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# **German Studies Association Newsletter**

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**Volume XLI**

**Number 1**

**Spring 2016**

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## Letter from the President

Dear GSA Members,

It is to point out the obvious to write that a lot has happened since the appearance of the winter newsletter. For those of you who are new to the organization – and there are wonderfully many of you! – I’ll start by letting you know that the GSA had the beginnings of a lively exchange on the topics of refugees, ongoing racist discrimination and violence, and democracy in the German-speaking countries of Central Europe. You can read it here:

<https://www.thegsa.org/news/index.html#Letter>

My expectation after I received two very different responses to my newsletter column and decided to post them on our website, was that I might receive many more. My plan was to post those, too. As it turns out, none did. I wonder if we were all too stunned by the speed of new developments or were feeling too busy with all the things our professional lives require us to do. I know that some of our thinking-energy went into planning panels, roundtables, and seminars for GSA 2016.

Though written two months ago and specifically before the deal cut between the EU and Turkey, before the Brussels attacks, and before whatever else will transpire in the time elapsing between me writing this and you reading it, is a short text I titled “Beyond Fear.” I tried to formulate some additional thoughts on the topics I had raised in the newsletter and some developments in my thinking as a result of the letters it inspired. (So thank you again, letterwriters!) This second text of mine is part of the response of a writers’ collective to the threat at that time – now reality – of countries closing internal European borders. (The website was a joint initiative of the Neues Institut für Dramatisches Schreiben and the Südtiroler Künstlerbund.) I would be happy to get feedback on it or to learn that this statement was used to launch further discussion: <http://www.utopiaeuropa.info/Statement9.html>

Some recent tragic news about camps in Turkey motivated me to write this further reflection. I guess one point we could add to our discussions is how fluid the situation is and how each additional piece of information inflects what we’re thinking:

<http://cognoscenti.wbur.org/2016/05/17/syrian-refugee-camp-nizp-turkey-irene-kacandes>

I had hoped to write yet another update of my thinking for this column, but my head is in a whirl from all the recent twists and turns. It is clear to me, however, that much more needs to be discussed among us, including methodology when analyzing current events and breaking news. My fervent hope is that as we travel between events at GSA 2016, we will indeed continue to exchange thoughts on the critically urgent and tangled subjects of refugees, systemic racism, migration, pluralistic societies, democracy and the future of the EU, as well as strategies for intellectuals to contribute to discussion in the public sphere.

Another albeit more narcissistic topic of conversation can be the history and future of our organization. Many of you already know that GSA 2016 will mark the 40th instantiation of our conference. There are many special events and opportunities to help us celebrate and to help us think through how we want to go forward, not the least of which will be the 40th anniversary issue of the *German Studies Review*, which, if all goes as planned, will already have arrived in our mailboxes before we depart for southern California. Editor Sabine Hake, her co-editors and

issue contributors hope that many of us will have read the issue by the time we arrive at the conference (plane reading anyone?) and that the subjects raised there, too, will become fodder for our corridor – or in the case of Town and Country Resort: garden discussions.

Our organization has grown enormously since its beginnings. With a larger membership come greater technology and staffing needs. We have launched a major fundraising effort so that we, among other necessities, can afford to pay a full-time executive director. Our secretary-treasurer Jerry Fetz and his committee have already broached donations with a number of different types of possible donors. As a sign to those donors that the organization is vital to the membership we have also launched specifically the “\$40 for 40 years” campaign. I want to thank the now hundreds of you who have contributed. And I appeal to those of you who have not yet donated to please do so. Again, it would be enormously helpful to other fundraising efforts if we could one day soon say: “and look: 100% of our membership voluntarily contributes to the organization.” If you cannot afford forty dollars, please contribute any amount as a sign of your solidarity with the campaign. If you can afford much more than forty dollars, why, please consider making another or a larger gift. Contributions, by the way, can be made easily on our website ([thegsa.org](http://thegsa.org)) or at the conference itself.

By way of demonstrating our financial need, I mention for those of you who don’t realize it, that the organization has purchased enough LED projectors so that all rooms where we convene will have them. We still must pay fees to the venue for projection, and the machines we purchased are not yet fully paid off (well, money was borrowed from another source). So, please, and in the spirit of solidarity with your fellow members, do not neglect to pay the small fee we are asking from those of you who will indeed use the projectors (this can be done when you register).

I am very excited about the positive comments I’ve received with regard to our newly instituted Arts Night on the first Thursday of the conference. We will be offering film viewings and readings once again this year, so please show your love and support of the arts by making your travel arrangements to accommodate your participation in Arts Night.

I have tried to make broad membership participation a theme of my presidency. In this year of our fortieth anniversary, as well as of presidential elections, I urge you each to vote in our upcoming election of three members to the Executive Board and an officer, the individual who will then serve as incoming Vice President and subsequently President. In the spirit of democracy, please attend our annual General Meeting (late Thursday afternoon). This is your chance to hear more details about our affairs and new decisions, as well as to voice your own view about a GSA matter.

On a final note for now: the more of us who participate in the running of the organization, the stronger and more responsive an organization we become. I hope some of you will get in touch with me or rising President, Mary Lindemann, to offer your services on one of our many GSA committees like the article or book prize committees, the nominations committee or indeed the program committee that works so hard to make each conference intellectually stimulating and as inclusive as possible. My huge thanks to all those who responded to my requests to serve over the last two years.

I am looking forward to seeing you in San Diego,

Peace,

Irene Kacandes  
GSA President  
The Dartmouth Professor of German Studies and Comparative Literature

## Letter from the Executive Director

Dear members and friends of the German Studies Association,

As I write this, we are getting closer to our fortieth anniversary, which we plan to celebrate in a big way when we meet in late September at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center in San Diego.

In the fall of 1976 a small group of individuals, including young assistant or associate professors involved with the study of the German-speaking world, met in Professor Gerald Kleinfeld's back yard in Tempe, Arizona. They were attending a meeting of the Rocky Mountain Social Science Association. In Gerry Kleinfeld's back yard they came up with an idea for a regional association of scholars to be called the Western Association for German Studies, or WAGS. David Kitterman of Northern Arizona University was elected first president, Reece Kelley of Fort Lewis College was chosen vice president, and Gerald Kleinfeld became secretary/treasurer. From the very beginning, WAGS was specifically interdisciplinary: Though the founders included several historians, Ingeborg Carlson, a Germanist from Arizona State University, was also part of the founding group and served on its Executive Committee. Kleinfeld quickly arranged for membership forms to be printed, returned to the meeting of the Rocky Mountain Social Science Association, and immediately signed up the first members. And so our Association was born.

In the forty years that have elapsed, WAGS became the German Studies Association, and now it includes over 2400 members from over two dozen countries. It grew into the largest scholarly association in the world devoted to the inter- and multidisciplinary study of the German-speaking world in all its facets and dimensions. We have gone from the self-publication of our journal to a long and very fruitful collaboration with Johns Hopkins University Press, and we have a thriving publication series (*Spektrum*) published by Berghahn Books. With the Free University of Berlin, we cosponsor the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies, which has produced well over 300 alumni in the past quarter century. Last year more than forty Berlin Program alumni attended our conference, and several have served on our Executive Board. In collaboration with the Berlin Program, we are supporting special summer programs in Berlin, including an annual Berlin Program Alumni Workshop and a special public lecture by a distinguished GSA member. Last year it was Professor Joy Calico of Vanderbilt University, and this year it will be our President, Professor Irene Kacandes of Dartmouth College. We also work with a very large variety of affiliated societies and with many organizations from Austria, Germany, and Switzerland, including the embassies of all three countries. Finally, we're trying to stay on top of the continuing technological revolution. In 2015 we introduced a conference app that sixty-five percent of you used, and we are currently in the process of reviewing vendor proposals for new third-party software that will enable us to update the online conference-submission process starting in 2017.

But even – and especially – as we have grown bigger, we can't afford to lose sight of those aspects of the Association that helped to fuel its growth in the first place: a genuine commitment to interdisciplinarity, as evidenced most recently by our Interdisciplinary Networks, which currently number over a dozen; an openness to organizational and scholarly innovation, as evidenced by our three-day seminars at our annual conference, now in their third year; a genuine

commitment to *Nachwuchsförderung*; a steady commitment to disciplinary as well as interdisciplinary approaches to German Studies; and a commitment to an intellectual culture that – we hope – is dedicated both to vigorous intellectual debate and to civil scholarly discourse. We also aim to be genuinely transparent and democratic, even “familial.” We hope sincerely that each and every member will feel comfortable about contacting me or other officers of the GSA if you have worries, concerns, complaints, suggestions, and ideas for improvement. As we often say, we want the GSA to be *your* intellectual home.

But – and here they go, you may say! – if we are to remain true to the vision of our founders, we must raise funds, and raise them now. In her Letter in this issue, President Kacandes speaks to our “Forty for Forty” campaign. This is an important part of a capital campaign that will enable us to broaden the services we offer to our members, from travel grants to expanded opportunities for research abroad. So we hope that as many of you as possible will contribute to our goals to the extent that you can.

Given our roots in the American West, it is appropriate that we should be meeting in San Diego from 29 September through 2 October. The historic connections between Southern California and the German-speaking world run deep, and they are manifest not only in the legacy of “Weimar on the Pacific” but in a variety of other ways. From the extraordinary collections of the Wende Museum to the Getty Museum to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Southern California is a repository of much that is most valuable in the world of German-speaking civilization.

As we approach the five hundredth anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, we will also be providing an opportunity for our members to reflect on the significance of that occasion. In San Diego we will be organizing some special events to launch the commemoration, which will also include critical reflection on what remains of the Reformation after five centuries.

And of course we will continue to reflect critically on recent events, including immigration policies, the emergence of the Alternative für Deutschland, recent trends in German education and technological innovation, and other matters of contemporary concern.

Finally, a special note of thanks to our indefatigable Program Committee for our fortieth-anniversary conference, chaired so ably by Professor Todd Heidt of Knox College. The other members are Professors Jeffrey Anderson (Georgetown University), Joanne Miyang Cho (William Paterson University), Christine Rinne Eaton (University of South Alabama), April Eisman (Iowa State University), Beth Griech-Polelle (Pacific Lutheran University), Sara Poor (Princeton University), Robert Mark Spaulding (University of North Carolina at Wilmington), Annette Timm (University of Calgary), and Valerie Weinstein (University of Cincinnati). Equally indefatigable was our Seminar Committee for 2016, chaired so effectively by Professor Heikki Lempa (Moravian College). The other members are Professors Darcy Buerkle (Smith College) and Carrie Smith-Prei (University of Alberta). Without their efforts, the GSA could not function.

As always, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in San Diego later this year!

Best regards,

David E. Barclay

Executive Director, German Studies Association  
Margaret and Roger Scholten Professor of International Studies  
Department of History  
Kalamazoo College

**The Fortieth Annual Conference of the German Studies Association  
Town and Country Resort and Convention Center,  
San Diego, California, 29 September – 2 October 2016**

The 40th annual conference of the German Studies Association will take place from 29 September through 2 October 2016 at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center in San Diego, California. Online conference registration, meal reservations, and hotel reservations for the 40th annual conference of the GSA in San Diego, California, are now open. The registration page is at [www.thegsa.org/members/conference](http://www.thegsa.org/members/conference).

When you pay your registration fee, you will be able to purchase meals and pay for A/V expenses at the same time. After September 1st, all registrants will pay an additional \$10 fee. **Please be aware of the refund policy** on conference registrations. You may cancel your 2016 conference registration before 1 July 2016 for a full refund. Cancellations between 1 July and 23 September will be refunded, but will incur a \$25 cancellation fee. No refunds are available for cancellations after 23 September 2016. For more information, contact [helpdesk@thegsa.org](mailto:helpdesk@thegsa.org).

## **HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

Our hotel this year will be:

Town and Country Resort and Convention Center  
500 Hotel Circle N  
San Diego, CA 92108

You can only reserve a hotel room at the conference rate by registering for the conference. You will not be able to reserve a room at the conference rate by calling the hotel or by booking with an online agency. You must first register for the conference to be eligible for the rate.

Hotel reservations at the GSA conference rate will be available until 1 September or until rooms at the hotel sell out. Our primary hotels sell out well before the deadline every year. We may be able to arrange additional capacity at an overflow hotel, but we cannot guarantee that this will be the case. Please reserve your room(s) as soon as possible.

Once you have registered for the conference, you will receive a confirmation e-mail from Johns Hopkins University Press with the link to the special hotel reservation page. **Do not discard or lose this email. It will serve as your receipt and provide access to hotel reservations at the conference rate.** Please note that when you click on the link to the hotel, you will receive a special reservations page. To continue to make a reservation, click on the box in the middle of the page, click “Attendee,” and continue with your reservation.

If you have any technical issues with payments or the website, please email Ursula Gray at [UG@press.jhu.edu](mailto:UG@press.jhu.edu). She can help in English or German. Elizabeth Fulton at the GSA Help

Desk (helpdesk@thegsa.org) will be happy to answer all other questions about the conference, but cannot assist with payments or website problems.

#### Conference Registration Rates (before 1 September)

Regular, joint, and emeritus members: \$110.00

Non-members: \$180.00

Independent scholars (members): \$50.00

Independent scholars (non-members): \$100.00

Students (members): \$40.00

Students (non-members): \$90.00

Audiovisual expenses \$20.00 / person

Exhibitors \$200.00 / table

After 1 September, prices for all registration categories will increase by \$10. Exhibitor registration will close on 1 September.

We are pleased to confirm that all conference breakout rooms will have an LCD projector. Accordingly, we are asking all our members who will be using the projector or "Beamer" to pay the \$20 fee that we have been asking of AV users for some time. This fee can be paid on the website. We will rely on the honor system for these payments, which will only cover a portion of our total costs.

The tentative program is posted at [https://www.thegsa.org/documents/draftprogram2016\\_002.pdf](https://www.thegsa.org/documents/draftprogram2016_002.pdf)

The final program will be sent to the printer in early June. We will also provide a conference app, as we did last year.

### **MEALS AND SPEAKERS**

As in previous years, we will have a series of exciting speakers for our Friday and Saturday luncheons and our Friday evening banquet. Please scroll down to find out more about these events!

Friday luncheon, September 30: \$34.00

Friday banquet, September 30: \$44.00

Saturday luncheon, October 1: \$34.00

### **SEMINARS**

This year we are offering **twenty-five seminars** on a wide range of issues in German Studies. As was the case last year, the seminars will run concurrently on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during the 8:00 a.m. time block.

### **INTERDISCIPLINARY NETWORKS**

As in previous years, many sessions and roundtables in 2016 will be sponsored by the **GSA Interdisciplinary Networks**. The GSA's Interdisciplinary Committee coordinates the work of all our Networks, each of which in turn is organized by several hard-working coordinators. Networks sponsoring sessions this year are the Black Diaspora Studies Network, the Environmental Studies Network, the German Socialisms Network, the Law and Legal Cultures Network, the Memory Studies Network, the Music and Sound Studies Network, the Visual Culture Network, and the War and Violence Network.

## CONFERENCE SPEAKERS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Once again we have an exceptional group of luncheon and banquet speakers. We hope that as many of you as possible will attend these important events!

### 500 YEARS OF THE REFORMATION: LOOKING AHEAD TO 2017

In 2017 we will commemorate the **five hundredth anniversary of the Reformation** with a series of special events. In anticipation of that commemoration, we are planning a **special event at the fortieth anniversary conference in San Diego**. Please watch for a detailed announcement!

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 ARTS NIGHT

Please book your travel so that you can join us for **the GSA Fortieth Anniversary Arts Night** on Thursday evening, September 29! Inspired by "First Night" celebrations on December 31st in many cities, this will be our second annual Arts Night, celebrating the creative and performing arts as an important part of German studies.

Session One (Thursday 7-7:50pm) will have three simultaneous offerings. You can choose to watch recent award winning **Austrian short films** (sponsored by the **Austrian Cultural Forum New York**), a special selection of short **DEFA films** (sponsored by the **DEFA Film Library at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst**) or attend a reading and discussion with author **Keratin Hensel** (sponsored by DAAD, GSA and the University of Wisconsin--Madison). Session Two (Thursday 8-9pm) will have a **special guest**. We'll keep you posted. You won't want to miss Arts Night 2016!

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 LUNCHEON

Our Friday luncheon speaker is Professor **Helmut Walsler Smith**, Martha Rivers Ingram Professor of History at Vanderbilt University. He will speak on "**The Surface and the Interior: What Eighteenth Century Travelers Saw in the German Lands.**" An historian of modern Germany, with particular interests in the history of nation-building and nationalism, religious history, and the history of anti-Semitism, he is the author and editor of many books, among them *German Nationalism and Religious Conflict, 1870-1914* (Princeton, 1995), *The Oxford*

*Handbook of Modern German History* (Oxford, 2011), *Protestants, Catholics and Jews in Germany, 1800-1914* (Oxford, 2001), the prize-winning *The Butcher's Tale: Murder and Anti-Semitism in a German Town* (New York, 2002), *The Oxford Handbook of Modern German History* (Oxford, 2011), and *The Continuities of German History: Nation, Religion, and Race across the Long Nineteenth Century* (Cambridge, 2008). He is presently working on a book on German conceptions of nation before, during, and after nationalism. His research has been funded by the NEW, the German Academic Exchange Service, the Volkswagen Foundation, and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. At Vanderbilt, he has served as Director of the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities and the Max Kade Center for European and German Studies.

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

#### **ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE ASSOCIATION AND PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

The President of the German Studies Association, Professor **Irene Kacandes**, will present her Presidential Address on **“Die Ungnade der späten Geburt: Challenges in the Twenty-First Century for Central Europeans.”** The Dartmouth Professor of German and Comparative Literature at Dartmouth College, Professor Kacandes chaired the Department of German Studies from 2008-2011. She studied at the Free University of Berlin and as a Fulbright Scholar at Aristotle University in Thessaloniki. In 1991 she completed her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature at Harvard and taught at the University of Texas before coming to Dartmouth in 1994. Her interests in German range from Goethe and Kleist to Grass and Christa Wolf, and she has also published studies on Modern Greek literature. Specializing in narrative theory, cultural studies, and life writing, she has written articles concerning orality and literacy, feminist linguistics, trauma and memory studies, the Holocaust and Holocaust memoir, and experimental memoirs. In 2001 The University of Nebraska Press issued her *Talk Fiction: Literature and the Talk Explosion* as part of its “*Frontiers of Narrative Series*,” and in 2009 it published *Daddy's War: Greek American Stories*. A Paramemoir. With Steve Gordon she co-authored *Let's Talk About Death: Asking the Questions that Profoundly Change the Way We Live and Die* (Prometheus Books, 2015). She is the co-editor of *A User's Guide to German Cultural Studies* (1997); with Marianne Hirsch, of *Teaching the Representation of the Holocaust*, published by the Modern Language Association in 2004, and with Kathryn Abrams of a special issue of *Women's Studies Quarterly* on “Witness.” Professor Kacandes has served in a number of international leadership positions, including with the International Society for the Study of Narrative and in her current capacity as President of the German Studies Association. She directs a book series on “Interdisciplinary German Cultural Studies” published by de Gruyter Verlag in Berlin. Her current research concerns narrative medicine and medical humanities.

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1**

#### **LUNCHEON**

As we approach the seventieth anniversary of the European Recovery Program, we are pleased to welcome Professor **Günter Bischof**, who will speak on **“American Nation-Building and Postwar Reconstruction: The Marshall Plan in Austria.”** He attended the University of Innsbruck where he studied English/American Studies and History/Ancient History. He was the

first Innsbruck student to get a scholarship at the University of New Orleans, where he completed an MA in American History under the tutelage of Stephen Ambrose. After teaching high-school English in Austria, he returned to the U.S. for a PhD at Harvard University. Mentored by Ernest May and Charles Maier, his dissertation was published as *Austria in the First Cold War, 1945-55: The Leverage of the Weak* (Basingstoke: Macmillan 1999). He has taught international history at the University of New Orleans since 1989, where he is also Director of Center Austria: The Austrian Marshall Plan Center of European Studies. He has also served as a co-editor of *Contemporary Austrian Studies* since the inception of this annual publication in 1993 (25 volumes, published jointly by UNO and Innsbruck University Press) and also edits the book series TRANSATLANTICA (10 volumes, StudienVerlag Innsbruck) and Central European Studies of History, Culture and Literature (2 volumes with UNO Press). He is the co-editor of three volumes on the Marshall Plan: with Charles S. Maier, *The Marshall Plan and Germany: West German Development within the Framework of the European Recovery Program* (1991, German ed. 1992); with Dieter Stiefel, *80 Dollar: 50 Jahre ERP-Fonds und Marshall-Plan in Österreich 1948-1998* (1999, English ed. 2000); with Stiefel and Hannes Richter, *Images of the Marshall Plan: Film, Photographs, Exhibits, Posters* (2009).

We look forward to welcoming you to San Diego!

## GSA Arts Night

**Thursday, 29 September 2016, 7:00 – 9:15 p.m.**

**Town & Country Resort and Convention Center, San Diego CA**

Please book your travel so that you can join us for **the GSA Fortieth Anniversary Arts Night** on Thursday evening, September 29! Inspired by “First Night” celebrations on December 31st in many cities, this will be our second annual Arts Night, celebrating the creative and performing arts as an important part of German studies.

Session One (Thursday 7-7:50pm) will have three simultaneous offerings. You can choose to watch recent award winning **Austrian short films** (sponsored by the **Austrian Cultural Forum New York**), a special selection of short **DEFA films** (sponsored by the **DEFA Film Library at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst**) or attend a reading and discussion with author **Keratin Hensel** (sponsored by DAAD, GSA and the University of Wisconsin--Madison). Session Two (Thursday 8-9pm) will have a **special guest**. We'll keep you posted. You won't want to miss Arts Night 2016!

Here is the complete program of the DEFA Film Library. We shall update you with further details of Arts Night as they become available.

### **7:00 – 7:50 p.m.**

#### **Lutz Dammbeck—Against the Mainstream**

(East) German painter, filmmaker, author and media artist Lutz Dammbeck debuted as an animation filmmaker with *Der Mond (The Moon)* in 1975. Dammbeck's film projects made him an exception in GDR film and arts circles. By 1986, when he left the GDR for West Germany, he had directed a total of six shorts for the DEFA Studio for Animation Film. This program presents four of these films. In parallel, Dammbeck pioneered non-camera animation techniques (e.g., in *Das Luftschiff* by Rainer Simon), became a core member of the East German Super-8mm underground scene and produced media collages combining elements of film, dance, painting, music and acting. His most recent film, *Overgames*—which explores the roots of game shows and their psychological impact on viewers—received the Goethe Institut Documentary Film Prize at DOK Leipzig in 2015.

#### **The Moon (Der Mond)**

GDR, 1975, 6', color, no dialogue

The moon happily swirls around, watching the animals enjoy themselves and dance in his light. Then all of a sudden, the moon falls out of the sky, and the greedy dragon drags him into his cave. When the nights stay dark, the animals come up with a plan...

#### **The Tailor of Ulm (Der Schneider von Ulm)**

GDR, 1979, 14', color, English subtitles

The little town of Ulm is governed and oppressed by the bishop. Nobody tries to speak up except the tailor, who believes the impossible is possible. Based on a poem by Bertolt Brecht, this is one of the first expressions of Dammebeck's experimental, grotesque, surrealistic style of animation.

### **Einmart**

GDR, 1981, 15', color, English subtitles

Mutants live on a hermetically sealed, devastated planet called Einmart. A huge black birdman is the Dominator, who knows how to celebrate the 'free fall.' Other creatures try to simulate this, but their flight radius is restricted... Dammebeck here creates a rich visual world supported by *musique concrète* and masterly paraphrases Buñuel and Tarkowski.

### **The Flood (Die Flut)**

GDR, 1986, 10', color, no dialogue

Two men sit on an island watching the sunset. When a storm gathers, they decide to build a boat. While one man is mindful of the coming danger and urges speed, the other wastes his time on decorative details. Based on a Chinese fable, with music composed and played by internationally-known jazz percussionist Günter "Baby" Sommer.

**8:00 – 9:15 p.m.**

### **Banned / Restored!**

#### **When You're Older, Dear Adam (Wenn du gross bist, lieber Adam)**

GDR, 1966/90, dir. Egon Günther, 70', color

A social satire about a boy who finds a flashlight that makes people float when they lie. With a carefree and quick-witted blend of genres, the film reflects the influence of new wave experimentation East and West. In particular, the basic premise—and its subversive potential—drew on the acclaimed 1963 film of Czech director Vojtěch Jasný, *Až přijde kocour* (*When the Cat Comes*, or *Cassandra Cat*).

*When You're Older, Dear Adam* was one of twelve feature films banned in 1965-66, in the midst of sweeping restrictions in the East German cultural sector following the 11<sup>th</sup> Plenum. First the screenplay was censored, then the film was canceled during production. After the fall of the Wall in 1989, director Günther and others restoring the banned films decided to work the traces of excisions and damage into the finished print, instead of erasing them. The result is an unparalleled historical document inscribed in film.

*This year's German Film Series is sponsored by  
the DEFA Film Library at UMass Amherst and the DEFA-Stiftung*

**In celebration of DEFA's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

**defa@german.umass.edu**

**www.umass.edu/defa**



## A List of Dissertations in German Studies, 2014-2016

The following list of dissertations completed in 2014, 2015, and the first months of 2016 in the many and diverse fields encompassed by the term German Studies represents the responses to our call for information this past winter. We make no claim for the completeness or accuracy of the list. We would like to thank all the dissertation directors and recent recipients of Ph.D.s for providing us with this information.

We will publish a list in all future spring issues of the GSA Newsletter. If you missed this round, please be advised that we will continue to play catch-up next year. If you received your Ph.D. in 2015 you may be listed in next year's spring newsletter. (No repeats, however!) A call for information will go out next fall.

**Adams, Samuel.** *Art and Epic Theater in Cold War Germany.* University of Southern California, Art History. Directors: Megan Luke, Paul Lerner, Suzanne Hudson. March 2016.

*Art and Epic Theater in Cold War Germany* is a study of border crossing, medium mixing, and genre defiance in a period when those were acts with grave professional consequences. In the midst of the West German Economic Miracle, artists and directors collaborated on theater productions that re-habilitated Bertolt Brecht's stage aesthetics, bringing an outspoken Marxist cultural theorist to a place of prominence amid the West's full-fledged war with Communism. The chapters move from East Germany in the 1950s, with productions by Brecht and John Heartfield, to theaters across West Germany in the 1960s and 1970s, as directors hired visual artists such as Wolf Vostell and Joseph Beuys to conjure the aesthetics of contemporary art on stage. While art galleries often privileged the formal and phenomenological traits of Pop art, video art, and installation art, over the radical politics of those idioms, art and epic theater came together on stage as vehicles for exploring state surveillance and the Nazi past, and overcoming the polarized rhetoric of a divided Germany and the cultural Cold War.

**Allred, Mason.** *Moving History: The Cinematic Regime of Historicity in Weimar Germany.*

UC Berkeley, German Department with Designated Emphasis in Film Studies. Directors: Anton Kaes, Chenxi Tang, Kristen Whissel. May 2015.

*Moving History* reveals how the medium of film shaped modern historical experience and understanding—how it *moved* audiences through moving images. Whereas the tradition of nineteenth-century historicism entailed “self-extinguishment” and, thus, the extraction of the sensing body in the construction and reception of history, historical film addressed the carnal presence of modern embodied viewers. Combining historicization with close readings of Ernst Lubitsch's historical films, *Passion* (1919), *Deception* (1920), and *The Loves of Pharaoh* (1922), *Moving history* argues that cinema shaped postwar international relations, innovations in history writing, and historical consciousness. Central to this argument is the way film came to shape bodily response and organization around historical presentations, how it fashioned a cinematic “regime of historicity.”

**Almog, Yael.** *Hebrew Reminiscences: Global Religion, Politics and Aesthetics in the Rise of Hermeneutic Thinking.* The University of California, Berkeley, Department of German Studies. Director: Winfried Kudzus. December 2014.

*Hebrew Reminiscences: Global Religion, Politics and Aesthetics in the Rise of Hermeneutic Thinking* examines emerging approaches to the Old Testament in the late eighteenth century as constitutive to the period's egalitarian notions of textual interpretation and aesthetic sensibility. I argue that the universalization of the Hebrew Bible during this period was both instrumental and emblematic for the Enlightenment notion of a global community of interpreters. The dissertation evinces a parallel between the community of interpreters, established with the presumption that "hermeneutic thinking" is a universal human capacity, and the community of citizens in the modern nation state. Showing how interpretation was uprooted from its origins in specific religious cultures, the dissertation thus underscores the tensions pertaining to the symbolic communal form of the nation state in view of the separatist history of religious communities.

**Anderson, Sage.** *Life in the Fewest Words: Timing Brevity from Chamfort to Benjamin*. New York University, Department of Comparative Literature. Directors: Paul Fleming, Richard Sieburth. August 2015.

This dissertation explores the relationship between formal brevity and the conceptualization of modernity in French and German literature from the late 17th to early 20th century. Chapters are devoted to the following texts: 17th- and 18th-century maxims of La Rochefoucauld, La Bruyère, and Chamfort; early romantic fragments of Friedrich Schlegel and the *Athenaeum* (1797-1798); Charles Baudelaire's *Petits poèmes en prose* (1869); and Walter Benjamin's *Einbahnstraße* (1928). Using comparative methodology, I demonstrate a modern shift in the function of short form. The disproportionate force of concise expression has been valued since antiquity. Yet whereas brevity in ancient rhetoric served primarily as a tool to convey greatest wisdom, the literary iterations of short form analyzed here constitute a means of critically commenting on the contemporary present. My research reveals how authors in drastically different historical contexts turn to brevity to respond to the perceived crises of modern life, employing formal shortness, plurality, and discontinuity in order to represent experiences of fragmentation, contradiction, and rupture. Through close reading, I thus show how brevity allows literature to keep pace with the changing present, while simultaneously illuminating past notions of contemporary critique.

**Baer, Nicholas.** *Absolute Relativity: Weimar Cinema and the Crisis of Historicism*. UC Berkeley, Department of Film & Media and Program in Critical Theory. Directors: Anton Kaes, Martin Jay. December 2015.

This dissertation examines Weimar cinema in relation to the 'crisis of historicism,' which was widely diagnosed by German-speaking intellectuals in the interwar period. I argue that many pioneering and influential films of the Weimar Republic registered and responded to contemporaneous metahistorical debates, offering aesthetic answers to ontological and epistemological questions of the philosophy of history. In my analysis, the films' extraordinary innovations in style and narrative form can be associated not only with technological advances and sociopolitical ruptures, but also with concurrent efforts to theorize history in an age of 'absolute relativity.' Combining philosophy, formal analysis, and archival research, my work contributes to scholarship on German cinema, placing films of the Weimar era in constellation with developments in Central European intellectual history. More broadly, I propose a reflexive model of historiography—one that acknowledges shifts in conceptions of time and history—as well as an approach to studying film in conjunction with historical-philosophical concerns.

**Baer, Ursula.** *DASKIND by Mariella Mehr – Unveiling a Subjugated History: A First Draft of an Archae-Genealogical History of WVHPKL/OHGFRI People.* University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. Department of Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies. Directors: Gaby Pailer, Thomas Salumets, Sharalyn Orbaugh. April, 2015.

Ursula Baer's dissertation recovers the history of those who have been "un-familied" due to compulsory government-welfare measures for German Studies and Literature and analyzes their representation in German-language literature. The dissertation opens up the opportunity to reread canonical and non-canonical texts through the lens of WVHPKL/OHGFRI people ("Waisenkind," "Verdingkind", "Heimkind," "Pflegekind" and "Kinder der Landstrasse"/"Orphans," "British Home children," "Group Home children," "Foster children," "Residential School children," and children and youth in Institutions) and to connect German Studies and Literature to seminal North American and international disciplines, such as First Nation Studies, Colonial and Post-Colonial Studies, Indigenous Australian Studies, Sociology, Social Studies and History, e.g. World War II, Magdalene Laundries. Until now, literary studies did only marginally consider un-familied characters as representations of real-life people. Baer's dissertation aims to radically change this view and bring their stories to the fore. Through the lens of analyzing Mariella Mehr's novel *Daskind* (and other literary texts from the 18th to 20th centuries), she argues that the diverse group of people growing up in care, past and present, have to be acknowledged as a group in their own right, not simply as "relative creatures" (in literary terms) or "local characters" (in a Foucauldian sense).

**Balint, Iuditha.** *Erzählte Entgrenzungen. Arbeit zu Beginn des 21. Jahrhunderts.* Universität Mannheim, Seminar für Deutsche Philologie. Directors: Jochen Hörisch, Thomas Wortmann. December 2015.

Die zentrale These dieser Dissertation ist, dass sich die sogenannte »Entgrenzung« bzw. »Subjektivierung« der Arbeit nicht auf die in der Forschung verhandelten Aspekte beschränkt, die Arbeit stets als ökonomischen Produktionsfaktor fassen. Vielmehr lassen sich in zeitgenössischen Texten Hinweise darauf erkennen, dass die Arbeit seit den 1990er-Jahren nicht nur ihre marktökonomischen, sondern auch ihre sprachlichen und epistemischen Grenzen überschreitet: Erstens hält das Vokabular der Arbeitswelt in die poetische und die Alltagssprache Einzug und überträgt somit nicht nur Strukturen und Inhalte, sondern auch Semantiken der Arbeitswelt in andere Lebensbereiche. Und zweitens fungiert Arbeit häufig als verstehensrelevanter Wissensrahmen, durch den die narrative Kohärenz und das Verständnis von Texten bzw. Aussagen über andere Lebensbereiche überhaupt erst gewährleistet werden kann. Auf dieser Grundlage liefert diese Dissertation Argumente für eine dreifache Entgrenzung der Arbeit: Sie verdeutlicht, dass und auf welche Weise lexikalische, semantische und epistemische Aspekte der Entgrenzung der Arbeit ihre bislang erforschten marktökonomischen Dynamiken und Auswirkungen potenzieren – und diese aus der Sphäre des Handelns in die Sphären der Sprache und des Denkens transportieren. Als Untersuchungsgegenstände wurden literarische Essays, Erzählungen, Reportagen, Romane sowie Interviews mit Managern aus dem deutschsprachigen Raum herangezogen.

**Bandau, Frank.** *Wohlfahrtsstaatliche Strukturen und Parteieneffekte. Eine vergleichende Analyse sozialpolitischer Konfliktmuster in Großbritannien, Schweden und Deutschland.*

University of Bamberg, Social Sciences, Economics, and Business Administration/Political Science. Director: Reimut Zohlnhöfer. November 2014.

Machen Parteien in der Sozialpolitik (noch) einen Unterschied? Diese in der Forschung umstrittene Frage wird in diesem Band aus einer neuen Perspektive betrachtet. Anhand vergleichender Fallstudien zur passiven Arbeitsmarkt- und Rentenpolitik in Großbritannien, Schweden und Deutschland wird gezeigt, dass die bestehenden wohlfahrtsstaatlichen Programme sozialpolitische Konfliktmuster maßgeblich prägen. Der Einfluss von Parteien äußert sich somit direkt in Form länderspezifischer Parteeffekte sowie indirekt durch zurückliegende sozialpolitische Weichenstellungen. Statt der üblichen Konzentration auf wohlfahrtsstaatliche Leistungen nimmt die Untersuchung auch die Finanzierung sozialstaatlicher Programme sowie deren als Machtbasis für kollektive Interessen dienende Organisationsstruktur in den Blick.

**Bartl, Carmen.** *Schiller and Freud: From the Sublime to Sublimation. An Intellectual History of Coping with Suffering* New York University, Department of German. Directors: Myles W. Jackson, Christiane Frey. September 2015.

Along modern history of science, sublimation profiles itself as an intellectual strategy for coping with psychosomatic suffering, by transforming the pressure of biological instincts so as to fuel intellectual or artistic enterprises. My dissertation traces the interdisciplinary history of this strategy in two different incarnations: from the *sublime* of 18<sup>th</sup> century Schillerian anthropological aesthetics, to the Freudian psychoanalytic concept of *sublimation*. The dissertation emphasizes Freud's willful pursuit of an alignment with the established state of research in physics. It traces the lines of impact of both the First and the Second Law of Thermodynamics upon Freud's conceptualization of human biological instincts ("drives"), highlighting the underestimated role of Helmholtz and other physicists in shaping key tenets of psychoanalysis. The dissertation opens up the space for a new reading of Freud, informed by the history of physics, that breaks with traditional views of Freud using the discourse of physics as a source of mere metaphors, arguing instead that Freud's radical (although widely disregarded) novelty lies precisely in those aspects of his theory that were inspired by physics: his overcoming of the mind-body dualism within the energetic-thermodynamic model of the human being, and his attempt at a quantitative approach to psychological phenomena.

**Barton, Peter.** *Vocal texts: Voice as productive obstruction in the early prose of Thomas Bernhard.* University of Otago, Department of Languages and Cultures. Director: Tim Mehigan. October 2015.

This thesis argues that the fundamental problem of Bernhard's early prose is that of an enunciatory impossibility – the failure of a speaking subject to represent itself adequately. What appears as a catastrophe of self-reflexive subjectivity ("Der Stimmenimitator") can, however, also be read as positivity since failure produces its shining counterpart in the promise of fulfillment. The analysis draws on the concept of the object voice in Lacanian theory where it functions as a disturbance in the field of meaning heard in the Other's speech. Bernhard's filibustering subjects seek to totalise this field for themselves, and it is in their persistent failures, I claim, that we perceive the repetition of psychic drive as a vocal phenomenon. An introductory chapter discusses the underlying psychoanalytical theory and relates it to the "unendliche Annäherung" of early Romantic philosophy, the point of mediation being Žižek's reading of Schelling's *Weltalter* drafts. There follow three close readings of key Bernhard texts: *Frost*

(1963), *Verstörung* (1967) and *Das Kalkwerk* (1970). Finally, I seek to clarify the writer's status as neo-Romantic by proposing that Bernhard's tenacious commitment to negativity conjures up the Absolute as an act of incessant aesthetic labour.

**Birkhold, Matthew H.** *Borrowing Werther: The Rise and Regulation of Fan Fiction in Eighteenth-Century Germany*. Princeton University, German. Directors: Christiane Frey, Joseph Vogl. February 2016.

*Borrowing Werther* is the first in-depth study of the history of “fan fiction” – literary works written by readers who appropriate pre-existing characters invented by other authors. Like fan fiction today, these eighteenth-century appropriations took the form of prequels, sequels, and spinoffs. This dissertation analyzes the social, economic, and aesthetic changes that motivated the rapid rise of fan fiction after 1750 and reconstructs its debates. Based on archival research and close readings of literary texts, publishing contracts, legal treatises, book reviews, and private letters, *Borrowing Werther* identifies the unwritten, extralegal customary norms that governed the production of these works. This dissertation accordingly reinterprets the “literary commons” of the eighteenth century: what appears to have been the free circulation of characters was actually circumscribed by rules and conditions. In addition to presenting a more nuanced view of the rise of intellectual property rights in Germany, this dissertation demonstrates how these customary legal norms translate into a distinctive form of literature. *Borrowing Werther* thus scrutinizes a largely overlooked genre and reveals a new concept of literary originality and authorship that predates Romanticism.

**Bostock, Stephanie.** *Exhibiting the Everyday: The Musealization of 1950s Material Culture in France and Germany*. Bangor University (UK), School of Modern Languages and Cultures. Directors: Anna Saunders, Nicola Frith. February 2015.

Over the course of the last decade, the 1950s have been transformed from little more than a historical interregnum between the Second World War and the 1960s into a powerful trope in the popular imagination. The French and German museum landscapes, in particular, have seen the emergence of a large number of museums and exhibitions devoted to the period. Concerned with the grassroots experiences of ‘normal’ people, these sites are part of a proliferation of 1950s-related remembering enacted through the lens of the everyday. Using a variety of sources, this thesis examines the multifarious nature of museum representation and remembering associated with the 1950s in France and Germany. By focusing on nine different sites, it assesses the different spatio-temporal frameworks and strategies used to narrate the 1950s, and determines how ‘counter-memories’ and more hegemonic memories and histories of the period are being constructed across different regional and national contexts. These findings highlight the increasing democratization of history and memory and the diverse ways in which ‘counter-memory’ and ‘genealogy’ are employed to reclaim the 1950s past.

**Bradley, Rory.** *The Enlightening Supernatural: Ghost Stories in Late 18th-Century Germany*. Carolina-Duke Joint Graduate Program in German Studies. Director: Eric Downing. February, 2016.

In late eighteenth-century German texts, ghosts appear with surprising frequency despite widespread disbelief in their ontological reality. These ghosts could simply be lingering remnants of superstition in an age where they no longer belong, but this dissertation argues that

they play a central role in the Enlightenment and its ideal of progress. The key texts analyzed in this context include three versions of the Weiße Frau story, as well as works by Kant, Moritz, Schiller, and Goethe. These texts demonstrate how the presentation of a ghost creates new possibilities in philosophy and aesthetics, as well as opportunities for critique. For some, the ghostly encounter produces an “Enlightening” suspense, disrupting the normal conditions of one’s understanding and creating a demand for resolution that propels one towards the future. Some recognized a dangerous manipulative potential in such suspense, and they used ghost stories to critique Enlightenment thought or imagine alternative aesthetic models. In all of these works, the ghost does not function simply as a relic of the past that needs to be left behind; it features prominently as a means of considering the present and imagining the future.

**Brandt, Lindsey.** *Tangled up in Truths: German Literary Conceptions of Nature between Romantic Science and Objective Empiricism.* Carolina-Duke Joint Graduate Program in German Studies. Director: Eric Downing. May 2015.

This dissertation explores the relationship between literature and science in German-speaking Europe of the 1830s and 1840s against the backdrop of large shifts in conceptions of nature and natural inquiry. Several scientific and literary writers of this period explored the increasing tensions between early 19th century Romantic science and modern empirical science, as well as the implications of these tensions for fields such as biology and geology. Key texts examined include Lorenz Oken’s journal *Isis*; Carl Gustav Carus’s *Neun Briefe über Landschaftsmalerei* and *Zehn Briefe über das Erdleben*; Annette von Droste-Hülshoff’s essay “Westfälische Schilderungen aus einer Westfälischen Feder” and poems “Die Mergelgrube” and “Der Hünenstein”; Adalbert Stifter’s painting “Bewegung II” and prose tale *Kalkstein*; and Georg Büchner’s prose work *Lenz*, trial lecture “Über Schädelnerven,” and dissertation on the nervous system of the barbel fish. These texts demonstrate a desire to reconcile the newer trend toward objective empiricism with older elements of nature discourse reflected, for instance, in *Naturphilosophie* and the aesthetic-scientific approaches of Goethe and Alexander von Humboldt. Likewise, the writers in question advocate for aesthetically inspired ways of knowing nature (i.e., through literature, *Stimmung*-oriented landscape painting, and poetically attuned science) as necessary complements to empirical science.

**Brining, Holly.** *Spouses, Lovers, and Other Strangers: Men, Women, and Relationships in the Works of Rafik Schami.* University of Texas at Austin. Director: Kit Belgum. December 2015.

Syrian-German author Rafik Schami has a literary career spanning approximately thirty years. Although his native Syria often forms the backdrop for his stories, Schami’s intended audience is clearly German-speaking because he composes his works in German. Most of the scholarship on Rafik Schami’s texts has focused upon intercultural communication, migration, and exoticism. Very little attention has been paid to issues of gender, although relationships and differences between men and women inhabit a significant portion of his novels. This dissertation project focuses on several novels from Rafik Schami, all of which thematize various types of interpersonal relationships, including familial and romantic. With few exceptions, men and women inhabit different worlds, and this complicates their ability to maintain a connection to one another. In his characterization of the relationships between men and women, the author draws attention to their respective situations and criticizes the forces that draw them apart.

**Brown, Colin M.** *Constituents at the Gate: European Political Parties and the Representation of Migration-Background Communities*. Department of Government, Harvard University. Director: Peter A. Hall. January 2015.

This dissertation looks at migrant-background voters in Germany and the Netherlands to explain variations in descriptive representation in these two countries, and to find mechanisms which may explain the broad variations in descriptive representation seen throughout Europe. Open-list, preferential voting systems are examined and shown to be a method by which migrant-background voters are able to coordinate on candidates from their origin group, increasing their success as candidates being elected to local and national legislatures. Additionally, the effect that initial successful candidates may have on later candidates from the same group is explored. This is first examined by comparing across candidates within the Dutch parliamentary elections of 2012. Second, a comparison of city councils in Germany operating under different voting rules does find a significant, independent connection between the presence of preferential voting rules and the representation of immigrant minorities. A final comparison of candidates in two German cities before and after cumulative voting was implemented finds further connections between preferential voting and greater migrant representation, but also shows a number of potential confounding factors, such as the degree to which immigrant groups are formally recognized..

**Bruce, Emily.** *Reading Agency: The Making of Modern German Childhoods in the Age of Revolutions*. University of Minnesota–Twin Cities, History. Director: Mary Jo Maynes. June 2015.

This dissertation demonstrates how literacy became a defining feature of modernity during the age of revolutions. Beginning in the Bildungsbürgertum and disseminating across Europe by the end of the nineteenth century, a series of transformations occurred in the ideologies and practices of childhood: it was increasingly positioned as critical to self-formation; adults began to worry about entertaining children in active ways; sentimental attitudes influenced children’s learning; and pedagogues emphasized the cultivation of self-discipline. Pedagogical innovations, the development of new book markets, and increased emphasis on bourgeois domesticity joined to make German-speaking Central Europe a vital site for reimagining childhood. The development of modern childhood has been understood as a process enacted on youth by adults, but in practice children’s socialization was mediated by young people’s choices. Rather than dismissing the disciplinary aspects of pedagogy or overlooking the power of children to influence adults, my approach emphasizes the mutual constitution of agency and discipline in children’s influence on European modernity. *Reading Agency* is organized as a series of case studies in literacy practices—periodicals, fairy tales, geographic schoolbooks, letters, and diaries—which each demonstrate the socially embedded ways in which children form opinions, exercise power, and make history.

**Burwick, William Christopher.** *An Exploration of Materiality in Josef Winkler’s Narrative Structures*. Department of German, Scandinavian and Dutch. University of Minnesota, Twin-Cities. Director: Leslie C. Morris. September 2015.

Josef Winkler’s work is defined by iterations of events from his childhood, most of them in the context of Austrian provincialism, Catholicism, and their patriarchal structures of dominance. In each of his narratives, memories are rehearsed and retold with increasing semantic precision, every time more complicated through intermedial references to sound, smell, and cinematic imagery. In his

pursuit of the aesthetics of form and genre, Winkler consciously inserts material objects that become crucial elements in his recollections of the past. This dissertation argues that common household items, sacred relics, or brand items constitute familiar categories of objects that are presented, framed, and placed within the text, where they function as an essential part of narrative structure. While they re-affirm apparently ossified systems of belief, they also break them down. Everytime the object or thing re-occurs, it has changed and thereby changes everything around it. While he fetishizes and manipulates things, in particular those associated with the act of writing, he exposes both their power and their powerlessness with irony and satire. As objects in a system of exchange, they stand in as autobiographical as well as cultural signifiers and articulate a distinct discourse about a particularly ambiguous and ambivalent “semiotic order of things.”

**Cantor, Anthony.** *Our Conservatories? Music Education, Social Identities and Cultural Politics in Germany and Austria, 1840-1933.* University of Toronto, Department of History. Director: James Retallack. August 2015.

This dissertation is a cultural history of conservatories of music in Germany and Austria from the founding of the Leipzig Conservatory in 1843 to 1933. Conservatories were sites in which competing visions of Germany were contested. Music-educational institutions participated in drawing social and cultural boundaries through debates about their institutional purpose, curriculum and student body. Chapter 1 analyses the founding of conservatories through the analytical lenses provided by local and regional identities. Chapter 2 explores national visions for music education. Chapter 3 concerns North American exchanges with German and Austrian conservatories of music, the discourse of “Americanisation” and the part played by German music education in American cultural history. Chapter 4 analyses the role of German music education in defining terms of Jewish claims to German belonging. Chapter 5 analyses the position of conservatories in battles between progressives and conservatives.

Recent years have seen the development of a body of scholarship devoted to the history of individual music-educational institutions. This dissertation enriches, challenges and extends that work. It does so by treating conservatories throughout German-speaking Europe as a cultural concept, and by anchoring music education in larger scholarly conversations in German and central-European history.

**Carter-Chand, Rebecca.** *Doing Good in Bad Times: The Salvation Army in Germany, 1886-1946.* University of Toronto, Department of History. Director: Doris Bergen. November 2015.

The Salvation Army came into being in an era of empire and it came of age in the heyday of internationalism. Its particular form of internationalism has proved remarkably adaptable and resilient to the massive political and social changes that have taken place since the mid-nineteenth century. This dissertation examines the Heilsarmee during the tumultuous decades between 1886 and 1946 and the tensions between the organization’s international and national identities, as well as its members’ group and individual identities. Employing transnational methodologies, as well as those of social and cultural history, it traces the transplantation of this English Protestant group into German society and its subsequent negotiation of its international structure and evolving identity as a charitable and humanitarian organization through national hostilities, two world wars, Nazism, and military occupation. The dissertation locates the Heilsarmee in three main historical contexts: the history of religion in Germany—arguing that the Heilsarmee’s presence points to a religious vibrancy that is often underestimated; the history

of internationalism—demonstrating the direct connections between imperialism, Christianity, internationalism, and humanitarianism; and debates about German civil society during the Nazi period—revealing the malleable nature of the *Volksgemeinschaft*.

**Coleman, Nicole.** *Horizonte der Differenz: Polyphone interkulturelle Literatur in Deutschland*. University of Connecticut, Department of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages. Director: Anke Finger. April 2015.

This dissertation asks in what ways intercultural literature contributes to the re-definition of “Germanness.” I define intercultural literature as an inclusive term by uncoupling the attribute “intercultural” from the author’s biography. The goal is to highlight the dynamic among all literary voices writing in the same historical moment and to point to the inherent interculturality of all texts that negotiate alienness. I analyze novels that represent different aspects of alterity: among neighbors within a community (chapter 1), in the repressive setting of a prison (chapter 2), and the repatriation of the dead (chapter 3). In each case, alienness is connected to the violation of human rights: Neighbors are presumed to be alien which leads to genocide; characters have to expand their horizons through semantic re-cording in order to survive in the alienating political prison; and the descendants of deceased expellees fight for a right to return home. A fourth chapter creates intercultural exchange intertextually and interactively in digital space, thereby undermining alterity. The interdisciplinarity of this dissertation contributes to recent research done in the field of human rights and literature, including law and literature, trauma studies, and questions of refugees.

**Doerre, Jason.** *Pessimism in Progress: Hermann Sudermann and the Liberal German Bourgeoisie*. Program in German and Scandinavian Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Director: Susan Cocalis. September 2015.

This dissertation frames the life and work of the author Hermann Sudermann (1857-1928) in the context of the liberal German bourgeois milieu. Not only was Sudermann a liberal bourgeois, his works reflected the preferred styles, attitudes, and worldview of this social class. I argue that the rise and fall of Hermann Sudermann’s career, as it was inextricably connected to the fortunes of the liberal German bourgeoisie, mirrors the trajectory thereof. As the appeal of bourgeois liberalism waned from the late nineteenth century into the twentieth, so too did the reception of this author. With the end of his life in 1928, and then the end of the Weimar Republic in 1933, Hermann Sudermann and the legacy of the class came to an abrupt end. Peculiarly, he had written about the decline of bourgeois liberalism for decades in advance of its collapse. This is part of a self-fulfilling prophecy, an affliction that affected many of his contemporaries. Instead of emanating a persistently progressive force and survivalist spirit, the tendency was aestheticist withdrawal, and resignation to fate. This dissertation focuses attention on the representation of liberalism, the bourgeoisie, and pessimism.

**Domurad, Frank.** *The Politics of Handicraft Corporatism and the Collapse of Democracy in the City-State of Hamburg in the Late Weimar Republic (1926-1933)*. University of Cambridge, Faculty of History. Director: Jonathan Steinberg. November 2015.

This dissertation discusses the role of handicraftsmen in the collapse of the Weimar Republic and the rise of National Socialism in the city-state of Hamburg. It defines handicraft as a corporate status group rather than simply part of a class-based petit bourgeoisie. This definition reveals that

corporate institutional norms and values were not just limited to members of the artisanry in 19th and 20th century Hamburg, but were shared by important segments of all social strata from the commercial elite to the working class. These values and norms in turn legitimated a conception of social order and community that was bürgerlich rather than bourgeois, status-based rather than class-based, and that sharply conflicted with liberal and socialist images of the good society. These contradictory notions of social good and social relations were incorporated into the fundamental rights of the Weimar constitution and provided Hamburg artisans the political leverage and legitimacy necessary to pursue, in coalition with other important social sectors of the city-state, a politics of corporate, occupational estate parity in defense of their social autonomy.

**Fahnenbruck, Laura Jette.** *Ein(ver)nehmen. Sexualität und Alltag von Wehrmachtsoldaten in den besetzten Niederlanden 1940-1945.* University of Groningen, The Netherlands, Faculty of Arts. Directors: Mineke Bosch, Raingard Esser. November 2015.

Diese Studie fragt nach der Rolle von Sexualität in einem kriegerischen Setting, das nicht von Frontgebiet, sondern einer Etappe bestimmt war, und in der es nicht galt den Gegner zu vernichten, sondern ihn kulturell-geografisch anzubinden. Mit Hilfe einer praxeologisch gedachten Alltagsgeschichte wird untersucht, welche Erscheinungsformen *sexual encounters* von deutschen Soldaten während der Besetzung der Niederlande haben konnten und inwiefern Soldaten in Bezug auf die Sexualitätspolitiken in der Wehrmacht gestaltungsmächtig waren. An der Schnittstelle von sexuellen Sinnstiftungen und sexuellen Praktiken wird nachgewiesen, dass sexuelle Praktiken als Teil von alltäglichen Machtverhandlungen fungierten, deren sinnstiftende Rahmungen häufig Hierarchien zwischen Besatzern und Besetzten verfestigten – auch dann, wenn sie nicht im Sinne der Besatzungspolitik waren, sondern von Soldaten eigen-sinnig praktiziert wurden. Sexuelle Praktiken, ‚von unten‘ betrachtet und als deutsch-niederländische Interaktion, wirkten dennoch auf die deutsche Kriegführung stabilisierend, entpolitisiert, normalisierend und ästhetisierend und verdeckten auch nach dem Krieg noch, dass nur die besonderen Umstände dieser Besetzung es ermöglichten, dass deutsch-niederländische Paare weiterhin einen normalen Sexualekontakt abbildeten. Diese privatisierte Variante des politischen Anbindungsdiskurses gibt daher Aufschluß über den Ort von Sexualität für den Export der ‚Volksgemeinschaft‘ und ihre Relevanz für die *politics of inclusion* in die ‚Neue Ordnung‘.

**Fichtner, Friederike.** *From Linguistic Practices to Cultural Values: Learners' Journeys Between Cultural Diversity and Essentialization on the Example of German Expressions of Friendship and Affection.* University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of German. Director: Monika Chavez. July 2015.

Using the example of German expressions of friendship and affection, this dissertation explores challenges to the teachability of cultural difference in the (German) foreign language classroom. It examines how native speakers of German perceive their expressions of friendship and affection; to what extent these accounts indeed ratify the construction of a pertinent lingual-cultural norm; and how American college learners of German view these expressions and their own learning outcomes upon receiving instruction on this topic. Participants included 52 native speakers of German and 154 beginning learners of German enrolled in a first-semester German course. Quantitative and qualitative data were collected by means of questionnaires and semi-scripted interviews. Results outline challenges to the teaching of intercultural competence,

including (a) the large degree of intra-cultural variation in the reported usage of expressions of affection and friendship and (b) an apparent misalignment between German NSs' and students' descriptions of German of linguistic practices and the cultural values that can be attached to them. Moreover, the instructional practices observed left many students uncertain about the socio-cultural connotations of German expressions of affection and friendship, and bestowed upon just as many an essentialized view of German culture that defied notions of genuine intercultural competence.

**Freis, David.** *Curing the Soul of the Nation: Psychiatry, Society, and Psycho-Politics in the German-speaking Countries, 1918-1939.* European University Institute, Department of History and Civilization. Directors: Dirk Moses, Alexander Etkind. December 2015

In the turbulent decades between the two World Wars, German-speaking psychiatrists attempted to interpret, diagnose, and treat society and politics from the perspective of their own clinical experiences. They redefined the boundaries of psychiatry and its area of authority by targeting larger populations beyond the mentally ill, and even the body politic as a whole. Using the concept of “psycho-politics” to describe the changing relation between psychiatrists and society in the period between the world wars, I show that these developments were neither monolithic nor disembodied processes. Situating psycho-politics in historical context, the thesis demonstrates how the social and political expansion of psychiatric expertise was motivated by very different ideas and took very different shapes. I discuss three examples in particular: the diagnoses of the 1918/19 revolution and its protagonists by right-wing German psychiatrists; the project of professional expansionism under the label of “applied psychiatry” in interwar Vienna; and the attempt to unite and implement different approaches to psychiatric prophylaxis in the German-speaking branches of the international movement for “mental hygiene.” While examining the history of interwar-period psychiatry from a new angle, the thesis bridges medical history and the cultural history of politics.

**Fuchs, Renata.** *“Dann ist und bleibt eine Korrespondenz lebendig”:* *Romantic Dialogue in the Letters and Works of Rahel Levin Varnhagen, Bettina Brentano von Arnim, and Karoline von Günderrode.* University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures. Director: Laurie Johnson. June 2014.

In my dissertation, I analyze interpersonal communication as it developed in letters between women authors, Rahel Levin Varnhagen, Bettina Brentano von Arnim, and Karoline von Günderrode, and their peers. I argue that due to the form and content of these letters, a new model of interpersonal communication emerges, which borrows creatively from the Romantic concepts of sociability (including salon conversation) and symphilosophy. The letter exchanges are collaborative projects that adhere to the ideals of Early Romantic philosophy and enable the authors to answer the Romantic call: “the world must become romanticized” by being potentialized. Although the authors address multiple topics, dialogue and love (agape, philia, eros) are at the center of their creative work – as Brentano von Arnim puts it: “love is only gods’ conversation” and “question and sweet answer.” One cannot separate oneself neither from dialogue nor from love as they encompass all aspects of our lives. In my work, I am positioning these authors within Romantic literary movement as they strive to live Romantic philosophy through the genre of the letter on the level of art.

**Furlong, Alison.** *Resistance Rooms: Sound and Sociability in the East German Church.* The Ohio State University School of Music. Directors: Danielle Fosler-Lussier, Ryan T. Skinner. April 2015.

In 1980s Berlin, churches held a special position: while much social and political discussion was forbidden in public, pressing issues could be addressed openly within the church's walls. In exchange for official political neutrality, people in church spaces were allowed to express themselves freely, and religious content could not be forbidden. Thus, churches emerged as sites in which multiple ideologies could be engaged simultaneously, public zones established within private spaces. In doing so, they entered into a decades-long debate over ideas of publicity, privacy, and how a church should sound. Each of the many groups that used church spaces – including political activists, artists, musicians, hippies, and punks – had its own desires, its own demands on the space, and its own beliefs about the meaning of that space. I investigate three particular East Berlin churches – the Samariterkirche, in Friedrichshain, the Erloserkirche, in Lichtenberg, and the Zionskirche, in Prenzlauer Berg – examining the sometimes tense interplay between subcultural groups. In these churches, sound, broadly conceived, became a signifier of pluralism and of political action. The growing heterogeneity of sounds in East Berlin churches emerged in parallel with diverse new social movements.

**Gallagher, Maureen.** *Young Germans in the World: Race, Gender, and Imperialism in Wilhelmine Young Adult Literature.* Program in German and Scandinavian Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Director: Sara Lennox. August 2015.

This project shows how popular reading material for young adults was used to craft a new generation of imperial citizens in the Second Empire (1871-1918). Focusing on texts set outside of the European borders of Germany by authors such as Else Ury, Sophie Wörishöffer, Karl May, Friedrich Pajeken, Bertha Clément, Brigitte Augusti, and Carl Falkenhorst, it shows how German literature carves a space for Germans outside of Germany to settle in the Americas, colonize Africa, and travel from the peripheries to the metropole and back, and how Germany's understanding of its place in the world undergoes a dramatic shift after the outbreak of WWI. German young adult literature from this period offers a portrait of German identity as both racial and cultural and shows German heroes as racially superior to indigenous people and culturally superior to other immigrant groups. Narrative literature for young people from this time features heroes and heroines who come of age abroad—boys who learn to be men in Africa or the Wild West and girls who grow to maturity and marriage in various colonial settings—and reveals how metropolitan authors conceived of the nature of German identity in a period of globalization and colonization.

**Gelderloos, Carl.** *The Instrumental Body and the Organic Machine: Technology as Nature in Weimar Germany.* Cornell University, Department of German Studies. Director: Patrizia McBride. April 2014.

This dissertation explores cultural narratives about technology from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century with a particular focus on the Weimar-era tropes of the body-as-tool and the organic machine. At once the organic seat of the self and merely one instrument among others in the shaping of the natural world, the ambiguous figure of the instrumental body straddles the border between nature and technology while undermining any strong distinction between the two spheres. In four chapters taking up this figure as it appears in literature,

philosophical anthropology, and photographic theory, I focus on figures such as Karl Marx, Ernst Kapp, Helmuth Plessner, Alfred Döblin, Ernst Jünger, and Albert Renger-Patzsch, among others. In contrast to accounts of modernity that see an encroachment of a mechanical register on the organicist discourse of the body, my dissertation shows how the tropes of the body-as-tool and the organic machine destabilize any unidirectional relationship between nature and technology. By recovering the centrality of the organic body within contemporary technological imaginaries, my project intervenes in scholarship on the culture of the Weimar Republic by contributing a more complex – and non-teleological – picture of the aesthetic, philosophical, and political stakes of the discursive entwinements of nature and technology.

**Gemmell, Grace Yvette.** *Exchanging Ekphrasis: Monumentality and Amplification in Verbal and Visual Strategies of Description*. Cornell University Department of Germanic Studies. Director: Geoffrey Waite. September 2014.

This dissertation addresses the interface between verbal and visual signifying codes as they pertain to an act of ekphrasis.

**Gemmell, Maggie.** *Semantic Role Alignment in Metaphor: A Frame Semantic Approach to Metaphoric Meaning*. University of Texas at Austin. Director: Hans Boas. May 2015.

This dissertation takes a novel approach to metaphor by analyzing data from a semantically annotated corpus in which semantic domains are already assigned. One domain, the *source*, represents the conventional literal meaning of the metaphorically used word, while the other, the *target*, represents its intended metaphorical meaning. The main dataset is comprised of a naturally occurring group of related metaphors that construe awareness as perception. Using the notion of *frame* from Frame Semantics (Fillmore 1982) as implemented in the lexicographic database FrameNet (Atkins et al. 2003) to define semantic domains and their internal components (*frame elements*; similar to semantic roles), I analyze metaphors from the frame-semantically annotated database of German, SALSA (Burchardt et al. 2006, 2009), to investigate how meaning elements (semantic roles) from the metaphor's two semantic domains align. I show that semantic roles align consistently, although not every semantic role has a counterpart in the other domain. I argue that the use of semantic and syntactic information that is associated with one domain but not the other allows emergent meaning to be created in metaphor. The analysis supports the view of metaphor as a blended space, independent of either semantic domain, as described by Fauconnier and Turner (2002).

**Green, James.** *Nietzsche, Goethe and the Nineteenth-Century Tradition of Bildung*. Department of Modern Languages, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. Directors: Nicholas Martin, Elystan Griffiths. February 2014.

This thesis investigates the profound, yet under-explored influence of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe on the philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche and thereby casts new light on the relationship between two of Germany's most renowned cultural figures. By analysing Nietzsche's published works and Nachlass, it demonstrates that Goethe serves as the primary inspiration and model for two ideals that underpin the theory of *Bildung* that Nietzsche develops in his writing between 1870 and 1876. These ideals are designated as 'Freiheit', which denotes the autonomy of culture and the individual that permits their untrammelled development, and 'Fruchtbarkeit', which prioritises creative, life-enhancing activity over the acquisition of knowledge. The thesis also

shows that these ideals remain central to Nietzsche's philosophy in the later stages of his active life and that their significance can illuminate some of the apparent changes and shifts in his thought during those periods, thus revealing a vital strand of continuity in the work of a thinker whose supposed intellectual mutability has attracted extensive critical attention. It also helps to explain why Goethe, almost uniquely among Nietzsche's leading influences, never falls into the latter's disfavour.

**Grell, Erik J.** *Liberal Affect and Literary Culture: The Politics of Feeling in Mid-Nineteenth Century German Fiction*. Carolina-Duke Graduate Program in German Studies (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University). Director: Jonathan M. Hess. August 2015.

My dissertation develops a new model for understanding the role of literature in the formative years of German liberalism. Traditional narratives about the emergence of liberal ideology in nineteenth-century Germany frequently stress political failure by way of arguing for a *Sonderweg* approach to German modernity. In partial dissent from these accounts, I explore how German liberalism is significant for what it *does* achieve, and not only as a result of its failures. My dissertation emphasizes the complex entanglement of the social and political within literary form and culture, ultimately revealing literature as a crucial site for constituting early German liberalism as a form of *Gemütsstimmung* (attunement). By scrutinizing liberalism within the context of an eighteenth-century affective model of sensibility, I show how German authors appropriated, adapted, and repurposed this model for their readers. The wide-ranging collection texts and genre concepts I analyze, including Karl Gutzkow's *Die Zeitgenossen* (1837), Heinrich Heine's *Florentinische Nächte* (1827/35), Berthold Auerbach's *Schwarzwälder Dorfgeschichten* (1843), the anonymously published *Die Geheimnisse von Berlin* (1844), Adalbert Stifter's *Brigitta* (1844) and Theodor Mügge's *Afraja* (1854), appeals to a broad literary culture often overlooked for its contributions to early liberal discourse.

**Hamilton, Andrew B. B.** *Semiotics of Silence: A Theory of German Realism*. Indiana University, Bloomington, Germanic Studies. Director: Fritz Breithaupt. August 2015.

This dissertation offers an intellectual history of the nineteenth century in German-speaking Europe that focuses on the semiotics of the landscape in realist literature, and the subsequent dissemination of the techniques and assumptions underlying that literature into political and social thought at the end of the century. The point of departure is Adalbert Stifter's discovery, around 1850, of *the silent landscape*. When Stifter stopped seeing the natural world as a source of inspiration, and began describing it as a mute cipher onto which human interests and constructs of meaning could be projected, the unexpectedly radical foundations of German realism were laid. The argument moves from Stifter's pedagogical writings—texts that model the production of meaning and its imposition on the cipher of the landscape—to a theoretical semiotic outline of German realism's historical uniqueness, and from there to the generation of writers following Stifter (Theodor Storm, Wilhelm Raabe, and Theodor Fontane in particular), for whom the silent landscape brought not crisis, but rather a profound opportunity to cultivate the power of fiction to constitute social structures.

**Hamelin, Candice.** *Behind Immaterial and Material Divides: East German Photography, 1949-1989*. University of Michigan, History of Art. Directors: Matthew Biro, Geoff Eley. December 2015.

This dissertation examines the work of Arno Fischer, Helga Paris, Gundula Schulze Eldowy, and Maria Sewcz. Despite not catering to the ideological imperatives of socialist realism, these influential East German photographers not only sustained their independent practices, but also had successful careers in the GDR. Some were hired to teach photography at the Academy of Arts (Berlin-Weißensee) and the Academy of Fine Arts (Leipzig) and to work as editors and photographers at popular illustrated magazines such as *Sibylle* and *Das Magazin*, both of which permitted artists to practice under the radar of official censorship. Others disseminated their images in small exhibitions organized by the East German Cultural Association. By the late 1970s, these photographers were granted further opportunities to circulate their work. Their photographs began to appear in specialized photography journals and state-sponsored exhibitions, often alongside regime-affirming propaganda. By investigating the increasing support offered to these photographers by the East German state and its cultural apparatuses, this dissertation challenges the labels “official” and “unofficial” photography: it argues that the classification “official” can also be applied to their work and has little value in identifying the different kinds of photography and photographic practices that flourished in the GDR.

**Holler, Ekaterina.** *Austrian farmers at the beginning of XXI century: traditions and innovative strategies.* Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology at the Russian Academy of Sciences. Director: Marina Martynova. November 2014 .

In the modern world service industries are getting on the first place in the economics. This tendency was detected by the Austrian peasants. They managed both to adjust to the present socio-economic situation and to find themselves in growing service industries by offering tourists “ecological vacation” with different services, such as organic food, spa-treatment, and the possibility to plunge into the real peasant life. Thus, country environment is gradually becoming the symbol of the healthy life-style and ethic attitude to nature. Using the methods of observation and interviews, I tried to appraise, whether the farmers managed to find the middle ground between preservation of their culture and needs of the postindustrial society. All classical ethnographic units in my PhD paper are considered in the light of postmodernism. Therefore, there is no more place for legitimation of such terms, as “authentic farmers culture” or “peasant tradition”, they are in demand and meet the market together with the food items produced by farmers. By the example of Austrian farmers it was proven that innovation and globalization can both be a trigger for revival of the „tradition“, and farmers efficiently apply all of them without losing their identity.

**Holzniekemper, Alex.** *Philosophie und Literatur im post-säkularen Zeitalter – religiöse Gewalt im zeitgenössischen Roman.* Ohio State University, Germanic Languages & Literatures. Director: Bernd Fischer. December 2013.

Section One of the dissertation explicates the post-secular philosophical discourse between Jürgen Habermas and Charles Taylor, while Section Two analyzes contemporary German and American novels in which religious fundamentalism figures prominently. The genesis of Habermas’ reflections on religion is shown within his overall philosophy, and is then compared and contrasted with Taylor’s viewpoints. Their respective concepts of “translation” and “articulation” are extrapolated in an effort to highlight deficiencies in widely-held notions of the secular. The literary analysis of Sherko Fatah, Christoph Peters and John Updike examines the way in which the authors aesthetically depict the dynamics of a religious-secular divide, thereby

enhancing critical reflection on understandings of religion, secularism and their presumed or apparent dichotomy. Both the philosophical and literary discourses are guided by the fundamental question of how normativity arises – both within the individual subject and in social collectives.

**Huenlich, David.** *The Roots of “Multiethnolects”: Effects of Migration on the Lexicon and Speech of German-Speaking School Children.* University of Texas at Austin. Director: Hans Boas. December 2015.

The topic of *Kiezdeutsch* and whether multiethnic urban youth languages are indeed developing into a new German dialect caused substantial uproar in the German public, media, and academy in recent years (cf. Wiese 2012, 2014). So far, however, the arguments surrounding the issue hinge on a number of assumptions that this dissertation systematically questions: the premise of a ‘youth language’, the notion that feature transmission from learner varieties to child language is minimal, and the prevailing impression that heritage languages dominate in immigrant families. A portfolio of methods including sociolinguistic interviews, and a lexical free-sorting test with 66 fourth graders as well as a variationist analysis of morphosyntactic features, and an ethnographic observation of several children lead to results that challenge these assumptions. The fact that German is spoken in immigrant families, even in networks with strong ethnic in-group orientations, more conclusively accounts for the emergence of new first-acquired vernaculars of German. These insights are crucial to develop well-planned pedagogic responses in school, and pave the way for sustainable academic careers for these speakers.

**Korpi, Sarah.** *“We were always brothers”’: Natives of the Americas in (East) German Children's Literature.* University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of German. Director: B. Venkat Mani. May 2015.

The frequency of modern German hobbies, plays, school celebrations, and juvenile texts centered around the Indianer points toward an ongoing fascination with the historical tribes of the Americas. Rather than functioning as a cultural other, the Indianer seems to be a figure that is somehow specifically tribal and German. The texts considered in this project begin to show how the Indianer, who might be expected to function as a cultural other, works to define *Gemanness* outside of social and political upheaval in modern Germany. The texts considered here are written in various genres and for various age groups, allowing for cross-genre and cross-developmental-stage investigations into the pedagogical functionality of the Indianer figure. The Indianer protagonists in these texts are imagined inhabitants of Germany’s imagined colonial space. Their imagined status allows them a fluidity denied to individuals existing in reality. The imagined Indianer have achieved hero status in the consciousness of their readers, making them imagined national folk heroes. Taking existing accuracy debates as a point of departure, this project explores the genres and the depictions of Indianer protagonists to begin to explore the role of the Indianer figure in German society.

**Kubiessa, Heidrun.** *The Abandoned Child in Contemporary German Literature and Film.* University of Utah, Department of Languages and Literature. Director: Katharina Gerstenberger. February 2016.

My dissertation examines the motif of the abandoned child as a symptom of postwar German memory culture in German literature and film from the late 1980s to the second decade of the

21st century. As a contribution to the study of German postwar memory culture, my work examines the abandoned child motif in resonance with the experience of the so-called Kriegskind (war baby), representing certain war-related experiences of victimization within the culture of perpetrators. The focus on contemporary literary texts reveals how generations have negotiated the tension arising from the ambiguity surrounding the cross-generational sense of childhood abandonment coupled with the inherited burden of guilt. This study focuses on the change the motif reflects against the backdrop of Germany's unification, the surge toward normalization, and globalization.

**Langwagen, Kerstin.** *„Die DDR im Vitrinenformat – Zur Problematik musealer Annäherungen an ein kollektives Gedächtnis“*. Kulturwissenschaftliche Fakultät der Europa-Universität Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder). Directors: Ulrich Kniefelkamp, Claudia Weber. November 2015.

Die Dissertation beschäftigt sich mit dem erinnerungskulturellen Transformationsprozess Deutschlands nach der Friedlichen Revolution und der Konsolidierung des kollektiven Gedächtnisses der Ostdeutschen anhand der Musealisierung des DDR-Alltags. Ausgangspunkt der Betrachtung ist die unmittelbar nach der Wiedervereinigung einsetzende historische Aufarbeitung der DDR-Diktatur durch die Bundesregierung, die ihren Niederschlag u. a. auch in den Ausstellungspräsentationen der historischen Nationalmuseen fand. Parallel dazu entstehen die sogenannten „DDR-Museen“, die als eigene Erinnerungsorte den Geschichtsbildern „von oben“ zunehmend Widerständige Erinnerungen „von unten“ entgegensetzen. Im Laufe der Zeit entwickeln sich ebenso einige ostdeutsche Heimat-, Stadt- und Regionalmuseen zu „Gedächtnislaboren“ der hybriden Gedächtnisgemeinschaft Ost. Diese eigenbestimmten Narrationen bewirken im Zusammenspiel mit den Entwicklungen in der zeithistorischen Forschung schließlich auch in den Ausstellungen der Nationalmuseen eine stärkere Berücksichtigung des DDR-Alltags gegenüber den bisher im Mittelpunkt stehenden Hauptthemen Diktatur, Staatssicherheit, Opposition und Widerstand. Die einzelnen Etappen dieser Entwicklung wurden in einem Phasenmodell mit den geschichtspolitischen Weichenstellungen der Bundesregierung zusammengeführt und am Beispiel von drei Dauerausstellungen, die den verschiedenen Museumstypen entsprechen, untersucht.

**Lawson-Last, Valerie.** *Understanding the Performance of the Left Party (DIE LINKE) in Western Germany: A Comparative Evaluation of Cartel and Social Cleavage Theories as Explanatory Frameworks*. London Metropolitan University, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. Directors: Michael Newman, Gus Fagan, Marko Bojcun, Dermot McCann. March 2015.

Germany's Left Party is represented in western legislatures and has challenged established coalition constellations both at federal and regional level. This thesis offers new insights into the party's initial breakthrough in the west by evaluating the strengths of two distinct theories, Cartel Theory and Social Cleavage Theory, as explanatory frameworks. A case study of Bremen, which includes qualitative evidence obtained from Left Party members and sympathisers, shows that indications of organisational features and parliamentary focus identified in Cartel Theory do not satisfactorily explain increased Left Party support. Moreover, the redistributive character of the party's programme countered, rather than converged with, the prevailing policy offer. Conversely, the investigation of Social Cleavage Theory finds evidence of class-based

mobilisation and framing of protests and demand for social justice; furthermore, a partial realignment towards the Left Party also occurred among workers and the unemployed.

After considering whether Bremen is representative of other western states or an exceptional case, the thesis concludes that class cleavage and class-based voting provide a stronger explanation for the Left Party's electoral breakthrough. However, both theories contribute insights into the Left Party's trajectory and early electoral successes in the west.

**Lenski, Katharina.** *Kommunikationsraum Universität. Die Staatssicherheit an der FSU Jena (1968-1989).* Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena. Directors: Lutz Niethammer, Hans-Werner Hahn, Klaus-Dietmar Henke. April 2015

Abgeleitet vom symbolischen Interaktionismus wird gesellschaftliche Realität als Ergebnis des gemeinsamen Handelns Einzelner interpretiert. Das auffälligste Merkmal der repressiven Kontinuität in der DDR war die Verhinderung abweichender Diskurse. Deshalb werden diese im Kommunikationsraum Universität zwischen der Dritten Hochschulreform und dem Mauerfall untersucht, was Ideologisierung-, Militarisierungs-, Bürokratisierungs- und Sekretierungsprozesse einschließt. Da neben den öffentlich wahrnehmbaren insbesondere geheime Kommunikationsketten wirkten, waren die Positionen der Beteiligten, die Semantiken und Aushandlungsverfahren zu analysieren: Welche Personen setzten mit welcher Handlungsmacht welche Entscheidungen durch? Welche Infrastruktur wurde gebildet, um die Diskurse zu beeinflussen? Welche Schwerpunkte bildeten sich? Im Ergebnis zeigte sich ein dysfunktionaler und vertikal wie horizontal fragmentierter Kommunikationsraum, der durch eine blockierende Eigendynamik aus Misstrauen, Kontrolle und Abgrenzung charakterisiert war. Im Wechselspiel von Verrat und Vertrauen, Geheimnis und Öffentlichkeit wurde die Grenzüberschreitung zwischen beiden Verfahren gewichtiger als dieses selbst, so dass die Universität, ihrer Kernfunktion beraubt, eine neue, die geschlossene Gesellschaft stabilisierende Funktionärsschicht hervorbrachte, was hauptsächlich dem Wirken der Mitglieder der Hitlerjugend-/Aufbaugeneration resultierte. Die Studie liefert mit dem Ansatz des Kommunikationsraums nicht nur wesentlich neue Einsichten zur Universitätsgeschichte, sondern allgemein zur Herrschafts- und Gesellschaftsgeschichte des SED-Staates sowie der Staatssicherheit. Darüber hinaus regt sie zum Nachdenken über zentrale kommunikations- und organisationssoziologische Fragen der Moderne an.

**Linek, Jenny.** *Gesundheitsvorsorge in der DDR zwischen Propaganda und Praxis.* Philosophische Fakultät der Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität Greifswald. Directors: Thomas Stamm-Kuhlmann, Martin Dinges. October 2015.

Gesundheitsvorsorge und Krankheitsverhütung sollten einen prominenten Platz im Gesundheitswesen wie in der gesamten Politik der DDR einnehmen. Erklärtes Ziel der Regierung war es, die Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen derart zu gestalten, dass sie sich "segensreich" auf die Gesundheit der Bevölkerung auswirken. Den DDR-Bürgerinnen und -Bürgern wurde der Schutz ihrer Gesundheit sogar in der Verfassung garantiert. Doch inwiefern konnte der Staat seiner Fürsorgepflicht nachkommen und entsprechende Rahmenbedingungen für ein "gesundes Leben" schaffen? Und wie verhielt es sich im Gegenzug mit der persönlichen Verpflichtung des Einzelnen, selbst für seine Gesundheit Sorge zu tragen? Die Dissertation befasst sich aus alltagsgeschichtlicher Perspektive mit der Präventionspolitik der DDR und deren Implementierung. Anhand von Eingaben sowie Dokumenten der Gesundheitsverwaltung wird

gezeigt, wie die Bevölkerung die staatlichen Vorgaben für ein gesundheitsbewusstes Leben wahrgenommen und umgesetzt hat. Geschlechtsspezifische Gesichtspunkte sind dabei von besonderer Relevanz. Durch die Arbeit mit Selbstzeugnissen werden Stimmen zutage gefördert, die den verordneten SED-Normen teilweise entgegenstanden oder von diesen verdrängt wurden und die bislang kaum Gehör gefunden haben.

**Lisiecki, Chet.** *Lyric Poetry, Conservative Poetics, and the Rise of Fascism*. University of Oregon, Comparative Literature. Director: Jeffrey Librett. June 2014.

*Lyric Poetry, Conservative Poetics, and the Rise of Fascism* investigates the categories of “fascist” and “conservative,” terms I use both to historicize the politics of modernist poets such as Stefan George and T. S. Eliot and to denote specific deconstructive operations in their poetry. Reimagining these political categories as aesthetic phenomena, *Lyric Poetry, Conservative Poetics, and the Rise of Fascism* both asserts a particular and distinct subgenre of the conservative lyric and traces its historical complicity in the rise and success of German fascism.

**Macauley, Jessica.** *Der Zauberberg in philosophical, psychological, and sociological contexts: an intertextual reading of Thomas Mann*. Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. German Programme, School of Language and Cultures. Directors: Monica Tempian, Margaret Sutherland.. May 2014.

Thomas Mann’s novel *Der Zauberberg* (1913-1924) is set at a Swiss tuberculosis sanatorium in the years leading up to World War I. The novel’s main protagonist, Hans Castorp, comes into contact with three pedagogic figures who each represent a different attitude towards the themes of life, death, disease and Eros. The humanist Settembrini, for example, affirms life but is repulsed by Eros, disease and death; the Jesuit ascetic Naphta glorifies erotic suffering and death while denying life, and the coffee magnate Peeperkorn celebrates life and Eros – yet to a pathological extent. Jessica Macauley’s thesis uses intertextual theory to examine the relation of these conceptions of life, death, disease and Eros within the novel to the works of the philosopher-poet Novalis (Friedrich von Hardenberg), the philosophers and sociologists Arthur Schopenhauer and Friedrich Nietzsche, and the psychologist and sociologist Sigmund Freud. Macauley’s thesis explores the dialogic clash between these conceptions and investigates how the relationships between *Der Zauberberg* and the intertexts influence the reader’s interpretation of the nature of life, death, disease and Eros, and their effect on the culture depicted in the novel.

**Malakaj, Ervin.** *Anxious Telling: Narrative Modes and German Literary Production, 1871-1900*. Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis. Director: Lynne Tatlock. August 2015.

The project argues that early Wilhelmine literature embodies the institutional dynamics driving its production. Examining texts by Wilhelm Raabe, Theodor Storm, and Wilhelm Jensen, the study captures an anxious textuality characterized by volatile textual features such as a doubtful narrative voice, which are indicative of increasingly diversified literary markets of the last three decades of the nineteenth century. Readings uncover four major modes of narration at play in these texts: competitive, gentle, recurring, and generic. Within these are inscribed, so the argument, the effects of increased influence of international mass audiences on literary production in the period. By considering that early Wilhelmine texts circulated on literary markets in flux, “Anxious Telling” offers a fresh reexamination of literary form as the primary

site at which early Wilhelmine writers' concerns about the impact of their work on thriving literary markets registers.

**Matthies, Annemarie.** *Spielbälle. Neuverhandlungen der Arbeitswelt im Medium Literatur.* Universität Freiburg, Institut für Soziologie. Directors: Ulrich Bröckling, Andrea Jäger. June 2015.

Bereits seit einigen Jahren wird dem Wissen fiktionaler Literatur in den Sozial- und Kulturwissenschaften verstärkte Aufmerksamkeit zuteil. Vor allem der Roman gilt dabei als Medium, dessen Inhalte zwar auf außerliterarische Quellen verweisen, die zugleich aber ein alternatives Wissen über gesellschaftliche Gegenstände vermitteln. Die Dissertation „Spielbälle. Neuverhandlungen der Arbeitswelt im Medium Literatur“ geht, dem folgend, der Frage nach, welches Wissen fiktionale Literatur zwischen 1990 und 2009 über die Arbeitswelt bereithält. Das Werk kann sich dabei auf eine große Materialgrundlage stützen: Analog zu den Transformationen der vergangenen Jahre – vom Systemumbruch zu Hartz IV, vom Platzen der New Economy-Bubble zur aktuellen Finanzmarktkrise – erschienen zahlreiche Romane, welche etliche Sphären und Figuren des gegenwärtigen Arbeitsmarktes verhandeln. Dabei zeigt sich, dass die Literatur den Lebensbereich „Arbeit“ ebenso ausführlich wie kritisch beschreibt. Zudem werden Wirklichkeitsentwürfe kreiert, die sich keinem wissenschaftlichen Diskurs eindeutig zuordnen lassen, auch wenn sie ein Wissen über Arbeit in der Gegenwart vermitteln, das sich „nahe am Diskurs“ bewegt. Die Arbeit zeigt, inwiefern das angeeignete und vermittelte Wissen der Literatur „alternativ“ ist und welche außerwissenschaftlichen Interpretationen der Arbeitswelt derzeit existieren.

**Maxey, Karin.** *Literacy Development and Intercultural Learning: Using Reading Journals in Collegiate Beginning-level German Instruction.* University of Texas at Austin. Director: Cori Crane. December 2014.

In second language (L2) reading research, the impact and feasibility of reading linguistically and culturally unmodified texts with novice language learners have been largely underexplored. This dissertation explores how, through engaging with authentic foreign language (FL) texts, beginning L2 learners develop their reading comprehension abilities and cultural understandings. To investigate this issue, students completed three reading journal (RJ) tasks, each based on two thematically related texts representing different genres. Fifty-six second-semester collegiate L2 German learners were evaluated on their ability to compare these texts using textual evidence, and to identify each text's readership(s). Results indicated that text and instructional time were found to be statistically significant with regard to students' reading comprehension. Learners' ability to use textual evidence in their comparisons and in identifying texts' readerships was also significant, though those abilities developed only minimally. Finally, learners expanded their understanding of culture to include cultural values and perspectives, and included reading as a means of cultural learning. These results suggest that a literacy-based approach to L2 reading that integrates unabridged texts into an intact language course can prompt changes in students' reading comprehension and understanding of cultural learning.

**Miller, Brian J.K.** *Reshaping the Turkish Nation-State: The Turkish-German Guest Working Program and Planned Development, 1961-1985.* University of Iowa, Department of History. Directors: H. Glenn Penny, Paul Greenough. May 2015.

This dissertation offers insight into the constitutive role that Turkish participation in the Turkish-German guest-worker program played in latter twentieth-century Turkish identity politics. The lived-experiences of migrants, as recounted in oral history interviews, offer a contrast to the official intentions of Turkish state planners. Chapter one demonstrates that the Turkish decision to participate in the 1960s West German (and other West European) guest-worker programs was informed by interactions between proponents of Modernization Theory, Turkish scholars, and Turkish officials. In chapter two, an analysis of the 1960s Turkish press reveals the context within which Turkish state planners made their decisions and how public discourses of Turkish participation in the guest-worker programs were tied to modernization efforts. Chapter three investigates the Turkish state planners' desire to fulfill their development goals within the pages of the West German government-produced *Anadolu Gazette* and how West German officials addressed their concerns about perceived communist threats to their foreign workforce. Chapter four illustrates the failure of earlier development planning and the rise of an exclusionary nationalism in 1980s Turkey. Anxiety about a "lost generation" of Turkish youth outside of Turkey's borders replaced earlier development goals and informed the construction of a narrowed notion of "Turkishness."

**Ng, Ronald Ka-Chun.** *Capturing the Dead: Identification and Photography in W. G. Sebald's The Emigrants*. University of Toronto, Centre for Comparative Literature. Director: John Zilcosky. May 2015.

This dissertation examines the function of photographs in W. G. Sebald's *The Emigrants*. I argue that images in the book encourage the reader to identify with those depicted in them and simultaneously discourage this identification. Dissecting the mechanism and motivations of this inherent contradiction, an ethics of viewing and writing about the past emerges. Sebald engages the readers with these photographs, I argue, to champion a cautious and qualified identification. Sebald's interactions with the past are indicative of his historical background. Having missed the catastrophic events of the Second World War, he is motivated by a historical compunction to depict the past and a personal desire to be present in it. The photographs discussed in this dissertation demonstrate how the momentous events can be worked through by Sebald's generation. For this reason, *The Emigrants* contributes vitally to the work of *Vergangenheitsbewältigung*; it attempts to grapple with and overcome the legacy of the Holocaust by encouraging a form of ethical identification.

**Nossett, Lauren.** *The Virginal Mother in German Literature: Discourses of Virginité and Motherhood 1771-1927*. University of California, Davis, Department of German. Director: Elisabeth Krimmer. April 2016.

Representations of female virginité and motherhood have a long and complex history in German literature and culture, but little attention has been given to how these contradictory ideologies have manifested in a recurring figure: the virginal mother. A young, chaste woman who provides unpaid care for children not her own and simultaneously practices her maternal skills before consummating marriage, this character reflects the social ideal of woman as both a maternal and sexless being and is influential in perpetuating a moral and social standard for women. This dissertation explores the development of the virginal mother from the late eighteenth to the early twentieth century and argues that this character reveals a discontinuity in the prevailing discourse of maternal nature by showing that mothering is not only a skill that needs to be taught, but also

a concept highly susceptible to ideological manipulation. Sexualized, but not sexual; maternal, but not a biological mother, this figure represents an ideal of femininity. At the same time, it serves as a vehicle to explore the contradictory gender ideologies associated with the rise of the middle class and the role of female labor in the German family and nation throughout the long nineteenth century.

**Nousek, Katrina.** *Pasts with Futures: Temporality, Subjectivity and Postcommunism in Contemporary German Literature by Herta Müller, Zsuzsa Bánk and Terézia Mora.* Cornell University, German Studies Department. Director: Leslie A. Adelson. May 2015.

This dissertation analyzes future-oriented narrative features distinguishing German literature about European communism. Set against landscapes marked by Soviet occupation and Ceaușescu's communist dictatorship in Romania (Müller) and against the 1956 Hungarian revolution, eastern European border openings, and post-Wende Berlin (Mora, Bánk), works by these transnational authors engage social legacies that other discourses relegate to an inert past after the historic rupture of 1989. Dominant scholarship reads this literature either through trauma theory or according to autobiography, privileging national histories and static cultural identities determined by the past. Shifting attention to complex temporal structures used to narrate literary subjectivities, I show how these works construct European futures that are neither subsumed into a homogeneous present, nor trapped in traumatic repetition, nostalgic longing or psychic disavowal. My analysis extends and contributes to global debates in politics and the arts about the status of utopia after real existing socialism and the role of society in political entities no longer divided in Cold War terms of East/West, three worlds, or discrete national cultures. By focusing on Müller, Mora and Bánk, I also widen the purview of FRG-GDR discussions about communism to include transnational, temporal and narrative perspectives that scholarship on these authors often overlooks.

**Nowotnick, Michaela.** *Die Unentrinnbarkeit der Biographie. Eginald Schlattnes Roman "Rote Handschuhe" als Fallstudie zur rumäniendeutschen Literatur.* Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Institut für deutsche Literatur. Director: Roland Berbig. November 2014.

Die Dissertation ist ein Beitrag zur Diskussion um die Hinterlassenschaften zweier europäischer Diktaturen am Beispiel der rumäniendeutschen Literatur. Gerüchte, die zu Wahrheiten wurden, autobiographische Texte, die zugleich Belletristik sind, unerschlossene historische Texte aber auch manipulierte Quellen waren die Materialien, die für die Dissertationsschrift ausgewertet, in Beziehung gebracht und hinterfragt wurden. Die Annäherung an die Problematik wurde mittels unterschiedlicher Zugänge gewählt, sodass der entsprechend verwendete Methodenpluralismus eine differenzierte Betrachtung des Untersuchungsgegenstands ermöglicht. Basierend auf den gewonnenen Forschungsergebnissen konnte festgestellt werden, dass die bestehende Sekundärliteratur große Defizite aufweist und deshalb oftmals lediglich als Anhaltspunkt dienen konnte. Sie musste immer hinterfragt, gegebenenfalls ergänzt und korrigiert werden. Aussagen wurden deshalb auf Grundlage möglichst heterogener, vielfach bislang nicht verwendeter oder aber nicht zugänglicher Quellen getroffen. Grundlegende Forschungsfragen wurden so neu gestellt und in erweiterte Bezugssysteme gebracht. Dabei konnten Arbeitsmechanismen von Geheimdiensten, die bis in die unmittelbare Gegenwart nachwirken, aufgezeigt und deren Aufarbeitung sowie die damit verbundenen Schwierigkeiten und Versäumnisse dargestellt

werden. Hierdurch wurde deutlich, wie nicht gesicherte Informationen Einzug in Standardwerke halten und dadurch Biographien nachhaltig beeinflussen können.

**Och, Malliga.** *The Adoption of Feminist Policies under Conservative Governments.* Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver. Director: Martin Rhodes. March 2016

This dissertation sheds light on the role conservative governments in contemporary Germany play in promoting feminist policies despite an inherent tension between conservative principles and feminist claims. It is critical to focus on the process by which conservative governments adopt or reject feminist policies not only because we know little about the process, but also because conservative governments represent the least likely case. As such, we can learn more from the case of conservative governments than from the experience of leftist parties as it allows us to understand the influence of variables beyond an egalitarian ideology. Specifically, the dissertation will consider feminist policies addressing economic inequalities for women: father quotas in parental leave (a specific time period reserved exclusively for fathers) and corporate board quotas. This dissertation employs a comparative within case study of three cases in Germany utilizing process tracing, qualitative content analysis, and elite interviews. The dissertation finds that feminist agenda setting under conservative governments is successful when coalition constraints facilitate the inclusion of the feminist policy on the policy agenda of the coalition government while policy adoption is likely when critical actors occupy veto player positions and opponents remain outside of the policy making process.

**O'Toole, Michael.** *Sonic Citizenship: Music, Migration, and Transnationalism in Berlin's Turkish and Anatolian Diasporas.* University of Chicago, Department of Music. Director: Philip V. Bohlman. June 2014.

In this dissertation I consider the ethical, political, and sacred dimensions of musical performance for a diverse group of Turkish and Anatolian diasporic communities in contemporary Berlin. Focusing on the time period from 1989 to the present, I analyze how musicians of Turkish and Kurdish descent in Berlin have situated their musical practices in relation to changing discourses about immigration, citizenship, and diversity in contemporary Germany. Drawing on interviews and ethnographic fieldwork, I consider the role of musical performance as a medium by which immigrants from Turkey and their descendants shape and reflect upon a wide range of both local and transnational identifications. I argue that for musicians in Berlin's Turkish and Anatolian diasporas, music is a significant medium not only for shaping new understandings of diaspora and transnational cultural practices, but also for intervening creatively to shape public opinion about cultural, ethnic, and religious diversity in Germany. I describe these musical interventions as a form of "sonic citizenship," a term that I define as a form of political engagement that employs sound, such as musical performance or sonorous ritual, to craft public interventions in an environment characterized by unequal access to political and social power.

**Patten, Andrew Nance.** *All That Is The Case: The Collection, Exhibition, and Practice of Weltliteratur.* University of Minnesota, Department of German, Scandinavian & Dutch. Director: Rembert Hüser. September 2014.

[No abstract provided]

**Peterson, Paul R.** Old Norse Nicknames. University of Minnesota, Department of German, Scandinavian & Dutch. Directors: Anatoly Liberman, Kaaren Grimstad. April 2015.

[No abstract provided]

**Phillips, Alexander.** *Transfiguring Social Nature: Environmental and Aesthetic Transformations in German Realism.* Cornell University, Department of German Studies. Director: Anette Schwarz. May 2015.

*Transfiguring Social Nature* investigates the relation between post-1848 German realist aesthetics and the representation of nature as physically reconstituted by the human labor process in works by Adalbert Stifter, Wilhelm Raabe, and Theodor Fontane. I argue that the environment's increasingly social character feeds into each author's poetic project, such that environmental transformation grounds a dynamic realism that binds political critique with a broader theoretical reflection on the conditions of possibility for poesy in modernity. By looking at the relation between environmental depredation and art, *Transfiguring Social Nature* develops a line of ecocritical inquiry that moves beyond the focus of much earlier ecocritical scholarship on nature and place to account for the poetically constitutive aspects of environmental transformation while also considering its deleterious effects. At the same time considering environmental issues as integral to the texts' otherwise social framework allows us to see realism both as a dynamic literary and theoretical discourse that also figures within the genealogy of contemporary environmentalism.

**Pözlbauer, Alexandra.** *Geschichte(n) in globalisierten ZeitRäumen. Der österreichische Roman nach 2000.* University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, German Languages and Literatures. Director: Carl Niekerk. December 2015.

Since the millennium, a generation of well-established Austrian authors who were born between 1950 and 1970 and started to publish in the 1980s and 1990s have written novels that respond to changing perceptions of time and space in a global society with a variety of narrative techniques. Eva Menasse's *Vienna* (2005), Marlene Streeruwitz's *Partygirl*. (2002), Michael Köhlmeier's *Abendland* (2007) and Josef Haslinger's *Jáchymov* (2011) serve as representative examples of a new global Austrian literature that clearly distinguishes itself from previous generations with a very differentiated "ZeitRäume"-approach. The literary search for the autonomous self is not only more international today, but it is glocalized. The local does not get lost or dissolved in the global but it is transferred and redefined on a more global and complex level. A new global or rather glocal Austrian literature proves how the disorientation of globalization and its new temporal and spatial challenges lead to an urgent search for autonomy of the individual – especially in its attempts to come to terms with one's own family's past and the disastrous chapters in collective and personal histories of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In an age of rapid globalization, literature can be a form of self-empowerment.

**Powers, Michael.** *Clouds: Walter Benjamin and the Rhetoric of the Image.* Brown University, Department of German Studies. Director: Gerhard Richter. April 2015.

This study examines the central concept of the "image" in Walter Benjamin's oeuvre, with particular attention to the recurring figure of the cloud in his writings on color, politics, literature, photography, and the philosophy of history and language. In tracing this figure through Benjamin's thought, this project illuminates how the notion of a cloud-like visual medium that

Benjamin articulates in his early color studies continues to play a vital role throughout his later work, as he develops the image as a crucial term in his thinking on history and politics. In their perpetual drift away from themselves, clouds disclose a volatile movement of self-deformation and disfiguration, fundamental terms in Benjamin's aesthetic and visual theory. In exploring how Benjamin mobilizes the cloud to conceive of the ungrounded, dynamic character of the imagistic medium, this project draws on visual materials by Le Gray, Stieglitz, and Kandinsky; literary texts by Kafka and lesser-known modernists Scheerbarth, and Kubin; and critical commentaries by Adorno, Kracauer, and Derrida. A closer examination of how these artists, writers, and theorists employ the cloud as a figure of self-alterity reveals the need to reconsider our concept of the image and its aesthetic, epistemological, and political stakes in modernity.

**Randall, Amanda.** *Translating the Discipline: On the Institutional Memory of German Volkskunde, 1945 to Present.* The University of Texas at Austin, Germanic Studies. Director: Katherine Arens. March 2015.

The study examines how Europeanist ethnologists (*Volkskundler / Europäische Ethnologen*) in Germany (East, West, and reunified) have reconstructed their discipline's history from World War II to the present. In this treatment, historiography is understood not simply as a discourse, but as a narrative performance by and for parties invested in the discipline—performances that have real implications for the field's organizational and epistemic structuring, and vice versa. I refer to this symbiosis as “institutional memory.” The project's goal is not to produce yet another history of the discipline, but to examine the many extant histories in order to trace how institutional memory is rewritten or “translated” across historical ruptures, social fields, and other types of boundaries. By mapping the disciplinary identities performed by the field's authorized parties in monographs, articles, programmatic statements, and interviews conducted with three generations of *Volkskundler / Europäische Ethnologen*, the analysis reveals to what extent the field's institutional memory aligns with postwar Germany's ongoing struggle to connect its past with its current national and global identities.

**Riedl, Jasmin.** *Policy-Timing nach 9/11. Die strategische Nutzung politischer Zeit.* Universität der Bundeswehr München, Institut Politikwissenschaft. Directors: Ursula Münch and André Kaiser. March 2014.

Political actors develop temporal action strategies to pursue policy preferences. They try to apply a dual timing strategy for initiating reforms: actors use time periods to keep options for actions open, and they make targeted choices of points in time for decision-making. Hence, policy timing means the strategic use of time; it is less dependent on focusing events as argued by leading policy theories. This publication tests that alternative action-theoretical concept by means of two case studies of Inner Security reforms which were adopted after September 11, 2001: the abolition of the religion privilege from the Law of Association, and the legitimation of the IMSI-Catcher as an investigative tool used by intelligence services and law enforcement authorities. On the basis of these least-likely cases, it is shown that even here, political processes are structured by the cost and benefit expectations of political actors, and less so by exogenous events such as 9/11.

**Salvo, Arthur.** *Transformations of the Beautiful: Beauty and Instability in Eighteenth- and Early Nineteenth-Century German Literature.* Columbia University, Department of Germanic Languages. Director: Dorothea von Mücke. May 2015.

*Transformations of the Beautiful* reexamines a problem that emerges during the mid-eighteenth century: the devaluation of the aesthetic category of the beautiful. In opposition to accounts that identify this problem with the rediscovery of the sublime, this dissertation emphasizes the crucial yet underexamined role that historicization played in the destabilization of beauty's normative status in German aesthetic discourse. Additionally, I demonstrate that literary discourse became a key mode through which the beautiful's problematic status was negotiated. Assembling literary texts from 1759-1817 that thematize beautiful objects or phenomena in terms of their historicity or instability, and transform them, I argue that these moments constitute discrete instances in which literature responds to the precarious position of beauty in modernity. With recourse to texts by Winckelmann, Schiller, Jean Paul, Ernst August Friedrich Klingemann and Eichendorff, I focus on the specific literary techniques employed by different genres—description, elegy, and narrative fiction—and how they reconfigure the relationship between the modern subject and the beautiful. In so doing I demonstrate how literary texts intervene in aesthetic discourse to reevaluate and generate alternative conceptions of the beautiful.

**Samper Vendrell, Javier.** *Danger at the Newsstand: Homosexuality, Youth, and Mass Culture in the Weimar Republic.* University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of History. Directors: Mary Louise Roberts. August 2015.

This dissertation shows that the relationship between youthful sexuality, youth protection, and homosexuality can help us understand the homophobia that ensued from the homosexual's visibility during the Weimar Republic. This study juxtaposes mass culture with the homosexual because both threatened the adolescent's appropriate sexual development, and because homosexuality found mass appeal through the spread of homosexual publications. Legislative measures against popular culture succeeded in redrawing the boundaries of sexual orientation as well as those between youths and adults. As a result, homosexuality was tolerated, but it had to be hidden from public sight. The discourse surrounding adolescence created avenues of resistance against the repression of homosexuality. The protection of youth became a slogan to claim respectability in the homosexual movement's campaign to decriminalize same-sex acts. Homosexual leaders claimed to be protecting adolescents and contributing to national regeneration. Ultimately, a respectable homosexual could not exist because the German nation was grounded in normative gender and sexuality. Youth was the arena in which these crucial norms were reinforced.

**Schaub, Christoph.** *Weimar Contact Zones: Modernism, Workers' Movement Literature, and Urban Imaginaries.* Columbia University, Department of Germanic Languages. Director: Andreas Huyssen. March 2015

Located at the intersections of new modernism, urban, and minority studies, *Weimar Contact Zones* examines the interplay between modernism, urban imaginaries, and the cultural production of the workers' movement in the Weimar Republic. Bringing canonical Weimar literature together with the marginalized tradition of workers' movement literature, film, and performance, the dissertation demonstrates that urban spaces functioned as contact zones where hybridizations across boundaries of high and low culture occurred. The cultural production of the workers' movement becomes visible as a tradition that articulated and appropriated modernist aesthetics to catalyze and represent, from the standpoint of proletarian collectives, social transformation. Understood from this perspective, modernism is not limited to high modernism

or the historical avant-garde, but includes alternative cultural forms that articulate modern experiences of the lower classes. Thereby *Weimar Contact Zones* also challenges the opposition between modernism and realism, which typically aligns workers' movement literature with realism. The dissertation analyzes literary works by Anna Seghers, Franz Jung, Klaus Neukrantz, Kurt Kläber, Karl Grünberg, and the movie *Kuhle Wampe, Or Who Owns the World?*, amongst others.

**Schicker, Juliane.** *The Concert Hall as Heterotopia: Sounds and Sights of Resistance in the Leipzig Gewandhaus 1970-1989.* Penn State, Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures. Directors: Bettina Brandt, Charles Youmans. August 2015.

My dissertation reveals how artistic expressions in an East German concert hall formed a space where censorship, surveillance, and physical borders of a restrictive state were contested. I call this space a heterotopia. My case study covers the years 1970-1989 in Leipzig with Kurt Masur as Gewandhauskapellmeister, his performances of works by Gustav Mahler, the building of the New Gewandhaus, and the ceiling painting by Sighard Gille. I analyze the Gewandhaus as a performance space and architectural and artistic structure to argue that the musical choices, the building as such, and the mural painting inside contributed to a critical approach to the state apparatus's execution of a socialist worldview. The Gewandhaus also represented the achievements of GDR artists inside the country and abroad. My findings question the still commonly held assumption that in the GDR, classical music performances were merely an extension of the state.

**Schmidt, Allison.** *Crossing Germany: Eastern European Transmigrants and Saxon State Surveillance, 1900-1924.* University of Kansas Department of History. Director: Nathan Wood. September 2015.

This dissertation investigates migrant registration and control stations in Germany that served as pre-checkpoints to US immigration stations such as Ellis Island. In the late-nineteenth, early-twentieth centuries, large numbers of eastern Europeans passed through Germany on their way to northern European ports to sail to the Americas. Due to health concerns and costs incurred by transporting rejected immigrants back from the United States, in 1894 the Prussian state and German shipping companies set up control stations along the Prussian-Russian border. Later, inspection points also appeared in the eastern German province Saxony. The literature on transmigration has focused on the influence American immigration policy and German steamship companies had over these stations. Instead, using Saxony as a case study, I emphasize the vital role the German state played in migration surveillance, with health officials and policemen managing the movement of the travelers. This research challenges the historiographical notion of lax state migration control prior to World War I and enriches understanding of the journey European migrants undertook before arriving in the New World.

**Shoults, Julie.** *Narrating a Tradition: Socialist Women with a Feminist Consciousness in the German Bildungsroman.* University of Connecticut, Department of Literatures, Cultures & Languages. Director: Anke Finger. April 2015.

At the center of my dissertation project are authors Lily Braun (1865-1916), Hermynia Zur Mühlen (1883-1953) and Brigitte Reimann (1933-1973). My exploration of German novels by these female socialists demonstrates a tradition of narrating socialist role models for women

through the Bildungsroman, and I elucidate a shared feminist consciousness amongst the writers as their literature serves as a form of socialist activism. While women's writings in the German Democratic Republic have received considerable scholarly attention, writings by female socialists of earlier periods remain under-investigated. Therefore, I examine works from the early 20th century to inform my approach to GDR literature, arguing that East German authors built upon established traditions of women's socialist literature in German. I illustrate how these writers utilize similar narrative strategies to encourage women's autonomy, solidarity and political engagement, and identify ways in which each writer brings a feminist consciousness to socialist ideologies. By tracing a trajectory of women's socialist writing over the 20th century I broaden discussions of women and socialism in the German-speaking context beyond the GDR and demonstrate how socialist and feminist movements inform each other.

**Skiles, William.** *Preaching to Nazi Germany: The Confessing Church on National Socialism, the Jews, and the Question of Opposition.* University of California, San Diego, History Department. Directors: Frank Biess, Deborah Hertz. December 2015.

The approach of most historians of the German Churches in Nazi Germany has focused on the history of the Christian institutions, its leaders, and its persecution by the Nazi regime, leaving the most elemental task of the pastor – that is, preaching – largely unexamined. I analyzed 910 sermons by Confessing Church pastors, all delivered or disseminated between 1933 and the end of World War II in Europe, to analyze their messages about the Nazi regime and the Jews in Germany. A minority of Confessing Church pastors criticized the Nazi regime and its leaders for their racial ideology and claims of “Aryan” superiority, and also for unjust persecutions against Christians. I argue that these sermons provide mixed messages about Jews and Judaism. While on the one hand, the sermons express admiration for Judaism as a foundation for Christianity and Jews as spiritual cousins; on the other hand, the sermons express religious prejudice in the form of anti-Judaic tropes that corroborated the Nazi ideology that portrayed Jews and Judaism as inferior. Ultimately, the messages reveal criticism of Nazism from a position of obedience and subservience to the state, yet also expose ambivalence about Jews and their relation to Christians in Nazi Germany.

**Spencer, Sally-Ann.** *Books Across Borders: German-English Literary Translation in the Contemporary German and Anglo-American Contexts.* School of Languages and Cultures, Victoria University of Wellington. Directors: Richard Millington, Jean Anderson. December 2015.

This thesis examines German-English literary translation in the twenty-first century, following the dual aim of evaluating contemporary practices and elaborating a research model that can investigate the varying reach of cultural products in the digital age. Progressing through the macro, mezzo and micro levels of analysis, it explores new approaches to publishing, selling and promoting translated books and evaluates frameworks for translation research at each stage. The macro investigation considers accounts of global translation, focusing on the circulation of German-language literature and the role of English as a world language. A major theme here is the scholarly and promotional deployment of translation statistics, and the discussion reveals fundamental flaws in readings of the data by scholars and cultural intermediaries. Shifting from discourses to practices, the mezzo investigation examines the state of German-English translation and charts the rise of digital formats and the growth of promotional initiatives for translators and

translated books. The final stage of the investigation considers one such promotional project, the Deutscher Buchpreis, and proceeds to the micro level, following the trajectories of individual books in English. The conclusion synthesizes the book's empirical and methodological findings and provides further detail on the research programme that underpins the account.

**Stoll, Mareike.** *Schools for Seeing. German Photobooks between 1924 and 1937 as Perception Primers and Sites of Knowledge.* Princeton University, Department of German. Directors: Michael W. Jennings, Sigrid Weigel. November 2015.

*Schools for Seeing* investigates the phenomenon of the photobook in interwar Germany and reconstructs the reasons for its popularity through reference to illustrated newspapers, photomontage, and bookmaking experiments. Examining a series of photobooks and writings on photography from 1924 to 1937, I argue that the photobook appears against a historical horizon where political warnings of the manipulability of photography proliferate. The photobook arises as a training device that slows down perception, imposes a critical distance, and develops new forms of visual engagement. I propose that the photobook in the 1920s contains a theory of photography and that it constitutes a training manual to learn to read photography. The analysis of selected photobooks allows me to argue for the alphabetization for photography through the photobook. Further, the dissertation contextualizes the concept of alphabetization in children's books, perception primers, and the form of the atlas. Closely examining the concept of the atlas in terms of notions of objectivity, knowledge production, and a visual training, my project traces the question of standpoint and orientation of the beholder towards photography: the photobook is viewed in its capacity to disrupt contemporary political, cultural, and aesthetic discourse at the time of publication.

**Telge, Claus.** *"Brüderliche Egoisten": Die Gedichtübersetzungen aus dem Spanischen von Erich Arendt und Hans Magnus Enzensberger.* University of Arizona, Department of German Studies / University of Leipzig, Institut für Germanistik (Dual Degree Doctoral Program in Transcultural German Studies). Directors: Dieter Burdorf, Thomas Kovach. July 2015.

The authors and translators Erich Arendt and Hans Magnus Enzensberger are two key figures in German literature after 1945, known especially for their appropriation of foreign literatures. They both contributed extensively to the reception of Modern Latin American and Spanish Poetry in East and West Germany by translating poets such as Pablo Neruda, César Vallejo and Rafael Alberti. This is the first study to explore the asymmetrically intertwined literary conditions of the two author-translator figures with regard to the ways in which engaging with a foreign text opens up a perspective on the author-translator's own writing.

**Tiews, Alina Laura.** *Refuge on Screen. How fictional movies and TV-productions integrated German refugees and expellees in a divided Germany, 1945-1990.* Westphalian Williams-University of Muenster, Department of History. Directors: Michael Schwartz, Thomas Großbölting. October 2015.

This PhD thesis from the areas of Modern History and Media History investigates fictional German movies and television productions dealing with the topic of the Germans' 'flight and expulsion' after World War II. Beginning in the years of occupation the study follows East and West German film industries up to 1990, looking closely at the socio-political discourses about refugees, expellees and resettlers on the one hand and how movies picked up on these on the

other. The thesis identifies 75 movies as ‘movies on flight and expulsion’, ten of which are analyzed in detail. Here, the filmic storylines are examined in light of their archival records, scripts, reviews and surrounding correspondences, always questioning which importance the issue of ‘flight and expulsion’ possibly had. The PhD thesis concludes that popular, economically successful movies both from the Federal Republic as well as the GDR made the highly controversial topic of ‘flight and expulsion’ familiar to a majority of people and actively contributed in compromising with it. That is why one can say: Movies integrated refugees, expellees and resettlers into post-war German societies.

**Unangst, Matthew.** *Building the Colonial Border Imaginary: German Colonialism, Race, and Space in East Africa, 1884-1895.* Temple University, History. Director: Jay Lockenour. August 2015.

Between 1884 and 1895 several different factions within Germany attempted to understand and control the spaces and peoples of German East Africa. The tensions between their visions for East Africa and local geographies combined to create a set of divisions and meanings for East African space that determined administrative approaches through the German colonial period and after. Much of the dissension among the different parties was over how to understand the relationship between geographical space and people, *Land und Leute*. The German East Africa Company proposed an approach based on remaking *Land*. By making East African space more like Germany, it could turn its *Leute* into productive components of the German economy. The Foreign Office and missionary groups, in contrast, proposed remaking East African *Leute* before *Land*. In their thinking, the education and development of East African *Leute* would turn them into productive subjects and use them to remake East Africa’s *Land* into a productive colony. The Foreign Office’s geographical model slowly won out over the model that the GfdK and DOAG, who founded managed the colony through the 1880s, faced a series of crises that proved it unable to successfully administer and develop *Ostafrika*.

**Van Dam, Beatrix.** *Geschichte erzählen: Repräsentation von Vergangenheit in deutschen und niederländischen Texten der Gegenwart.* Institut für Niederländische Philologie/Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster. Directors: Lut Missinne, Martina Wagner-Egelhaaf, Bart Vervaeck. May 2014.

Das theoretische Feld zu fiktionalem und faktuellem Erzählen ist in den letzten Jahren unübersichtlich geworden. Die Studie bietet eine kritische Analyse der wichtigsten Positionen. Historisches Erzählen diente im Zuge postmoderner Sprachzweifel oft als Beispiel für den prekären Wirklichkeitsbezug faktualer Erzählungen. Mit Blick auf das fiktionale Erzählen wurden anhand des postmodernen historischen Romans mit Metafiktion und Metahistoriografie Erzählverfahren betont, die sich von einem verlässlichen Wirklichkeitsbezug distanzieren. Die vorliegende Studie rückt neben diesen distanzierenden, illusionsstörenden Techniken wieder solche Erzählverfahren in den Blick, die Geschichte als ‚Ereignis‘ inszenieren. Historisches Erzählen kombiniert den Bezug auf eine vergangene Wirklichkeit immer mit dem Anspruch, eine in sich schlüssige Erzählung zu bilden. Anhand deutschsprachiger und niederländischsprachiger Geschichtserzählungen wird nachgezeichnet, wie sich diese grundlegende Dynamik zwischen glaubwürdigem Wirklichkeitsbezug und glaubwürdiger Erzählwirklichkeit im fiktionalen und im faktualen Zusammenhang je unterschiedlich entfaltet.

**Vecchiato, Daniele.** *Verhandlungen mit Schiller. Historische Reflexion und literarische Verarbeitung des Dreißigjährigen Kriegs im ausgehenden 18. Jahrhundert.* Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Institut für deutsche Literatur and Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia, Dipartimento di Studi Linguistici e Culturali Comparati. Directors. Ernst Osterkamp, Stefania Sbarra. March 2014.

The thesis presents an analysis of Friedrich Schiller's works on the Thirty Years' War: the historiographical treatise *Geschichte des dreißigjährigen Kriegs* (1790-1792) and the dramatic trilogy *Wallenstein* (1800). The research has not only been conducted in relation to other significant works of the author, but also to other literary texts of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century which revolve around the same topic and which have mostly remained unexplored by critics. The corpus includes works by Benedikte Naubert, Gerhard Anton von Halem, A.G.F. Rebmann, Johann Nepomuk Komareck and Niklas Vogt. The selected texts differ consistently from one another in terms of genre, theme and literary quality. However, each of these documents has much to convey about aesthetical, historical, political and philosophical issues that are central to the culture of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The aim of this research is to contextualise these texts within their *Entstehungshorizont*, to analyse the discourses they engage in and to explain the reasons for the growing interest of the time for the Thirty Years' War, thus shedding new light on Schiller's works.

**Veres, Madalina Valeria.** *Constructing Imperial Spaces: Habsburg Cartography in the Age of Enlightenment.* University of Pittsburgh, Department of History. Patrick Manning, M. Pinar Emiralioglu. April 2015.

This dissertation analyzes the production, circulation, and use of large-scale topographic provincial and border Habsburg maps during the time of Maria Theresa (1740-1780) and Joseph II (1780-1790). Based on archival sources located in Vienna, Brussels, Cluj-Napoca, Milan, Paris and Sibiu, I show how Maria Theresa's and Joseph II's desire to map their dominions led to the establishment of imperial corps of military engineers and the development of a network of scientific centers promoting the study of astronomy and geography. Once they had established a number of mapmaking institutions and recruited or educated a new generation of military engineers, the Habsburg rulers commissioned the first detailed topographic survey of their lands and prepared cartographic material to be used in border regulations with their neighbors. Maps offer a new angle to interpret and assess the efficiency of early modern governments to construct centralized empires, such as the Habsburg Monarchy. Maria Theresa's and Joseph II's determination to obtain a detailed image of their domains and imperial borders illustrates the reliance of rulers in the age of enlightened reform on emergent sciences, such as cartography, to further the defense and expansion of their empires.

**Volkhausen, Petra.** *Representations of "Female" Madness in German Literature of the 20th and 21st Century.* University of Maryland, Department of Germanic Studies. Director: Elke Frederiksen. June 2016 .

Using an interdisciplinary approach, my dissertation examines the intersection of "womanhood" and madness in German-language literature and culture. While scholars have studied the "madwoman" of the previous centuries extensively, my dissertation presents the first comprehensive study of representations of "female" madness from 1894 onward. Since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, female authors from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland have been appropriating

discourses of madness in order to critique the contradictory ramifications of mandatory adherence to the construct of “femininity”. Employing theories of Judith Butler and Michel Foucault, I argue that the madness discourse represents a key site where writers negotiate the ongoing hegemony of societal ideologies defining the special status of the female psyche, body and sexuality as entities which need to be monitored, shaped or optimized. My research thus redeploys “female” madness as a research category. While previously applied almost exclusively to the realities of white middle-class women, I argue for an intersectional conception of critical madness studies which takes account of gender, race, and religion to offer culturally specific insights into the lives of German women from diverse backgrounds.

**Ward, Elizabeth.** *A Past Misremembered? Depictions of Jewish Persecution under National Socialism in East German Cinema.* University of Leeds, Department of German. Directors: Paul Cooke, Stuart Taberner. February 2015.

Throughout its existence, East Germany’s ruling Sozialistische Einheitspartei Deutschlands (SED) never officially acknowledged any direct or inherited responsibility for the crimes committed on its territory between 1933 and 1945, instead choosing to recast itself as both victim and victor of fascist oppression through the foregrounding of political persecution. This interpretative framework undoubtedly resulted in the marginalisation of the fate of Jews under National Socialism in East German historiography and memories of the past. However, by focusing on East German cinematic engagements with National Socialist racial persecution, I challenge the assertion that films depicting Jewish victimhood were unwelcome or even taboo in the German Democratic Republic. By combining close readings of five films – *Ehe im Schatten* (Maetzig, 1947), *Sterne* (Wolf, 1959), *Lebende Ware* (Luderer, 1966), *Jakob der Lügner* (Beyer, 1974) and *Die Schauspieler* (Kühn, 1988) – with an analysis of the films’ production files, I unravel the complex status of films dealing with Jewish persecution produced in a country which consistently privileged narratives of political persecution above racial victimhood.

**Well, Martina.** “*Schreiben was hier war,*” *Beyond the Holocaust-Paradigm: (RE)Positionings of Jewish Self-Identity in German-Jewish Narratives Past and Present.* University of Pittsburgh, Department of German. Director: Sabine von Dirke. March 2016.

This dissertation examines the stakes of self-Orientalizing in literary and cinematographic texts of German-Jewish cultural producers in the context of Jewish emancipation and modernization. Positing Jewish emancipation as a trans-historical and cultural process, my study traces the poetic journey of a particular set of Orientalist tropes from 19th century ghetto stories to contemporary writings and film at the turn of the millennium to address a twofold question: what could this problematic method of representation accomplish for Germany’s Jewish minority in the past, and how do we understand its re-appropriation by Germany’s “new Jewry” today. While the works under consideration execute the Orientalist aesthetic under different historical conditions, they tap into the same representational archive. The Orientalist tropes employed not only come with a long history in articulating Jewishness, but are reanimated by Jews themselves to write the Jewish narrative of the present. Their reintroduction into fiction after decades of absence signals a paradigm shift in representations of Jews in Germany. As the shift accompanies change within Germany’s Jewish community, I contend that strategies of self-Orientalizing are a resource to make newly meaningful the Jewish historical experience and challenge the constraints of a Holocaust-based identity for Jews living in Germany today.

**Wempe, Sean Andrew.** *Lost at Locarno? Colonial Germans and the Redefinition of "Imperial" Germany, 1919-1933.* Emory University, History Department. Director: Brian Vick. May 2015.

This work spotlights how German men and women from the former African colonies exploited transnational opportunities to recover, renovate and market their understandings of German and European colonial aims in order to reestablish themselves as “experts” and “fellow civilizers” in European and American discourses on nationalism and imperialism after the loss of the German colonies per the Treaty of Versailles. I place particular emphasis on how colonial officials, settlers, and colonial lobbies made use of the League of Nations framework and investigate the involvement of Colonial Germans in such diplomatic flashpoints as the Naturalization Controversy in mandated Southwest Africa, the Locarno Conference, German participation in the Permanent Mandates Commission, and the Manchurian Crisis. This study revises standard historical portrayals of the League of Nations’ form of international governance, German participation in the League, the role of interest groups in international diplomacy, and liberal imperialism. In analyzing Colonial German investment and participation in interwar liberal internationalism, the project also complicates the idea of a direct continuity between Germany’s colonial period and the Nazi era.

**White, Kelsey D.** *Orientations Toward and Access to German-speaking Communities via Digital Technologies.* University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of German. Directors: Monika Chavez, Jeanne Schueller. May 2015.

Researchers, professional organizations, and educators regard participation in multilingual communities as a primary goal for language learning; however, whether students’ self-initiated behaviors align with these goals is unclear. This study drew on questionnaires completed by 23 beginning-level learners of German, technology-use logs, and interviews from a subset of six participants to explore these questions. Results indicated that students defined only native speakers (NSs) of the target language (TL) who live in a TL-speaking country as their aspirational (idealized) community and paid little attention to local communities of NSs or, most particularly, non-native speakers (i.e., their peers). The use of technology to maintain ties with members of students’ aspirational community (i.e., NSs) was reported in very few instances and not a single participant reported using technology to establish contact with members of a TL community. These findings are further discussed in light of pedagogical implications and suggestions for further research.

**Wood, Jessica.** *Portraits of the Artist: Dionysian Creativity in Selected Works by Gabriele d’Annunzio and Thomas Mann.* University of Birmingham, Department of Modern Languages. Directors: Nicholas Martin, Clodagh Brook. January 2016.

My thesis argues that the portrayals of creativity offered by Gabriele d’Annunzio and Thomas Mann are informed by their interpretations of Nietzsche’s notion of the Dionysian, and that striking affinities characterise their respective literary depictions of the relationship between the artist and (a version of) the Dionysian. D’Annunzio and Mann, who were contemporaries, are rarely considered together, and it is widely assumed that there is little common ground between them. My thesis demonstrates that their creative and critical engagement with Nietzsche, especially his idea of the Dionysian, offers a productive way of comparing the two writers and illuminating hitherto overlooked parallels between their understandings of creativity. The relationship between the artist and the Dionysian constitutes the main point of comparison. For

both d'Annunzio and Mann, the Dionysian appears as a drive that can promote creativity, through encouraging liberation from repression and the rediscovery of primordial energies, but also destruction, by threatening self-dissolution and chaos. The Dionysian is seen to offer a highly precarious form of creativity, and creative success to depend upon the fictional artist's ability to master this potentially lethal drive and channel the impulses it triggers into artistic production.

**Yanacek, Holly.** *Feeling Differently at the Fin de Siècle: Representations of Emotion and Cultural Change in German Literature, 1890-1901.* University of Pittsburgh, Department of German. Director: John B. Lyon. March 2016.

This dissertation examines the mediation of emotion in German literature of the *fin de siècle*, which I identify as a period of rapid cultural change when emotional codes and social mores were disputed. Compassion, honor, shame, love, pride, and pity were topics of contested public and intellectual debate around 1900, and I argue that the renegotiation of these emotional codes happened in part through literary works and other media. Building upon Bakhtinian discourse analysis and informed by current history of emotions research, my dissertation contributes the theoretical concept 'heteropathia,' which I define as the co-presence of differing ways of feeling represented in a single literary work or cultural object. In my analysis of novels by Theodor Fontane, Lou Andreas-Salomé, and Thomas Mann, I demonstrate that these works feature a heteropathic impulse that recalls the transitional status of the *fin de siècle*. These works acknowledge emotional alterity yet resist embracing any way of feeling uncritically. Instead, they mediate between diverse affective perspectives and create spaces for critical analysis and dialogue.

**Zivkovic, Yvonne.** *Between Geopolitics and Geopoetics – "Mitteleuropa" as a Transnational Memory Discourse in Austrian and Yugoslav Postwar Literature.* Columbia University, Department of Germanic Languages, Institute for Comparative Literature and Society. Directors: Andreas Huyssen, Marianne Hirsch. April 2016.

This dissertation examines how the German idea of Central Europe inspired a new poetics of memory in Austrian and Yugoslav literature during the Cold War period and immediately thereafter. As early as the 19<sup>th</sup> century, German and Austrian political thinkers have framed ideas of Germanic cultural and economic eastward expansion under the term *Mitteleuropa*. This was countered by a wave of post-imperial Austrian literature after 1918 that nostalgically evoked what had once been the largest multiethnic and multilingual political entity on the continent as *Mitteleuropa*. Challenging both expansionist and nostalgic visions of a larger Europe, an alternate memory discourse of *Mitteleuropa* emerged in the work of iconic writers in both the second Austria and the former Yugoslavia: I show how Ingeborg Bachmann, Peter Handke, Danilo Kiš, Aleksandar Tišma, Christoph Ransmayr and Dubravka Ugrešić utilized the legacy of Habsburg nostalgia in the postwar period to develop their own poetics of spatial memory and establish a form of engaged writing which transgressed the ideological divide of the continent.

## **Jeffrey Herf: Delegate's Report on 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Council of Learned Societies, 5-7 May 2016, Arlington, Virginia**

“Why were we there? The ACLS Meeting was not too liberal. It was not liberal enough.”

From May-5-7, 2016, David Barclay, the Executive Director of the GSA, and I attended the annual meeting of the American Council of Learned Societies, held in Arlington, Virginia, near Washington, DC ([http://www.acls.org/about/am\\_announcement/](http://www.acls.org/about/am_announcement/)). We were joined by 77 representatives of ACLS Constituent societies, eleven presidents of ACLS Constituent Societies, seven representatives of ACLS Affiliates, eleven members of the ACLS Board of Directors, 79 “Additional Participants” and an ACLS staff of eleven. It appeared to me that many of the attendees had attended previous such gatherings and knew one another; this, however, was my first ACLS annual meeting.

In the course of the gathering, Pauline Yu, the president of the ACLS, reported that delegates to previous conferences had asked the ACLS leaders the following question about the annual meeting: “Why are we here?” I confess it remains a good question. In what follows, I will try to offer an answer and to discuss the relevance of the ACLS annual meeting to the German Studies Association and to the study of German and for that matter European history, society, culture and politics. If what I saw and heard at the ACLS meeting is an indication of what is likely to be funded, the news, I fear, is not good for likely support for scholarship in German and European studies.

The opening panel on “Extending the Reach of the Humanities” addressed the issue of job opportunities for PhD’s in Humanities outside the universities. The panelists informed us that yes, there were such opportunities, and that people with doctorates in the Humanities had not only found employment in the federal (perhaps state and local) government, private industry, think tanks, journalism, non-governmental organizations and organizations involved in political and social activism but even were engaged in careers that were as fulfilling and at times financially rewarding as standard academic careers. It was good to learn that young people with PhD’s in Humanities had found careers outside the university, yet one would hope that the existence of intelligent life outside the university did not come as news to those in attendance. Moreover, one audience member sensibly pointed out that many if not most such jobs outside academia can be filled by applicants with two-year professional degrees in schools of public policy, business or journalism. Several panelists reminded the audience that humanities doctorates often had excellent command of language and could tell stories very effectively, a skill that one panelist told us was important for political and social organizations in what she called the “social justice community” working on immigration issues. In general, the panel seemed to be trying to put the best face on the reality that the supply of graduate students in PhD programs will exceed the demand for tenure-track and tenured faculty within academia in the coming years.

The following morning, we heard reports about the extent of funding from the ACLS. Whereas in 1967, it offered \$467,000 in fellowship support, in 2016 it was offering \$18 million which amounted to a 400 percent increase in inflation-adjusted dollars. I assume that details about funding priorities are available at the ACLS website so I would not presume to assess the ACLS budget priorities in various fields. At the meeting the focus was on increased funding for

programs in Africa and expansion of ethnic diversity within the American professoriate. Several presidents of academic societies offered brief reports about the practical contributions of the Humanities. One spoke of their ability to “shape the narrative about problems the world must address.” Another spoke of using the web to reach non-academic audiences as well as of even offering advice to faculty about how to write opinion pieces in the press and online media. The implicit message of the first day’s panel and the Saturday morning comments was that a focus on the intrinsic merits of the Humanities as we have understood them was not the best way to make the case for continued support for the Humanities. Instead, speakers were intent on demonstrating the *practical advantages* of our endeavors.

As a new attendee, I thought that perhaps a gathering of so many directors and delegates of learned societies would be an occasion to discuss issues such as the place of Western civilization courses and the meaning of the canon in undergraduate education; recent threats to freedom of expression on campuses with calls for “safe spaces,” “trigger warnings” and, yes, now-famous efforts to boycott our colleagues at Israeli universities. I thought there might be a panel or panels on what we mean by the Humanities and how we define our core mission. Perhaps those in attendance had heard other panels about all that in years past. In any case, an audience old enough to have been educated in the Western cultural and intellectual tradition was not exposed to a panel debating what that tradition or rather multiple traditions meant in 2016. Inexperienced ACLS attendee that I am, I thought perhaps such a gathering would be an ideal place to have *debates* about these issues and found it odd to gather so many distinguished scholars in one place and avoid such questions. So I also began to wonder “why are we here.”

One such issue to be debated among learned scholars could be approaches to the study of the relationship between the religion of Islam and the West. Yet rather than a panel of scholars with a variety of views on this key issue, we heard from a recipient of an ACLS fellowship about his work on Muslim-Christian relations in medieval and early modern Syria. He was glad to report that they were excellent--far better than conflictual relations between Muslims with Christians from Greece. News about how these people were able to get along with one another was nice to hear, but the point of asking this scholar--and only this scholar--to address a plenary session became apparent in his introduction. He informed us of the existence of Robert Spencer’s *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam (and the Crusades)*, which has apparently done well on amazon.com, and of the enormous number of citations of Samuel Huntington’s work on the clash of civilizations after 9/11. The contribution of the Humanities now appeared to be to correct the seemingly obvious errors of these works with serious scholarship.

I wondered, don’t the leaders of the ACLS who organized this program realize that there are at least some members of their audience who are well aware of a variety of serious scholarly perspectives on the issue of Islam and Christianity? In view of the desire stated on a previous panel to have the Humanities address issues of pressing public concern, it was odd to raise the issue of Islam and the West but not have scholars on the program who would address, for example, Islamic imperialism or the fraught relations, past and present, between Islam and the Jews or scholarship about the links between Islamism, terrorism and anti-Semitism. As one who has written about these issues as they emerged in modern German history during World War II, I was particularly aware of the absence of debate and of plural perspectives in what the ACLS leaders had presented to the assembled.

It was then that I began to understand why we were there. We were there to learn what the current leadership of the ACLS regards as a proper approach to this and other issues. We were there to learn what the ACLS regarded as the proper relationship between scholarship and politics.

A luncheon address by William Adams, the director of the National Endowment of the Humanities, included praise of the ideal of “liberal learning,” an acknowledgement of its elitist origins and its relevance for the professions, politics and our national culture. He asserted that the culture war debates he recalled from this time as a professor at Stanford appear to have abated in the universities. In the question period following his remarks I asked him whether, if it was the case that cultural controversies had abated within the humanities, it was perhaps because they had been generally won by those who had expressed skepticism about the Western cultural and intellectual tradition and had identified it primarily with racism, sexism and colonialism. Were we thus, I asked, in the midst of a cultural break as a result of which students now and in recent years are, on the whole, no longer receiving the kind of education in the Humanities that most of the people in this room received when we were undergraduates? Are our universities no longer effectively communicating the Western tradition, for all of its accomplishments and drawbacks, to undergraduates? Rather than a dismissal of my concerns, Adams said that “at Stanford perhaps we gave up [the fight for continued focus on the Western tradition] too soon.” Therefore, he added, there was a need for integration of the criticisms of recent years with continued attention to ideas and thinkers that had been the subject of those criticisms. His reply was a welcome breath of fresh air.

The ACLS leaders then organized an hour-long interview plenary session with Darren Walker, the president of the Ford Foundation. Walker informed the audience that the Humanities should push students outside their comfort zone. He then presented the agenda of the Ford Foundation that was firmly within a comfort zone of academic liberalism and left-liberalism. His three priorities for the Foundation were addressing climate change, global insecurity and “growing inequality.” Higher education offered a platform “for transformation in our society.” Walker discussed his dilemma of seeing the Foundation as an instrument for transformation and its dependence for funding on private donors. He spoke of the “ravages of the criminal justice system” and of “mass incarceration” but not of the ravages of violent crime.

He gave me the impression that the best thing to be said for capitalism was that it made possible the endowment of the Ford Foundation. Capitalism, he continued, was a system that not only produced inequality but was an economy that was “rigged” for the benefit of the privileged. He mentioned a recent exchange with a Silicon Valley executive who, based on his forty five years in the business world, objected to that way of characterizing the American economy. Rather than address the substance of the dissenter’s criticism, Walker suggested that the executive had the favorable view of the market economy because, as a white male who came of age in the 1960s and 1970s, he had privileges of which he was unaware and should acknowledge. Walker’s response struck me as strikingly illiberal because he dismissed the critic because of who he was but did not address the substance of the criticism. That approach to disagreement stifles, rather than promotes scholarly conversation about divergent viewpoints.

Walker recalled with great fondness the Greek and Roman classics he studied as an undergraduate at the University of Texas in Austin. His genuine commitment to the Humanities

came through quite clearly. Yet it did not seem to occur to him to make the case the reducing inequality in higher education should include making his acquaintance with the Western tradition and its debates about liberty and equality more broadly available. Rather, he presented his very conventional political opinions as clear evidence of what the Ford Foundation was now funding and supporting. The ACLS answer as to “why we are here,” and why Walker was given a full hour to express his opinions to almost a hundred leaders of learned societies, was to let them know which way the wind was blowing at the Ford Foundation. If they sought funding from it, they now had a clearer idea of what kinds of proposals to support and what kinds of research questions were not likely to be funded.

Giving Walker the hour conveyed an old message: money talks. In perhaps a more innocent and naïve day, the president of a major funding foundation would have sat in the audience and listened to scholars discuss and debate issues, perhaps even discuss and debate the extent, causes and consequences of inequality and the impact of funding on scholarly priorities in the Humanities. Given his criticisms of capitalism, a panel might also be organized to with advocates and critics of the market economy. There are, after all, serious economic historians who argue that no other economic system has lifted so many millions of people out of poverty over the centuries as has the market economy. There are, obviously, many others who take a different view. If the issue of capitalism is to be raised at an ACLS plenary then the assembled scholars deserved a plurality of views on the subject. In years past, perhaps a foundation president would have come to an ACLS meeting to *learn* from scholars debating such matters, not, by implication, lay down the parameters for what they should and shouldn't study.

Following this plenary, “breakout sessions” on the following topics took place: “Constructive Approaches for Adjunct Faculty,” “PhD Career Diversification,” “Creative Approaches to Annual Meetings,” “Inequality and Diversity in the Humanities,” “Advocating for the Humanities: A New Toolkit for Scholarly Societies,” and “Democratic Engagement in Teaching and Learning.” At the “advocating for the Humanities” session, which I attended, staff members of the National Humanities Alliance (<http://www.nhalliance.org/>) offered practical tips about how to contact politicians and federal and state government officials regarding support for the Humanities. I asked if the National Humanities Alliance had taken a position in opposition to the BDS efforts. No, it had not done so and neither, apparently, has the ACLS. The suggestions were mostly common sense but there were some internet suggestions that GSA members may find helpful at the above mentioned link.

The problem with the ACLS meeting was not that the overwhelming majority of views expressed were conventionally left-wing or left-liberal, though by now that gets tiresome and boring. It was that the meeting was not liberal *enough*. “Liberal” in the sense that there is an intrinsic value placed on pluralism and difference. A liberal gathering would include a variety of perspectives, including views some might call centrist or conservative, that were voiced in debates and discussions about serious issues. It is liberalism evident in the texts of John Stuart Mill, Alexis de Tocqueville, Isaiah Berlin, and the Federalist Papers as well as in the writings of Karl Bracher and Jürgen Habermas.

I found it odd that in Arlington there was no discussion at all about threats to academic freedom that come from *within the universities and colleges* in the form of efforts to boycott Israel, impose “safe spaces” and “trigger warnings.” One might have expected that the excellent

statement from the University of Chicago on freedom of expression in the universities (<https://provost.uchicago.edu/sites/default/files/documents/reports/FOECommitteeReport.pdf>) would have formed the basis for a panel on the subject. No such discussion took place this year. In the perspectives not heard and the topics not discussed, there was, in short, something *illiberal* about the annual meeting of the ACLS. It was evidence of what critics of the Humanities have been saying for years, namely that the academy has become boring in its predictable left of center uniformity. The meeting sent a message that those who think the market economy has, also at times been a force for good, who think the Western tradition is a source of our ideas about freedom and equality as well their opposites, and who do not believe that the relevance of the Humanities lies primarily in their political utility to political activists, will most likely not be receiving fellowships from the ACLS in the near future.

The ACLS mood of May 2016 has implications for the German Studies Association and for the study of German and European history, culture and politics in general. For however leftist various members of the GSA may regard themselves, in the world of the ACLS that I heard in Arlington, the very study of things European falls under suspicion as being part of that white, male, elitist world of privilege that is held responsible for the entire world's suffering, past and present. If, as the mood of the meeting implied, the task of the Humanities is to transform this evil world, then funding for European languages or scholarship in European history and culture should be reduced in favor of work on Latin American, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

I know that whenever a criticism such as the one above is published a small army of professors is poised to denounce the critic for offering an unfair and distorted view that ignores the presumed vast plurality of views and perspectives in our profession. Yet in Arlington, if there were scholars eager to express such dissonant views, they kept their dissents to themselves. The public sphere of the ACLS was striking for its uniformity. We historians of German history know, as Thomas Nipperdey argued so eloquently, that there are multiple continuities in German history. Some of them led to Auschwitz. Others led to West German democracy and East German Communism, and still others to peaceful unification in 1990. Germany is Immanuel Kant and Thomas Mann as well as Hitler and Himmler. It is most importantly not any one thing but many things.

If the leaders of the ACLS and the many learned societies gathered at the 2016 annual meeting want to have a snowball's chance in hell of restoring public faith and fiscal support for the Humanities in this country they will have to put on a very different annual meeting in 2017 and send very different messages especially to young and mid-career scholars who cannot afford to write articles like this one. The ACLS should draw attention to the multiplicity of the Western tradition and stress the responsibility of American universities to convey it with all of its merits and contradictions. It should foster debate with a broad spectrum of opinion about the important issues of our time, assert that our young people have a right to know what our traditions are, for better and worse, and that we scholars and teachers have a moral responsibility to participate in the work of cultural continuity and change that our teachers performed for us. We, whether in the ACLS or elsewhere, should speak with pride but not arrogance about the distinctive responsibilities of *American* universities in world scholarly culture. For if we do not pass on our best traditions to our students, sooner or later more people both inside and outside the universities will conclude that there are no compelling reasons to have Humanities faculties at all. If

nothing else, the prospect of extinction should concentrate the mind and refocus our efforts on mending the cultural break that we have endured.

Jeffrey Herf, Distinguished University Professor, Department of History, University of Maryland, College Park. His *Nazi Propaganda for the Arab World* received the Sybil Milton Prize for work on the Holocaust in 2011. His most recent book is *Undeclared Wars with Israel: East Germany and the West German Far Left, 1967-1989* (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

## **American Academy in Berlin: Berlin Fellowships**

The American Academy in Berlin invites applications for its residential fellowships for the academic year 2017/2018. The deadline is Friday, September 30, 2016 (12 noon EST or 6 pm CET). Applications may be submitted online or mailed to the Berlin office.

The Academy welcomes applications from emerging and established scholars, writers, and professionals who wish to engage in independent study in Berlin. Approximately 23 Berlin Prizes are conferred annually. Past recipients have included historians, journalists, poets and novelists, legal scholars, anthropologists, musicologists, economists, and public policy experts, among others.

Fellowships are typically awarded for an academic semester or, on occasion, for an entire academic year. Bosch Fellowships in Public Policy may be awarded for shorter stays of six to eight weeks. Benefits include round-trip airfare, partial board, a \$5,000 monthly stipend, and accommodations at the Academy's lakeside Hans Arnhold Center in the Berlin-Wannsee district.

Fellowships are restricted to individuals based permanently in the United States. Candidates in academic disciplines must have completed a PhD at the time of application. Candidates working in other fields—such as journalism, film, law, or public policy—must have equivalent professional degrees. Writers should have published at least one book at the time of application. The Academy gives priority to a proposal's scholarly merit rather than any specific relevance to Germany. Candidates should however explain why they want to work on their projects in Berlin.

Please note that the *Inga Maren Otto Berlin Prize in Music Composition* and the *Guna S. Mundheim Berlin Prize in the Visual Arts* are invitation-only competitions. We also do not accept applications in mathematics and the hard sciences.

Following a peer-reviewed evaluation process, an independent Selection Committee reviews finalist applications. The 2017/2018 Berlin Prizes will be announced in late February 2017.

We will accept applications as of May 23, 2016. For further information and to apply online, please see <http://www.americanacademy.de/home/fellows/applications>

or contact:

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## **Austrian Cultural Forum New York: Young Scholars Travel Grants**

The Austrian Cultural Forum New York (ACFNY) and the German Studies Association (GSA) are happy to announce that there will be limited funds available to support selected young Austrian Studies scholars who will participate in this year's conference of the German Studies Association in San Diego from 29 September to 2 October 2016.

Applications from scholars working in contemporary Austrian Studies (since 1945) will be given preferential treatment. Applicants must not be older than 35 years and must not have received any travel grant from the ACFNY in the past. Applicants who receive financial support from other official Austrian institutions to cover travel and accommodation costs will not be considered.

The funds are intended for Austrian Studies scholars who are either completing an appropriate advanced degree or who have completed that degree within the past three years. Austrian Studies scholars from North America (Canada, Mexico, and the United States) as well as from outside North America are eligible to apply for these funds. Austrian citizenship or residency in Austria is not necessary.

Depending on the number of accepted applications and budgetary circumstances, the travel grant comprises \$400 (for scholars from North America) and \$800 (for scholars from outside North America) to offset travel costs.

Travel grants are for one person only and cannot be split among several applicants.

Applications must be submitted to the Austrian Cultural Forum New York/ACFNY ([desk@acfny.org](mailto:desk@acfny.org)), no later than 1 June 2016. Applications should send an abstract of the paper which they submitted to the GSA and a curriculum vitae. Successful applicants will be informed by 1 July 2016.

Certificates will be awarded in person at the German Studies Association Annual Conference in San Diego. Stipends will be paid in check or transferred to an Austrian bank account (holder of bank accounts in Austria only).

## **Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies: Call for Applications**

The Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies offers up to one year of research support at the Freie Universität Berlin, one of Germany's leading research universities. It is open to scholars in all social science and humanities disciplines, including historians working on German and European history since the mid-18th century. The program accepts applications from U.S. and Canadian nationals, permanent and long-term residents. Applicants for a dissertation fellowship must be fulltime graduate students enrolled at a North American university who have completed all coursework required for the PhD and must have achieved ABD (all but dissertation) status by the time the proposed research stay in Berlin begins. Also eligible are U.S. and Canadian PhDs who have received their doctorates within the past two calendar years.

The program offers a stimulating academic environment that combines excellent research opportunities with intellectual and cultural interaction. With its four universities, 60 research institutes and numerous state and national archives, Berlin is one of the most diverse and prolific centers of higher education and research in Europe. Our colloquium serves as a central meeting point for all fellows to share, discuss and support each other's work. Guided by eminent scholars, the program colloquium also seeks to address current German public debates, invites distinguished guests and arranges cultural excursions.

The Berlin Program is based at, funded and administered by the Freie Universität Berlin, one of the winners in the Excellence Initiative, a national competition in higher education. Fellows will be enrolled at the Freie Universität Berlin, will enjoy library privileges and access to all services.

Central to the program's mission is our close cooperation with our North American partner, the German Studies Association (GSA) – the largest professional association of scholars focused on German, Austrian, and Swiss history, literature, culture studies, political science, and economics ([www.thegsa.org](http://www.thegsa.org)). Each year, our Summer Workshop and the GSA Distinguished Lecture at the Freie Universität Berlin as well as our Alumni Panel at the GSA Annual Conference in the U.S. provide a forum for scholarly exchange and seek to strengthen ties between fellows, alumni and the academic community in Berlin and beyond.

## **Heidelberg University: HAUS Scholarship for Bachelor's or Master's Students Enrolled at U.S. Universities**

Heidelberg Alumni U.S. (HAUS) is pleased to invite applications for the HAUS Scholarship. The stipend is available to one qualified student from a United States university planning to study at Universität Heidelberg. The scholarship award is \$5,000 per semester for Master's program students and \$3,000 for Bachelor's program students for the winter semester 2016/2017. We are seeking candidates with a strong academic background who can also fulfill the role of ambassador for HAUS upon their return from their study abroad experience. Universität Heidelberg is consistently ranked as one of the best universities in Germany and one of the top rated institutions of higher education and research in the world. It has been distinguished twice as an elite university in the framework of the German Excellence Initiative. Universität Heidelberg is a research university with a wide range of study programs and a strong international orientation: about one-fifth of the university's 31,000 students and one-third of its doctoral candidates are foreign nationals. With its landmark castle, Old Town and the Neckar River, Heidelberg ranks among the most beautiful cities in Germany. It is conveniently located just one hour south of Frankfurt International Airport.

“Having the opportunity to study at one of the most prestigious universities in Germany is both an honor and a privilege. The quality of education is simply outstanding. My professors are leaders in their fields of research, and my peers are world-class. The HAUS scholarship considerably eased the burden of finances, it also ensured a smooth transition during my move to Heidelberg, and offered a network of support for assistance and guidance.” CAMERON CROFT, HAUS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT 2015/2016 FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA.

### **APPLICATION INFORMATION**

#### **Minimum Qualifications:**

1. Undergraduate or Master's program student at an institution of higher education in the U.S.
2. United States residency
3. Acceptance as student at Universität Heidelberg (proof can be submitted at a later time)

#### **Scholarship Recipient Expectations:**

1. Successfully complete the proposed academic plan at Universität Heidelberg
2. Cooperate with Heidelberg Alumni International (HAI) while in Heidelberg
3. Serve as an ambassador for HAUS and Universität Heidelberg after completing his/her studies in Heidelberg

#### **Application Process:**

1. Complete the HAUS Scholarship application form in its entirety
2. Submit an essay describing your interest in and qualifications for the scholarship and explain why you would like to study at Heidelberg University and your particular interests (500-600 words)

3. Submit your latest transcript (electronically)
4. Submit a recommendation letter by one of your professors
5. Submit proof of U.S. residency (copy of driver's license, utility bill, or U.S. passport, etc.)
6. Short-listed candidates will participate in an oral interview HAUS will not support students who receive another stipend for their stay in Heidelberg.

Please find more information and the application at [www.HeidelbergUniversity.org](http://www.HeidelbergUniversity.org) Please mail the completed application with all attachments to [info@heidelberguniversity.org](mailto:info@heidelberguniversity.org) by June 15, 2016.

## **In Memoriam: Dr. Rolf Hoffmann (1953-2016)**

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Dr. Rolf Hoffmann, Executive Director of the German-American Fulbright Commission, in Berlin on 21 April 2016. Rolf Hoffmann was a good friend of the German Studies Association, and had worked closely with the Association in various capacities over the course of many years. He will be sorely missed.

Here is a *Nachruf* from the Fulbright Commission:

With enormous expertise and foresight Dr. Hoffmann managed the German-American Fulbright Program for more than 12 years and inspired it with important new initiatives and ideas. It is thanks to his extraordinary engagement that the German-American Fulbright exchange programs are held in high regard worldwide.

Dr. Hoffmann earned a Ph.D. in zoology and behavioral sciences at the University of Tübingen, Germany, and Duke University, USA. After teaching for two years at the Technical University of Karlsruhe (KIT), he joined the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Bonn, where he became the deputy director of the Feodor Lynen Program. From 1991 until 2004, Dr. Hoffmann worked for the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in Bonn. He first served as DAAD's head of the Northern Hemisphere programs and later became the director of DAAD's US office in New York where he formed and managed DAAD's strategies for the internationalization of German universities. Back in Germany, he directed DAAD's world-wide initiative for promoting German higher education excellence, and he co-founded and directed GATE Germany, a university consortium of the DAAD and the German Rectors' Conference for international higher education marketing.

In 2004 Dr. Hoffmann was appointed executive director of the Fulbright Commission in Berlin and helmed its academic exchange programs between the U.S. and Germany. It is due to his ingenuity and his innovative vigor that in times of changing university systems and evolving international education markets, the German-American Fulbright exchange programs continue to enjoy great prestige and an excellent reputation. Dr. Hoffmann was deeply committed to the German-American friendship and the balance of interests between the two governments. An imaginative architect of the German-American Fulbright program, he initiated new transatlantic Fulbright collaborations and new scholarship formats and for this enjoyed great appreciation and respect on both sides of the Atlantic. His expert advice and his dynamic creativity will be sorely missed both in the German-American Fulbright Commission and in the greater transatlantic academic community. We will remember him with high esteem and gratitude.

A private memorial ceremony will be held in the circle of family and close friends. A memorial ceremony with the colleagues, friends and partners from Dr. Hoffmann's professional networks will take place in June in Berlin.