



GLL Newsletter Vol. 30, 2011

Contents

A Note from the Chair	2
New Faculty	4
OSU Faculty Award for Distinguished University Service, 2011	5
International Conference: Humboldt Kolleg.....	7
The Collaborative Working Group.....	9
Faculty and Staff	10
New Faculty Books	19
New Faculty Novel.....	21
Conferences, Visiting Writers and Speakers	23
Graduate Student News.....	26
Graduate Degrees and Exams.....	27
Letter from Berlin.....	30
Undergraduate News.....	31
Alumna Profile: Folke-Christine Möller-Sahling.....	33
Alumnae / Alumni News.....	35
The Dr. Henry Kratz Jr. Fund.....	39
Friends of the Department.....	40

»«»««

This newsletter was edited by Helen Fehervary and Natascha Miller.
Please send mail regarding this publication to:
GLL Newsletter, 498 Hagerty Hall,
1775 College Rd., Columbus, OH 43210-1340.
email: miller.521@osu.edu

»«»««

<http://germanic.osu.edu>

A Note from the Chair, Anna Grotans

It's time once again to send forth greetings from the hallowed language halls of Hagerty. A great deal has transpired since we moved in five years ago, and there is more to come. Never a dull moment. Looming over the horizon is semester conversion, which will take place next summer. With the new calendar will come new programs, new courses, in many ways a fresh, new start. Last year we worked hard to rethink and restructure several of our programs in German ... the major, the M.A. and the Ph.D. The new courses of study will allow students more flexibility and, in addition to literature, focus on the broader field of German Studies and include areas such as film, visual and performing arts, intellectual history and cultural studies, and linguistics. Our YASP and Scandinavian programs will also be included in the conversion. New courses will have rotating topics and allow faculty to explore with students exciting new research paths, combinations and interests. We are convinced that the changes will strengthen our already robust graduate program, which received very favorable scores in the latest NRC assessment.

This coming year we welcome several new faces. Johanna Blum comes to us from the University of Jena as a "Sprachassistentin" sponsored by a German Academic Exchange Program. Johanna's interests lie in the field of Teaching German as a Foreign Language; she will teach for us intermediate and advanced German courses and be active with the German House and German Club. And Rebecca Schuman joins us as a finalist in the prestigious ACLS New Faculty Fellow Program. Rebecca recently completed her PhD at the University of California, Irvine, with a dissertation "*In der Sprachkolonie: Franz Kafka's World and the Limits of Language*." For the next two years she will teach for us on the undergraduate and graduate levels; this autumn she is offering Ger 250 with the tantalizing topic "Man-Sized Bugs."

Seven new graduate students will join us this fall. At the same time, we bid farewell to several others who have graduated to teaching positions elsewhere: Kristin Hetrick at Doane College, Sara Luly at Kansas State, Thomas Stefaniuk at Notre Dame, and Charlie Vannette at Ferris State University. Lizzy Hancock and Adam Sulewski will be spending the year in Berlin.

Several congratulations are in order. First off, we have two new *doctores* - Sara and Charlie! Congratulations to Kai Hammermeister who has been promoted to the rank of Full Professor. We look forward to Kai's inaugural lecture on November 15th, and hope that many of you will join us to celebrate the occasion. And, kudos to Marilyn Blackwell for receiving the Faculty Award for Distinguished University Service. Marilyn has generously served OSU over the past 25 years, most recently as a member and sub-committee chair of the Council of Academic Affairs which oversaw every single converted program at the university! Two special thank you's are also in order: the one to Barbara Becker-Cantarino for organizing such a successful international conference "Migration, Religion and Germany;" the second, a big *Danke* to Christoph Menke for joining us as the Max Kade Visiting Professor and teaching such a wonderful course last autumn.

Events in the forthcoming year include our Luebeck Lecture by Barton Byg (UMass), lectures by Christopher Young (Cambridge) and Stefanie Arend (Rostock), a performance about Bertolt Brecht and Hanns Eisler by Sabine Berendse and Paul Clements (Berlin), a verse translation reading by Amy Kepple Strawser (OSU Ph.D. 1991), and workshops on Kleist and on "Reference in Interaction from a Cross-Cultural Perspective" hosted by Carmen Taleghani-Nikazm and Andrea Golato (U Illinois-Champaign/Urbana) and, on April 12-14, the conference "Transformations of the Public Sphere." We'll keep you posted of dates on our Facebook page and our newly redesigned web site.

Thus far we have fared well budgetarily and have navigated monetary restructuring without too many cuts or scrapes. The future is less clear. It is therefore that I close my annual missive with a call for contributions. In particular, I would like to bring to your attention a new fund established by the late Professor Henry Kratz of the University of Tennessee. Professor Kratz, who received his M.A. and Ph.D. from OSU, generously donated to our Department seed monies to be dedicated to a Graduate Student Fund. We would like to use the fund to help support graduate student research in German. Alas, the fund is currently several thousand dollars short of being vested to generate interest revenue.

Please consider giving a donation that will reap benefits for deserving students well into the future. A further description of the fund is found on page 39 of the *Newsletter*.

New Faculty

Johanna Blum is from the village of Dermbach, located in the province of Thuringia, Germany. Thanks to a scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), she will be joining the Department during the 2011-2012 school year as a visiting instructor.



In March 2011, Blum graduated with the *Erstes Staatsexamen* from the Friedrich-Schiller-University in Jena, Germany, where she studied German and English literature and linguistics, pedagogy as well as Teaching German as a Foreign Language. Her main interests are in cognitive linguistics, first and foreign language acquisition and foreign language pedagogy. Having already taught beginner's level German language classes at the University of New Brunswick, Canada, as well as at summer schools in Germany, she is eager to gain more teaching experience at OSU and looks forward to meeting and working with all of the members of the Department.



Rebecca Schuman joins the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures as part of the ACLS New Faculty Fellows program, an initiative co-sponsored by the American Council of Learned Societies and the Mellon Foundation. She received her PhD in 2010 from the Department of German at the University of California-Irvine, and during her graduate studies also spent a year as a Fulbright grantee in Vienna, Austria at the Internationales Forschungszentrum

Kulturwissenschaften (IFK). Before that, she earned an undergraduate degree from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, NY and an MA from New York University.

Schuman's scholarly and recreational Germanic interests are varied, ranging from the drama of the Sturm und Drang to Neue Sachlichkeit and cabaret, to postwar German melodramatic film and so-called pop novels. Her published and forthcoming research focuses on early Modernism, with particular attention to Austrian and Swiss literature (Kafka, Musil, Hofmannsthal, Walser), philosophy (Wittgenstein, Mauthner, Kraus) and architectural theory (Loos). Forthcoming publications include articles in *Modern Austrian Literature* (Fall 2011) and the *German Quarterly* (2012) that explore new relationships between Wittgenstein's *Tractatus logico-philosophicus* and Kafka's *Die Verwandlung* and *Der Prozess*. Schuman is currently developing a book project out of her dissertation that has a similar focus. Future research includes an expansion of her Wittgenstein studies to re-approach theories of gender and sexuality, especially in the controversial philosophy of Otto Weininger.

This year in the classroom, Schuman is excited to be offering several upper-level courses that will explore literature, architecture, art and philosophy of the 19th and 20th Centuries.

»«

OSU Faculty Award for Distinguished University Service, 2011



Marilyn Johns Blackwell is the Vorman-Anderson Professor of Nordic Languages and Literatures, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures. The Faculty Award for Distinguished University Service honors faculty members whose contributions to the development and implementation of university policies and programs through non-administrative roles have been extensive and have made documentable impact on the quality of the university. The recipients also have continued to provide effective teaching and have maintained an active

program of research, scholarship, or creative work. Recipients are nominated by members of the university community and selected by a committee of faculty, administrators, and previous recipients.

Commendations from Professor Jack Rall (Physiology), who nominated Blackwell, and from other university faculty:

"It would be difficult to imagine a faculty member more dedicated to university service than Marilyn Johns Blackwell. With the exception of short mandatory breaks, Blackwell has been an elected member or alternate on University Senate for the last 20 years. She has served two terms as chair of Faculty Council and one as chair of the Steering Committee. She has served on the Council on Academic Affairs and for 10 years on the Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility, including four terms as that committee's chair, and has served on numerous important ad hoc senate committees. She's also been a member of the Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate and has led several committees in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, and has chaired the department's Promotion and Tenure Committee since 2006."

"Marilyn has always been a model to me in her service – the devotion, enthusiasm and energy with which she carries it out is remarkable and the convictions that guide her steadfast. It is perhaps for this reason that Marilyn Blackwell has been so successful in guiding important changes and maintaining excellence and high standards at The Ohio State University."

"Her devotion to her varying leadership responsibilities, and her keen attentiveness to evolving policies and practices on this campus provide clear evidence of the importance of taking university governance seriously and of constantly striving to make this a better institution."

International Conference: Humboldt Kolleg

“Migration, Religion, and Germany” April 8-9, 2011



My research interest in radical Pietism and teaching “The German Experience in America” led me to organize this conference, and I was most fortunate to find a partner in Georges Tamer (M. S. Sofia Chair in Arabic Studies at OSU). We decided to focus on the role of religion in migration, on how

religious organizations, religious culture and ritual played and still play an important role in the creation of new communities, particularly in the United States but also in the German-speaking territories of Central Europe during the religious wars in the wake of the Reformation. Religious organizations, fellowship in ethnic churches with its familiar linguistic and cultural content, are still important for today’s migrants. They have also led, once again, to major clashes and controversies in the present political debates in the US and Germany (and in Europe). A first group of invited lectures presented recent research on the historical phase of early German transatlantic migrations and colonization by Pietists and Moravians in North America, especially Pennsylvania, Ohio and Texas. Sessions on the second conference day addressed individual and group migrations from Islamic countries, Turkey and the Near East in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, and focused on the political and religious controversies and cultural clashes as well as efforts at resolution in Germany.



Barbara Becker-Cantarino introduces Pia Schmid, Wolfgang Breul

GLL graduate students Berit Jany and Thomas Stefaniuk assisted with the arrangements and the excursion to Schoenbrunn, Gnadenhuetten and Zoar, early Moravian settlements in Eastern Ohio. The conference was sponsored by generous grants from the OSU Division of Arts and Humanities and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Conference Speakers:

Wolfgang Breul (U of Mainz) on "Mission and Migration"; Pia Schmid (U of Halle) on "Describing and Perceiving ‚Indians’: Moravian Missionary John Heckewelder"; Aaron Fogleman (Northern Illinois U) on "Migration, Gender, and Religious Conflict in 18th-Century British North America"; Ulrike Gleixner (HAB Wolfenbüttel and TU Berlin) on "Creating Space in Europe and India: The Halle Mission Networks"; Hans Boas (U of Texas) on "Language, Religion, Migration"; Ulrike Strasser (U of California, Irvine) on "Mission, Migration and German Manhood: Jesuits in the Spanish Indies"; Keynote address by Rebekka Habermas (U of Göttingen) "Debating Islam around 1900 and 2010: Colonies in Africa, Muslims in Imperial Berlin, German Orientalists and Missionaries"; Claudia Breger (Indiana U) on "Christian Universalism? Racism and Collective Identity in 21st-Century Immigration Discourse"; Rolf J. Goebel (U of Alabama in Huntsville) on "Of Churches, Mosques, and Synagogues"; David Gramling (U of Arizona) on "A Phenomenology of Secular Islam"; Randall Halle (U of Pittsburgh) on "Migration Cinema and Religious Conflict"; Kamaal Haque (Dickinson College) on "Beyond Turks and Arabs"; Thomas Schmitt (Max Planck Institut, Göttingen) on "Mosque Conflicts in Germany and in Manhattan"; Karl Solibakke (Syracuse U) on a response to Sarrazin, *Deutschland schafft sich ab*.

~ Barbara Becker-Cantarino

The Collaborative Working Group "The Public Sphere and Modern Social Imaginaries"

In 2010-11 the Department's ongoing research and teaching initiative "The Public Sphere and Modern Social Imaginaries" experienced its second and final year as an interdisciplinary Working Group, funded by the University's Humanities Institute. Together with members from the Departments of History, Spanish and Portuguese, Political Science, and Comparative Studies at OSU, we continued to explore how cultural and artistic expressions arise from and contribute to modern social imaginaries. In Autumn 2010, Craig Calhoun (NYU) spoke about the "The Public Sphere and the Populist Imaginary" (a video is available at: <http://streamwww.classroom.ohio-state.edu/flash/mershon1011/12202-1/>); Nancy Fraser (New School for Social Research) explored the potential of Polányi's concepts of "marketization" and "social protection," enriched by the idea of "emancipation," for understanding and improving the state of contemporary societies. John L. Brooke (History, OSU) discussed the impact of cultural production and performance on public opinion in the U.S. in the years leading up to the American Civil War. The series of events continued in Winter 2011 with a workshop on Marc Abélès' *The Politics of Survival* (2009), conducted by Leo Coleman (Comparative Studies, OSU). In Spring 2011, Sonja Boos (Oberlin College) investigated the conflict between Hannah Arendt's theory and practice of speaking and acting in the public realm; Rick Livingston (Comparative Studies/Humanities Institute, OSU) presented competing policy-oriented vs. strategic concepts of sustainability in the public sphere, illustrated by the notorious 2010 Super Bowl "Green Police" car commercial. The lecture series ended with Edgar Landgraf's (Bowling Green State U) systems-theoretical interpretation of Kleist's *Michael Kohlhaas* as a refutation of traditional concepts of the public sphere (Kant, Habermas, Rawls) that presents the public as a mere "mirror," constructed and employed by the political and other social systems for their self-organization. The research and teaching initiative will conclude with an international interdisciplinary conference entitled "Transformations of the Public Sphere" to be held on April 12-14, 2012 at OSU's Mershon Center for International Security Studies.

Faculty and Staff

Barbara Becker-Cantarino, Research Professor

... presented conference papers at the University of Graz, University of Potsdam, and University of Halle in summer 2011. She published, with Gudrun Loster-Schneider (U. of Dresden), the edited volume »*Ach, wie wünschte ich mir Geld genug, eine Professur zu stiften*«. *Sophie von La Roche (1730-1807) im literarischen und kulturpolitischen Feld von Aufklärung und Empfindsamkeit* (Tübingen: Francke 2010) in which her contribution considers the biographical and literary relationship of La Roche and Goethe. A third revised version of her Reclam-edition (1983) of Sophie von La Roche's *Geschichte des Fräulein von Sternheim* appeared in March 2011. During that month she presented a lecture on the rise of the La Roche – Brentano families in the 18th century at a conference on La Roche and Bettina von Arnim, U. of Düsseldorf. Two articles on Romantic women writers appeared: „The ‚New Mythology.‘ Myth and Death in Caroline von Günderrode's Literary Work“ In: *Women and Death*. Ed. Clare Bielby and Anne Richards. Rochester, NY: Camden House, 2010; „Schriftstellerinnen der Romantik.“ In: *Romantik. Epoche, Autoren, Werke*. Ed. Wolfgang Bunzel. Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, 2010. She published „Gegenwartsbewältigung: Ingeborg Drewitz und Walter Kempowski.“ In *Walter Kempowski – Bürgerliche Repräsentanz, Erinnerungskultur, Gegenwartsbewältigung*. Ed. Klaus Hagestedt. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2010. She reviewed the two most recent volumes of the edition of Therese Huber's letters, ed. Magdalene Heuser, for *Jahrbuch für Internationale Germanistik*, 41, 2 (2009); and Karin Baumgartner, *Public Voices. Political Discourse in the Writings of Caroline de la Motte Fouqué*, for *Colloquia Germanica*. She presented "Enlightened Cross-cultural Encounters? David Zeisberger's *History of the North American Indian* (1780/81; publ. 1910)" at the annual meeting of the American Society for 18th-Century Studies, Vancouver, March 2011. With Georges Tamer of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, she organized the conference (as a Humboldt Kolleg) „Migration, Religion, and Germany,“ April 8-10, 2011. She looks forward to a research leave (FPL) in the coming fall and winter quarters when she plans to edit the conference proceedings and then

return to the Romantic period and work on her book project on Bettina von Arnim (to be published by De Gruyter, Berlin).

Marilyn Johns **Blackwell**, Professor

Katra **Byram**, Assistant Professor

... published "German Realism's Proximal Others: Franz Grillparzer's *The Poor Fiddler* and Theodor Storm's *Ein Doppelgänger*," in *Realism's Others*, eds. Geoffrey Baker and Eva Aldea, Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2010. She presented papers at the MLA Annual Convention relating narrative form to the problem of *Vergangenheitsbewältigung* and at the International Society for the Study of Narrative exploring how narrative practice in Marieluise Fleisser's 1920s prose guides reader affect and has influenced feminist responses to her work.

Kathryn A. **Corl**, Associate Professor

... presented, with **Carmen Taleghani-Nikazm**, "Reading, Writing, Interaction: Making it Happen with Online Concept-Mapping Tools" at the AATG/ACTFL Annual Meeting in Boston. In May, she presented the lecture "What Does it Take to Learn a Language?: A Psycholinguistic Perspective" at OSU's 2011 Tongue Fest. She also continued work as a subcontractor to the University of Tübingen on the funded research project "Comparing Meaning in Context: Components of a Shallow Semantic Analysis." OSU's contribution is the creation of an annotated corpus of learner data for the research project in computational linguistics. Project assistants are GLL Graduate Associates **Berit Jany** and **Sylvia Fischer**, and **Kristin McCracken** (B.A. in German, OSU, 2011). Corl served as a member of the German language faculty at the American Institute of Musical Studies (AIMS) in Graz, Austria in summers 2010 and 2011.

John E. **Davidson**, Associate Professor

... continues as founding director of the OSU Film Studies Program and executive editor of the *Journal of Short Film*, a quarterly DVD publication of original artistic work (www.thejsf.org). Much of his time over the past year has been spent preparing Film Studies' conversion for the upcoming change to semesters, which requires coordination

with a dozen different academic units in the Division of Arts & Humanities. Together with Ron Green, Davidson heads the Moving-Image Production Working Group through the Humanities Institute, a two-year project that will issue a white paper proposing a research-driven academic program synthesizing critical and creative moving-image work. In addition to reminding everyone who'll listen about his brushes with greatness (such as once appearing in a John Schlesinger film [briefly] and kissing Emmylou Harris [briefly]), Davidson served as Chair-elect of OSU's Athletic Council in 2010-11, where he initiated an ongoing audit procedure for its academic support services; he chairs Athletic Council in 2011-12. In 2010 he offered a compact-seminar on "Cinema and Modernisms" at the University of Pittsburgh and expanded it at OSU. This, along with the upcoming offering "Thinking Performance," is part of his effort to lay the groundwork for graduate student success as GLL integrates film and performing arts into its new graduate curriculum. The past year has seen the appearance or completion of Davidson's chapters on: Eberhard Fechner's televisual aesthetic and the idea of "coming to terms"; Alexander Kluge's *Minutenfilme*; Werner Herzog and the legacy of American letters from Melville to Du Bois; and, Hartmut Bitomsky's exploration of the problem of images attached to the great modern machinery of the cinema, the Autobahn, and the B-52 bomber. He is currently at work on pieces forthcoming in *PMLA* and *American Imago*, and continues his project tracing mobility in German cinema in relation to various conceptions of modernism and modernity.

Helen Fehervary, Professor

... continues as general editor of the Anna Seghers *Werkausgabe*. The edition's tenth volume (Bd. II/2) appeared in late spring: Anna Seghers, *Erzählungen, 1933-1947*, volume editor Silvia Schlenstedt (Berlin: Aufbau Verlag, 2011), 431 pp. Fehervary moderated a session at the 20th annual symposium of the Anna-Seghers-Gesellschaft: Anna Seghers und Frankreich, Maison Heinrich Heine, Paris (Oct. 21-23, 2010) and presented "North and South of the Border – Brecht, Weigel and Seghers in American Exile" at the MLA Annual Conference, Los Angeles (Jan. 6-9, 2011). On Feb. 25, 2011 she was on a post-performance "talkbook" panel for the OSU Department of Theatre's production of Frank Wedekind's *Spring Awakening*. She is currently at

work on a scholarly book manuscript and, with Amy Kepple Strawser, a collection of stories by Anna Seghers in English translation.

Bernd Fischer, Professor

... published „Kleists vorgeführtes Erzählen.“ *German Life and Letters* 64,3 (2011); „Zur kulturpolitischen Dynamik des ästhetischen Spiels in Schillers Briefen Ueber die ästhetische Erziehung des Menschen.“ *Who is this Schiller now? Essays on His Reception and Significance*. Ed. Norbert Oellers et. al. Rochester: Camden House, 2011; and „What moves Kohlhaas? Terror in Heinrich von Kleist, E. L. Doctorow, and Christoph Hein.“ *Heinrich von Kleist: Artistic and Political Legacies*. Ed. Jeffrey L. High. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2011. He presented “Kleist vor Gericht,” International Symposium: Form – Violence – Meaning – 200 Years – Heinrich von Kleist, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, 9 Apr. 2011; “‘Wo Hermann steht, da siegt er, / Und mithin ist Cheruska da.’ Der Zusammenfall von Wissen und Handeln bei Fichte und Kleist,” International Symposium: Wissensfiguren bei Heinrich von Kleist, University of Sydney, Australia, 17 Feb. 2011; “Bourgeois Bliss: Fashion and Virtue in Goethe’s *Hermann und Dorothea*,” Thinking with Things in Goethe, MLA, Annual Convention, Los Angeles, 7 Jan. 2011; “Saul Ascher’s Cosmopolitan Europe,” German Studies Association, Annual Convention, Oakland, CA, 8 Oct. 2010; he served as commentator for the session “Kleist 1777-1811: Artistic and Political Legacies,” 10 Oct. 2010. He further presented “Narrating Justice: Kleist and Kafka,” International Symposium: Kleist and Modernity/Kleist und die Moderne, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, 25 Sep. 2010; and “Happy Europe? The Impact of ‘Subjective Wellbeing’ in European Politics,” The New Europe at the Crossroads, Vienna, Austria, 14 Jul. 2010. He also served on a “Talk-back” discussion panel, following a performance of Frank Wedekind’s *Spring Awakening*, Thurber Theater, OSU, 3 Mar. 2011. Together with Tim Mehigan, he organized an international Humboldt Kolleg, “Kleist and Modernity/Kleist und die Moderne” at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, 25-27 Sept. 2010. He is currently editing selected essays from the conference for publication in Nov. 2011 – in time for the 200th anniversary of Kleist’s death.

Anna Grotans, Associate Professor and Chairperson

... spent a good part of the year converting and honing GLL's programs for semesters and she looks forward to the new calendar in autumn 2012. This past summer she returned to her monograph project that deals with languages in contact in the Carolingian world. She spent several weeks digging in archives in England and Switzerland, investigating aspects of the Anglo-Saxon/Frankish interface. In spring 2011 she presented "Ye Olde Hildebrandslied" at the Kalamazoo Medieval Congress and organized a session on "Marginally Poor" at the Leeds Medieval Congress.

Kai Hammermeister, Associate Professor

Barbara Heck, Senior Lecturer

Gregor Hens, Associate Professor

... published *Nikotin*, an autobiographical essay, with S. Fischer publishers, and wrote commentary for *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, *Der Freitag* and *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*. His translation of Rawi Hage's novel *Cockroach* appeared with Piper publishers. He spent the past year on sabbatical leave in Berlin and at Dartmouth College.

Brenda Hosey, Fiscal/Human Resources Manager

Neil G. Jacobs, Professor

... is focusing research in the areas of Jewish cabaret and the ethnography of Jewish speech. In 2010-11 he presented the papers: "The contributions of Joshua A. Fishman to Yiddish linguistics." Special Session, MLA Annual Convention, Jan. 6-9, 2011, Los Angeles; "Interwar Vienna cabaret, American popular culture, and the linguistic performance of Jewishness." Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles. Jan. 11, 2011; "Recrossing Delancey: The exoticized performance of Yiddish and Jewish English by American Jews." GLAC 17, April 15-16, 2011, U of Texas-Austin. He wrote a short piece, "Are Hebrew and Yiddish the same language?" To appear in: Rickerson, E.M. (ed.), *The five-minute linguist*. Expanded 2nd edition. He taught a course on Jewish cabaret in Spring quarter 2011. He is on the board of the OSU Melton Center for

Jewish Studies, and continued service to the profession as Vice-President of the Society for Germanic Linguistics.

Steven Joyce, Associate Professor (Mansfield Campus)

... published *The Winds of Iliion* (Roskilde and Aalborg, Denmark: EyeCorner Press, March 2011), "Romancing Freud--the Peculiar Dreams of Mr. Lockwood in Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*," *Proceedings of the 11th Conference of the International Society for the Study of European Ideas* (ISSEI), as well as a number of poems in various poetry journals. He presented "Ambient Romanticism: the Language of "Sane Disenchantment" in Judith Hermann's *Nichts als Gespenster* and *Sommerhaus, später*, and Susanna Piontek's *Rührlings Erwachen* at the 12th ISSEI conference, Çankaya University, Ankara, Turkey, Aug. 2010. He is currently working on an article on W. G. Sebald's *The Rings of Saturn* as well as on a monograph on the works of Judith Hermann and Susanna Piontek. He oversaw the signing of an MOA between the Ionian University of Corfu and Ohio State University - Mansfield, summer 2010, that lays the foundation for an OSU study abroad program in Corfu beginning in May 2013. This initiative also received an OIA Gateway Seed Grant which will be used for the development and implementation of a pre-departure course. He was part of the OSU-Mansfield Haiti Empowerment Outreach Project that worked with OSU educators in providing help to re-establish schools in several tent cities in Croix des Bouquets, Haiti after the 2010 earthquake.

Merrill Kaplan, Assistant Professor

... recently gave a lecture at UCLA on a raunchy tale from a 14th-century Icelandic manuscript and its possible connections to later works. This spring she presented conference papers on how folklorists should think about non-folklorists publishing folklore on the Web and on the tricky frame narrative structure of the 13th-century *Skáldskaparmál*, a text from which we know many of the Norse myths. In 2011 she spent another summer in Iceland accompanying an Environmental and Natural Resources short-term study abroad around the south and west of the country, with trips to glaciers, geysers, washout plains, pumice deposits, lava flows, forests (!), and tectonic rifts—the elements of the landscape in which the Icelandic Sagas are set.

Bernhard Malkmus, Assistant Professor

... published *The German Picaro and Modernity* (New York: Continuum 2011) and is working on two new projects: intermedial representations of animals in European cultures and an anthropology of "the wild" in 19th-century German culture. He presented papers at the GSA (Oakland) and ASLE (Bloomington) in 2010/11.

Marie Malkmus, Lecturer

... joined the department for the spring quarter 2011 to teach a second year essay writing course, German 367: "Fact and Fiction: Representations of the German Past in contemporary literature and film". She is giving a paper at this year's ASLE conference in Bloomington, Indiana: "Black Whale Meets Changing Woman: rewriting master narratives of species and space in Thomas King's *Green Grass, Running Water*".

May Mergenthaler, Assistant Professor

... *Ein Projekt vollendeter Mitteilung: Die Frühromantik im Symposion der "Athenaeums-Fragmente"* has been accepted for publication. Her essay "The 'Paradox' of Poetic Courage: Hölderlin's Ode 'Timidity' and Benjamin's Commentary Reconsidered" that grew out of a new research project on the representation and transformation of emotion in literature and philosophy appeared in *The Germanic Review* 85.3 (2010). She also presented talks on poetry and individuality at the 12th Congress of the International Association for Germanic Studies (IVG) in Warsaw and at the GSA Conference 2010. In spring 2011 she taught the honors seminar "Religion and Society: German Reflections on Secularization" (German 590H), which won the New Honors Course Competition Award 2009-10.



*Claudia Breger and
May Mergenthaler
at the Humboldt Kolleg*

David Neal **Miller**, Associate Professor and Director of GLL's
Yiddish and Ashkenazic Studies Program

... continued to lay the groundwork for cooperation with institutions abroad. Following his journey to China the previous summer, Professor Miller worked toward crafting memoranda of understanding with the Yiddish programs at the Bibliothèque Medem/University of Paris and the Vilnius Yiddish Institute/ Vilnius University. En route he delivered a paper on "Lokalitätsprinzipien: zur umstrittenen Ontologie von Bashevis-Zingers Goraj" at the 12th quinquennial congress of the Internationale Vereinigung für Germanistik at the University of Warsaw. His current research concentrates on Judaic subtexts in film and fiction set in the American West.

Natascha **Miller**, Office Associate and Web Editor

... assisted with the *Graduate School Experience* for the third summer. She was up to her leopard spots in webwork and enjoyed the challenge of helping to redesign the GLL web site.

Paul **Reitter**, Associate Professor

... in 2010-11 finished writing a book about the concept of Jewish self-hatred, which will appear in spring 2012. He also published essays in *The Yearbook of the Leo Baeck Institute*, *The Jewish Review of Books*, and *TLS*, and presented his work at the University of Virginia and Reed College. In addition, he co-directed the 2010 Graduate School Experience.

Andy **Spencer**, Senior Lecturer

Carmen **Taleghani-Nikazm**, Associate Professor

... served her first year as Director of Graduate Studies, coordinated GLL's quarter to semester conversion process, and co-directed with Paul Reitter the German Graduate Experience Workshop. Last summer she chaired the session "Multimodality and Language Acquisition" at the *International Conference on Conversation Analysis*, in Mannheim. She also conducted a session on "Die Sprache(n) von Berlin: Dialekt, Ethnolekt, Multilingualismus" at the Goethe-Institut Chicago TA-Seminar, Oct. 2010. Together with Kathy Corl, she presented "Reading,

Writing, Interaction: Making it Happen with Online Concept-Mapping Tools” at ACTFL (*American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages*) in Nov. 2010. She published the article “Politeness in Computer-Mediated Communication” in Chapelle, C. A. (Ed.) *The Encyclopedia of Applied Linguistics* (Wiley-Blackwell Publishing) and is currently working on a research paper about multimodality in intercultural interaction that she will present at the next AAAL (*American Association for Applied Linguistics*) conference in Boston.

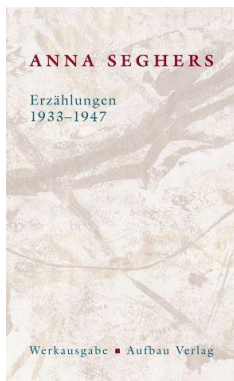
»«



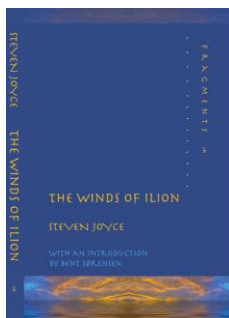
(from left to right) Andrew Armbruster, Anna Grotans, Qingqing Wang, Barbara Heck, Andy Spencer, and Kathryn Corl at the Max Kade German House, Fasching 2011

»«

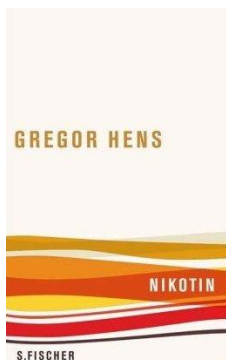
New Faculty Books



Anna Seghers: *Erzählungen 1933-1947*
vol. ed. Silvia Schlenstedt, vol. II/1,
in: Anna Seghers *Werkausgabe*
ed. Helen Fehervary and Bernhard Spies
June 2011 Berlin: Aufbau Verlag
isbn: 9783351034689



The Winds of Ilion
Steven Joyce
March 2011 EyeCorner Press
isbn: 9788792633026



Nikotin
Gregor Hens
March 2011 S. Fischer Verlag
isbn: 9783100325839



Sophie von La Roche: Geschichte des Fräuleins von Sternheim

Barbara Becker-Cantarino

(3rd rev. ed. March 2011) Reclam (1983)

isbn: 9783150079348



Ach, wie wünschte ich mir Geld genug, um eine Professur zu stiften: Sophie von La Roche (1730-1807) im literarischen und kulturpolitischen Feld von Aufklärung und Empfindsamkeit

ed. Barbara Becker-Cantarino and Gudrun Loster-Schneider

October 2010 Tübingen: Francke

isbn: 9783772082962



Kakerlake by Rawi Hage

Gregor Hens (trans.)

September 2010 Piper

isbn: 9783492053792

New Faculty Novel



Gregor Hens, who joined the faculty at Ohio State in 1995, has just published, to considerable critical acclaim, a new volume of prose entitled *Nikotin* (S. Fischer Verlag 2011). Reviewers have praised it as "beautiful and precise" (Welt am Sonntag), "a tight and impressive autobiography" (Die Zeit), a "smart essay" (Deutschlandradio), and "one of the best books of the season" (taz). It is Hens's fifth book of fiction since his debut novel *Himmelssturz* (2002). Trained as a linguist, he has also made a name for himself as a literary translator. Hens has translated the works of the singer and poet Leonard Cohen, of the IMPAC-prize winner Rawi Hage, and of others. We sat down to talk to him about his work.

NL: It sounds like your new book is about smoking.

GH: Not exactly, but cigarettes do play an important role. I write about growing up in a smoke-filled world, and about my own addiction, which I have since overcome. It's a book about the body, about learning, and mindfulness.

NL: What makes this a suitable topic for a literary work?

GH: Well, I decided to deal with my addiction in this way, the literary way. The book is part essay, part fiction, part autobiography. So I had to invent a new genre along the way. I even included photos and some drawings I did myself. So for me, the project was also about finding a particular form.

NL: Your body of work as a translator is interesting, too...

GH: Yes, some of the projects I have pursued are very unusual. I have translated, among other books, a pirate novel by Marlon Brando, and a collection of truly disturbing essays by Stephen Elliott, a hard-core masochist. I'm not sure how these things come about. I guess I have shown that I have no fear as a translator; editors come to me with these kinds of texts. I translate books that I like, that have a certain tone, and I don't care if they are considered as deviant or as pop culture or whatever.

NL: What are you working on right now?

GH: I have several projects going on at once, and I hope that I can finish at least one or two. First, I'm working on the translation of Leonard Cohen's second novel, *Beautiful Losers*. It's a cult classic of the Sixties, a sort of wild erotic incantation, and quite a challenge for the translator. I love the book. Second, I'm in the middle of a novel. Third, I'm working on a book-length essay on mobility and physical space. I am trying to rethink the way I move, physically, through my world.

Conferences, Visiting Writers and Speakers

Conferences

GGSA 3rd Annual Conference: "Sports and Athletics in Germanic Literatures and Cultures" February 18-19, 2011

Keynote lecture by Andrei Markovits (Univ. of Michigan), *Gaming the World: How Sports are Reshaping Global Politics and Culture*

International Conference / Humboldt Kolleg: "Migration, Religion, and Germany" April 8 – 9, 2011

Keynote lecture by Rebekka Habermas (University of Göttingen), *Debating Islam around 1900 and 2010: Colonies in Africa, Muslims in Imperial Berlin, German Orientalists and Missionaries*

Lectures

Reading: October 3, 2010

Annie Cohen-Solal, *Professeur des Universités en délégation* at the CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) Paris and Research Fellow at Tisch School of the Arts, NYU, on *Leo Castelli and His Circle*

Lecture: October 4, 2010

Christoph Menke (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main)

"The Possibility of the Work of Art"

Lecture: October 6, 2010

Henrik Williams (University of Uppsala)

"Runology: From 17th Century Antiquarians to Queer Studies"



Our 2011 Max Kade Visiting Professor Christoph Menke

Reading : October 11, 2010
Robert Cohen (New York University)
Selections in English from his novel
Exil der frechen Frauen



Robert Cohen

Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Second Language Studies
Annual Lecture Series: October 15, 2010
Nick C. Ellis (University of Michigan, Dept. of Psychology)
"Usage-based SLA: Insights from Corpus and Cognitive Linguistics"

2011 Carolyn Engel Luebeck Lecture: February 7, 2011
Ursula K. Heise (Stanford University)
"Biomemories: Narrative, Database, and Species Extinction"



Marica Bodrožić

Reading: May 16, 2011
Marica Bodrožić
(Max Kade Visiting Professor
at Dartmouth)
Selections from her novel
Das Gedächtnis der Libellen

"The Public Sphere and Modern Social Imaginaries"

Lecture: October 21, 2010

Craig Calhoun (New York University)

"The Public Sphere and the Populist Imaginary"

Lecture: November 18, 2010

Nancy Fraser (New School for Social Research)

"Marketization, Social Protection, Emancipation: Toward a Neo-Polányian Conception of Capitalist Crisis"

Lecture: December 2, 2010

John L. Brooke (History, OSU)

"Into the American Civil War: Thoughts on the Character of the Nation-Building Event"

Lecture: April 15, 2011

Sonja Boos (Oberlin College)

"'I am a Human Being': Self-revelation and Alterity in Hannah Arendt's *Lessing Award Address*"

Lecture: May 26, 2011

Edgar Landgraf (Bowling Green State University)

"Unpredictability and the Public Sphere. Heinrich von Kleist's Politicization of the Public in the Context of Niklas Luhmann's Theory of Modernity"

Undergraduate Majors Betsy Akins (reading) and Amy Greene at the Awards Ceremony, June 2011



Graduate Student News

Graduate Students in the Department, 2010-11

Luke Bauer	Sara Luly
Veronika Branická	Jennifer Magro-Algarotti
Sylvia Fischer	Kevin Richards
Jeffrey Frazier	Sara Rossini
Lizzie Gordon	Ryan Smith
Svetlana Gordon	Thomas Stefaniuk
Elizabeth Hancock	Amber Suggitt
Kristen Hetrick	Adam Sulewski
Alex Holznienkemper	Bethany Van Camp
Berit Jany	Charlie Vannette
Kyle Kissell	Zoe Voulgarakis
Annett Krause	Wonneken Wanske
Jaclyn Kurash	Janice Williams
Amber Lane	Jesse Wood



Awards Ceremony at the Max Kade German House, Jun 2011

New graduate students in 2011

Marcus Breyer	Simon Loesch
Monica Hamblet	Alexandra Nowak
Michael Kich	Jonathan Smith
Sarah Larson	

Graduate Degrees and Exams

Ph.D. Oral Defense

Sara Luly, May 2011

*Magnetized Men: Constructing
Masculinity through Somnambulism in
the Works of German Romanticism*

Barbara Becker-Cantarino (Chair),
John Davidson, Bernd Fischer

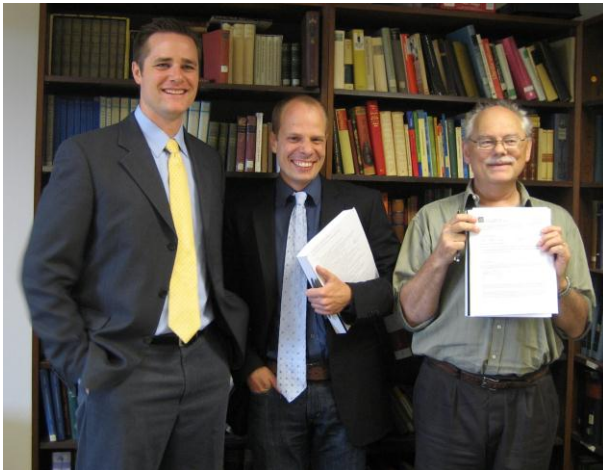


Sara Luly

Charles Vannette, June 2011

*'Wir probeln and schneiden mit Dingen, die in der Brust anderer Menschen
gesund und geheimnisvoll und unangetastet ruhen...': Narrative Observation
and Hyperreflexivity in the Works of Robert Walser*

Bernd Fischer (Chair), John Davidson, Bernhard Malkmus, Karlis Racevskis



Charlie Vannette, Bernhard Malkmus, Bernd Fischer

Ph.D. Candidacy Examinations

Amber Suggitt, May 2011

Bernd Fischer (Chair), Katra Byram, John Davidson, May Mergenthaler

U. Berit Jany, March 2011

Barbara Becker-Cantarino (Chair), Katra Byram, Bernhard Malkmus,
Joseph Donnermeyer

M.A. Departmental Examinations, May 2011

Elizabeth Gordon

Kyle Kissell

Sara Rossini

Ryan Smith

Bethany Van Camp

Graduate Student Awards ...

2011 Graduate Research Paper Awards

Sylvia Fischer, Wonneken Wanske

2011 Graduate Service Awards

Lizzie Gordon, Kristen Hetrick, Berit Jany

Lizzie Gordon presented papers at graduate student conferences at the University of Cincinnati and Georgetown University and at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. She helped to organize the 2011 GGSA conference on *Sports and Athletics in German Literature and Culture*.

Kristen Hetrick continued work on her dissertation about cancer and tuberculosis in German and North American literature and hopes to defend in early 2012. She presented a paper on Salman Rushdie's novel *Midnight's*

Children at Ohio State's German Graduate Student Association conference in February. Kristen accepted a tenure track position as Assistant Professor of German at Doane College in Crete, Nebraska and will begin her career there in Fall 2011.

Alex Holzniekemper enjoyed a year in Berlin as part of the Direktaustausch program with the FU Berlin. He presented an outlook on his dissertation project, "Bridging the Public-Private Divide", in Vienna at the 2010 "New Europe at the Crossroads Conference" and will present papers at Purdue University and Cal State Long Beach in the fall. He worked on the translation of an article in Berlin and taught in the 2011 summer program in Dresden.

Berit Jany presented papers at the 2011 GGSA Conference and the 2011 Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. She completed her candidacy exams in winter quarter and defended her dissertation prospectus in spring. She also continued her work as TA-peer supervisor. In summer, she participated in an archival seminar organized by GHI and taught German 203 in the OSU Dresden study abroad program.

Jennifer Magro Algarotti continues work on her dissertation "The Austrian Imaginary of Wilderness: Landscape, History, and Identity in Contemporary Austrian Literature." She presented a paper at the 2010 Harvard University Graduate Student Conference "Exploring Environments: Ecocritical Approaches to German Literature and Culture" and is looking forward to completing her degree in the Fall.

Kevin Richards' (ABD) research compares the narratives of the German soldier in a vast array of text types before and after German unification. The approach combines insights from folklore and political psychology with those of literary studies. In addition to dissertation writing and teaching courses on "Germanic Mythology in Popular Culture" and "East-West German Identity", he presented "The Federal Ministry of Defense White Papers: The German Soldier in Transition" at NEMLA in April and "Siegfried the Blue Helmet" at ICMS in May. Outside of Academia, Kevin has edited and co-written two poems "A Welsh Alphabet" and "Sixty Witches of Salem" for the collection *The Terribly Mini-Monster Book & A Lesser Known Story About a Rare Benign Elbow* (2011) published by A Raven

Above Press, and a third book-length poem “Plop: a Drop” awaiting illustrations and due out in the third quarter of 2011.

Adam Sulewski started in the MA program this year. His interests include film, philosophy and politics. He helped to run *Kaffeestunde* this year and taught German 101 and 103. He will study at the FU Berlin next year, where he hopes to pinpoint further his academic interests.

Wonneken Wanske presented her research on Liselotte von der Pfalz at the Southeastern American Society for 18th-Century Studies conference in North Carolina and at the “*Bloodwork: The Politics of the Body 1500 – 1900*” conference at the University of Maryland, College Park. She is the recipient of a SEASECS travel fellowship and an Arts and Humanities Graduate Research Small Grant. Wonneken spent another summer teaching in Vermont in the undergraduate German program of the Middlebury Language Schools.

»«

Letter from Berlin

„Auch der Islam gehört zu Deutschland!“

Just in time for the 20-year anniversary of German unification, we arrived in Berlin and heard the above quote spoken by President Christian Wulff, which became much debated in the ensuing news coverage. Integration and immigration have again been big topics in Germany this year, especially in light of Thilo Sarrazin's daring critique of German integration efforts.

Alex Holznienkemper has found classes and seminars both at the Freie Uni and the Humboldt Uni that match up perfectly with his dissertation topic. The most rewarding experience for him has been a three-day workshop with Jürgen Habermas that resulted from a seminar at the Humboldt University. He completed his dissertation prospectus for approval, began

writing his dissertation and is preparing two articles and a translation for publication.

With an interest in contemporary German cultural issues that was only increased after the recent Sarrazin debate, Jeff Frazier enrolled in several social science classes at Humboldt University that focused on the topics race, ethnicity, citizenship, and immigration in Germany and Europe. He hopes to use this subject matter to supplement his knowledge of German-Turkish literature, a genre that inevitably will be influenced by Germany's ever-evolving social climate.

All in all, we have both thoroughly enjoyed our year in Berlin. It has been enriching both academically and culturally and it certainly will be hard to say good-bye to one of the most multicultural cities in the world.

Your 2010/2011 Berliners,
Jeff Frazier and Alex Holznienkemper

»«

Undergraduate News

Congratulations to our departmental award winners:

2011 Dieter Cunz Awards

William Samuel Hopkins and Jonathan Smith

2011 Undergraduate Essay Awards

Joseph F. Balata and Ingrid Woikey

Diane M. Cummins Award for Outstanding Achievement in Yiddish

Margaret (Peggy) Kittila

2011 Fulbright winner:

Alex Wilkerson	English Teaching Assistantship in Potsdam, Germany
----------------	----------------------------------------------------

2011 Holbrook Research Abroad Fellow:

David Garman	<i>Defining 'Homosexuality': Magnus Hirschfeld's 'sexual science' and Robert Musil's erotic 'confusions'</i> (Advisor: May Mergenthaler)
--------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

2011 Grants & Scholarships:

Samantha Bechtold	Jutta and Peter Neckermann Study Abroad Scholarship
-------------------	-----------------------------------------------------

David Garman	Undergraduate Research Scholarship and International Research Grant (IRG)
--------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------

Matthew Handford	Wolfe Study Abroad Scholarship
------------------	--------------------------------

Matthew Harris	Huntington International Fellowship
----------------	-------------------------------------

Catherine Hatten	Edmund M. Kagay Scholarship
------------------	-----------------------------

Brenda Metro	Jutta and Peter Neckermann Study Abroad Scholarship
--------------	-----------------------------------------------------

Derek Pfister	Jutta and Peter Neckermann Study Abroad Scholarship
---------------	-----------------------------------------------------

Anne-Marie Simon	Undergraduate Research Scholarship
------------------	------------------------------------

Congratulations to our seniors graduating with majors and minors in German!

Betsy Akins
Marcy Arnold
Joe Balata
Brianna Bourassa
Daniel Breckenridge
Rachel Burns
David K. Chao
Bethany Cunningham
Nicholas Dilenschneider
Alex Douglas
Elizabeth Drumm
Claire Gibson
Amy Greene

Seth Hobson
Sam Hopkins
Matthew Long
Michael Majoris
Chelsea Rapp
Travis Rittenhouse
Amanda Robinson
Geoffrey Shoupp
Jonathan Smith
Mary Synk
Katie Turek
Qingqing Wang



Nicholas Dilenschneider

»«

Alumna Profile: Folke-Christine Möller-Sahling



Folke-Christine Möller-Sahling is Language Program Director and Deputy Director at the Goethe-Institut Boston, the German Cultural Institute of New England located in the Back Bay area in the heart of Boston, Massachusetts. She holds a B. A. degree in Comparative Literature from Hamilton College (1993) and an M. A. in German Literature from the University of Vermont (1995). She spent one year during her doctoral studies at OSU conducting preliminary dissertation research on the correspondence of Wilhelm and Caroline von Humboldt at the Humboldt University in Berlin and two wonderful summers

teaching German in Graz, Austria, at the American Institute for Musical Studies with OSU's Kathryn Corl and Werner Haas. Möller-Sahling earned a Ph.D. in German Studies from the Ohio State University in 2002 with her dissertation *The Discourse of Love in the Eighteenth-Century Letter* (Advisor: Barbara Becker-Cantarino). Her research and teaching interests include literature and culture of the 18th and 19th centuries, German-American studies, language pedagogy, epistolary women writers, and migrant literature.

In 2001, Möller-Sahling accepted a position as Assistant Professor of German and Humanities at the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville, Indiana where she was promoted with tenure to Associate Professor in 2008. At USI she taught all levels of German language and culture courses in the university's undergraduate German program and western civilization and gender studies courses in the university's core curriculum program. The wide array of courses she taught included *German for Professionals*, *German Poetry*, *Introduction to Gender Studies*, *German Film*, *Popular German Culture*, a Humanities course entitled *Power and Passion: Gender Discourse since Machiavelli*, and several distance learning courses. She also trained the university's German language teacher candidates in foreign language teaching methodology.

Based on her teaching performance, she received the prestigious USI Award for Innovative Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Technology in 2005. Möller-Sahling was nominated by the provost and vice president for Academic Affairs as a faculty member "who has contributed in the most highly creative ways to teaching, learning and technology", one of two recipients university-wide. While balancing a 4/4 teaching load and serving as director of the Humanities program for a year, she published several articles on German-American authors in addition to publications on Erich Fried's use of proverbs and on the "18th Century Love Letter." During her tenure in Indiana, she was an active participant in numerous professional organizations: She was a "trainer" for the *Trainernetzwerk* of the Goethe-Institut Chicago, for several years coordinating seminars and local workshops for teachers in the region, and she served as a member of the Executive Committee and president of the Indiana chapter of the American Association for Teachers of German (AATG). However, her greatest joy while in Indiana was the birth of her son Finn Magnus Constantin in 2007.

After spending 8 years in the Midwest, Möller-Sahling decided to move back to the East Coast with her family where she first set foot after arriving here from Hamburg, Germany, as an undergraduate student 20 years ago. In 2009, she accepted the position as Director for Language Studies and deputy director of the Goethe-Institut Boston. She had always nurtured a dream of working for the Goethe-Institut in Germany or abroad. In the United States there are six Goethe-Institutes, of which the GI Boston serves the New England region, promoting the study of the German language, encouraging international cultural cooperation, distributing information on its culture, society and politics to German educators in New England. Moreover Möller-Sahling coordinates German language courses in Boston, trains teachers and organizes events for teachers in New England such as a U.S. tour of the indie Band “Madsen” this fall. Albeit her most recent accomplishment in Boston has been the birth of Finn’s little sister, her daughter Malin Aurelia Catharina in April 2011.

OSU prepared Möller-Sahling well for the challenges posed by academia and its administrative duties. OSU’s outstanding faculty turned mentors still serve as living examples of true education and scholarship, and graduate student peers whose professional and personal advice can be sought at all times will remain friends for life. Last but not least, the education at OSU provided Möller-Sahling with a solid foundation for a fulfilled professional life.

»«

Alumnae / Alumni News

Kristy Boney, Ph.D. 2006, teaches all levels and all things German at the University of Central Missouri, where the German major has just been reinstated after many years. She presented a paper last September in St. Louis on teaching the Holocaust through graphic novels, and recently returned from San Diego where she presented a paper on German Romanticism in Modern Vertigo Comics. When she isn’t dabbling in comics, her scholarly interests slant towards comparative literary modernism and East German writers.

Erol Boran, Ph.D. 2004, completed his fifth year at the University of Toronto and his fourth as Associate Chair of Undergraduate Studies, in the Dept. of Germanic Languages and Literatures. During these years he spearheaded a comprehensive undergraduate curriculum renewal streamlining the program. He designed and taught a variety of courses with topics ranging from *Transnational Literatures in Germany* and *Berlin A Tale of More than Two Cities* to his introductory culture courses *How German Is It?* and *Our Vampires, Ourselves*. He introduced a student theater production course and designed a year-long Seifenoper/Sitcom project for the third-year language course which he is preparing for publication. During summers he regularly teaches courses in Berlin. He was recently promoted to Senior Lecturer.

Weijia Li, Ph.D. 2009, has been Assistant Professor of German at Western Illinois University since 2009. He has secured the once endangered German program, especially doubling student enrollment at the intermediate levels. He has taught the first class on German cinema and the first class on German contemporary literature in the department's history. His article "Braveness in Non-Action: The Taoist Strategy of Survival in Bertolt Brecht's *Schweyk* and Anna Seghers' *Transit*" is forthcoming in *The Brecht Yearbook*. Currently, he is working on a paper entitled "The Collaboration between Chinese and German Left-wing Activists in the Weimar Republic" for the GSA Conference 2011. He has been invited to deliver a speech on Anna Seghers' encounter with China at the 2011 Annual Conference of the International Anna Seghers Society in Potsdam and at the German Research Seminar at the University of Nottingham, UK.

Barbara Mabee, Ph.D. 1988, is Professor of German at Oakland University in Michigan and worked for 14 months as interim director of its Honors College. She is a past president of the Northeast Modern Language Association and chaired in that capacity the NeMLA Book Award Committee. At the NeMLA Convention in New Brunswick, N.J., April 7-10, 2011, she chaired the session "Cultural and Political Dislocation and Reorientation in United Germany" and presented "Writer's Block, Midlife Crisis, and Imaginary Travel in Steffen Menschig's "Lustigs Flucht." The 8th ed. of her co-authored intermediate German textbook "Kaleidoskop" (Cengage) will be available Jan. 2012. Since 2000 she has directed the

exchange program between the University of Oldenburg and Oakland University.

Barbara Mennel, M.A. 1991, is the Director for the Center of Film and Media Studies at the University of Florida in Gainesville. In 2010 she co-edited with Jaimey Fisher *Spatial Turns: Space, Place, and Mobility in German Literary and Visual Culture* (Amsterdam: Rodopi).

Joseph W. Moser, M.A. 1999, organized the 2011 MALCA (Modern Austrian Literature and Culture Association) conference in Washington, PA, April 7-10, 2011 with the topic "Jews and/or Jewish Austrians in Modern Austrian Literature and Culture." The conference was attended by 74 presenters from 9 countries.

Ann Rider, Ph.D. 1992, spent a precious and long overdue sabbatical semester in Vienna teaching the course, "Austrian Voices: The Holocaust in Literature and Culture." She also used the time to research an article on Holocaust pedagogy. She participated in a DEFA film festival at Indiana University, speaking on the film adaptation of Christoph Hein's "The Tango Player."

Luke Springman, Ph.D. 1989, published "Exotic Attractions and Imperialist Fantasies in Weimar Youth Culture," in *Weimar Culture Revisited*. Ed. John Williams. New York: Palgrave-MacMillan, 2011. He has three chapters forthcoming in an anthology on German literature for young people: "Die Kinder- und Jugendliteratur der Weimarer Republik als Spiegel der gesellschaftlichen und politischen Situation in Deutschland"; "Technik-Literatur für Kinder und Jugendliche"; and "Koloniale Kinder- und Jugendliteratur," in *Die Kinder- und Jugendliteratur in der Zeit der Weimarer Republik*. Ed. Norbert Hopster et al. (forthcoming 2012). He presented "Africa in Ritual Practice and Mythic Consciousness in the *Kulturfilm* of the German Weimar Republic (1918-33)" at the first of three annual workshops for the *Platform for the Cultural History of Children's Media* (PLACIM) project.

Amy Kepple Strawser, Ph.D. 1991, chaired the panel German Women Writers at the 52nd annual Midwest Modern Language Association Convention in Chicago, Nov. 5, 2010. She presented and led a translation workshop at Kutztown U of Pennsylvania, March 22, 2011. She is currently translating into English recent poems by the Iranian-German writer SAID

from the 2010 volume *Ruf zurück die Vögel* for the special contemporary German poetry edition of *International Poetry Review* (forthcoming spring 2012), as well as several narratives by Anna Seghers with Helen Fehervary. Strawser teaches German and English at Otterbein U and Columbus State Community College, where at present she is working on the semester conversion of the introductory and intermediate German language curriculum for the 2012-13 academic year.

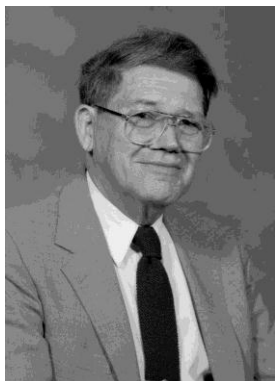
Jennifer William, Ph.D. 2002, co-edited the volume *Theory of Mind and Literature* (Purdue University Press, 2011), in which she also has an essay titled "Whose Mind's Eye? Free Indirect Discourse and the Covert Narrator in Marlene Streeruwitz's *Nachwelt*." She published the chapter "Mapping a Human Geography: Spatiality in Uwe Johnson's *Mutmassungen über Jakob*," which appeared in *Spatial Turns: Space, Place, and Mobility in German Literary and Visual Culture* (eds. Jaimey Fisher and Barbara Mennel, Rodopi, 2010). She enjoyed her return to the classroom this spring semester, teaching undergraduate courses on German Cinema and German Civilization, and a graduate directed-reading seminar on Anna Seghers' *Erzählungen*.

Karin A. Wurst, Ph.D. 1985, is Professor of German and Dean of the College of Arts and Letters at Michigan State University. This year she published „Topographie der Geselligkeit: Geselligkeit und Gartenkultur um 1800,“ in *Geselliges Vergnügen. Kulturelle Praktiken von Unterhaltung im langen 19. Jahrhundert*. Ed. Anna Ananieva, Dorothea Böck and Hedwig Pompe (Bielefeld: Aisthesis 2010), and "The Shaping of Garden Culture in the *Journal des Luxus und der Moden* (1786-1827): Publishing Culture and the 'Reading Nation'," in *German Book History in the Long Nineteenth Century*, Ed. Lynne Tatlock (Camden House, 2010).

Dear friends / alumnae / alumni:

Please keep in touch by sending us your news for the next issue of the OSU Germanic Languages and Literatures Newsletter. Send an email or a letter. As always, we very much look forward to hearing from you.

The Dr. Henry Kratz Jr. Fund



A generous bequest has been made by the estate of Henry Kratz, Jr. Dr. Kratz, who passed away on April 14, 2008 at the age of 86, earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in German from Ohio State in 1946 and 1949. The Dr. Henry Kratz Jr. Fund (480961) is designated to support research by graduate students in our German programs. Funds are to be awarded in honor of two of Dr. Kratz's teachers in our department, Professors Hans Sperber and Wolfgang Fleischhauer.

Dr. Kratz was Emeritus Professor of German at the University of Tennessee, widely respected for his extensive knowledge of ancient and modern languages and scholarship in Germanic philology and lexicography. After completing his Ph.D. at OSU he taught at the Universities of Michigan, Massachusetts and Oregon, and in 1965 was recruited by his former teacher at Ohio State, Reinhold Nordsieck, to build the graduate program in German at the University of Tennessee. He succeeded Nordsieck as head of his department in 1972 and served in that capacity for fifteen years. In addition to his wide-ranging teaching and his publications in Germanic philology and medieval literature, from 1955 to 1960 he left academia to work on the preparation of *Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language* (unabridged); he was responsible for over half of the etymologies in that standard reference work and supervised the work on the other half.

Friends of the Department

If you would like to become a friend of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures and contribute, please make your check payable to the "The Ohio State University," indicate the desired fund (see below), and mail it to the Chair, Dept. of Germanic Languages and Literatures, 498 Hagerty Hall, 1775 College Rd., Columbus, OH 43210-1340. If you prefer to donate through a secure, online connection, you can find the name of each fund on the OSU *igive* Web site: <https://www.giveto.osu.edu/igive/>

Our sincere thanks to all past donors. We appreciate your continued support!

- **Friends of German ~ 307589**
 - Max Kade visiting professor
 - Student and departmental activities at the German House
 - Field trips
 - **German Support Fund ~ 303610**
 - Dieter Cunz Award
 - Undergraduate Essay Award
 - Graduate Student Service Award
 - Graduate Student Research Paper Award
 - Goethe testing for undergraduates
 - **Henry Kratz Jr. Fund ~ 480961**
 - Supports graduate student research
 - **Henry Schmidt Drama Fund ~ 309300**
 - Supports student play productions
 - **Ilse Edse Fund ~ 308792**
 - Scholarships for first time study abroad students
 - **Scandinavian Support Fund ~ 309434**
 - General Scandinavian program support
 - **Yiddish Program ~ 303878**
 - Conference Support
 - Faculty and Graduate Student mini grants
-