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I would like to thank the Global Studies Institute again for awarding me a Scholar Access Grant for 2005. I had the delightful opportunity to work in the UW libraries at Madison from July 25 to July 30, 2005. My original goal was to collect published works and data concerning the European Union (EU) and whether its single European market could be said to operate according a discernable “model of capitalism” (pluralism, corporatism, or statism) like national economies do. While I realized that the member states of the EU continue to vary widely in the organization of their labor unions, industrial relations, business associations, and welfare systems, I was wondering if the EU was developing two region-wide features common to pluralist models of capitalism, capital market financing and the competitive representation of narrow organized interest groups. Since much has already been written about the Euro and unified European capital markets, I met with Prof. Jonathan Zeitlin of your European Union center to discuss interest group representation in the EU on July 26. Since I am not an expert on the European Union, the encounter was informative. Prof. Zeitlin explained to me that the decision-making procedure in the European Union was highly complex and the current literature on the EU emphasizes its multiple levels of governance and the channels societal actors have for articulating preferences.

I quickly discovered that my original idea for a research project on the EU would not work. EU institutions cannot be described easily in the concepts normally reserved for national governments and interest group representation in the EU is more complex than in most governmental systems. I spent July 26-29 combing the libraries databases, searching for the current literature on EU decision-making procedures, interest representation in the EU, EU trade policy and industrial policy in the EU. I copied twelve articles or book chapters and copies two or more chapters from nine books. The total amount of paper used was over a ream, and I would like to thank the Institute for providing me with extensive funds to cover copy costs. I also downloaded seven articles as PDF files and gathered several bibliographic references that I can consult at my own library at the University of Northern Iowa.

Using this material, I can now begin to recast my research project. I am considering three options for research: 1) how the institutionalized process for developing trade policy in the EU shapes its negotiations within the WTO, 2) why the EU never developed a region-wide industrial policy, despite support from key members like France, or 3) how industrial policy differs among the member states despite belonging to a common EU framework. I will take me a few months to process the information

I collected and decide which project will be the most desirable and feasible. Meanwhile, the material that I gathered at Madison will help form the foundation of a chapter of a book that I am writing. The book will discuss the different processes industrial democracies use to form trade policy, and why those processes differ from state to state and over time. The book will treat the EU as a special case.

I will also have the opportunity to incorporate some of this material into upcoming courses. This fall I teach a course on International Political Economy. The research I performed at Madison will allow me to improve my lectures on how the EU operates as a regional trading block, its current economic policies, and its current stance in WTO trade negotiations. This spring I will teach a course on Western European Democracies. I open each course with a discussion of the European. My research at Madison will allow me to incorporate more material on multi-level governance into my lectures on how the EU works, rather than simply covering its four main institutions (the Commission, the Council, the Parliament, and the Court of Justice). Prof. Zeitlin also provided me with references on models of capitalism, which will allow me to improve the lecture I give on different models of capitalism in European societies later in the semester.

I felt that my time in Madison was quite productive and useful. Once again, let me express my appreciation to the Institute for awarding me one of its Scholar Access Grants. I enjoy Madison and the university and I hope to return soon.