



Mitteilungen aus Madison

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN

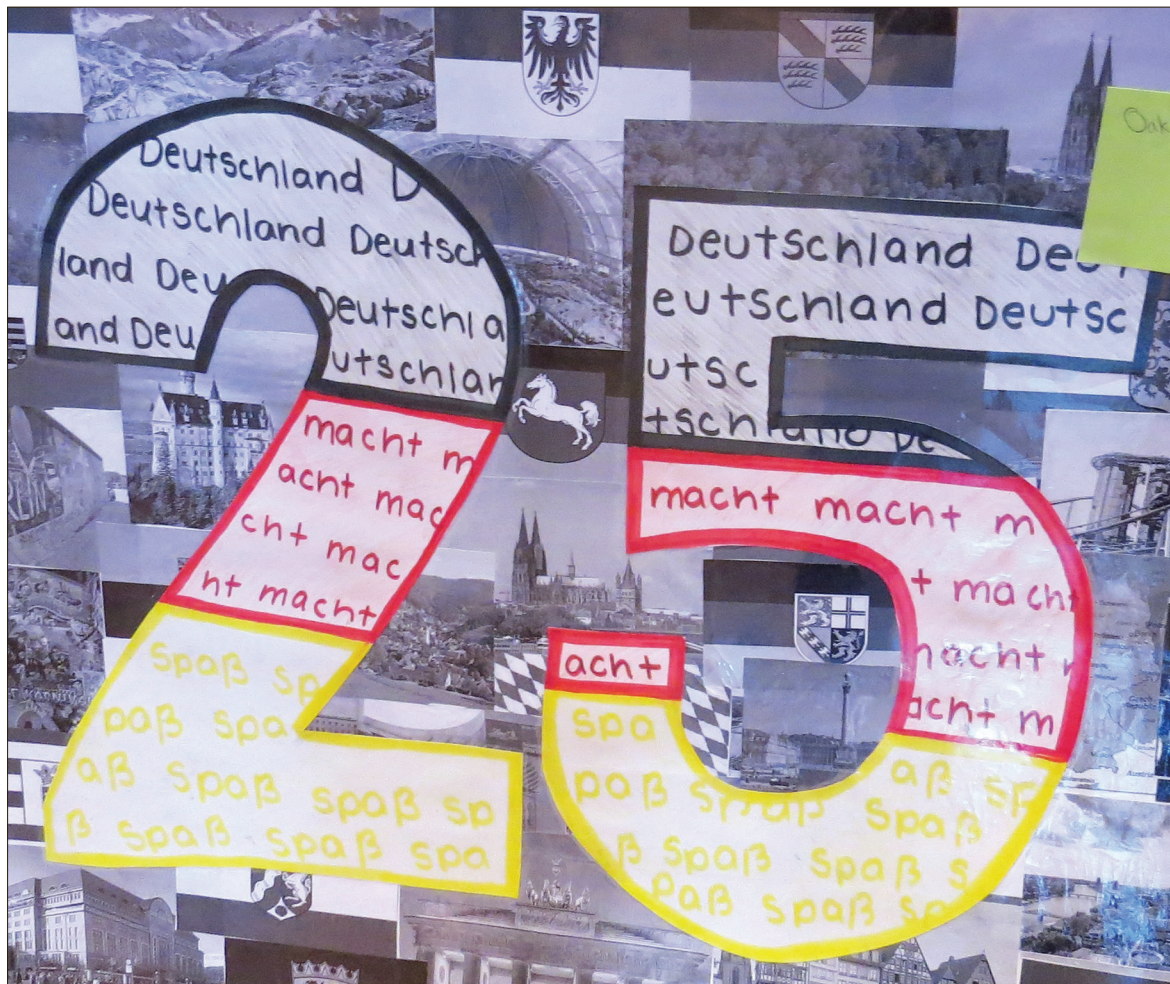
German Day 2014

CHARLES J. JAMES

Vierteljahrhundert!

Under this motto, our 25th annual German Day took place on Tuesday, April 8, 2014. This year German Day was held at Union South on the UW-Madison campus. Although Memorial Union on Lake Mendota served us well for 24 years, we like the new facilities at Union South, not far from Camp Randall Stadium, and hope to be able to host the event there again in future years.

German Day 2014 was attended by 38 Wisconsin schools (14 middle schools and 24 high schools). Two new schools joined us: the Madison Waldorf School and the German School of Madison. The contests we have organized in the past (Poetry, Spelling, Skits, Posters, DVDs, Music, and Pictionary) were repeated this year. The five top-performing middle schools were: Greenfield and Madison Waldorf School



A poster entry celebrating 25 years of German Day

(1st place, tied), Oak Creek East (2nd place), Glenn Hills (3rd place), Oak Creek West (4th place), and Beaver Dam (5th place). The top-scoring high schools were

De Forest (1st place), Mukwonago (2nd place), Nicolet (3rd place), Cedarburg (4th place), and Wauwatosa West and Beaver

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Letter from the Chair

Dear alumni and friends of the Department,

Warm greetings from Van Hise Hall. As I write this, the leaves on trees have begun to turn. By the time you read this, they will have fallen and we will have other reasons to reflect as we approach the December holidays and the new year. We hope that this year, and the next, find you well and happy.


The university is adapting to change from within and without. New leaders appointed in the last two years include: a new Chancellor, a new Provost, a new Dean of the College of Letters and Science, and a new Vice Provost and Dean of the Division of International Studies. In the Department of German and beyond, we hold fast to our core mission and values even as we adjust to new realities: in budgets, in students' post-college prospects, and in their interests. We are re-assessing our programs, streamlining them, and adopting innovative teaching strategies where appropriate. We are assessing our structures, and devising ways to make our administration more efficient. We are committed to maintaining and improving the quality of teaching and learning in our programs.

Our students inspire us. They love German, and they understand that the world is growing ever smaller. Some enroll

in a few courses in our department; a healthy number fulfill the requirements for the German certificate or the major. They are bright, engaged, and committed. We note some changes that give us pause: the stresses of the economy, which cause some students to work many hours at part-time jobs, and to accept substantial educational loans. While the evidence shows that the kind of learning—in the classroom and beyond—that our students gain here prepares them well for both life and the world of work, we aim to help them be intentional about preparing for their future.

I am grateful to you for supporting the mission of the Department, and for supporting our students. We value hearing how you are doing, and we appreciate your contributions to funding for our students. Please keep in touch!

With all best wishes,



Jolanda Vanderwal Taylor
jvtaylor@wisc.edu

German Day, continued from page 1
Dam (5th place, tied). Of special note is the fact that Nicolet High School, De Forest High School, and Mukwonago High School have attended German Day every

year since 1990, when we began, while Beaver Dam Middle School has been with us since 1996, when middle schools first joined German Day.

German Day continues to be one

of the major events sponsored by the Department of German, together with the Department of Curriculum & Instruction. Indeed, German Day brings more participants to campus than any other single event sponsored by either department. Many of the students who attend German Day return as university students in our courses, with many going on for a certificate or for a full major in German. We look forward to hosting German Day 2015 on April 22, 2015, again at Union South on the UW–Madison campus. As our extended motto this year says: *“neuer Ort – alte Freunde – immer ein Platz frei!”*

Questions, comments or news you’d like to share?

Contact us at german@mailplus.wisc.edu, jvtaylor@wisc.edu, or the mailing address below, or visit us online at <http://german.lss.wisc.edu>.

Mitteilungen aus Madison is the newsletter for alumni and friends of the Department of German at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, Jolanda Vanderwal Taylor, Chair.

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The 2014 German Department Awards Banquet



Proud Delta Phi Alpha inductees display their certificates.

Honoring students and donors

On April 22, 2014, the Department gathered to celebrate another successful year with faculty, students, and families. This year fourteen students were inducted into Delta Phi Alpha, the National German Honor society, and eleven

received awards for achievement at the intermediate and advanced levels. The banquet address was delivered with humor and insight by Professor Klaus Berghahn, whose reflections on interconnected community were confirmed by the discovery of common family history

amongst several of the audience members. The banquet is always a wonderful opportunity for faculty to thank the family members who have shaped and supported our students; this year was no exception!

Annual Department Picnic



Above: Joan Leffler and Katja Mohaupt-Hedden collaborate at the grill for the annual Department Picnic, held on September 4, 2014 at Burrows Park.

Top Right: Students, faculty, and families eat and socialize in the picnic shelter.

Bottom Right: Although Madison treated us to an early fall chill, the evening ended with a beautiful sunset.



Charles James (3)

Reflections from Joan Leffler

Our beloved Joan Leffler retired this past year after more than 40 years of service at the UW! Department members, family, and friends gathered to celebrate her retirement on December 6, 2013, at the University Club. We miss Joan very much and are happy to share her reflections on retirement—thank you, Joan!

Although I never achieved my dream as an undergraduate of becoming a Spanish professor, I nevertheless had the good luck to become, along with my husband, Rich, a “permanent resident” of Madison after finishing our degrees, and to be employed at the UW from 1972 until my retirement in January 2014.

In summer 1993, I spotted an announcement for the position of ‘Department Administrator in German’ tacked to a bulletin board at DoIT, where I worked at the time. I had no real experience in office management, budgeting, or interpreting state and university rules, as indicated in the job requirements. But I applied anyway. The idea of working in a foreign language department was too powerful to resist. I also (naively) envisioned that an academic department, and a foreign language department no less, would be irresistibly tranquil and stress-free by comparison with DoIT.

Somehow, Don Becker saw something in me. I was hired for the position, and changed careers from DoIT to the Department of German in August 1993. Despite discovering that things weren’t always as tranquil in a foreign language department as I’d imagined, I soon realized that at last I had found my true niche.

Feeling welcome and at home in the department had everything to do with the people: the friendly, energetic, and gifted faculty; hard-working department Chairs; lively and talented graduate students; and special office co-workers Mark Mears, Hope Hague, and Lisa Blochwitz. Some of my fondest memories



Joan greets well-wishers.



Joan with graduate students (clockwise from top left) Jessica Funtanilla, Sara Farsiu, Mélanie Yoeurp, Kristin Speth, Liubov Kostyukova, Alyson Sewell, and Karolina May-Chu after their tribute.

are of the laughs shared with many of you in the Department, including, and especially, during stressful times. All of you knew that the antidote to difficult situations and, on occasion, people, was a clever quip, or a witty, ironic comment that could dissolve us in laughter, and we could then overcome any hurdle. Maybe that was because we are a humanities department, and knowledge of the humanities enables one to handle life’s challenges more gracefully and effectively. Or, maybe it’s simply because there are a lot of wonderful people in the department.

Twenty years brought numerous technical administrative changes to campus, which staff had to master in order to do our jobs. We gained expertise in UW accounting conventions, payroll processing, international tax rules, immigration and visa-regulations, online timetable entry and, as the 1993 description of my job stated, the

ability to interpret and apply an ever-expanding set of regulations relating to all aspects of administration at the university. (Here is where knowledge of Kafka was good preparation.)

Retirement since January has brought relief from the ongoing worry that I neglected to perform a critical task or overlooked a deadline. I must say that I have settled into a calmer routine and do not really miss the work. But I **do** very much miss the people who passed through 818 Van Hise each day, many of whom are long-standing friends. Twenty years in the Department of German taught me not only useful administrative skills, but more importantly, it gave me an awareness of how much the humanities matter and deserve to be maintained and supported at the UW. I owe a debt of gratitude to the Department of German, whose members always made me feel worthwhile as an employee, and who created an environment for the most rewarding job anyone could ask for.

NEW FACULTY PROFILE: Philip Hollander



I joined the Department of German at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in the fall of 2013 as an assistant professor specializing in nineteenth and twentieth century Jewish literature and culture. I come to the department after teaching at Tulane University and in UW–Madison’s Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies; my appointment is split between the Department of German and the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies. Awarded a Ph.D. from Columbia University in Modern Hebrew literature, my graduate training and research focused on the late nineteenth and early twentieth century efflorescence of Hebrew and Yid-

dish literatures in East Europe, the United States, and Palestine/Israel. Having taught courses at UW that treat this phenomena in comparative perspective, as well as courses dedicated to its Hebrew component, I am pleased to finally have the opportunity to teach stand-alone courses on Yiddish literature and culture. This year I am teaching European Yiddish literature and culture in the fall and American Yiddish literature and culture in the spring. If the undergraduates and auditors who studied European Yiddish literature and culture with me during the spring of 2014 are any indication, this sequence will prove thrilling to its enrollees and me. Currently, I am completing a book manuscript entitled *From Schlemiel to Sabra: Contested Masculinity in Early Twentieth Century Palestinian Hebrew Culture* that charts Hebrew literature’s role in Israeli culture’s pre-state development. When not at work, I can usually be found with my two young sons who have a knack for clothing decoration (mine and theirs).

Introducing Katja Mohaupt-Hedden, Administrative Coordinator

I have worked for the Department of German as an Administrative Coordinator since January 2014.

I was born in Cologne and raised in Dreieich, Germany (near Frankfurt am Main). I completed an Accounting Tax Assistant Degree from the “Steuerberater Kammer Hessen” and went on to complete my studies with an Accounting Degree from the Cologne Tax-Accounting School. I worked for almost ten years as an accountant/tax accountant in Germany before moving to Madison with my husband and son.

Prior to working in the Department of German at UW–Madison, my professional career was in bookkeeping and banking.

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family. We all like travelling and the outdoors. Our weekends are filled by riding bikes in the summer and cross-country skiing in the winter.



RETURNING FACULTY PROFILE: Pamela Potter



As a returning member of the Department of German (I held a joint appointment in German and Music from 1997 to 2004), I am thrilled to now call the department my full-time home. I am looking forward to reviving courses I taught in the past, such as “Berlin Culture in the Twentieth Century” and “Nazi Culture,” as well as developing new courses on German-Jewish relations and Yiddish language and culture. I came to the University of Wisconsin with a Ph.D. degree in historical musicology from Yale, after five years in a tenure-track position at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. My first book, which looked at the discipline of musicology and its negotiations with the Nazi state, was translated into German and is now being translated into Portuguese and Chinese. I also co-edited an interdisciplinary volume on music and German national identity, and my work has continued to position me more firmly within German studies. My newest book, now nearing completion, analyzes how we negatively regard “Nazi culture” (especially the visual and performing arts), and investigates how our perceptions were and continue to be strongly influenced by German exiles, the Cold War, and the 1960s student rebellions. I now also have the honor of succeeding Marc Silberman as director of the Center of German and European Studies, and in the year since joining the Department full time, I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to collaborate closely with colleagues in a wide variety of teaching, research, and service capacities. University jargon refers to my new relationship with the Department as my “tenure home,” but I really do feel very much at home in so many ways.

Faculty News — A Selection of Activities and Publications (2014)

Hans Adler, Halls-Bascom Professor

The year 2013–14 was filled with many rewarding activities, conferences, publications, and preparations for further research and teaching. It was a particular pleasure to prepare the Wisconsin Workshop on “Anschauung/Anschauung/Anschaulichkeit” together with Sabine Gross, and to host the participants in Madison (Sabine and I are preparing the conference volume). Otherwise, the most challenging conference presentations during the year were the ones in Konstanz at a conference about “Wissenstexturen” on “Wissen als Gnoseotop und Idylle,” and in Paris in a neurosciences seminar on “Thinking/Imagining the Limits of Thought/Imagination,” which had a kind of sequel at a conference on visualization at the Humboldt Universität with “What Does Gregor Samsa Look Like?” I enjoyed very much my explorations into the field of neuroaesthetics, which allow me to uncover some amazing new perspectives within my field of 18th-century research. Besides five articles, two edited volumes were published, the 2011 Wisconsin Workshop volume on *Aisthesis and Noesis* (the co-organization of the conference as well as the publication with our alumna Lynn L. Wolff was a great pleasure!), and the first volume of the *Gesammelte Schriften* by 18th-century philosopher Johann Georg Sulzer. The first volume presents Sulzer’s overview of the state of art in the sciences in the 18th-century. I am enjoying very much the cooperation on this edition with Professor Élisabeth Décultot (Paris). Collaborative projects with colleagues from the U.S. and internationally are always great fun!

Salvatore Calomino

In addition to work with early manuscripts and prints, Calomino has focused on several topics dealing with music theory, philosophy, and literature, and their importance for composers and conductors from the eighteenth century up to the generation of Gustav Mahler. Earlier this year, Calomino participated in a colloquium on Mahler in the eyes of his contemporaries, and completed an article on William Ritter’s 1905 essays on Mahler’s symphonic output at that time; a further project and article deals with Mahler’s reading in music theory and philosophy—medieval to modern—as a means to approaching his letters and compositional process in his early symphonies. Much of this work is

being conducted using resources of the Newberry Library, Chicago, where Calomino has been Scholar-in-Residence for the past several years. Most recently, Calomino was invited to contribute the article on “E.T.A. Hoffmann” to Oxford Bibliographies in Music, OUP.

Monika Chavez

During the last academic year, I directed the Ph.D. Program in Second Language Acquisition (SLA), an interdisciplinary program to which the German department contributes with faculty resources. Students in the SLA Ph.D. program are drawn to our department because of its innovative pedagogical practices. Our German grads make up the largest single contingent among the sizable group of SLA Ph.D. minors. I am happy to say that German is one of only three language departments on campus that supports an academic specialization in SLA, thanks to our own faculty resources and excellent collaborative ties that reach beyond the department. In fact, our department has a vibrant group of graduate student researchers in SLA that has gained a few new members this fall. We are pleased to note that SLA-interested students in our department published in peer-refereed journals and presented at major research conferences. Their projects, for example, explore the intersection between learners’ self- and other-perceived identities and learning behaviors and motivations; perceived and mediated cultural connotations of expressions of affection and friendship; learner agency during study abroad and its connection with language use patterns; the use of technologies by learners; and perceptions of reality-TV interactions by Germans, Americans, and American learners of German.

Hannah Eldridge

This past year I once more taught courses introducing German Literature and on the case study; in spring I had the chance to teach the Senior Seminar to our outgoing majors. It was a treat to see how much our students learn in their four years here and to watch them take their first steps out into the world. Research-wise, I had the privilege of taking part in the UW’s “First Book” program in March: senior scholars from on and off campus read my forthcoming manuscript and gave invaluable feedback. This spring I’ll be on leave to research a second project, diving into 18th-cen-

tury arguments over the relationship of music and literature.

Sabine Gross

Are mysteries and detective fiction worth “literary” attention? Having circled beautiful Lake Michigan on a camping trip this summer, I am returning to this question and others in my 2014 research sabbatical. Much as I enjoy the day-to-day bustle in the Department and miss teaching, sabbatical time is a welcome opportunity to pursue research questions, spend time in Germany (including the *Deutsche Bibliothek* in Frankfurt am Main, where I’ll return later this fall), accept invitations to give talks, and have extended discussions with colleagues in various places. But I’m already looking forward to spring 2015, teaching our theater course, and producing another German Play (performed in early May 2015; information will be posted on the departmental website).

Jost Hermand, William F. Vilas Research Professor and Professor Emeritus

Jost Hermand continues as chief editor of the series *German Life and Civilization* (Oxford: Peter Lang). In fall 2013, he gave a seminar on *Brechts Bearbeitungen der Weltliteratur* at the Humboldt University in Berlin, and in spring 2014 he taught a lecture course on Nazi Culture with Marc Silberman at UW–Madison. He gave six invited lectures on *Gruene Utopien in Deutschland* (Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut, Heidelberg, and Leibniz University, Hannover), *Die Zeitschrift Tendenzen* (Guernica-Gesellschaft, Karlsruhe), *Der Alldeutsche Verband* (Institut fuer Kultur und Politik, Wien), *Wege in den Krieg – Wege zu Hitler* (Europäische Kulturtage, Karlsruhe) and *Imperialistische Stimmungsmache vor 1914* (ver.di Gewerkschaftshaus, Berlin) and published two articles on Hans Fallada’s *Kleiner Mann – was nun?* and Bertolt Brecht’s *Schweyk im zweiten Weltkrieg*. He also brought out two new books: *Freunde, Promis, Kontrahenten. Politbiographische Momentaufnahmen* (Koeln: Boehlau, 2013) and *Vorbilder. Partisanenprofessoren im geteilten Deutschland* (Koeln: Boehlau, 2014). At the moment he is working on a study *Das liebe Geld. Eigentumsverhältnisse in der deutschen Literatur*.

Rob Howell

Since last year I have been serving as director of the Language Institute, a unit dedicated to the support and promotion of the study of languages on our campus and beyond. I have also been chairing a task force charged with developing a vision for the future of the language departments in Van Hise given the current and future challenges we face in higher education. This past summer I had the opportunity to present research at a conference in Utrecht in collaboration with former graduate students Todd Ehresmann (Berlin), Jennifer Hendriks (Canberra) and Mike Olson (Utrecht) relating to our Corpus History of Dutch research project. It was great to have a chance to see each other in person!

Charles J. James

I continue as Program Coordinator of the World Language Education program in Curriculum & Instruction, working with teachers of Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Latin, and Spanish. I am still a member of the Governance Council of the Verona Area International School in Fitchburg, faculty advisor to the UW German Club, member on the advisory committee of the Max Kade Institute, co-organizer of the AATG Wisconsin Chapter’s and Northern Illinois Chapter’s Immersion Weekend for German teachers, a Reader for AP German, and Secretary of the Madison-Freiburg Sister City Committee. I also organized German Day for the 25th—and for me, last—time this year; Jeanne Schueller takes over next year. Finally, I am the recipient of the “Post Secondary Outstanding German Educator Award” for 2014 from the AATG. It has been a busy year!

Sonja Klocke

Last fall, I took over Stockwerk Deutsch, and I enjoy being in close contact with students who are interested in German beyond the scope of the classroom setting. Academically, the year was stimulating, too. I presented at the German Studies Association Conference, published an article in the *German Studies Review*, and finished my book manuscript. Most importantly, I greatly enjoy teaching students here at UW. I took particular pleasure in offering a class on Contemporary German Women Writers that was cross-listed with Gender and Women’s

Studies. It attracted a variety of students with diverse backgrounds, and it was wonderful to see how they benefitted from collaboration in class. I am now excited about the new academic year!

Cora Lee Kluge

My current research project concerns the Milwaukee German Theater (MGT). Last year I made presentations on this at the German Studies Association conference in Denver and at the symposium of the Society for German-American Studies in Milwaukee. One of the German Department’s outstanding undergraduates, Calla Buttke, was awarded a prestigious Welton Honors Summer Sophomore Research Apprenticeship to work on the project this past summer, and she located, scanned, and organized more than 1,600 individual newspaper reports of the theater’s activities. Our research began with the creation of an online catalog of the unique Trostel Collection of German Theater Scripts (held at the Milwaukee Public Library), and this coming spring the Department of German is generating interest by producing Christian Essellen’s *Bekehrung vom Temperenzwahn* (1853), originally performed at the MGT. In addition, I continue to teach an English-language course entitled “The German Immigration Experience,” and have translated a variety of German-American texts into English so that they can reach wider audiences.

Weijia Li

I have continued to work in my dual capacities as both a faculty member within the Department of German and the director of Global Higher Education M.S. Program at the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. I enjoyed teaching a new course “China aus deutscher Sicht,” focusing on German perception of China reflected in literature, art history, and mass media. Regarding my research, I published an article on the collaboration between Chinese and German left-wing activists in the Weimar Republic. This past summer, I was in Shanghai conducting archival research for my book on Jewish refugees in wartime Shanghai. Later, I was invited to deliver a talk on the Shanghai Jewish community at the Greenfield Summer Institute hosted by the UW–Madison Mosse-Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies.

Mark Loudon

This past year I completed the manuscript for my book, *Pennsylvania Dutch: The Story of an American Language*. The book has a companion website, <http://www.padutch.net>, which will feature a number of primary documents referred to in the book. During the 2014 summer semester I was a DAAD guest professor at the University of Freiburg and taught three courses on German-American linguistics there. Aside from my responsibilities as Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of German, I continue to co-direct the Max Kade Institute (MKI) for German-American Studies and lead the MKI-sponsored Pennsylvania Dutch Documentation Project. We at MKI are excited to have now moved to the fourth floor of the University Club, which is located on central campus. In conjunction with my MKI duties, I am involved in a number of outreach activities related mainly to the Amish and Pennsylvania Dutch, including legal interpretation and consultation.

B. Venkat Mani

In 2013–14, I developed and offered a new graduate seminar, “Comparative World Literature,” with students from several literature departments, and a new undergraduate seminar, “Bücher, Leser, Bibliotheken” for our German majors. I organized the visit of the famous Turkish-German author Emine Sevgi Özdamar in the spring semester. With my colleague Caroline Levine (English), I received the Andrew Mellon Foundation’s Sawyer Seminar Grant in Comparative Cultural Studies for the project, “Bibliomigrancy: World Literature in the Public Sphere” (2014–16). The grant funds two graduate students and a series of visitors, lectures, and conversations on campus on the theme of “Bibliomigrancy:” the physical and virtual migration of books and narratives across borders and languages. I also finished work on my book project, *Borrowing Privileges: World Literature and Germany’s Pact with Books (1800–2010)*, and the manuscript is currently under review.

Sabine Mödersheim

My research focused on visual culture and intellectual history and the digital humanities, asking how Warburg’s *Mnemosyne-Atlas*

Continued on next page

Faculty News, continued from page 7
and Benjamin's *Arcades Project* could help us understand new social media tools for the dissemination and organization of digital archives, such as Tumblr, Pinterest, Instagram, etc. With Jost Hermand, I co-edited a volume on secret societies with papers from the Humboldt-kolleg we organized in 2013, and I co-edited a volume with Christine Probes on *The Art of Persuasion: Emblems and Propaganda* for the series Glasgow Emblem Studies, exploring the function of emblematic images in political propaganda, e.g. sites of memory, flags, symbolic gestures, and social media images of the recent uprisings in North Africa. As a member of the Environmental Futures group at CGES and in community outreach, I continue to explore sustainable urban planning and Germany's *Energiewende*.

Joe Salmons, Lester “Smoky” Seifert Professor

The most exciting thing over the last year has been working on various publications and public and scholarly presentations driven by collaboration with students and colleagues.

I'm learning tons from them about language and outreach. In addition to recent articles and chapters, *The Oxford Handbook of Historical Phonology*, with Patrick Honeybone, has appeared with Oxford Handbooks Online (hard-copy coming). A second edition of my *History of German* (Oxford) should out be in the spring.

Jeanne Schueller

As always, it's been a busy year. My textbook *Cineplex: Intermediate German Language and Culture Through Film* appeared in January. I shifted the focus of my German film and culture course to the exploration of culture through food, a theme which has sparked enormous creativity (including cooking!) among my students in their projects. Film in the language curriculum is also the topic of several conference presentations I have given this year. Spending the summer in Freiburg gave me ample opportunities to find new materials (and eat at the Markthalle). This fall ushered in my second year as German language coordinator/TA supervisor. I continue to learn, and find it rewarding to work with such a great group of TAs! I am especially

excited to have been co-organizer of a visit this October by German actress Teresa Weißbach (*Sonnenallee*) and director Carsten Fiebler (*Sushi in Suhl*) in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Marc Silberman

During the past year I continued as director of the DAAD-funded Center for German and European Studies, offering in that context an interdisciplinary graduate seminar on issues of translation and knowledge transfer that brought together six UW faculty to discuss their current research with the seminar group. I was pleased to see several editing projects completed in the past year: *Memory and Postwar Memorials* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013), *DEFA at the Crossroads of East German and International Film Culture* (DeGruyter, 2014), and two volumes of Brecht translations: *Brecht on Theatre* and *Brecht on Performance* (Bloomsbury-Methuen, 2014). I was honored to spend summer 2014 in Berlin as a senior fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung, working at the archive of the Akademie der Künste.

CGES and DAAD: A Successful Partnership

MARC SILBERMAN

The Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) has supported the Center for German and European Studies (CGES) since 1998, enabling it to organize seminars, workshops, conferences, and lecture series, as well as to fund faculty and graduate student research related to German topics. The current two-year funding cycle supports the work of three faculty research groups: Environmental Futures; Translation, Transformation, Transposition (Trans³); and Citizenship, Modernity, and Inclusion. During the academic year 2013–14, the CGES co-sponsored German department and campus events in a number of ways, including the residency of German-Jewish poet-writer Esther Dischereit (Sept.–Oct. 2013); the 46th Wisconsin Workshop on “Anschauung und Anschaulichkeit;” and the Trans³ speakers series with guests Stephan Schroeder (Universität Köln), Paul Jaskot (Depaul University, Chicago), Friedrich Geiger (Universität Hamburg), Michael Gordin (Princeton University), Judith Kaplan (Max Planck Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte), and writer Emine Özdamar (Berlin). In addition, CGES director Marc Silberman offered an interdisciplinary graduate seminar on translation and translationality in spring 2014 that also drew on the expertise of the Trans³ faculty research collaborative. The Environmental Futures group organized the environmental film festival “Tales from Planet Earth” in November 2013, with about 20% of the films from German-speaking countries. Other events co-sponsored by the CGES included a lecture by former U.S. Ambassador to Germany J.D. Bindenagel on the restitution of stolen art by the Nazis, additional lectures on the Eurozone crisis, migrant women in Berlin, Jewish refugees in Western Eu-



Erik Kirschbaum, a UW alumnus and now a journalist in Berlin, was hosted by the CGES on Oct. 17, 2013, to speak about his book *Rocking the Wall: Bruce Springsteen in East Germany*.

rope, American military engagement on the intra-German border during the Cold War, and data security in the context of access to German “big data.” Workshops co-sponsored by the CGES focused on U.S.-European trade discussions (TTIP) and on gender equality in the European Union. In fall 2014 the CGES contributed to two major conferences: the 47th Wisconsin Workshop organized by the Trans³ faculty and the Environmental Futures’ “Cabinet

of Curiosities Slam” in conjunction with the Rachel Carson Center at the Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität München (the slam winners’ projects will be included in the Anthropocene exhibit at the Deutsches Museum München starting in December 2014). The CGES hopes to renew its funding from DAAD for another two-year cycle in 2015-2016, helping to buttress the trans-Atlantic bridge and enrich European studies at the University of Wisconsin.

Freiburg Sister City Update

SABINE MÖDERSHEIM

Returning students from the Academic Year in Freiburg Program continue to be actively engaged with the Madison-Freiburg Sister City group. This year, *Freiburg Stipend* recipients shared their experiences as students in the “Green City” at the annual dinner.

Each year, the Freiburg Stipend is given by the City of Freiburg to promote sister city relations between Madison and Freiburg. Awardees use social media to share their experiences in Freiburg with the Madison community. They participate in sister city activities both in Freiburg and after their return to Madison, and they help to promote the sister city relationship and study abroad in Freiburg.

2012–13 award recipient Sadie Voet now serves as DAAD Young Ambassador (<http://www.daad.org/ya2013–14#v1>). The German Exchange Service’s Young



Green City: Freiburg from neighboring Merzhausen

Ambassadors are undergraduate students from North America who recently studied abroad in Germany and help promote study in Germany at their home universities. They help to inspire their fellow

students by giving them useful tips on how to enjoy and make use of their own stay in Germany.

Please visit the Sister City website for more information: **madisonfreiburg.org**.

The 2014 GDGSA conference:

“Taking out the Trash: Assessing and Re-assessing Value in German and Dutch Studies”

This year’s conference took place in the fall semester on October 17–18, 2014. The conference explored the concept of trash, both literally and metaphorically, as it relates to German and Dutch Studies.

The GDGSA and the Department at large were pleased to welcome Dr. Heather I. Sullivan from Trinity University in San Antonio as the keynote speaker. Dr. Sullivan’s work is in the environmental humanities, with an emphasis on Goethe, ecocriticism, and international climate change novels. She presented a paper

titled “The Dark Pastoral and the Anthropocene: Trash, Waste, and Value in the Environmental Humanities.”

The conference featured twelve presenters from seven universities, including Princeton University, New York University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Michigan, Northwestern University, University of Köln, and, of course, UW–Madison. It was a great turnout for the new date and a promising sign of things to come!

ALUMNA PROFILE: Jennifer Redmann, Ph.D. in German Literature, 1996

Q: Tell us about yourself.

A: I am currently Associate Professor of German and Chair of the Department of German and Russian at Franklin & Marshall College, a small liberal arts college (2,400 students) in Lancaster, PA, just west of Philadelphia. Prior to joining the faculty at Franklin & Marshall, I held positions at the University of Kentucky, Ripon College, and Kalamazoo College. I initially moved from Kalamazoo to Franklin & Marshall as a visitor to lead a restructuring of the German curriculum and reinvigorate the department, but it soon turned into a tenured position. Franklin & Marshall has deep German roots. It is located in the heart of Pennsylvania German country and was founded in 1787 by German immigrant theologians with a gift of 200 pounds from Benjamin Franklin, who sought to “Americanize” the Germans in the area. Instruction was conducted in both German and English until the Civil War.

My husband, Kevin Brady, is a painter and teaches painting, drawing, and collage courses in the art department at Franklin & Marshall. We met when we were both teaching at Ripon College in the late 1990s. We live in a classic late-19th-century three-story brick rowhouse in downtown Lancaster. Lancaster is a charming, vibrant small city and we feel very fortunate to live here.

Q. Do you use German in your career or day-to-day life?

A: Absolutely! Every day. One of the things I love about teaching at a small liberal arts college is that I get to teach at all levels of the curriculum and witness students’ ever-expanding linguistic abilities as they move through the curriculum over the course of four years. I am so grateful that teaching was such a big part of my graduate education in the German Department at UW–Madison, especially that we were allowed great independence



as teaching assistants. I learned a lot from Charles James and Monika Chavez, but also from my fellow TAs. I am still collaborating with fellow students Pennylyn Dykstra-Pruim (Calvin College) and Gisela Hoecherl-Alden (Boston University). In fact, Gisela has organized an AATG-sponsored panel for the 2015 MLA convention (“Analyzing Cultural Memory in a Multi-Layered Language and Literature Curriculum”) featuring an all-Madison panel: me, Peter Höyng (Emory University), and Tim Malchow (Valparaiso University—he did his M.A. in Madison and completed his Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota). The panel has been chosen for inclusion in the Presidential Theme, “Negotiating Sites of Memory,” and will be featured on the MLA website this fall.

My focus on teaching (alongside a literature Ph.D.) during my years as a graduate student has led me to a kind of two-pronged research agenda as a faculty member. One line of my research is focused on German language teaching and curriculum, the other on German literary and cultural studies. I have published a number of articles related to language pedagogy and curricular reform, as well as a writing textbook that I co-authored with Pennylyn Dykstra-Pruim, *Schreiben lernen: A Writing Guide for Learners of German* (Yale University Press, 2011). Penny and I are now working as series editors with Yale University Press to create writing guides for other languages. Parallel to that work, I am

in the midst of a book project focused on German, British, and American girls’ literature published during the First World War. I hope to have it done before the World War I centenary commemorations end in 2018!

Q. Do you have any favorite memories of your time in the German Department or at UW–Madison in general?

- A: Favorite/most memorable memories:
1. Acting in a scene from Franz Xaver Kroetz’ *Furcht und Hoffnung der BRD* (with aforementioned Tim Malchow) during my first year in the Department (1991)
 2. Nancy Kaiser’s course on women’s literature (1993 or 1994)
 3. An evening poetry reading group led by Silvia Schlenstedt, wife of visiting faculty member from the Humboldt University Dieter Schlenstedt (1992), which led to...
 4. Sunday morning brunch and poetry reading groups hosted by various graduate students, most notably Laura Tate and Martin Kagel (University of Georgia)
 5. My first-ever conference presentation, at the 1993 Wisconsin Workshop on “Postmodern Concepts of Totality,” with fellow students Thomas Jung and Gisela Hoecherl-Alden. (I still remember how incredibly nervous I was!)
 6. Conversations with Richard Page (now at Penn State) in our shared office in that weird little building across from Union South. (Is that building still standing?)
 7. Last, but certainly not least: happy hours on the Terrace!

We are always interested in hearing from alumni who would like to share their experiences with *Mitteilungen*—you don’t need to use German every day to contribute! Email heldridge@wisc.edu if interested.

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Please contact me anytime with your questions and suggestions. I am happy to talk to you!
Jolanda Vanderwal Taylor, Department Chair
608-262-1844 or 608-262-2193 or jvtaylor@wisc.edu

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Stockwerk Deutsch

After her first year as faculty director of Stockwerk Deutsch, **Sonja Klocke** is happy to report that thanks to the great collaboration with both the German Department's Teaching Assistants and last year's Graduate Language Program Coordinator, Arne Ulbrich, a lively new bunch of "Stockis" was recruited for 2014–2015. Genevieve Burgess, Ethan Gabrielse, Rebecca Grzenia, Danielle Hurst, Ellen Light, and Micah Roberts moved into the old Adams Hall dormitory on the shore of Lake Mendota this fall. They are all excited to be in this residential German immersion community, and to live here with **Barbara Jedele**, the Graduate Language Program Coordinator (GLPC). Barbara, an M.A. student in the Professional French Masters Program at UW-Madison, grew up in Bavaria and studied abroad in Freiburg through the Academic Year in Freiburg program. In addition to French, she is studying International Education in the



hopes of working in study abroad administration. After a warm welcome including traditional "Schultüten" she made for the "Stockis," she is now excited to organize a variety of activities, and is looking forward to being joined for some of these activities (e.g., communal dinners) by guests from the Department of German and Stockwerk alumni.

In addition to the one-credit seminar Sonja Klocke teaches on "Romeo and Juliet in the GDR," the "Stockis" will enjoy regular dinners, movie screenings, cooking nights, arts and crafts events, German-themed trips in the greater Madison area, and regular German tutoring planned by Barbara. Everyone is looking forward to a fun and educational year during which long-lasting friendships will be formed.