-person meeting between the Review Committee and the Centre's current director, Dr. Peter Siklos, the principal activities of the Centre revolve around the organizing of conferences and workshops. The Centre has organized six annual workshops since 2001 that have essentially alternated between Europe and Canada. Several individual workshops or presentations have also been organized. The Centre has also provided some financial support to assist publication and served to coordinate with other research centres conducting research on Europe.

The Centre makes available, on-line, papers presented at the various workshops and conferences.

During the period covered by the review, approximately 40 papers have been made available. As conference presentations, however, none appear to be subject to external review.

The Centre has made available a book preparation grant for \$2,000 that supported the publication of *Hegel on Freedom and Authority* by Dr. Renato Cristi.

### **Ability to Meet Objectives**

The review committee was impressed with the ability of the Centre to acquire its initial endowment. Since then, however, the Centre has had little success in raising significant outside funding. According to the Centre's submission, this has restricted the Centre's activities.

The Centre has been reasonably successful in attracting external associations. The range of members, particularly the recent acquisition of non Canadian members, on the board of directors is commendable. Evidently, the Centre has achieved successful collaborations with several European partners as exemplified by its ability to support its annual conferences.

The primary contributions of the centre appear to be the annual conferences or workshops.

### **Committee Recommendations**

Having reviewed the available submissions, the committee recommended that the *Centre continue operations with a subsequent review in five years*. The committee noted, however, that the Centre needed to address several issues before the next review. Specifically,

- With few exceptions, the centre's non conference activities appear to be restricted to the individual research outputs of the director and the associate director. Even at that, it is difficult to ascertain the amount of refereed material that has resulted in support from, or association with the Centre. If research produced by others has resulted from their association with the centre, the annual reports should highlight this. The research centre's involvement in formal scholarly activity, particularly as it relates to refereed articles and monographs, needs to be better articulated.
- A primary aim of the Centre for the future should be to extend the Centre's activities to create synergies with others interested in European studies. In the future, we would expect to see formal partnerships with other organizations focused on European affairs. The director noted that they made European linkages to support the conference activities. Perhaps members of the Centre could further exploit those linkages to develop formal research projects or to support scholarly (both student and faculty) exchanges. It is noted that attempts to link with a similar centre at York University were not successful, but the Centre ought to consider approaching colleagues at McMaster and Western locally, and other universities nationally. Ideally, this would manifest itself in joint research projects

that may or may not lead to joint publications.

- The Centre has not been very successful in engaging students, either graduates or undergraduates, in its activities nor in attracting post doctoral candidates. In its submission, the Centre suggests that the pending Master in Public Policy (MIPP) program may help to mitigate that situation. The Centre might look to the activities of the LCMSDS, with whom it shares space, as a model for developing student engagement.
- Part of the mandate of the Director is to seek outside funding for the Centre. To pursue its workshop and conference activities, the Centre should apply for additional support through such mechanisms as the SSHRC Conference Grants program. Now that it is well established, the Centre might also look to developing one or more centre-based research projects. By developing links with similar organizations and researchers throughout Canada, the Director might wish to consider applying for a large scale network grant, such as SSHRC's Major Collaborative Research Initiative (MCRI) funding.

## Appendix F

### Actual Income/Expenses 2006-07 Budget year

Income:

1. Interest from endowed funds <sup>1</sup>	6,142.50
2. WLU Academic Development Fund	12,000.00
5. Off-budget item*	Not included
Total	

Expenditures:

Student Help	0.00
Computing & Software purchases <sup>2</sup>	3,079.93
Meetings, seminars, & Conference Expenses** <sup>3</sup>	24,372.59
Office expenses <sup>4</sup>	2,660.92
Total	

Net carry over to next year <sup>5</sup> -11,969.94

\* See Annual Report for details. These will be reported on in greater detail in next year's annual report

\*\*Includes expenses for external Advisory Board members to attend meetings at WLU. The manner in which Banner records expenses makes it impossible for me to determine what portion is for travel expenses by the Director and Associate Director. An estimate is that the total is approximately \$1500.00. An attempt will be made in next year's Annual Report to provide a more accurate estimate.

Notes: 1. This is the amount recorded on Banner but I do not think it is correct. It may reflect the amount of interest transferred from the investment account; 2. Sum of following Banner account numbers: 730419, 730470, 730471, 730477, 730499; 3. Banner codes: 730419+730470+730471+730477+730499; 4. Banner codes: 730368, 730804, 740350, 740362, 740313, 740354, 740355, 740356, 740358, 740359, 740360, 740361; 5. Covered by off-budget revenues described in the report.

## Appendix G

Proposed Annual budget, as submitted to Dr. Susan Horton, when applying for funding from the Academic Development Fund.

April 20, 2007

Dear Dr. Horton:

Please find attached a request for funds to assist the Viessmann European Research Centre (VERC) for the 2007-2008 academic year (the separate file is in Excel format). It is an itemized tentative line budget for the entire academic year. The request is for \$12,000, the same as in previous years. The VERC has been grateful to have the support from WLU since the Centre was established in 2001. As you aware, the VERC raises funds from sponsors, from interest earned from an endowment, as well as from the Academic Development Fund. Given the various projects the Centre finances, the funds received from own sources have not always proved to be sufficient. We continue, of course, to search for (and receive) additional support from external sources. Nevertheless, we are once again also asking for support and believe that the resulting funds have been used in a manner that has benefited the University.

As you know the Centre underwent its first five year review (our report can be downloaded from <http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/>). The report from the Associate Vice-President: Research was complimentary and supportive, and made a few suggestions for improvement. I should point out that the report underestimated somewhat the amount of outside funds we have been able to raise. We have, in fact, raised significantly more funds than the review claims. In any event, we continue to try and raise still more funds. For example, I am hoping to form a group of international scholars with common research interest in European issues to apply to the SSHRC for funding. In addition, and again contrary to the suggestion made in the Associate Vice-President: Research's report, we do have a formal arrangement with the Chair of Monetary Economics at the University of Münster. We have, and will continue in future, to jointly organize conferences and workshops.

Our annual conference is one of our greatest expenses and, since I became the Director in 2005, two new initiatives have been launched. The first is to organize, in addition to an Annual Conference, specialized workshops or short conferences. Information about past workshops is found at [http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/html\\_pages/conferences.htm](http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/html_pages/conferences.htm). Given the modest budget of the Centre I hope you will agree that the number of activities organized by the VERC is impressive.

You will find that we are organizing in 2007-08 several conferences and workshops, including one we are co-organizing with the NeXt research Centre in SBE about globalization and trans-national entrepreneurs. I continue to have discussions with my

colleagues in Economics to co-organize conferences/workshops with the Laurier Centre for Economic Policy. This month the Center is being represented in two special sessions at an international conference of geographers in San Francisco. Next month the Centre is co-organizing an international conference together with the National Bank of Hungary. In February 2008 another conference is being co-organized with the Bank of Norway. In March 2008 we are co-organizing another international conference with several partners to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Genoa Conference on the International Financial System (the call for papers can be found at [http://www.financesinternationales.sciences-po.fr/fichiers\\_seminaire\\_conf/call\\_for\\_papers.pdf](http://www.financesinternationales.sciences-po.fr/fichiers_seminaire_conf/call_for_papers.pdf)). In addition, we are organizing a workshop on climate change at WLU in September, another workshop is being co-organized in June 2008 at St. Antony's College in Oxford, while the 2008 Annual Viessmann conference will be held at the University Münster, Germany. Many of these activities are co-organized with the University of Münster. Conferences such as these are, of course, costly but they are international in scope, and widely publicized. The ability to hold such conferences attests to the Centre's ability to raise funds via partnerships with other centres and institutions. We plan to continue this strategy as I believe this will greatly assist in increasing the external visibility of the VRCME.

With the start of the MIPP and Global Governance programs at WLU and U of W, I will be teaching a course on the economics of central banking. The MIPP program will provide a little funding to bring in a few central bankers and I hope in future to perhaps organize a workshop with a group of central bankers. This will require funds both from the MIPP program and possibly the Viessmann Centre. In addition, it is hoped that at least one Balsillie Fellow will be assigned to the Centre. These students will have to do research on a European policy issue.

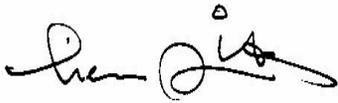
As indicated in my letter of last year, we have started a *Europolicy Brief*. Researchers affiliated with the Centre, or outside experts, will be invited to write a short piece that deals with a policy issue of concern to an audience interested in European affairs. It is expected that broader lessons drawn from the experience of other countries, or regions of the world, will also be incorporated. The Brief is intended to be accessible to a wider audience than simply the academic community. I have written the first three such briefs and more on the way ([http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/html\\_pages/briefs.htm](http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann/html_pages/briefs.htm)).

I have also begun to change the structure of the Advisory Board to include more outsiders. For example, Dr. Eduard Hochreiter, Director of the Economics Department at the Austrian National Bank, joined the Board beginning May 1, 2006. Dr. Eric Helleiner of the University of Waterloo has also joined the Board as has Dr. Tracy Snoddon from WLU's Economics department. These individuals replace Paul Heinbecker and Dr. Dejan Guzina from WLU's Political Science department. There are now four external members on our Advisory Board. I believe that increased membership from individuals outside the University will benefit the VERC as well as the University more generally. Finally, I will continue to discuss potential partnerships with other centres, and government or private agencies, in order to possibly share the costs of future endeavours, such as conferences or publication costs. This strategy seems more a more fruitful and successful way of raising some of the necessary funds than trying to obtain funds directly deposited into our

accounts.

I trust you will find the request in order. Please do not hesitate to write if you require additional details. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pierre L. Siklos', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pierre L. Siklos,  
Department of Economics  
and  
The Viessmann European Research Centre