

**GLL Newsletter 2010**

**Volume 29**



Theater Workshop and Performance  
May 3-16, 2010  
Heiner Müller's die Hamletmaschine

Collage by Jonathan Smith  
(German / Film Studies major, OSU)

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**<http://germanic.osu.edu>**

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## A Note from the Chair

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The verdict is in: we're in good, nay excellent shape. In spite of the financial, ecological and political crises in the world around us, GLL is holding strong and moving forward. But, what a year it's been, at least from an administrative perspective! This past autumn we underwent a thorough internal and external program review. The occasion allowed us to take stock of all that we do well and think about how we might improve and strengthen our academic and outreach programs. Many of the proposed changes will see light in the autumn of 2012 when The Ohio State University joins the greater north American academic community and converts to semesters. Change is not always easy: new course numbers, new curricula, a slew of new courses, a new German major, a new German graduate program. Have I forgotten anything? I am confident that will emerge a stronger Department, ready to take on the 21<sup>st</sup> century and better equipped to train the next generations to reap its benefits. An important step in shaping the new GLL will be to search for an Eminent Scholar of German, a priority for this coming year.

But it wasn't all work. I invite you to read about the many interesting events we hosted on the following pages: lectures, a farewell symposium to our beloved Alexander Stephan, a graduate student conference, a visit by Alexander Kosenina of the University of Hannover, and a theatre workshop and performance led by our friend Alexander Stillmark of Berlin, to name just a few. This year promises to be as rich, if not richer. It all began a few weeks ago when we again hosted the German Graduate Experience workshop, sponsored by the DAAD and the Max Kade Foundation. The theme, "The Culture of Urban Modernity," brought together faculty from several colleges to help juniors from the around the country get a better idea of what graduate work in German Studies is all about. In autumn quarter the distinguished scholar of Practical Philosophy Professor Christoph Menke of the Goethe Universität in Frankfurt will join us a Max Kade Visiting Professor and teach an interdisciplinary seminar on "Literature and Law." "Wende Flicks," a DEFA series that showcases East German films produced in the period from 1989-1994, will be screened in October with a day-long symposium organized by Andy Spencer on the 29<sup>th</sup> and with special guest, Barton Byg, of Univ. Massachusetts-Amherst.

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We have some very prominent speakers lined up for the year, among them the NYU scholar and author Robert Cohen, and - under the auspices of our Public Sphere Group - the NYU sociologist Craig Calhoun, and the New School critical theorist Nancy Fraser; in October Henrik Williams, chair of the Department of Nordic Languages at the University of Uppsala, will lecture on Runology; in winter quarter Ursula Heise of the Stanford English Department will present our annual Lübeck lecture with a talk on nature, the ecology and ecocriticism. On April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011, our colleague Barbara Becker-Cantarino and George Tamer of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures are co-organizing a Humboldt Kolleg on the topic "Migrations and Religion: Germany in Transit." Look for further details and announcements on our web page or, for the socially networked, we're now on "Facebook." Fan us!

~ *Anna Grotans*

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

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Our research and teaching initiative, "The Public Sphere and Modern Social Imaginaries," moved into the first of its two years as an interdisciplinary working group funded by the Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities. With members from History, Spanish and Portuguese, Political Science, English, and Comparative Studies at OSU, we explored how cultural and artistic expressions of modern social imaginaries—understood by Charles Taylor as the ways in which people in a society realize their collective existence—work within and against Jürgen Habermas's notion of the political public sphere.

In Autumn 2009 we heard presentations by OSU colleagues: Jennifer Mitzen (Political Science) talked about the addressee(s) of today's global public spheres; Philip Armstrong (Comparative Studies) discussed the

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“space of the political” against the background of Jean-Luc Nancy’s philosophy; and our own Kai Hammermeister (GLL) introduced the concept of a relational aesthetics in artworks that seek to establish a public sphere. In Winter 2010 Fritz Breithaupt (Indiana University) presented a theoretical model of readers’ interactions and Fernando Unzueta (Spanish and Portuguese, OSU) discussed 19<sup>th</sup>-century Latin American novels as facilitators of a political public sphere in burgeoning societies. In Spring 2010 Susanne Lüdemann (Univ. of Chicago) talked about the antidemocratic concept of “brotherhood” during and after the French Revolution; Chris Lunkinbeal (Arizona State University) discussed cultural-geographic theories of landscape and their relation to public understandings of space; Kam Shapiro (Illinois State University) explored the political-social potential of Wordsworth’s program for a popular poetics. Mike Neblo (OSU) concluded this year’s events with a spirited defense of deliberative democracy.

We look forward to talks next year by Craig Calhoun (NYU), Nancy Fraser (New School for Social Research), Christoph Menke (Goethe Universität Frankfurt), and others, as well as many more animated discussions about the public sphere in modern cultures and societies. We have received our first funding for a conference in 2012 and are busy planning. Look for more information on that event soon!

*~ May Mergenthaler*

*Kai  
Hammermeister  
and Bernd  
Fischer*



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## **Greg Schneider, M.A. 1984, Leads German 640 Field Trip**

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Greg Schneider, Program Administrator of the Ohio Biodiversity Database, led the German 640 class “Ecology and Nature in German Literature and Culture” on a field trip to High Banks Metro Park, Worthington. Holding a



Masters degree in German from our department (1984), Greg Schneider returned to his Alma Mater for this seminar since it combined his two main interests, biology and German. Our seminar (winter 2010) examined the idea of nature in German culture during the last 200 years as well as scientific and political concepts of ecology in the twentieth century, trying to find answers to the question why nature and ecology are such a powerful part of modern German culture. Greg’s excursion to High Banks on a beautiful spring

Saturday in May offered his fellow students a great opportunity to familiarize themselves with the English, Latin and German terminology of Ohio trees and woodland plants. We marveled at the beauty of the plants and at the poetry of their names: Wohlriechender Fieberstrauch (spicebush), Dreiblättriger Aronstab (Jack-in-the-Pulpit), Gefleckter Storchschnabel (wild geranium), Traubige Schattenblume (False Solomon’s Seal) and many more. We also tried to spot the Bald Eagles nesting across the Olentangy River, but they were not keen on speaking German that afternoon. Yet another reason for revisiting High Banks.

*~Bernhard Malkmus*

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## Playing with Heiner Müller's *The Hamletmachine*

Directed by Alexander Stillmark

Music by Sue Harshe

Movement training by Moungsai Somboon

Projections by Kathy Corl & Alex Wilkerson

Acted by 5 + 5:

Emily Wessel

Anne-Marie Simon

Allison Perry

Alaina Murphy

Sibel Günükutlu

Adam Sulewski

Thomas Stefaniuk

Jonathan Smith

Geoff Shoupp

Jeffrey Frazier

Four years after staging Brecht's *Reader for City-Dwellers* at OSU, Berlin director Alexander Stillmark returned in May 2010 to conduct a 2-week theater workshop around Heiner Müller's *Hamletmachine*. 7 undergraduates and 3 graduate students signed up for the workshop and received course credit under German 777 taught by Helen Fehervary. In the weeks prior to Stillmark's arrival we talked about Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Müller as a playwright, poetics and politics in *Hamletmachine*, and watched documentary films about Müller's life and rehearsals of his 8-hour staging of *Hamlet* during the tumultuous 9 months leading up to German unification – and the premiere of *Hamlet* at the Deutsches Theater in Berlin – in March 1990.

Then came the workshop, and after 8 meetings of 3-4 hours each the machine-actors brought their work to the stage of the us-bank theater in the Ohio Union before an audience of about 100. From **Stillmark's** Program Notes: "*Hamletmachine* (1977) is one of the provocative texts of 20<sup>th</sup>-century drama. On five pages of text the author confronts us with a surrealist collage of diverse parts dominated by poetic images from Shakespeare's *Hamlet* [...] A fragmentary Hamlet-figure emerges to reveal the intellectual's discordancy in the modern world. Against this the story of Ophelia is told anew and pushed to its extremities [...] As we speak this text aloud it changes our physical being, our bodies [...] We shed our intellectual cover to become audible and visible, we show our identity to be knowable. – The goal was not a performance of the entire play. If we account for what we learned in this little show, we let the audience join us in our journey of

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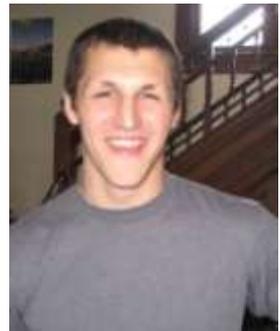
discovery into the interior of this machine, which can only be the beginning of a process ...”

The actors have the last word: “I feel incredibly lucky that I got to partake in such a unique experience, especially with this material which isn’t a whole lot like anything else I’ve ever read. Herr Stillmark did a wonderful job, and through exercises brought a lot out of us, having each one of us bring forth the best we could and really bring the show’s meaning to life” (**Emily Wessel**). “The workshop informed hands-on of the harmony, and discord, between words and actions, sounds and images, and the role of



each in theatre, providing opportunity to study and interact with the play at hand” (**Adam Sulewski**). “The most important part for me was the language exposure. Being at rehearsals for 3 hours most nights of the week speaking nothing but German was challenging, but very solidifying” (**Alaina Murphy**). “What I

liked best was that Herr Stillmark depended on us for creative input; we were actors but also directors, which made the experience unique and extremely rewarding” (**Jeffrey Frazier**). As we began to rehearse Herr Stillmark compared the actor’s first movements on stage to the first marks on a blank piece of paper; I realized how much time was ours to build a machine, to experiment up to the day of the performance, to examine how differently we interacted with one another and with the space each time. It was a pleasure to work with the director and the cast and crew, and I am motivated to learn more about Heiner Müller’s work” (**Anne-Marie Simon**). “*Hamletmaschine* presented me with a variety of challenges: the language, the content, the acting itself, my most rewarding and certainly most defining course at OSU. I’m in Berlin now for the year and have talked a lot about the play with my German friends who are amazed by what we did and how we did it, a great source of pride for me” (**Allison Perry**). Visual commentary by **Jonathan Smith** is in his collage on the cover of our *Newsletter* ...



*Jonathan Smith*

~ *Helen Fehervary*

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## Faculty and Staff

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Barbara **Becker-Cantarino**, Research Professor, is preparing lectures on emotions and Romanticism for a conference in Salzburg, Sophie Tieck-Bernhardi for a conference in Frankfurt/Oder, transatlantic migrations and correspondence for the IVG in Warsaw, all in July and August, and is visiting family in Spain again this summer. She published: *Genderforschung und Germanistik. Perspektiven von der Frühen Neuzeit bis zur Moderne* (Berlin: Weidler, 2010); „Das ‚Neue Jerusalem‘: Jane Lead, die Philadelphian Society und ihre Visionen von religiöser Erneuerung in den 1690er Jahren. In: *Alter Adam und Neue Kreatur. Pietismus und Utopie*. Ed. Udo Sträter et al. Halle: Verlag der Franckeschen Stiftungen, 2009; “Christian Weises, *Der grünenden Jugend überflüssige Gedanken*.” In: *Christian Weise. Poet und Praeceptor* Ed. Peter Hesse. Zittau: Neisse, 2009; „Die Idee vom Volkskönig. Zu Bettina von Arnims Transformation romantischer Konzepte in *Dies Buch gehört dem König*.” In: *Einheit der Romantik? Zur Transformation frühromantischer Konzepte im 19. Jahrhundert*. Ed. Dirk von Petersdorf and Bernd Auerochs. Paderborn: Schöningh, 2009; „Großmutter Laroche.“ Erinnerungs-Räume der Jugendzeit in Bettina von Arnims *Die Gänderode und Clemens Brentanos Frühlingsskranz*.” In: *Raumkonfigurationen in der Romantik. Eisenacher Kolloquium der Internationalen Arnim-Gesellschaft*. Ed. Walter Pape. Tübingen: Niemeyer, 2009. She reviewed Erdmute Josts *Sophie von La Roches Reisejournale* for *Das Achtzehnte Jahrhundert* 2 (2009), Julia di Bartolo’s *Selbstbestimmtes Leben um 1800* for *Monatshefte* 3 (2009), Helen Fronius’ *Women and Literature in the Goethe Era 1770-1820* for *Modern Language Review* (Jan.) 2009, and wrote the entry “Sophie von La Roche” for *Frauen-Gestalten Weimar-Jena um 1800. Ein biobibliographisches Lexikon* (Heidelberg: Winter, 2009).

Invited lectures: “Flemings *Schreiben vertriebener Frauen Germanien*. Zu Ikonographie und Konzept von ‚Germania‘ im 17. Jahrhundert,” Univ. of Erlangen Baroque conference, Sept. 2009, in Nov. 2009, “Glaube, Aberglaube, Wissen: Zum ‘Hexensabbat’ bei Pierre de Lancre und Johannes Praetorius’ Hexensabbath,” research conference “Diskursivierung von Wissen in der Frühen Neuzeit,” Univ. of Kiel. She presented “The ‘Science of Witchcraft’ – Fact and Fiction” at the MLA conference, Dec. 2010 and at the OSU Project Narrative mini-

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symposium, Jan. 2010; “Neugefundenes Eden? Raumvorstellungen deutscher Migranten in die englischen Kolonien Nordamerikas um 1700,” international Baroque Congress at the Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel (Aug. 2009); and is planning, with Georges Tamer of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, a conference (as a Humboldt Kolleg) „Migrations and Religion: Germany in Transit“ for April 8-10, 2011, with funding from the OSU College of Arts and Humanities, and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Her two-year commitment to serve as Director of Graduate Studies ended in June 2010 and she looks back with pleasure at the intensive contact with graduate students and alumni, the professionalization workshops, dissertation colloquia, and brown-bag presentations.

Marilyn Johns **Blackwell**, Professor

**Katra Byram**, Assistant Professor, published “Colonialism and the Language of German-German Relations in Raabe’s *Stopfkuchen*,” presented at the *Raabe International* conference in Maynooth, Ireland, in a volume originating from that conference *Wilhelm Raabe: Global Themes, International Perspectives*. Eds. Dirk Göttsche and Florian Krobb. Oxford: Legenda, 2009. She gave three presentations building on existing lines of inquiry: one on using the concept of perspective to integrate culture and grammar instruction (at a regional language coordinators’ meeting), and two on “I-witness” narrators, historical identity, and narrative ethics (at the annual conference of the International Society for the Study of Narrative and at OSU as part of the Project Narrative initiative). She organized a panel on narrative theory and the 19<sup>th</sup> century at the 2009 GSA conference and presented a paper on Naturalism and fairy tales in that forum. She continues work on her book manuscript on “I-witness” narrators as figures that embody the effort to come to terms with the past. She taught two courses for the first time: a graduate seminar on 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century realisms, and a general education course on representations of the Holocaust.

**Kathryn A. Corl**, Associate Professor, joined **Heimy Taylor** and **Werner Haas** as a member of the summer German language teaching faculty at the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria in Summer 2009. She is principal investigator for a three-year project awarded to OSU through the Universität Tübingen and funded by the

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*Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*. The collaboration, which also involves a research team at the University of Kansas, seeks to create a corpus of learner responses to reading comprehension questions. The annotated corpus will be used by researchers in computational linguistics at the *Universität Tübingen* for the project "Comparing Meaning in Context: Components of a Shallow Semantic Analysis". Graduate Associates **Berit Jany** and **Wonneken Wanske** participated in 2009-2010 as research assistants on the project.

John E. **Davidson**, Associate Professor, is on 50% appointment as the founding Director of the OSU Film Studies Program, which now boasts nearly 200 undergraduate majors. In December 2009 he took on the post of Executive Editor of the *Journal of Short Film*, a quarterly DVD publication of original artistic work from around the globe that is edited and produced in the Film Studies offices ([www.thejsf.org](http://www.thejsf.org)). He continues to teach and serve in GLL, looking forward to program changes to be implemented at the conversion to semesters in 2012. He authored articles on: Eberhard Fechner's televisual memory in *Screening War: Perspectives on German Suffering* (Camden House, 2010, ed. Paul Cooke and Marc Silberman); and in press, the "documentary style" in post-wall fiction films in *The Collapse of the Conventional* (Wayne State, ed. Jaimey Fischer and Brad Prager), and Alexander Kluge's "Minutenfilme" in *New Directions in German Cinema* (Tauris, ed. Christopher Homewood). 2009 also saw the re-issuing of *Framing the Fifties* in a paperback edition, which he co-edited with Sabine Hake.

Helen **Fehervary**, Professor, continues as general editor of the Anna Seghers *Werkausgabe*. The edition's ninth volume (Bd. V/2) appeared in spring: Anna Seghers, *Briefe II, 1953-1983*, vol. ed. Christiane Zehl Romero and Almut Giesecke (Berlin: Aufbau Verlag, 2010). Fehervary also published "Köpfe des Mittelalters" and „Alexander Stephan zum Gedenken“ in: *Argonautenschiff: Jahrbuch der Anna-Seghers-Gesellschaft* (2009), and a review of Robert Cohen's *Exil der freien Frauen* (Berlin: Rotbuch Verlag, 2009) in *The Brecht Yearbook* (2009). In Fall 2009 she received a Melton Center for Jewish Studies grant in support of research for her current book project and travel to Paris, where she interviewed Seghers's son Pierre Radvanyi about his mother's life and work. In Winter 2010 she organized, with Dorothy Noyes of Folklore Studies: „But What About Culture? Alexander Stephan's

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Interdisciplinary Project. A Symposium and Tribute," 5 Feb., OSU Mershon Center. In spring 2010 she organized a GLL theater workshop for undergraduate and graduate students that culminated in a public performance on 16 May, directed by Alexander Stillmark of Berlin, of Heiner Müller's *Die Hamletmaschine*.

**Bernd Fischer**, Professor, has been in charge of the working group "The Public Sphere and Social Imaginaries." With the help of a generous grant from the Center for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities, he and the working group organized over twenty public lectures, workshops, and reading group meetings involving faculty and students from numerous fields at OSU and other institutions, e.g., art, philosophy, comparative studies, linguistics, history, political science, sociology, Spanish, English, and German studies. For more on this, see "The Collaborative Working Group," p.3.

He published: a paperback edition of his *A Companion to the Works of Heinrich von Kleist* (Rochester: Camden House, 2010); „Von der Moral zur Kultur: Kant und Herder." *Acta Germanica* 37 (2009); "Transculturality and the Biology of Empathy." *Language and the Scientific Imagination*. Ed. Giacomo Bottà & Marja Härmänmaa. <https://blogs.helsinki.fi/issei2009/>; „Transkulturelle Teilhabe." *Jahrbuch für Internationale Germanistik* 94 (2008); and reviewed: Sabine Groß and Gerhard Sauder, eds. *Der frühe und der späte Herder: Kontinuität und/oder Korrektur. Early and Late Herder: Continuity and/or Correction* (Heidelberg: Synchron, 2007), in *German Quarterly* 82 (2009). His talks include: „Antizipationen einer populärästhetischen Politik: Anmerkungen zu den *Ästhetischen Briefen*," Friedrich Schiller 1759-1805, California State Univ., Long Beach, Sept. 2009; „Braucht Herkunft Zukunft? Zur transkulturellen Dynamik in Franz Kafka's *Amerika*," Kafka Interkulturell: Internationale Tagung der deutschen Kafka-Gesellschaft, Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen, Schloss Rauschholzhausen, July 2009 (and moderated the section „Ästhetik"); "Immanuel Kant, 'An Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment?'" The Public Sphere and Modern Social Imaginaries. OSU, Oct. 2008; "What Moves Kohlhaas? Terror in Heinrich von Kleist, E. L. Doctorow, and Christoph Hein," GSA Convention, St. Paul, Oct. 2008 (and was moderator and commentator of the session "Aberrant Kleist"); and participated in a panel discussion on „Hitler's Children –

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Our Children," Columbus Jewish Federation and Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Nov. 10, 2009.

Anna **Grotans**, Associate Professor and Chairperson, has happily reached the halfway point of her term as department chair, still happy and eager in her two remaining years to put into place many of the programmatic changes that were suggested in GLL's recent program review. This summer she looks forward to some administrative reprieve and reflective peace in order to work on two research projects at either end of the medieval spectrum: a monograph on Carolingian multilingualism and the investigation of a unique and culturally significant 17<sup>th</sup>-century German pietist diary that recently turned up in a suburban Ohio closet. Details to follow. . .

Kai **Hammermeister**, Associate Professor, gave lectures on "Meditation and Cognitive Science" and "Relational Aesthetics" and concluded the initial research for a new book that will appear in 2011.

Barbara **Heck**, Senior Lecturer



Gregor **Hens**, Associate Professor, published translations of two novels: Stephen Elliott, *Meine Freundin kommt in die Stadt* (Hamburg: Arche, 2010) and Carol Bruneau, *Glasstimmen* (Hamburg: marebuch, 2010). He is currently putting the finishing touches on a book-length essay on smoking.

Brenda **Hosey**, Fiscal HR Officer

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Neil G. **Jacobs**, Professor, is conducting research on Jewish cabaret, post-Yiddish Jewish ethnolects, and Sephardic Jewish Papiamentu. He published "Max Weinreich". In Harro Stammerjohann (ed.), *Lexicon Grammaticorum. A bio-bibliographical companion to the history of linguistics*. Niemeyer. 2009. and presented "Roomies: Daytshmerish and its closest relatives," GLAC 12, 2009, Banff, Canada, and taught a new course topic "Jews, ethnicity, and language" in spring 2010. He serves on the board of the OSU Melton Center for Jewish Studies and was reelected Vice-President of the Society for Germanic Linguistics (for 2009-11).

Steven **Joyce**, Associate Professor (Mansfield Campus)

Merrill **Kaplan**, Assistant Professor, began her interdisciplinary 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—which all together make up the landscape in which the Icelandic Sagas are set. In 2009-10 she published a light-hearted tribute to a friend and scholar of William Morris in the style of Morris and presented conference papers on manifestations of the traditional on the Internet. Her spring term 2010 research on a medieval Icelandic text suggested that following beckoning dwarfs into stones is a bad idea, and she looks forward to publishing her conclusions.

Bernhard **Malkmus**, Assistant Professor, delved into the American literary imagination of financial crisis in a paper on Herman Melville's *The Confidence-Man* and its satirical take on monetary structures of trust and laissez-faire capitalism as well as on R.W. Emerson's transcendentalism (and the subcutaneous relation between the three), published in *American Studies* 3/2009. A communicative theoretical approach to picaresque narrative ("Vom Hoch- und Tiefstapeln") appeared in *Theorien des Dritten. Innovationen in Soziologie und Sozialphilosophie* (Thomas Bedorf et al, eds, Munich 2010). He has begun research on his next project, an intellectual history of "wilderness" and "the wild" in German speaking cultures, focusing on theological aspects, in particular notions of apocalypsis and kerygma.

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May **Mergenthaler**, Assistant Professor, won the Women in German Best Article Prize 2009 with "Die Frühromantik als Projekt vollendeter Mitteilung zwischen den Geschlechtern: Friedrich Schlegel und Dorothea Veit im Dialog über Friedrich Richters Romane," *German Quarterly* 81.3 (2008). Her essay "The 'Paradox' of Poetic Courage: Hölderlin's Ode 'Timidity' and Benjamin's Commentary Reconsidered" appears in the summer 2010 issue of *The Germanic Review*. She will present two related talks on poetry and individuality at the 12<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Association for Germanic Studies (IVG) in Warsaw and at the GSA Conference 2010. In WI 2011 she will teach the upper-level honors course "Religion and Society: German Reflections on Secularization" which won the New Honors Course Competition Award 2009-10.

David Neal **Miller**, Associate Professor, travelled to China in summer 2009, accompanied for part of the journey by YASP graduate student Karen Sobul. They presented papers at the International Humanities Conference in Beijing and explored avenues of cooperation between OSU and the principal centers of Judaic research in China. Miller also lectured and conferred at the Universities of Shandong and Nanjing.



(from left to right sitting)  
Pan Guang, David Neal Miller, Karen Sobul in Shanghai

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Natascha **Miller**, Office Associate, lent a hand with the *Graduate School Experience* this summer for the second year in a row. She continues to grapple with myriad changes in office procedure, spurred on by the scent of ultimate success.



*with Ian Bonner*

Paul **Reitter**, Associate Professor, published an essay on Hugo von Hofmannthsal in the *Times Literary Supplement* and an article on Jewish self-hatred in *German Quarterly*. He gave lectures on the latter topic at the GSA conference and the University of Michigan, whose Frankel Center for Advanced Judaic Studies awarded him a residential fellowship for the Winter 2010 semester.

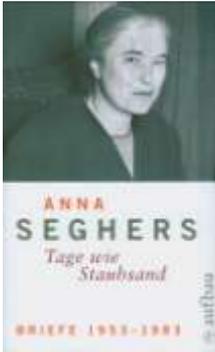
Andy **Spencer**, Senior Lecturer

Carmen **Taleghani-Nikazm**, Associate Professor, published “L2 requests: An empirical study of L2 learners’ orientation to preference structure in talk-in-interaction” in *Multilingua*, and a book chapter “Requests and orders: A cross-linguistic study of their organization in the broader social and cultural context,” in *Handbook of Pragmatics of Society*. She continues work on her current project on how affiliation among speakers is locally achieved in observable practices. Together with **Kathy Corl**, she began a new project that explores how students utilize the online concept mapping tool in reading comprehension activities. Findings will be presented at the upcoming ACTFL conference. Carmen continues to chair the growing Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies Program in Second Language Studies and is looking forward to her new role as Chair of Graduate Studies in GLL.

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## New Faculty Books

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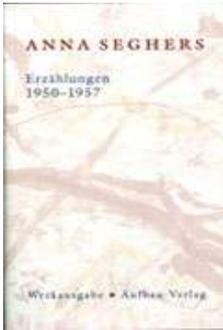
*Anna Seghers: Tage wie Staubsand. Briefe 1953-1983*  
vol. ed. Christiane Zehl Romero and Almut Giesecke,  
vol. V/2, in: Anna Seghers *Werkausgabe*,  
ed. Helen Fehervary and Bernhard Spies  
May 2010 Berlin: Aufbau



*A Companion to the Works of Heinrich von Kleist*  
(Studies in German Literature Linguistics and  
Culture)  
by Bernd Fischer  
(Paperback 2010) NY: Camden House (2003)



*Genderforschung und Germanistik: Perspektiven von  
der Frühen Neuzeit bis zur Moderne*  
(Germanistische Lehrbuchsammlung, Band 86)  
by Barbara Becker-Cantarino  
January 2010 Berlin: Weidler



**Anna Seghers: Erzählungen 1950-1957**  
vol. ed. Ute Brandes, vol. II/4,  
in: Anna Seghers *Werkausgabe*,  
ed. Helen Fehervary and Bernhard Spies  
November 2009 Berlin: Aufbau



**Das Lieblingsspiel**  
Translated by Gregor Hens  
by Leonard Cohen  
September 2009 Berlin: Blumenbar



**Big Girls. Roman.**  
Translated by Gregor Hens, Margarete Längsfeld,  
Sabine Maier-Längsfeld and Stefanie Viereck  
by Susanna Moore  
March 2009 Zürich: Atrium

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## German Day at OSU

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On April 29, the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures welcomed 100 students from six Ohio high schools to the new Ohio Union for a morning of German-language activities and fun. In addition to returning visitors from Olentangy, Fairlawn, and Pickerington Central, this year participants joined us from Pickerington North and all the way from Coldwater and Lutheran West in the Cleveland area. The highlight of the day was a teleconference call with students from the Eichenschule in Scheeßel, Germany. Our high school visitors also had the chance to meet our undergraduates, who led German-language campus tours, facilitated music and film activities, and shared adventures from their Ohio State study abroad experiences. In fact, one of our undergraduate leaders was a past German Day participant herself! The day ended with a pizza party and a poster session, where the students displayed a bevy of creative posters covering a wide range of topics on culture and society in German-speaking lands: from pop music to politics to baking to Walpurgisnacht. It was a fun day for all, and we look forward to next year's event.

~ *Katra Byram*



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## Conferences and Visitors

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### **But What About Culture? Alexander Stephan's Interdisciplinary Project: A Symposium and Tribute, February 5, 2010**

*Keynote Speakers:*

**Jost Hermand** (University of Wisconsin and Humboldt Universität-Berlin):  
"Forced out of Hitler's Reich: Five Cases of Intellectual Culture Shock in the  
Prairies of the Midwest"

**Richard Ned Lebow** (Dartmouth College, Cambridge University, and the  
London School of Economics): "The Old World Meets the New: German  
Refugee Social Scientists in America"

**Tributes** to Alexander Stephan from his colleagues and students

### **Journeys: 2nd Annual Germanic Graduate Student Conference March 6, 2010**

*Keynote Speaker:*

**Elke Frederiksen**, University of Maryland

"Journeys across Continents — Writing across Borders: From Europe to  
Africa — from Africa to Europe"

**Max Kade Visiting Professor**

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**Alexander Košenina**, Leibniz Universität Hannover  
Literary Anthropology (Spring 2010 Seminar)

**Theater Workshop and Public Performance**

**Alexander Stillmark**, Berlin

Heiner Müller's *Die Hamletmaschine*, May 3-16, 2010

**Departmental Lectures**

**October 2, 2009**

**Stefan Horlacher** (TU-Dresden)

"Violence in *Macbeth*"

**February 11, 2010**

**Shlomo Berger, Professor of Yiddish Culture** (University of Amsterdam),

"The Early Modern Yiddish Book and its Function in Ashkenazi Society"

**February 22, 2010**

**Jeremy Glazier** (Ohio Dominican University)

"Towards Utopia: Music in the Wake of the Wall"

**March 30, 2010**

**Hans-Gert Roloff** (Freie-Universität -Berlin)

"Komödie und sozialpolitische Kritik: Zu Carl Sternheims 'bürgerlichem Heldenleben'"

**April 12, 2010**

**Alexander Košenina**, Leibniz Universität Hannover

Who done it? Fornication and Fatherhood in Hogarth and Goethe

**April 30, 2010**

**Edgar Landgraf** (Bowling Green State University)

"Systems Theory and Early German Romanticism. Conceptual Challenges, Historical Perspectives"

**May 18, 2010**

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**Jacqueline Vansant** (University of Michigan)

"Jewish Youths exiled from Vienna encountering the US in the 1930s"

**The Collaborative Working Group**

*The Public Sphere and Modern Social Imaginaries*

**October 8, 2009**

**Bernd Fischer** (Germanic Languages & Literatures, Ohio State)

"Immanuel Kant, 'An Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment?'"

**October 23, 2009**

**Jennifer Mitzen** (Political Science, Ohio State)

"Toward a Visible Hand: The Concert of Europe as International Public Power"

**November 13, 2009**

**Catharina Manchanda** (Wexner Center Exhibition Curator, Ohio State)

"Capitalist Realism. The ironic investigation of media images by Gerhard Richter and Sigmar Polke"

**November 20, 2009**

**Philip Armstrong** (Comparative Literature, Ohio State)

"The Space of the Political"

**November 30, 2009**

**Kai Hammermeister** (Germanic Languages & Literatures, Ohio State)

"Relational Aesthetics"

**January 8, 2010**

**Eric Mac Gilvray** (Political Science, Ohio State)

"Markets and the New Republicanism"

**January 25, 2010**

**Professor Fritz Breithaupt** (Indiana University - Bloomington)

"Cultures of Empathy" and a workshop: "The Ego-Effect of Money"

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**February 26, 2010**

**Fernando Unzueta** (Spanish & Portuguese, Ohio State)

"The Nineteenth-Century Novel in Latin America: Toward a Public Sphere?"

**April 9, 2010**

**Susanne Luedemann** (University of Chicago)

"Brotherhood as a Social Metaphor"

**April 22, 2010**

**Chris Lukinbeal** (Arizona State University)

"Geographic Theories of Landscape and Their Role in the Public Sphere and Modern Social Imaginaries"

**May 7, 2010**

**Kam Shapiro** (Illinois State University)

"Critical Feelings and Pleasurable Association"

**May 14, 2010**

**Mike Neblo** (Political Science, Ohio State)

"Chumps and Change: Power, Agonism, and Deliberative Democracy"



*Keynote Speaker Elke Frederiksen and friends at the GGSA Conference*

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## Germanic Graduate Student Association

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Another successful year for the GGSA! Its highlight was our second graduate student conference "Journeys" held at the OSU Drake Performance Center, and which for the first time hosted graduate students from other universities and departments. In addition to four of our own graduate students, participants from Michigan, Missouri, Maryland, Illinois, Arizona, Kentucky, and as far as Alberta, Canada contributed to what was a thought-provoking and diverse conference. Paper topics explored various types of journeys and ranged from ethno- or eurocentric feminism in postcolonial writings to journeys of post-war German memory as expressed in German expellee monuments. Professor Elke Frederiksen from the University of Maryland College Park gave the keynote address titled "Journeys across Continents – Writing across Borders: From Europe to Africa – from Africa to Europe." A lot of work went into preparing the conference by many graduate students, as well as the GGSA advisor Katra Byram. The active support of and participation by the GLL faculty were the final ingredient in what was a wonderful, successful day on the sunny banks of the Olentangy River. We are happy to announce that we will host our third annual GGSA graduate student conference in winter 2011 around the theme "Sports and Athletics in German Literature and Culture."

*~ Thomas Stefaniuk*



*Thomas Stefaniuk and  
May Mergenthaler*

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## Graduate Student News

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### Graduate Students in the Department, 2009-10

Jeffrey Frazier  
Lizzie Gordon  
Svetlana Gordon  
Sibel Günükutlu  
Helen Hauser  
Kristen Hetrick  
Alex Holzniekemper  
Trent Hudson  
Berit Jany  
Kyle Kissell  
Jonathan Justice  
Annett Krause  
Jaclyn Kurash

Sara Luly  
Jennifer Magro-Algarotti  
Kevin Richards  
Sara Rossini  
Ryan Smith  
Nicholas Spindel  
Thomas Stefaniuk  
Amber Suggitt  
Bethany Van Camp  
Charlie Vannette  
Wonneken Wanske  
Felicitas Wonneberger  
Jesse Wood

*Jonathan Justice, Jaclyn Kurash, Feli Wonneberger and Barbara Becker-Cantarino at the GGSA Conference*



### New Graduate Students in 2010-11

Luke Bauer  
Veronika Branická  
Sylvia Fischer  
Elizabeth Hancock

Amber Lane  
Adam Sulewski  
Janice Williams  
Zoe Voulgarakis

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## **Ph.D. Candidacy Examinations**

Jaclyn Kurash, March 2010

John Davidson (Chair), Barbara Becker-Cantarino, Katra Byram,  
Helen Fehervary

Alex Holzniekemper, June 2010

Bernd Fischer (Chair), John Davidson, Gregor Hens, May Mergenthaler

## **M.A. Examinations, May 2010**

Helen Hauser

Trent Hudson

Nicholas Spindel

Wonneken Wanske

Felicitas Wonneberger



*Berit Jany*

## **Graduate Student Awards**

Berit Jany

Graduate Research Paper Award

Helen Hauser, Nicholas Spindel, Thomas  
Stefaniuk

Graduate Service Award

## **Dissertation Colloquia and Presentations of Research**

Sara Luly October 5, 2009

“Somnambulism in German Romantic Literature”

Charlie Vannette January 29, 2010

“Narrative Observation and Hyperreflexivity in the Works of Robert  
Walser”

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Jennifer Magro Algarotti April 7, 2010

"Nature, Culture, and Art in Ransmayr's *Die Schrecken des Eises und der Finsternis*"

Alex Holzniekemper April 12, 2010

"Locating transculturality – the missionary writings of German Jesuit Johann Jakob Baegert"

### **Professional Training Workshop: November 6, 2009**

"Professional Organizations and Presenting Papers," with Barbara Becker-Cantarino, Kevin Richards, and Sara Luly

### **More Graduate Student News**

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**Svetlana Gordon** presented three papers: a lesson plan for the Oct. 2009 Ohio AATG conference; "Turkish-German Intersections: The Role and Influence of Bertolt Brecht in Özdamar's writing," Southeast Conference on Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Film, Tampa, Feb. 2010; "'Clash of civilizations' in Feridun Zaimoğlu's *Rom intensio*," NeMLA, Montreal, April 2010. For travel to the last she received a College of Arts & Humanities Graduate Small Research Grant.

**Kristen Hetrick** continues work on her dissertation "Writing Illness: Tuberculosis, Cancer and AIDS in German and North American Literature." This spring, she presented a paper on the topic of cancer pathographies at the Hayes Graduate Research Forum. Kristen spent the summer in Vermont teaching in the German School of the Middlebury College Language Schools.

**Alex Holzniekemper** presented "Locating Transculturality: The Writings of the German Jesuit Johann Jakob Baegert" at the 2010 Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. In 2010-11 he will work on his dissertation in Berlin. This summer he will present a paper at the "New Europe at the Crossroads" Conference in Vienna and then go on to Dresden as one of the Summer Study Abroad TAs.

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**Berit Jany** started her first year in the Ph.D. program by attending the *Was kommt nach dem Textbook* -seminar at the Goethe Institute in Chicago. She presented a paper on the influence of World War II on the forming of a national German identity in contemporary travel literature at the Focus on German Studies Graduate Student Conference at the University of Cincinnati. She received the 2010 GLL Graduate Research Paper Award and worked as the TA-peer supervisor throughout the academic year. She enjoyed her summer in Dresden with the study abroad program teaching German 203.

**Jaclyn Kurash** is interested in *Angestelltenromane* and representations of female white-collar workers, particularly in works by Irmgard Keun, Marieluise Fleisser, Vicki Baum and Gabrielle Tergit. She is working on her dissertation prospectus focused on the relationship between women and technology in the Weimar Republic. For 2010-11 she will return to Allegheny College as a one-year Visiting Assistant Professor.

**Jennifer Magro Algarotti** is writing her dissertation "The Austrian Imaginary of Wilderness: Landscape, History, and Identity in Contemporary Austrian Literature." She presented papers at the NeMLA Conference in Montreal and at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference in Lexington. She is the recipient of the College of Arts & Humanities Post-Prospectus Research Quarter award.

**Kevin Richards** has completed his second and final year as web administrator, content editor, conference organizer and TA at the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and looks forward to teaching German again this fall. He presented "Outhouse from Hell: Negotiating the Norwegian-Icelandic political tensions by punishing the Pagan Hero in *Þorsteins þáttur skelks*," 2010 International Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo. He served on the Graduate Studies Committee and for a second term as treasurer of the Medieval and Renaissance Graduate Student Association. He is working on his dissertation concerning the German soldier's negotiation of identity in Federal Ministry of Defense publications, intellectual debate and popular media 1985-1994.

**Thomas Stefaniuk**, defended his dissertation prospectus for "Negotiating an Identity: Joseph Jessing, the German-language Press, and German-Catholics in the Nineteenth Century United States." His dissertation

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investigates how the editor of a popular German-American newspaper used his pen to influence identity formation amongst German-American Catholics. Thomas served as President of the Germanic Graduate Student Association in 2009-10 and in this role helped organize the GGSA's conference "Journeys" in March. For this work, he and the two other organizers received the Graduate Student Service Award. At this conference Thomas presented on two different German literary and cultural receptions of India in the twentieth century, and at the Society of German American Studies conference in New Harmony, Indiana, presented "Keeping the Faith, auf Deutsch: Joseph Jessing and German Cultural Maintenance in Nineteenth-Century America."

**Wonneken Wanske** presented a paper at the Focus on German Studies Graduate Student Conference, University of Cincinnati, Oct. 2009. In March 2010, she received an Edward J. Ray Travel Award from the Council of Graduate Students for a paper at the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies conference in New Mexico. She is spending the summer teaching at the Middlebury German Summer School in Vermont and returns to OSU this fall as a first-year Ph.D. student.

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### **Greetings from Berlin**

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It has been an eventful year. We've experienced the Fest der Freiheit (complete with giant dominoes), S-Bahn issues, university strikes, one of the coldest, snowiest winters on record and WM fever. In addition to the „big events“ of the academic year, we'd like to share a bit about what made this time interesting for us personally.

**Bethany Van Camp** writes: I spent the last two semesters at the Freie Universität Berlin, located in the green, well-to-do Dahlem Dorf of south-west Berlin. I had surprisingly little trouble matriculating and registering for classes, as the system has recently become digitalized and more centralized, sometimes to the consternation of those transitioning from the old system to the new. In the first semester I visited courses in Narratology,

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Reception of Romanticism, and Realism. In the break I wrote my first long research paper in German on Richarda Huchs *Die Romantik*. The process was simultaneously frustrating, challenging and fun, and both the paper and the class confirmed my interest in reception history. This semester I've spent time in the Comparative Literature department, in seminars on Kleist's stories and aesthetics. I am impressed by the background knowledge of my fellow students, something that motivates me to increase my own base of knowledge. My time at the FU has helped to confirm my interests – especially in literature around 1800 and reception history – and has given me new motivation for the coming year.

I also became involved in Berlin life through my WG, my church and several growing friendships. These different associations put me in contact with people from the city and provided interesting insights into life outside of the university. One of my favorite “extra-curricular” activities has been volunteering at a café that serves as a meeting place for elderly residents of a Moabit neighborhood. It is fascinating to hear their stories (first hand history) and learn a bit of their dialect (janz jut!). I can't say much more than that these months have been unbelievably full, and that I will be coming back to Columbus with new impulses and experiences to apply to my studies, teaching and personal life.

**Kyle Kissell** writes: My time at the Humboldt Universität seems like a culmination of my estrangement in the academic settings of my life. I've gone from a liberal arts school of barely three thousand, to the sprawl of OSU, to the great ant colony of the HU. After the better part of a year here, not one of my friends in Berlin was met in connection with the university. In the fall, I indulged my esoteric interests with courses on *Parzifal* and *Tristan*. This semester I decided it's time to lay off the medieval stuff for awhile and enrolled in “Kapitalismus und Literatur” and a linguistic review seminar. I have failed to free myself from academe: debating Goethe versus Schiller (and defending my love of Lenz), discussing the merits of Tilgrath Pileser III against Sargon II as tyrants of the Ancient Near East, and speculating on the love life of Frederick the Great. I have also broadened my horizons as a storyteller/performance artist, performing alongside professional authors giving readings of their work and a local storyteller: Milena Oda, Maik Lippert and Matt Grau at “der Frühling der Gentrifizierten” with a “John Henry” adaptation and the original piece “Die Schwierigkeit mit Prinzessinen” and Stefan Danziger at “Prussian Wedding” with the original work “The Estate of Richard Feuerbach.” These

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collaborations have led me to develop an interest in epic theatre as I plan future projects to expand my repertoire.

All that remains is to say thanks for the opportunity to study and live in this city. If you should come to Berlin to visit or live, here is our cumulative wisdom: drink the water, stay out of the bike paths, and prepare to be surprised by what you find. Your 2009/10 Berliners *Bethany and Kyle*

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## Undergraduate News

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### Honors Thesis:

Thomas Tearney *The Fraydele Oysher Yiddish Theater Collections:  
Contents and Highlights in Context.*  
(Advisors: David Neal Miller and Neil G. Jacobs)

### Departmental Awards:

Adam Sulewski  
Dieter Cunz Award

Jonathan Smith  
Undergraduate Essay Award

Christian Hubbs  
Ilse Edse Scholarship



*Adam with his parents Jim and Carolyn Sulewski*



*GTAs Alex Holzniekemper (standing left) and Berit Jany (standing right) with the 2010 Dresden Summer Study Abroad Group*

### **Grants & Scholarships:**

Seth Armstrong	Arts & Humanities Merit Scholarship
Rachel Burns	Huntington International Fellowship
Sarah Coons	Austrian-American Educational Commission US Teaching Assistantship (declined); DAAD Undergraduate Research Grant (declined); Fulbright Scholarship Recipient
Danny Ferguson	Austrian-American Educational Commission US Teaching Assistantship
Brittany Lowe	Jutta and Peter Neckermann Study Abroad Scholarship
Robyn Rodriguez	Fulbright Research Grant
Andrew Scott	ASC Honors Undergraduate Research Scholarship Award
Briana Yuh	Jutta and Peter Neckermann Study Abroad Scholarship

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## Alumnae / Alumni News

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### **Oregon Professor of the Year Peter N. Richardson (M.A. 1966)**

In November 2009 the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching announced its selection of Peter N. Richardson as Oregon Professor of the Year. The Council for Advancement and Support of Education that administers the U.S. Professors of the Year program celebrated Richardson and other honorees in Washington, D.C. at a luncheon at the Willard InterContinental and an evening reception at the Folger Shakespeare Library Exhibition Hall. Peter Richardson received a B.A. from Stanford University, an M.A. in our department in 1966 with the thesis *Studies on the Expression of "Mixed Feelings" in the Eighteenth Century* (Advisor: Wolfgang Fleischhauer) and a Ph.D. from Yale University. As Edith Green Professor at Linfield College in Oregon where he has taught German language and literature for thirty years, he is "a legendary favorite" and "unending inspiration" to his students: "He shepherds students not only into new fields of knowledge, but he sets them free into new self-confidence, self-criticism and self-motivation." Since 1969 Professor Richardson and his wife Beverly return yearly to a village in the Swiss Alps where he has "deciphered and transcribed 1300 documents [...] hundreds of years old," one a household guide to scripture written by Martin Luther that, Richardson says, "someone found [...] in a drawer." The three men who had "profound influence" on him were "his father, a paleontologist at the Field Museum in Chicago, who cultivated his son's love of languages, and two former professors at Ohio State and Yale." Professor Richardson says, "they taught by example, and I think teaching by example rather than by requirement is by far the most powerful tool that we can use to help our students."

(Citations from Mardi Mileham in *Linfield Magazine*)

### **Columbus International Teacher of the Year**

#### **Tricia Fellingner (M.A. 1995)**

The Columbus Council on World Affairs has honored Tricia Fellingner as 2010 International Teacher of the Year. The awards ceremony was held on March 9 at the Hyatt Regency-Columbus. Tricia Fellingner was a graduate

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student in our department where she received an M.A. in German in 1995 and taught as a Teaching Assistant under the supervision of Professor Kathy Corl. Since then she has taught German at Upper Arlington High School in suburban Columbus. The nomination for the Council on World Affairs Award came from one of her students. At UA High School Tricia Fellingner is in charge of an especially strong German program and works in close collaboration with her colleagues in the UA High School global language department. The Council on World Affairs Award Committee strongly considers a global commitment in teaching and selected this year's honoree because "German culture is rich and varied" and Tricia Fellingner "is bringing a focus on minorities to her classes [...] to see that it is not just a homogenous culture and to think about it in a more complex way." This was the first time in the ten-year history of the Council on World Affairs Award that the honoree has been a language educator.

(Citations from Sara R. Johnson in *Suburban News Publications*)

### **Alumna Profile: Cynthia Chalupa**

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Cynthia Chalupa is Associate Professor German in the Department of Foreign Languages at West Virginia University. She received a B.A. from the University of Michigan (1991) and M.A. from the Ohio State University (1995). While working as Assistant Director of OSU's Foreign Language Center, she completed her Ph.D. in German with the dissertation "Through the Looking Glass: Overcoming Language in the Works of Georg Trakl, Rainer Maria Rilke, and Ilse Aichinger" (Co-

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Advisers: John Davidson and Mark Roche 1996- University of Notre Dame). Her areas of interest include literature and culture of the 19th and 20th centuries, foreign language pedagogy, and GTA development.

She has published articles on E.T.A. Hoffmann, the mirror image, fin-de-siècle literature, international TA training and co-authored the book *Gearing Up in the Twenty-First Century: An Instructor's Guide to Teaching German Television and Media Literacy*. She has presented at national and international conferences and workshops on both her literary and pedagogical work. Her current research has taken a different direction with a book-length project on the link between mountaineering and German national politics from the NS-period to the present, a topic about which she recently published in the *International Journal of Sport and Society*.

At WVU, Chalupa has taught a broad spectrum of courses, including Business German, German culture of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, German pronunciation and dialects, and seminars on Friedrich Nietzsche and German pop culture. She also trains the university's world language teacher candidates in foreign language teaching methodologies. Based on her teaching performance and work in curricular development, she received the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award in 2006 and the West Virginia University Foundation Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2008, of which she was one of five recipients university-wide.

Chalupa has served as vice-president and president of the West Virginia chapter of the AATG and as the chapter's Awards and Testing chair. She is an AATG TraiNDaF fellow (class of 2003) and has served as a consultant to the College Advanced Placement Program German Language Commission and a member of the advisory board for the ACTFL/ETS Praxis II Exam. One of her most rewarding experiences is as director of the WVU - Fulda University Study and Internship program, which she developed in 2006 and conducts for eight weeks in Germany each summer. Students in this program participate in a two-week intensive preparatory course, followed by a two-week exploratory internship. In the final four weeks they take part in seminars and extracurricular activities at the Hessen International Summer University in Fulda. For many students this is a life-changing experience, and program alums have gone on to pursue Master's degrees in Germany or graduate degrees at U.S. institutions, including Ohio State.

With regard to the diverse teaching, research, and service expectations in her role as faculty member at WVU, Cynthia Chalupa writes, "The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures prepared me well for

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the profession. The teacher training, course work, apprenticeships, and service activities available to me as a graduate student helped me to land on my feet when I entered the field. Based on the knowledge and practical experience I gained at OSU, I was able to develop the courses and programs necessary to enrich the study of German at WVU."

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### More Alumnae / Alumni News

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**Tom Baginski**, Ph.D. 1990, published "Vorwort" in Burkhard Sill, *Ausgewählte Gedichte 1974-2004 in Tagebuchform*, Frankfurt a.M.: Frankfurter Literaturverlag, 2010.

**Steve Benner**, Ph.D. 2000, is the Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

**Kristy Boney**, Ph.D 2006, completed her first tenure-track year as Assistant Professor of German in the Department of Foreign Languages at the University of Central Missouri. She is the only German professor at the department and is developing and strengthening the small program. This year she advised the Modern Language Club, organized a Foreign Film series, taught the first Holocaust in Literature and Film class at the university, and developed the first online German language class. The program has gone from 3 minors to 12, and she hopes to have the German major reinstated by Fall 2011. At the GSA Conference last October she presented "The New German Superhero . . . dressed in red, white, and blue? America's Comics as Weapons of Ideology in Post-War Germany." She has an article on Anna Seghers and Joseph Conrad forthcoming in *Seminar*, and is working on her book project on topographies in James Joyce and Uwe Johnson. When she isn't working, she is sampling Kansas City BBQ, and chasing after her toddler Conor who turned two in January. Except for "Gesundheit," he doesn't speak German

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yet, but Kristy hopes to remedy that when she visits Germany next summer for the UCM Study Abroad program.

**David Caldwell**, Ph.D. 1986, is Guest Editor of the Rocky Mountain Review of Language and Literature, Special Issue on Holocaust Studies, vol. 64, no. 1, spring 2010.

**David Connolly**, Ph.D. 2005, published *Early German Mining and Mining Law: Critical editions and English translations of Haselberg's "Der Ursprung gemeiner Bergrecht" and the Norwegian "Bergordnung" of 1540*. This volume brings together critical editions, English translations, and textual studies of two seminal early printed books in the history of German mining.

**Jenifer Cushman**, Ph.D. 1996, has been named an American Council on Education Fellow for 2010-11 within its "higher education leadership development program in preparing senior leaders to serve American colleges and universities." Currently Dean of the Center for International Education and Associate Professor of German at Juniata College in central Pennsylvania, and outgoing president of the Midwest Modern Language Association, she will spend her fellowship year shadowing the president of Manhattanville College in Purchase, NY, and will move to Purchase for 10 months with husband Matt Dingo and children Halina (8) and Jakub (5).

**Kathleen M. Hallihan**, Ph.D. 2005, has left her position as Director of Curriculum and Assessment in OSU's College of Arts and Sciences to become Director of Admissions and Student Affairs at the John Glenn School of Public Affairs. While launching its new undergraduate major in Public Affairs, she oversees recruitment, advising, retention, and career services for the Glenn School's Ph.D., Masters of Public Administration, and In-Career Masters of Arts in Public Affairs.

**Weijia Li**, Ph.D. 2009, is Assistant Professor of German at Western Illinois University (WIU). His book *China und China-Erfahrung in Leben und Werk von Anna Seghers* appeared in April 2010 with Peter Lang. He is running "Kaffeestunde," an idea adopted from GLL at OSU, and has organized the German Film Series "Terrorism and Pop-culture" at WIU, where German enrollments are the strongest since 2005. Starting in September 2010 he will be the webmaster of the International Brecht Society.

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**Michaela Peroutková**, Ph.D. 2005, is Assistant Professor of German at the University of Life Science in Prague, Czech Republic. Besides her regular German classes during the semester, every summer she teaches Central European culture to American students, some of them from OSU. In 2006 she published *Literarische und mündliche Erzählungen über die Vertreibung: Ein deutsch-tschechischer Vergleich* with the German publisher WiKu Verlag. In 2008 her book *Vyhnání: Jeho obraz v české a německé literatuře a ve vzpomínkách* (Expulsion: Its reflection in Czech and German literature and memory) appeared with the Czech Publishing House Libri. Currently she is working on a new book about German and Czech Jews focused on the postwar period and issues of nationalism and identity. For this purpose she has collected some fascinating interviews that will be part of the book.

**Sanjyot W. Selkirk**, M.A. 2005, has been working as a Metadata Specialist at OCLC where she is engaged in the acquisition and cataloging of foreign language materials for academic, public, and special libraries across the United States. She received her Master's in Library and Information Science from Kent State University in Spring 2009.

**Luke Springman**, Ph.D. 1989, published in 2007: *Carpe Mundum: German Youth Culture of the Weimar Republic*, Bd. 50: *Kinder- und Jugendkultur, -literatur und -medien; Theorie – Geschichte – Didaktik*, ed. Hans-Heino Ewers, Frankfurt/M.: Peter Lang. For summer 2010 he has a DAAD grant to conduct research in Berlin on the genre of the *Kulturfilm* for young people in the Weimar Republic, specifically films that have to do with Africa and Germany's colonial aspirations.

**Amy Kepple Strawser**, Ph.D. 1991, published her verse translation of Ursula Krechel's epic poem *Stimmen aus dem harten Kern* (2005) in the book-length bilingual edition: *Voices from the Bitter Core* (Austin, Texas: Host Publications, 2010), 313 pp.; this is the first English edition of poetry by Krechel who won the 2009 Joseph Breitbach prize for her novel *Shanghai fern von wo*. In November 2009 Strawser was organizer and moderator of the "German Women Writers" session at the Midwest MLA Convention in St. Louis, and will do the same at the MMLA in Chicago this November. She received a McGregor Grant for the development of a German women writers course in the Integrative Studies Gender and Sexuality dyad at Otterbein University in summer 2010, and with Garry Fourman (MA 1983), Chair of Modern Languages at Columbus State Community College, for the

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development, implementation and instruction of a hybrid German 104 course (classroom and online) at CSCC, 2008-present.

**Jennifer William**, Ph.D. 2002, along with husband Colin and older son Aidan, welcomed baby Kai Marston William into the world on March 27, 2010. This happy event followed on the heels of the publication of *Killing Time. Waiting Hierarchies in the 20<sup>th</sup>-Century German Novel* with Bucknell University Press. Jen is currently enjoying parental leave from Purdue University, where she will return to teaching in January 2011.

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, a letter, or visit our website at <http://germanic.osu.edu>, where you will find a submission form. As always, we very much look forward to hearing from you.

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### Recent Books by our Alumae/Alumni

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**Michaela Peroutková**, Ph.D. 2005, *Vyhnání: Jeho obraz v české a německé literatuře a ve vzpomínkách* (Expulsion: Its reflection in Czech and German literature and memory) (Praha: Libri, 2008).

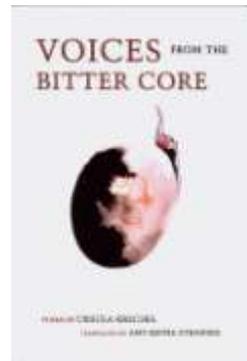
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**David Connolly**, Ph.D. 2005, *Early German Mining and Mining Law: Critical editions and English translations of Haselberg's "Der Ursprung gemeiner Bergrecht" and the Norwegian "Bergordnung" of 1540* (Saarbrücken: VDM Verlag Dr. Müller, 2010).



**Weijia Li**, Ph.D. 2009, *China und China Erfahrung in Leben und Werk von Anna Seghers, vol.53, German Life and Civilization* (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2010).

**Amy Kepple Strawser**, Ph.D. 1991, *Voices from the Bitter Core* (Austin, Texas: Host Publications, 2010), translation of Ursula Krechel, *Stimmen aus dem harten Kern* (2005).



**Jennifer William**, Ph.D. 2002, *Killing Time. Waiting Hierarchies in the 20<sup>th</sup>-Century German Novel* (Lewisburg: Bucknell University Press, 2010).

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## Friends of the Department

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  - Scholarships for first time study abroad students
- **Scandinavian Support Fund**
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- **Yiddish Program**
  - Conference Support
  - Faculty and Graduate Student mini grants

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