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Riley Institute's EU Conference Continues Today; Stubb to Present Closing Address

[Jean-David Levitte, French Ambassador to the U.S., delivered the keynote address Monday night. Read the Greenville News article.](#)

GREENVILLE, S.C.— The Riley Institute at Furman University will host a two-day conference April 2-3 that will take an in-depth look at the European Union and its relationship with the United States.



Jean-David Levitte



Alexander Stubb

"The European Union and the United States: Partners for Peace or Global Competitors?" will feature addresses by Jean-David Levitte, French Ambassador to the U.S., and Alexander Stubb, a Furman alumnus and member of the European Parliament of Finland. Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, former prime minister of Poland who will be at Furman as the Riley Institute's Head-of-Government in Residence, will participate in one of the panel discussions.

All of the events are free and open to the public.

Ambassador Levitte will give the keynote address Monday, April 2 at 8 p.m. in the Younts Conference Center, where he will speak on "E.U.-U.S. Relations in a Transformed World."

Stubb, one of the European Union's best known parliamentarians who

received the highest number of votes of any parliamentarian in the 2004 EU elections, will give the closing address on Tuesday, April 3 at 8 p.m. in the Younts Conference Center. He will speak on "The State of the European Union."



**Włodzimierz
Cimoszewicz**

The conference will also feature two panel discussions. "The Religious Factor in E.U.-U.S. Relations" will take place Monday, April 2 at 3 p.m. in the University Center's Watkins Room. On Tuesday, April 3 at 3 p.m., the second panel discussion will be titled "How United Are the States of Europe? Charting Europe's Course in the 21st Century."

Levitte, one of the most powerful political figures in France, has had a distinguished career in the French Foreign Service. During his career, he has been on the staff of French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing (1975-1981), Counselor for France to the United Nations, Deputy Assistant Secretary in the African Bureau, Assistant Secretary for Asian Affairs, Undersecretary for Cultural and Scientific Cooperation, and Senior Diplomatic Advisor to President Jacques Chirac.

Stubb is a 1993 Furman graduate who received the General Excellence Award as the top male graduate in his class. He received his M.A. from the College of Europe and a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics. As a Finnish politician, Stubb is part of the National Coalition Party and a member of two of the European Union's most powerful committees—the Committee on Budgetary Control and the Committee on Constitutional Affairs. He has also served as Advisor to the President of the European Commission and Special Expert for Finland on Representation at the EU.

Cimoszewicz served as the Prime Minister of Poland from 1996 to 1997 and as Foreign Minister of Poland from 2001 to 2005. He was elected Speaker of the Sejm, the lower chamber of the Polish parliament in 2005 and has been a member of Parliament since 1989. In 1990, he ran in Poland's first presidential election and, in 1991, having chaired the parliamentary

Club of the Democratic Left Alliance for two years, he founded the Democratic Left Alliance (SLD). He also founded the 'Poland in Europe' Foundation of Social Initiatives.

The Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics, and Public Leadership is a non-partisan institute affiliated with Furman's Department of Political Science. Named for Richard Riley, the former Governor of South Carolina and U.S. Secretary of Education under President Clinton, the Institute offers a broad array of programs designed to engage students and citizens across South Carolina in the various arenas of politics, public policy and public leadership.

For more information, contact the Riley Institute at (864) 294-3327 or visit their website at rileyinstitute.org.

For a complete list of conference events, go to the Riley Institute website.

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