

2016 Central European Institute



Annual Report



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About Quinnipiac University

Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational university in Southern New England where students receive an educational experience that's both personal and challenging from faculty who care deeply about student outcomes. Our three campuses are located in Hamden and North Haven, Connecticut. We offer more than 100 programs to an estimated 7,000 undergraduate and 3,000 graduate students in business, communications, education, engineering, health sciences, law, medicine, nursing and the arts and sciences. To learn more about Quinnipiac University, please visit www.qu.edu.

About the Central European Institute

The Central European Institute at Quinnipiac University builds bridges between the United States and the nations of Central Europe by fostering relationships in academics, business and culture. The institute accomplishes this through country-specific endowed professor "chairs" who build programs with their respective countries. Our team consists of the following:

CEI Director: Christopher Ball, PhD

Assistant to the Director: Hanna Hejmowski

Novak Family Chair: Alex Storozynski

István Széchenyi Chair in International Economics: Christopher Ball, PhD

Board of Advisers

We are thankful for the continued support and guidance of our CEI board of advisers. We proudly recognize our current board members:

- Susan Bodnár-Malloy
- H.E. Ambassador Nancy G. Brinker
- Péter Küllői
- John L. Lahey
- Pete Novak
- Christian L. Sauska
- Alex Storozynski
- Robert Mielżyński

Ex-officio members:

- Christopher Ball, CEI Director
- Donald Weinbach, Vice President for Development, Quinnipiac University

Message from the Director

Dear Reader,

It's our pleasure once again to share with you our proudest moments from last year.

As our programs have grown, so has our thinking about this annual report. Our focus is first and foremost on students, and that remains unchanged. However, we have so many programs—many that have been running for close to nine years now—that we feel our newest initiatives get lost in the sea of updates on continuing programs.

To help you easily identify the newest initiatives, we've put them first in every category. Among them: scholarship support, student and faculty exchanges in Poland, Quinnipiac student consulting teams, Central European Roundtable, Central European Tech Day, our first Polish artist in residence, the launch of our Hungarian foundation and our assistant director's invitation to join the Polish Advisory Council.

As always, thank you so much for your continued interest and support every year. It means a lot to us and, most importantly, it means the world to the students and others who benefit.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in 2017!

Sincerely,



Christopher P. Ball

Director of the Central European Institute



Katarzyna Tworowska of Lelow, Poland, was the recipient of the Voitek Napiorkowski Scholarship.



Hungarian scholars László Dinca and Csilla Ábrán are pictured with CEI director Chris Ball, left.

CENTRAL EUROPEAN SCHOLARS

The Central European Business Leaders scholarship brings talented individuals from Hungary and Poland to the U.S. for up to three years. During their first two years, they earn an MBA at Quinnipiac while working part time at various companies. After completing the MBA, they can continue to work full time for an additional year before returning home.

The institute received \$100,000 in support of this scholarship program.

Napiorkowski Scholarship

Janusz Napiorkowski of Poland donated \$50,000 to support a Polish scholar over two years. Katarzyna Tworowska of Lelow, Poland, was the recipient of the Voitek Napiorkowski Scholarship. She enrolled in the MBA program at Quinnipiac and hopes to work in the pharmaceutical industry while in the United States. Napiorkowski made the donation in the name of his late brother, Voitek, who immigrated to the U.S. during the Cold War and launched several successful businesses before returning to Poland after 1990. In Poland he developed pharmaceutical businesses and was known for his strong entrepreneurial passion. Today Janusz manages a successful pharmaceutical retail company, Cosmedica. The CEO of Cosmedica will serve as a mentor to Tworowska while she studies in the United States. She expects to graduate in 2018.

The Hungary Initiatives Foundation Scholarship

The Hungary Initiatives Foundation awarded a \$50,000 grant to support two Hungarian scholars for the 2016-17 academic year. Both László Dinca and Csilla Ábrán are pursuing MBAs at Quinnipiac. Dinca is working to launch his own business while Ábrán's focus is finance.



Our newest scholars: Csilla Ábrán, Katarzyna Tworowska, Katarzyna Bogumil and László Dinca.

NEW CENTRAL EUROPEAN SCHOLARS

Csilla Ábrán, MBA '18, Hungary – Works in tax and accounting for Kyle Hamilton Consulting, Stratford. She holds a corporate financial management degree from Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania, and is pursuing the chartered financial analyst MBA track at Quinnipiac. Prior to moving to the U.S., Ábrán worked as an analyst for British Petrol and as a credit controller at Marso Romania.

Katarzyna Bogumil, MBA '18, Poland – Holds a double master's degree in international business strategy and management from Kozminski and Bradford Universities and is pursuing the supply chain management MBA track at Quinnipiac. Before coming to the U.S., she worked at Enhance Services Ltd. and was involved in the Open Reaktor and Startup Grind societies and the Forum of Young Entrepreneurs.

László Dinca, MBA '18, Hungary – Is the 2016-17 Hungarian Fulbright scholar and is working as executive assistant to the director of Quinnipiac's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. He holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Florida Institute of Technology and another from Budapest University of Technology and Economics and is pursuing the supply chain management MBA track at Quinnipiac. Prior to moving to the U.S., he was a technical sales engineer at Texas Instruments and an account development representative at Arrow Electronics.

Katarzyna Tworowska, MBA '18, Poland – Is the Voitek Napiorkowski scholar. She holds a master's degree in international marketing and business development from Krakow University of Economics in Poland and from Skema Business School in France. She will pursue a general MBA at Quinnipiac. Prior to moving to the U.S., she worked in quantitative research at the TNS Market Research Company and in marketing at the pharmaceutical company Roche.



Pete Novak (center) with Polish Scholarship students Katarzyna Michalska and Marcin Ambrozej on the left and Hanna Hejmowski and Chris Ball, right.

CURRENT CENTRAL EUROPEAN SCHOLARS

Marcin Ambrozej, MBA '17, Poland – Works at United Technologies Corporation. He has bachelor's and master's degrees from the Warsaw School of Economics, and a master's from the University of Finance and Management in Białystok. Before coming to the U.S., he worked at the WSE's Academic Business Incubator, Deloitte in Warsaw, and Ipopema Business Consulting. During his first year in the U.S., he was a quality assurance associate at Olympic Steel. He will complete his MBA in the supply chain management track this May.

Attila Deli, MBA '17, Hungary – Works in purchasing for City Line Distributors. He holds a degree from Corvinus University in food engineering as well as a diploma in international relations from the Mathias Corvinus Collegium. Prior to moving to the U.S., he worked in food quality at Auchan Hungary Ltd. and as a business analyst at Díjbeszedő Faktorház Ltd. This May, he will complete his MBA with the supply chain management track.

Attila Erdély, MBA '15, Hungary – Works as an analyst at United Illuminating, an Avangrid Inc. subsidiary. He holds master's degrees in business management and corporate finance as well as two bachelor's degrees in management and business information systems from the Babeş-Bolyai University in Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca), Romania. He graduated in the supply chain management track of his Quinnipiac MBA in 2015. During his stay in the U.S. he worked at Shred It and Henkel Corporation North America.



Ambassador Kumin (center, right) and Chris Ball with Hungarian scholars, from left, Márton Kis-Dörnyei, Attila Deli, Ferenc Fazekas and Attila Erdély.

Ferenc Fazekas, MBA '17, Hungary – Works in business development at Vanessa Research and is launching his own tech startup. He was the 2015-16 Hungarian Fulbright-QU scholar and has a bachelor's degree from the Corvinus University. Prior to his arrival to the U.S., he worked at Oracle, at InfomatiX Ltd, and at KPMG. During his first year in the U.S., he was the executive assistant to the director of Quinnipiac's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. In May, he will complete his MBA with a focus on health care management.

Katarzyna Michalska, MBA '17, Poland – Works at Traveler's Insurance. She holds a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from the Warsaw School of Economics. Prior to her arrival in the U.S., she worked in the Prime Minister's Office, PricewaterhouseCoopers, the FOR Foundation and the Association of Polish Economists. She also published a book to teach economics to Polish children that is now in its third edition. In May, she will complete her MBA with a focus on health care management.

Málna Pólya, MBA '16, Hungary – Works as the data innovation lead at the big graph analytics startup Lynx Analytics, NYC, as part of the two-person pioneer team expanding the company's U.S. presence. She holds bachelor's degrees from the Budapest University of Technology and Economics. During her time in the U.S., she worked at ASE Ameriseal and at SNP Technologies. She earned her Quinnipiac MBA in supply chain management in 2016.

ACADEMIC EXCHANGES

Consulting Team Assists Startups

The CEI launched a student consulting team to help Central European startups interested in the U.S. market. Students can participate as interns, for class credit, or as volunteers. The first semester's CEI Student Consulting Team was formed in Fall 2016 and consisted of current students Katherine Covett, JD/MBA, Justin Cotto, MBA, David Jesensky, MBA, Taylor Letourneau, economics major, and Alana Pollack, health sciences and economics.

The project combines real world business experience with diplomatic experience for the students. The Hungarian Consulate General in New York and Hungary's 1st Secretary of Science and Technology, Gábor Takács, worked with the CEI team to coordinate applicants from the Hungarian startup community. During the Fall, Takács also joined several calls between the CEI team and the companies, followed the projects as they developed, met with the team twice, and solicited feedback on how to help Hungarian companies in general.

Eight Hungarian companies applied for the CEI team's consulting services, and the team selected four companies to work with: BEEEM (www.beeem.co), Be-Novative (www.be-novative.com), HandinScan (www.handinscan.com) and NowTech (www.nowtech.hu). Some projects were finalized last fall while others continue into the Spring 2017 semester, when Katherine Covett is serving as team leader. As we improve our consulting process, we will expand both the team's size and the Central European countries we work with. Our goal is to include Polish and Romanian companies by Fall 2017.

MBA trip expands to Poland

Eighteen MBA students were joined by two business students from Romania and one from Poland for the annual MBA trip to Hungary and Poland from May 29 to June 10, 2016. The students spent two weeks visiting leading businesses and meeting with executives from a range of industries, hearing directly from leaders about the challenges and opportunities associated with doing business in Hungary and Poland. The group visited 11 companies. In Poland: Coca-Cola PolandServices, Cosmedica Chain, MoneyGram Payment Systems Poland, Napollo Development and Uber Poland LTD. In Hungary: Citibank, Etyek Kúria, Gerbeaud/Onyx, KNRDY, Morgan Stanley and ORIGO Film Group. During their stay, the students also had an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities and sightseeing: a private tour of Warsaw, a private tour of Budapest, a tour of the Parliament of Poland, a private tour of the Parliament of Hungary, a private meeting with the senior adviser to the Prime Minister of Hungary, a private meeting with the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Hungarian Parliament, a weekend in the historical city of Krakow, excursions to the southern region of Poland with tours of the Wieliczka Salt Mine, and a visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial.



Left to right: Chris Ball, Gábor Takács, Alana Pollack, Taylor Letourneau, David Jesensky, Katherine Covett and Hanna Hejmowski.



NowTech visits CEI Team (left to right): Chris Ball, Mark Istvan (CEO, Nowtech), Marton Yuhaas (CTO, NowTech), Katherine Covett, David Jesensky, Alana Pollack, Justin Cotto and Gábor Takács.



Students traveled to Hungary and Poland for the annual MBA trip from May 29 to June 10, 2016.

Digging for clues to history

Three students from Central Europe --Anna Szigeti, Hajnal Szasz and Emmanouil Papadakis--joined Julia Giblin, assistant professor of anthropology, and several Quinnipiac students to participate in the Bronze Age Körös Off-Tell Archaeology (BAKOTA) archaeological research project in Hungary in the summer of 2016. The students conducted research at the Middle Bronze Age cemetery and settlement of Békés 103, where they also lived and worked during their time in Hungary. CEI sponsored the Central European students.



Corvinus students visit Marcum LLP

CEI organizes annual executive MBA trip

Eleven MBA students from the Corvinus School of Management in Budapest took part in the annual CEI-organized executive MBA week last April in Connecticut. During the week, they visited Quinnipiac's campuses, the QU Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and major international corporations throughout Connecticut including AI Engineers, Dichello Distributors, Foxwoods Resort and Casino, Light Sources, Marcum LLP, Medtronic, Mitchells Retail Store, Updike Kelly and Spellacy, and Wines and More. The event closed with a networking event where the students had the chance to converse with the executives

they met throughout the week. The trip marked the 8th annual Corvinus MBA visit to Connecticut. The next one is planned for April 2-8, 2017.



The Kozminski-Quinnipiac partnership

Quinnipiac has been building relations with Kozminski University in Warsaw, Poland, since 2014. Kozminski is Poland's top private business school, and all programs with KU are business related. In 2015, QU and KU signed an agreement that allows one faculty member or administrator from each institution to spend one week at the partner university delivering lectures, working with students and meeting university officials. Additionally, it allows for up to two students from each institution each year to spend a period of six to 12 months at the partner university. This program is fully funded by the European Union, providing both travel costs and living stipends for all participants. Special thanks to School of Business Dean Matthew O'Connor for helping to promote this program among Quinnipiac students and faculty.

Faculty and student exchanges continue

Svetlana Gudkova, PhD, director of the International Business School at Kozminski University, visited Quinnipiac in August. This was her third visit, the purpose of which was to plan this academic year's exchanges. Professor Monika Advocate from the International Business Department was the first QU faculty member able to participate in the new exchange program. Advocate visited KU for a week last fall, where she met with students and faculty and lectured on "Fostering Creativity and Innovation." Dave Tomczyk, associate professor of entrepreneurship and strategy, will be the next faculty member on this exchange. He will visit KU in Spring 2017 to lecture on topics related to entrepreneurship, from startups to corporate practices and contemporary challenges in management.

The CEI began working with the School of Business and Quinnipiac's International Office in Spring 2016 to identify students for the exchange. Last fall, the first two undergraduate business students were selected to take advantage of the exchange and European scholarship support. In Spring 2017, Alexander Bernstein and Christopher Lutz will spend a semester at KU and Adrian Sabala from KU will attend QU for a semester. Sabala will spend his semester focusing on entrepreneurship and management.



Left to right: Chris Ball, Svetlana Gudkova and Hanna Hejmowski

EVENTS

Central European American Community Leaders Round Table

This new initiative brings together leaders from the Central European American communities in New England to share their challenges and best practices. Most of these communities work only in their own local communities and don't have a chance to see alternative examples or share their challenges and successes. This initiative was inspired by Hanna Hejmowski's participation on the Polish Advisory Council for the Polish Consulate in New York City, which showed us that the community leaders—and hence the communities themselves—benefit tremendously from getting together and sharing, and also by the fact that the CEI has benefitted from being involved in multiple communities and noticed other groups facing similar challenges.

The first meeting, in October 2016, was attended by the Hungarian Consul General from New York City as well as 20 leaders from the Hungarian, Polish and Romanian communities of New England. The meeting began with a few words from each leader about their organization and community. We then broke into smaller groups to share challenges and brainstorm solutions. Finally, the group came back together to share ideas and help each other. A second meeting is planned for March 2017.



Central European Tech Day at Quinnipiac

The CEI organized a Central European tech day at Quinnipiac for companies from Hungary, Romania and the Czech Republic. The initiative was led from New York City by Hungary's 1st Secretary of Science and Technology, Gábor Takács, who contacted the other consulates and gathered companies for the one-day trip to Quinnipiac. Participating companies included Brokerchooser (HU), Happy Day Studios (RO), MosaicLights (HU), Notch (HU), OzonExtrade (HU), Reporter (HU), Seon (HU), Slido (SK). The program started with a visit to Quinnipiac's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, where Center Director Norman Gray spoke with the companies about the commercialization of ideas (picture, top right). The remainder of the visit took place at the Rocky Top Student Center on York Hill Campus with a lunch and panel of speakers: Attorney Dana Bucin with Murtha Cullina law, Jason Guilletti from the Connecticut Economic Resource Center, Beatriz Gutierrez from the Department of Economic and Community Development, and Matthew Bloom from Connecticut Innovations. The panelists explained ways that the foreign companies can enter the U.S. market in general. They also helped the guests understand the specific benefits of locating in Connecticut, from its close proximity to New York and Boston to support from the state via CERC and DECD or possible investment from CT Innovations. Special thanks to our sponsors CEENET and the Hungarian Consulate in New York.



Andrea Sauska and Ambassador Ferenc Kumin with Corvinus MBA students.

Wine Tasting and Networking Reception

The CEI hosted a wine tasting and networking reception in April 2016 at the home of Andrea and Christian Sauska, Quinnipiac trustee and owner of Sauska Wines. The gathering was a small, private event for executives and representatives from other organizations as a “thank you” to supporters of the institute. Among the guests were H.E. Ferenc Kumin, Consulate General of Hungary in New York; Gábor Takács, science and technology commissioner, Consulate General of Hungary in New York; Alicja Tunk, Vice Consul General, Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York. Representatives from local companies including American Seal & Engineering, BTA, City Line Distributors, Henkel, Olympic Steel, SNP Technology, United Illuminating Company; and representatives from companies in Hungary including Affidea Group (health care), CÉH Planning, Developing and Consulting Inc. (construction), Citibank (banking), Dunitalia Textilipari Kft.-Martinelli Ginetto Group Industry (textile), ExxonMobil Business Support Center Hungary Ltd. (oil), IBM (IT), Raiffeisen Bank Zrt. (banking), Samsung Electronics Magyarország Zrt. (IT), újHáz Zrt. (construction material retail). The event also served as the closing reception for the Corvinus Executive MBA visit to Connecticut.



Participants at the CEI second annual Mielżyński executive networking and alumni event.

Mielżyński Executive Retreat and Alumni Meeting

In June, the CEI hosted its second annual Mielżyński executive networking and alumni event to thank supporters and announce our latest scholarship recipients from Poland. We’d like to thank Robert Mielżyński, CEI board member, who sponsors and organizes the event at Mielżyński’s restaurant and wine bar in Warsaw (www.mielzynski.pl). This year’s event was attended by more than 60 executives, leading academics and diplomats.

Our keynote speaker this year was H.E. Paul W. Jones, U.S. Ambassador to Poland. Jones spoke about the importance of initiatives such as ours to develop the next generation while also strengthening ties between Poland and the U.S. The evening started with a networking reception followed by a short program, which began with welcoming remarks from Quinnipiac Novak Family Chair for Poland, Alex Storozynski, who announced our two Polish scholarship recipients this year, Katarzyna Bogumił and Katarzyna Tworowska. Storozynski was followed by Gedeon Werner, Don Weinbach and Janusz Napiorkowski, Aquarius Fund managing director, who announced the Voitek Napiorkowski Scholarship. Attendees included: AHProfit, Aquarius Management, KMD Poland, Coca-Cola, Collegium Civitas- Student, Cosmedica, Embassy of Hungary in Warsaw, FOR (Civil Development Forum), Fundacja dla Polski, H.E. Emial Yalnazov Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria in Warsaw, H.E. Iván Gyurcsík, Ambassador of Hungary to the Republic of Poland, HSBC Bank Polska S.A., Kozminski University, Lazarski University, MoneyGram PL, Napollo Development, Polish-U.S. Fulbright Commission, Skandia Życie TU S.A., Steps2Success, Studio Filmowe TOR, Taulman Construction (USA), The Kosciuszko Foundation, University of Lodz, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Wines&More (USA).



Alex Storozynski, Novak Family Chair for Poland, pictured with Pete Novak.

Zebegény Executive Retreat and Alumni Meeting

In June, the CEI hosted its 9th annual Zebegény executive retreat and alumni meeting. This event enables us to thank those who continue to support our efforts, announce our latest scholarship recipients from Hungary and hear from returning scholarship alumni. It was a successful gathering of more than 250 participants representing more than 100 companies, both regional and multinational.

The keynote speaker was H.E. Rastislav Káčer, Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to Hungary. Quinnipiac alumni attending this year included Bence Erdélyi, Dániel Erdélyi, Márta Lőrincz, Katalin Németh, Alexandra Zita Pleier, and 30 Corvinus MBA alumni from the spring trips to Quinnipiac over the years.



We would like to thank our sponsors for their generous support for this year's event: Sauska Wines, Maserati Wallis, John and Edith Lauer's Pannonius Foundation, Mathias Corvinus Collegium, BTA Investment Advisors, Eltec, FWD Affairs, Nespresso, and SmartStaff.

The next QU MBA executive trip to Hungary will be May 29-June 11, 2017, and the 10th annual Zebegény executive retreat and alumni meeting will be held on June 1, 2017.



Pictured, left to right, are Saul Ellison, Hanna Hejmowski, Alex Storozynski, Katarzyna Bogumil, Witold Dzielski, Katarzyna Tworowska, Chris Ball and Csilla Ábrán.

Polish official discusses "Poland, NATO and the future of Europe"

The Central European Institute was pleased to host Witold Dzielski, director of the Office of Foreign Affairs, Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland, in September 2016. Dzielski gave a lecture on Quinnipiac's Mount Carmel Campus for students and the general public. The topic was timely: "Poland, NATO and the future of Europe." Dzielski discussed the latest policy changes in Europe, especially following Great Britain's withdrawal (Brexit) from the European Union in June and the NATO meetings in July. He also touched upon the migration challenges in Europe, the potential change in the role of NATO because of the U.S. presidential election and the challenges posed by Brexit.

ART AS AMBASSADOR

The mission of our Art as Ambassador program is to share Central European art with the American public based on the idea that art is often a nation's best ambassador, representing its people, history and culture. As the CEI's mission is to build bridges between the peoples of the U.S. and Central Europe, we promote both art exhibitions and the exchange of artists themselves.

Art of Hungary

The CEI was the educational sponsor of "Hungarian Art: A Century of Rebellion and Revival," an exhibit at the Boca Raton Museum of Art in Boca Raton, Florida, which ran from October 18, 2016, to January 8, 2017. The exhibition of art from Hungary included works by major Hungarian artists, such as André Kertész and László Moholy-Nagy, and provided a fascinating microcosm of the social and political turmoil that was raging across Europe from the late 19th century, through WWI and WWII to the collapse of the Soviet Era, giving rise to the birth of the avant-garde. The CEI participated in two exploratory visits to Budapest by the executive board of the Boca Museum in 2014 and again in 2015. During the exhibit, the CEI and Quinnipiac participated in three special events, the public opening in October, the sponsor's dinner and luncheon lecture by Ambassador Brinker in November, and a private brunch for Quinnipiac alumni held on the exhibit's final day, January 8, and hosted by Quinnipiac President John L. Lahey, also a member of the CEI's advisory board. The exhibit was built around the collection of Nancy Brinker, works from Péter Küllői and the works and wine from Christian Sauska, all three CEI board members.

Artist-in-Residence Program

– Kuba Kaminski

Kuba Kaminski was our first artist-in-residence from Poland. Kaminski works full time as a professional staff photographer at the Polish Press Agency and European Photopress Agency, completing assignments in Europe, Asia, Africa, the U.S. and South America. He recently launched his own documentary projects, including "The Sobering Chamber," about post-communist facilities for alcoholics; "Salaryman," which depicts overworked Japanese corporate workers; and an ongoing project, "The Whisperers," first started at the World Press Photo Joop Swart Masterclass in 2011. Visit www.kubakaminski.com to see more of his work.

His three-week residency in the U.S. centered around three exhibits of his "The Whisperers" photographs, each at a different location, and featuring an opening night reception, with the exhibit remaining on display for several days before moving to the next location. The opening night of his U.S. tour was at the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning in Chicopee, Massachusetts, (polishcenter.net). The Polish Center also arranged local tours and meetings for Kaminski and coordinated local interviews with the media. Special thanks to Robert Lepecki, Joanne Gruszkos and Stas Radosz for arranging the exhibit and hosting Kaminski. The second exhibit was at the Polish National Home

of Hartford (polishhomect.org). His tour ended with an exhibit at the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City (www.thekf.org).

Special thanks to Pete Novak, who first met Kaminski in Poland, recognized his talent, invited him to our artist-in-residency program and also connected the CEI with the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning.

– Gergő Szinyova

Gergő Szinyova, CEI's second Hungarian artist-in-residence (April 25-June 6, 2016), was based in New York City and spent time with both the Connecticut and the New York communities. We would like to thank Julia Mechtler of the David Zwirner Gallery, who organized his residency. Szinyova had an opportunity to meet with local artists, collectors, gallerists and curators from the New York City contemporary art scene. The month of May was a very exciting time in the NYC art world —Szinyova visited the Frieze Art Fair at Randall's Island, auction previews at Christie's and Sotheby's, attended the opening of the László Moholy-Nagy exhibition at the Guggenheim, and attended many openings in Chelsea and the Lower East Side. Several events were organized around his residency: pop-up exhibition of his work in NYC, artist talk in Connecticut (at the home of Arpad Krizsan), and private studio visits of his space in NYC. Visit www.szinyova.com to see his latest work.

Hungarian Art
A Century of Rebellion & Revival



Top left: Ambassador Nancy Brinker, center right, with guests, at the October opening night of "Hungarian Art: A Century of Rebellion and Revival."

Top right: Kuba Kaminski at his Kosciuszko exhibition.

Bottom: Opening night at the Polish Center in Chicopee, MA. Left to right: Joanne Gruszkos, Pete Novak, Kuba Kaminski, Robert Lepecki, Hanna Hejmowski, Chris Ball and Stas Radosz.

OUTREACH AND DIPLOMACY

CEI launches a new Hungarian Foundation

The Quinnipiac Közép-Európai Intézet Alapítvány (the “Quinnipiac Central European Institute Foundation”) opened officially for business in Budapest after nearly a year of planning and legal work. The foundation was established to provide legal standing in Hungary for the CEI to receive personal and corporate sponsorship in Hungary. The first objective of the foundation is to attract sponsors for our events and activities in Hungary. Any funds beyond what is needed to finance events will go to support future scholars. The foundation board will always be composed of QU scholarship alumni. Special thanks to Benjámín Szabó, a Hungarian lawyer and spouse of scholar Málna Pólya, who volunteered his time, energy and expertise to establish the foundation.



CEI assistant director, Hanna Hejmowski, was appointed to the Polonia Advisory Council (PAC) of the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York. Left to right: Mateusz Stašiek, Hanna Hejmowski and Chris Ball.

Hejmowski appointed to Polonia Advisory Council

Assistant director of the CEI, Hanna Hejmowski, was appointed to the Polonia Advisory Council (PAC) of the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York. Hejmowski was invited by Mateusz Stašiek, deputy consul general of the Republic of Poland in New York, in recognition of her active involvement with the Polish community in Connecticut as well as for her leadership in the success of the programs with Poland through the CEI.

The PAC was formed by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and operates in every consulate on all continents with the goal of integrating Polish organizations and communities, exchanging information, implementing joint projects and initiatives, and mediating relations between the Polish community and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The New York consulate’s PAC includes leaders from economic, social, educational and political Polish organizations from Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont. The CEI is proud to have Hejmowski officially recognized for her leadership and have her represent Quinnipiac’s and the CEI’s interests in this prestigious group.

Building relations in New Britain

New Britain is home to Connecticut’s largest Polish-American population.

In July, the CEI director and assistant director were guest speakers at the New Britain Rotary luncheon. As part of the CEI’s continuing efforts to reach local communities, the

two promoted all our programs at Quinnipiac with special focus on the programs of the CEI, especially in Poland.

In August, the CEI director and assistant director visited with New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart to discuss areas of possible cooperation. This was a great opportunity for the mayor’s office to learn about CEI’s unique programs with Poland, our involvement with the Polish community in Connecticut and to discuss future possibilities.



Left to right: CEI Director Chris Ball, Hanna Hejmowski, Margaret Malinowski and New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart.



CEI director, Chris Ball, with Polish Sen. Anna Maria Anders.

Polish Center of Discovery and Learning

Anna Maria Anders is a senator and plenipotentiary for international dialogue in the Republic of Poland, where she also serves as secretary of state for Poland’s prime minister. Thanks to the CEI’s partnership with the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning in Chicopee, Massachusetts, CEI Director Chris Ball was invited to a presen-

tation by and meeting with Anders, who spoke about the importance of the Polish-American relationship and working with the Polish-American community. This visit was not only part of our community outreach and diplomatic efforts, it was a further strengthening of the CEI's partnership with the Polish Center, whose leadership proudly mentioned our partnership to the attending audience as well.



Hungarian Festival of Connecticut

The CEI was a proud sponsor of the third Hungarian Festival of Connecticut at the Hungarian Community Club of Wallingford on September 12, 2016. Chris Ball, the honorary Hungarian consul for Connecticut, opened the festival with a speech welcoming more than 200 guests. The festival featured Hungarian food, folk music, folk dancing, various programs and attracted visitors from Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts interested in experiencing the Hungarian culture.

Honorary Hungarian Consul Conference

Christopher Ball, Honorary Hungarian consul to Connecticut, participated in the annual conference hosted by the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, D.C., for all honorary Hungarian consuls in the U.S. During the two-day conference, honorary

consuls hear from Hungarian state officials, diplomats and special guests on the latest Hungarian foreign and economic policy matters. Consuls from across the U.S. report on their regions, their activities through the year and share their perspectives as Americans with Hungarian officials to continue to improve bilateral relations between Hungary and the United States.



Pictured, left to right: Dr. László Szabó, deputy minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Réka Szemerkenyi, Hungarian ambassador to the United States, and Chris Ball, honorary Hungarian consul and director of the Central European Institute.



CEI director invited to speak on panels

With Brexit and the U.S. presidential elections topping the news worldwide in 2016, CEI director Chris Ball was invited on several occasions to discuss the implications generally and for Central Europe specifically.

From April through September, Ball spoke on three different panels for the Connecticut Business and Industry Association this year. He joined fellow

panelists from CBIA, Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Connecticut District Export Council, and the University of Hartford to discuss foreign direct investment and Connecticut's economy, the future of Connecticut youth (in terms of jobs, housing and economic outlook) and Brexit, including challenges to globalization and the impact on Connecticut exporters.

Ball was also invited to "Good Day Connecticut" on Fox 61 on June 23 to discuss the effects of Britain's possible exit from the European Union, the day before the exit was announced. For the 3-5 days that followed the decision, Ball was on multiple radio programs and radio talk shows from Maine to Delaware as everyone scrambled to understand what happened.

At the 27th Annual Tuszanyos Open University in Romania, Ball served on a panel titled "Brexit, the U.S. Elections, and the Effect on Central Europe." Other panelists included the Hungarian ambassador to Norway, managing director of Istok Associates, London, international secretary for LMP in Hungary, and the Hungarian state secretary for the European Union.

SCHOLARSHIP ALUMNI (HUNGARY)



At the 9th Annual Zebegény Executive Retreat and Alumni Meeting (from left): László Dinca, Bence Erdélyi, Márta Lőrincz, Csilla Ábrán, Katalin Németh, Alexandra Zita Pleier, Dániel Erdélyi, and Chris Ball.

Blanka Balázs (2010) – Works at Statoil headquarters in Stavanger, Norway. During her scholarship, she interned for Covalence SA in Geneva, Switzerland, and worked at United Technologies Corp. in Connecticut.

Éva Bartalos (2013) – Works at Henkel Corp. headquarters in Dusseldorf, Germany. During her scholarship, she worked at Charter Oak Communities, Rippowam Corp. and Henkel Corp. North America.

Ildikó Dombi (2014) – Works at Travelers Insurance in London. During her scholarship, she worked at Travelers Insurance in the personal insurance division's business intelligence and analytics group.

Bence Erdélyi (2014) - Currently in Hungary building his iProperty company and launching his own business ventures. During his scholarship, he worked at United Illuminating, InterMerchant Services and Walmart.

Dániel Erdélyi (2011) – Works at Raiffeisen Bank Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. During his scholarship, he interned for Birinyi Associates Inc.

András Herczeg (2013) – Works for Magyar Villamos Művek Zrt. (Hungarian electricity works) in Hungary. During his scholarship, he worked at Davidson Company Inc. and United Illuminating Corp.

Márton Kis-Dörnyei (2017) - Works at Morgan Stanley in Budapest. During his scholarship, he worked at Traveler's Insurance and at the Young America Capital.

Márta Lőrincz (2015) – Works at Henkel Europe in Vienna, Austria. During her scholarship, she worked at Birinyi Associates and at Henkel Corp. North America.

Katalin Németh (2015) – Works in Hungary at her own business as a consultant to United Technologies Corp. (UTC). During her scholarship, she worked at LinkVehicle, Touchstone Research, Upcycle and UTC.

Alexandra Zita Pleier (2012) – Works at Mercedes-Benz Manufacturing in Hungary. During her scholarship, she interned at IHS Herold, Inc. and United Technologies Corp.

Dániel Tubik (2015) – Works at GLS Bank in Germany. During his scholarship, he worked at Fossil Free Indexes and at Henkel Corp. North America.

Thank you for your interest in and support of our activities!

For more information or to offer your support, please contact:

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