



Germanic Studies

Fall 2016

Alumni Newsletter

Letter from the Chair: Of Challenges and Miracles

The Department of German (now Germanic Studies) was founded on November 9, 1885, yet another auspicious German-related event to fall on that overcrowded date. The first chair was **Hans Carl Gunther von Jagemann**, our George Washington (see germanic.indiana.edu/aboutus/HistoricalNotesGermanicStudies.pdf for more). Having served as chair from 2003 to 2009, I am proud to occupy the post one last time before I retire. **Fritz Breithaupt**, who finished his term this past summer, has left the department in as good a shape as one could possibly hope for in these times, for which he deserves praise. I hope we can build on the good work he left behind.

Nevertheless and through no fault of our own, we face challenges that every humanities department faces in the early twenty-first century. We have anticipated and been proactive concerning many of the issues that face us. We have instituted a Business Certificate to attract bright students from the Business School

to take courses that will broaden their education and thereby enhance their career options. We have vastly increased our offerings of courses in English, including an English-language minor. We have moved our high school honors program to Graz, run almost concurrently with our university-level program. Under the tutelage of **Michel Chaouli**, we have inaugurated an English-language summer program in Berlin. And we have designed an integrated B.A./M.A. (total: 5 years) degree that currently sits at the College Curriculum Committee awaiting approval. Yet our future depends in large part on the fortunes of the College of Arts and Sciences. Over the next four years we will lose four of our faculty, fully one-fourth of our current strength. If we are to remain one of the two or three best departments in the country, the College (with our help) will have to right the ship and support us with future hires.

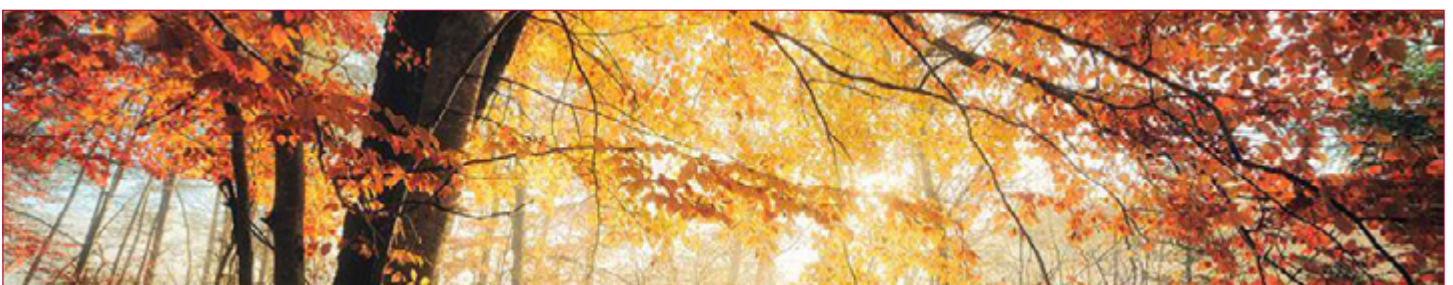
Despite the seemingly bleak picture that clouds the mood and

minds of the humanistic disciplines, I have no doubt that we will thrive in the future, in part because of our own initiative and creativity, and in part due to what, in Capra-esque cinematic terms, could be described as a miracle. **Jeff A. Grove**, a graduate from IU (1978), where he learned a remarkably accent-free German, has documented a generous endowed gift for a future named chair and promises to support in coming years our endeavors to recruit the best and brightest from Indiana high schools to study and pursue degrees in our department. I need say no more about Mr. Grove, because he has provided the statement presented on page 3 so that all of us can get to know him better. In future issues I hope to be able to update you on further initiatives and successes.

I hope this message in a bottle finds you all in good health and good spirits.

Please continue to let us hear from you.

– William Rasch



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Germanic Studies

This newsletter is published by the Department of Germanic Studies, with support from the College of Arts and Sciences, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University.

For activities and membership information, call 800-824-3044 or visit alumni.iu.edu

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Grüße aus Bloomington!

A message from editor Julie Lawson

Hello and many greetings from Bloomington, now looking especially nice in her ever-changing end-of-year colors. Faculty and current students, now nicely settled in to their new digs on the third floor of the Global and International Studies Building, fondly referred to as Gisbee or Gisbert (as you will see if you keep reading), are busier than ever with teaching and writing, travel, administration, and community outreach. This year you will see in several of the updates some pretty exciting ventures into theatrical, as well as multimedia and multilingual, approaches to the teaching and promotion of German language and culture. Alums from all over the country share insights and accomplishments from both inside and outside university life, sometimes developing fascinating connections between the two spheres. Emeriti from right here at home may be a little more laid-back, but they are no less creative in their exploration of life beyond academe.

If you are among this year's newsletter contributors, thank you for writing! If you have not sent in an item, please consider doing so next year. We welcome all means of communication, from smoke signals to SMS.

We send you greetings once a year in the form of this venerable newsletter, but remember, you can visit with us any time via the Department of Germanic Studies website www.indiana.edu/~germanic and on the Facebook pages of IU Bloomington Germanic Studies and German

House Indiana University. And let me remind you also of our presence on the College of Arts and Sciences news site, www.indiana.edu/~asnews/index.php. You can read news items by department by clicking on the pull-down menu at the upper right. If you have items of professional interest, book announcements, or conference activities any time during the year, send them to me and I will post them on ASNews for you.

As for me, it has been the first year in many that I haven't been in the classroom. It feels a little odd, but happily I have been busy translating and trying to write a bit. In October, along with **Jeanette Clausen** (M.A., '66, Ph.D., '75), I attended the annual conference of the American Literary Translators' Association in Oakland, CA. There is nothing quite as much fun as listening to a room full of people talk about words. Well, maybe if there were musical accompaniment...

Read on, let us know what you think, and stay in touch!

Mit herzlichen Grüßen,

Julie Lawson
 M.A., '68, Ph.D., '80
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A Message from Alumnus Jeff A. Grove

“Early this year, I signed documents with the IU Foundation confirming a bequest that will endow a chair within the IU Department of Germanic Studies. **Bill Rasch**, chairman of the department, asked that I provide some information on my background explaining how I arrived at this decision. Hopefully, the description of my motivation will be at least mildly interesting to the readers of this newsletter.

Actually, I have known for many years that I wanted to make a meaningful contribution to IU as a means of acknowledging the high quality education I received while on campus in Bloomington and abroad in Germany. For several years, I have discussed possibilities with the IU Foundation, and finally this year, in conjunction with the Bicentennial Campaign, the time to act arrived. The Department of Germanic Languages was an obvious choice for me. Although my training in computer science at IU has provided me with the tools for a lifelong vocation, the German language skills I learned at IU have served as a basis for some of my most memorable life experiences. My path to the German language began in the sixties in the small town of Washington, Indiana. By luck of the draw, my junior high school social studies teacher was Mr. Otto Buchhorn, who spoke with a very heavy German accent, although he was born in the United States. I believe he grew up near a town named New Braunfels, not far from Austin, Texas. (I’ve always wondered why Braunfels was New

rather than Neu.) That particular area experienced a large influx of German immigrants in the 19th century and the residents continued to speak German for many, many years, which explains the accent. In any case, Mr. Buchhorn also taught German at the high school, and I’d say he used the class in junior high to try to recruit the better students to his German classes. Ultimately, I was able to look past his unwavering support of the University of Texas Longhorns and take his classes. I believe I had three years of German at Washington High School. Looking back, I’d say that my German skills were still quite rudimentary upon graduating. This was probably not unexpected, given the lack of immersion in the language, and I dare say this is probably the experience of 95% of high school language students, regardless of the language studied. Little did I know, however, what a firm foundation Mr. Buchhorn’s classes provided.

Subsequently, upon enrolling at IU in the College of Arts and Sciences, I naturally gravitated to German to fulfill the pesky language requirement. Sadly, I recall that many of my friends regarded the language requirement as something to suffer through in a perfunctory manner on the road to a degree. I still recall admonitions such as “German language classes at IU are very demanding. You don’t need the headache. Look into the cultural studies option to get past the language requirement.” I am so thankful that I ignored this sage advice and went with the language option. In all honesty though, they were right on one count. That is, the classes were demanding. I must have gone through at least three

paperback copies of Langenscheidt’s German Dictionary in my freshman year alone. If only <http://dict.tu-chemnitz.de/> had existed then. On the other hand, much to my surprise, many aspects of the classes were relatively easy. German prepositions requiring the dative case you say? No problem! *Aus, außer, bei, mit, nach, seit, von, zu!* Mr. Buchhorn drilled that into me a few years earlier, so I was often just a fraction of a step ahead. With that, a few professors took note of the kid who seemed to actually enjoy learning a foreign language. In particular, I recall how **Ferdinand Piedmont** and **Christa Beardsley** (Ph.D., ’72) encouraged me, challenged me, and helped promote a burgeoning joy of learning the German language. Not coincidentally then, I regard my gift as a way to honor the dedication of such fine professors, some of the best I had during my undergraduate years.

As mentioned earlier, some of my most enduring memories are based on being able to speak German. I fondly recall my first trip to Germany in conjunction with a summer class in Bonn. The last week included a whirlwind trip to Berlin. Imagine, if you can, the impact on a small-town Indiana teenager who was peering over the Berlin Wall into East Berlin observing the differences between a vibrant West and a sullen East. In West Berlin, Mercedes and BMWs ruled the road. In the East, the pinnacle of socialist achievement, a few smoke-belching Trabants could be seen chugging down the road. At irregular intervals along the Wall, one could see black crosses marking the spots where people from the

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(A Message from Alumnus Jeff A. Grove cont.)

East had died trying to escape to the West. Most had the name and date of death of the deceased. A few simply said “*Unbekannt.*” Now imagine discussing these things in the language of the local people who experienced them every day of their lives. Thereafter, related pictures on the news and stories in the newspapers were no longer isolated incidents in far-off places. Instead, they became real events involving real people. Oh, how I wish I could have been there to see that Wall finally crack.

Another memory is a visit to Eisenach shortly after the fall of the Wall. The trip there was broken into two parts. The first was on the ICE train from Frankfurt to the still visible border where a change of trains was required. The first train zipped along smoothly at speeds approaching 180 km/hr or more. The second train was still operated on the obsolete tracks and equipment of the East German rail system. Top speed was probably about 40 km/hr. Upon arrival in Eisenach, where train

stations and streets and housing stock were being ripped apart in the process of upgrading the eastern infrastructure, I checked into a hotel where the owner was astounded to meet an American who could speak German. I recall translating some documents into English for her so she could provide British visitors with English versions. She seemed to take pride in telling me the history of the hotel and how it had passed from her great-grandmother to grandmother and down to her. She described the changes that crashed down on the country after reunification, including a divorce from a husband who left town after he was discovered to be a Stasi informer. (I’m guessing his popularity took a sudden and precipitous turn for the worse when this was revealed.) I’ve had similar experiences in several other smaller towns in Germany and Austria as the people take a liking to the visiting American who has taken the time to learn their language. Had I been just another English-speaking tourist, I seriously

doubt that I would have had such experiences.

So that, in a nutshell, is how I more or less accidentally stumbled onto the German language and managed to stick to it over the years, despite what seems to be a built-in bias for Americans to eschew other languages. I hope that my gift to the university helps future students with an interest in German overcome this bias, learn the language, and revel in the experiences available in the German-speaking world.

As for the future, I hope to be able to visit Germany more often. I’m plotting a visit to Hamburg or maybe Dresden soon, hopefully incorporating a two-week class at the local Goethe Institute. I have a far-fetched goal of attending a class at every Goethe Institute in Germany. I’m guessing that has never been done. So far, I’ve done Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Berlin, and München. That leaves around 10 more to go. Wish me luck and longevity!”

— Jeff A. Grove

Student News

Lane Sorensen submits this item as a fine indication that our current grad students are busy and productive on their own academic turf as well as in the greater IU community. As the “German(ic) Cluster Language Facilitator” for the IU Global Village, Lane led the GV in an event called “Movits Monday” on September 12. Lane presented on the historical linguistic connection between English (a West Germanic language) and Swedish (a North Germanic language) and fed the students’ need for next-level beats, big brass, and rowdy

rhymes by listening to the Swedish band, Movits! They then looked at lyrics together and found cognates between the two languages, all the while munching on some Swedish fish.

The German(ic) Cluster then kicked off with Oktoberfest on Tuesday, September 27 with oompah music, *Wiesn*-worthy hats, a presentation about the origins of this famous festival,

and enough food to simulate the full, comfy feeling you get when you drink enough beer (without, of course, drinking any beer). *Ein Prosit der Gemütlichkeit!*



Faculty News

Claudia Breger is still trying to adjust to being back to teaching this fall after a lovely (and, she thinks, well deserved) sabbatical year that included much travel (conferences, Berlin..., and a yoga retreat in Belize!), but also some relatively quiet writing time at home. She has been making progress on her book manuscript "Making Worlds: Affect and Collectivity in Contemporary Transnational Cinema," along with a number of articles and book chapters, but needs another vacation soon.

Troy Byler submits the following: "Our third annual IU German Theater Project for High Schools took place Saturday, April 9th on the Bloomington campus. Almost 60 students and eight instructors from seven different high schools attended the daylong festival that included workshops for the high school students led by IU Germanic Studies graduate students (**Michael Bryant, Katya Cervantes, Chris Chiasson, Bettina Christner, Kasina Entzi, Maria Fink, Franzi Krüger, Anita Lukic, Anna Spafford, Catherine van Halsema, Silja Weber, Juliane Wunsch**) and a teacher workshop entitled "Yes, and ... NOW!!" — *Improv for Teacher Professionalization and Personal Growth* led by the IUB German Language Coordinator, **Susanne Even**. The project was sponsored and supported by the Max Kade Foundation (Thank you, **Johannes Türk**, for procuring the funds!), the IU Department of Germanic Studies, the IU College of Arts and Sciences, the IU Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning, the IU Center for the Study of Global Change, and the

German Embassy. It was directed by a committee composed of Germanic Studies graduate students and the department's fiscal officer, **Jill Giffin**. During the last academic year, Indiana high schools were asked to video live performances by their German students based on original or adapted scripts. We received a record 27 submissions from eight schools. The committee selected the top two videos in each category and presented them at the end of the festival. The audience then voted for their favorites. Two new awards, for Outstanding Acting and Outstanding Use of German, were handed out. Book awards, classroom board games, and framed certificates were given for first place and honorable mention in each category. The winning submissions are available for viewing at www.indiana.edu/~german/theaterproject

All participants in the teacher workshop received documentation for their professional growth plan. 85% of the students mentioned that they learned something new in their workshops and 93% would recommend the German Theater Project to other classmates. Here are some selected comments from participants:

"Thanks again for organizing such a great festival for all the schools."

"I likewise appreciate what you're doing. Ms. Even's teacher workshop was also a new one, so I picked up some tips as well."

"My students especially talked highly of their Brecht workshop and their main instructor for this class."

Our own College of Arts and Sciences continues to be impressed with our project's ability to integrate

language learning and teaching from high school to the graduate level. Integral to our success has been the willingness and passion that our graduate students bring to the designing and leading of the festival workshops. Again, our hope is to continue building the IU German Theater Project for High Schools as an annual event and eventually to hit our maximum of 10 participating schools. Outreach programs like these serve a crucial role for advocacy of German language and cultural instruction at all levels.

Michel Chaouli reports: "In 2015-16, I managed to finish the book on Kant's third *Critique* that I had been working on for a number of years. *Thinking with Kant's Critique of Judgment* is being published in December by Harvard UP, just in time for the holidays. One of the past year's highlights for me was the opening of the IU Gateway Office in Berlin in November in a snazzy factory-turned-academic center in Kreuzberg. The place was thick with IU people: lots of suits, of course, but also plenty of faculty and students who happened to be in Berlin, among them filmmaker and former IU colleague **Brigitta Wagner**. In February, in the very same Gateway Office, I put together a panel discussion with four prominent literary scholars who teach in Berlin entitled "Die Wissenschaft der Literaturwissenschaft." Believe it or not, the room was packed to the rafters. There were reports in the newspapers and on the radio. Who says no one cares about literary studies?"

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Susanne Even writes as always with élan: “Dieses Jahr ist ein rundes Jubiläum für mich: 10 Jahre am Department of Germanic Studies. Dass ich weiterhin mit Begeisterung zugange bin, verdanke ich meinen Kolleginnen und Kollegen, unseren AIs, und unseren Studentinnen und Studenten. Mit allen AIs verbindet mich mindestens eine Geschichte – von paraphrastischen Strukturen zu knallenden Absätzen auf dem Flur von Ballantine, von Lodenjacken zu Anzügen bei minimaler Unterrichtsvorbereitung, von „it was all very sudden“ zu „he could have written less“, von der Mär der durch die Gegend fliegenden Stühle zu performativem Ergebnistanz. Vor allem aber begeistert mich der Mut unserer AIs – der Mut sich immer wieder auf die Unterrichtsbühne zu stellen, der Mut sich auch mal aus dem Fenster zu lehnen, der Mut zur Lücke, der Mut etwas Neues auszuprobieren, der Mut über sich selbst zu lachen. Und das Durchhaltevermögen angesichts der vollen Syllabi, der eigenen Kursverpflichtungen, der ganzen extra Aktivitäten. Der Einfallsreichtum. Die Fähigkeit Grenzen zu ziehen, zu hinterfragen, sich kritisch auszutauschen, auch mal das Unmögliche zu denken. Professionell zu sein und

miteinander umzugehen. Dabei die Freundschaften nicht zu vergessen. Die Kunst des Jonglierens, des Seiltanzes. Unterrichten als Kunst. Das dritte SCENARIO Forum Symposium zu *Performative Pedagogy* war ein voller Erfolg. Die Sprecher*innen Micha Fleiner (Universität Freiburg), Manfred Schewe (University College Cork, Irland), Barbara Schmenk (University of Waterloo, Kanada), Gus Weltsek (Ivy Tech, Bloomington) und ich selbst lieferten am 23. und 24. Oktober 2015 einen Einblick in performative Pädagogik von Theorie zu Praxis, von philosophischen zu pragmatischen Gesichtspunkten, von Vortrag zu Workshop, von Erwachsenenbildung zu Arbeit mit Kindern. Es bleibt zu hoffen, dass solche Symposia in Zukunft wiederholt werden können – immerhin ist Indiana University zurzeit der Knotenpunkt in den USA, was performative Pädagogik in der Fremdsprachenvermittlung angeht.

Und zum Schluss: Es war einmal ein Märchenkurs. Dieser Märchenkurs fand im Schlosse des Königs Gisbert (Global and International Studies Building) statt. Und obwohl König Gisbert sich redlich mühte es an

nichts fehlen zu lassen und der Märchensaal einer der größten im Schlosse war, waren doch über 40 Märchenfiguren gekommen: zwölf tanzende Prinzessinnen, sieben Zwerge, sechs Schwäne, einige verwunschene oder nicht verwunschene Prinzen, zwei Stiefschwestern, mehrere Stiefmütter, und ein paar Kinder im Wald. Und dann und wann ein gewissenloser Schurke. Mit ihnen kamen Tauben, Enten, ein Goldesel, eine Gans, ein gestiefelter Kater, und mehr – ganz zu schweigen von den all den Objekten, die auch noch herein getragen wurden: Äpfel, Spindeln, goldene Kugeln, blutige Schlüssel, Hemden aus Brennesseln, und vieles andere mehr. Der Saal war voll, aber durch die Zauberkraft aller entstand jedoch Raum für innere und äußere Lernbewegungen, gemeinsamen Austausch, individuelle und kollaborative Ideen und Präsentationen, denen es an Einfallsreichtum nicht mangelte.“
Moral: „Man muss das Unmögliche denken, um das Denkbare möglich zu machen.“ (Tom Borg)

Bieneke Haitjema brings us up to date on our thriving Dutch program: “Teaching language skills and cultural awareness to students who have chosen to study or work in one of the three countries where Dutch is the official language, adds a layer of excitement and inspiration to the classroom. Over the years, we have seen quite a few of our students go to the Netherlands, Belgium or Suriname, to do an internship, take a study-abroad program, or simply be a volunteer in a philanthropic organization in one of these three countries. Students who intend to participate in these uniquely immersive



Von links nach rechts: Manfred Schewe, Gus Weltsek, Susanne Even, Micha Fleiner, Barbara Schmenk.



experiences will invariably bring a more intense language focus to the classroom before and after their travels. It's gratifying, to say the least, when they drop us notes or write longer emails in Dutch from abroad to share their experiences. Seeing Dutch culture through their lens and observing their improved and more sophisticated language use is delightful.



Currently, we have a couple of students studying in Europe while focusing on Dutch language and/or art. **Evan Wiggins** is one of them; he completed two years of Dutch and will continue his language courses when he returns to Bloomington from the University of

Maastricht in the spring. Students like Evan extend their education with culturally rich experiences overseas, exposing them not only to linguistic and cultural opportunities hard to mimic in the classroom, but also to the opportunity to meet students from across the globe who are in the Netherlands or Belgium for the same reason as they are. This summer, I visited Beijing Foreign Studies University, a renowned teaching university, offering 68 language programs, including Dutch. Like IU, they present their students with opportunities to study abroad in the Netherlands or Belgium for a semester. And like Evan, some of them end up in the lovely Dutch university city of Maastricht on the southern tip of the Netherlands. An interesting amalgamation of Chinese and American students in the Netherlands immersed in Dutch culture and language: *wat leuk!*"

Professor Emeritus **Albrecht Holschuh** submits a snapshot of Bloomington country life: "We have lots of visitors, but they never come inside. A pair of turkeys in front of the breakfast window, arguing whether to enter the meadow: she wins. Two school-age deer born this spring. Coyote annoying the dog. Raccoon getting the dog's dinner. Opossum getting our vegetable scraps. Owl, snake, woodpeckers big and small, and even a bobcat. I am reading books old and new, among the latter the deliciously outrageous *Rosenstiel* by Angela Steidele (2015): mad King Ludwig of Bavaria and a cross-dressing preacher in pietistic eighteenth century! Ein weiterer Fall von contraerer Sexualempfindung."

Hildegard Elisabeth Keller reports on a busy year: „Dankbar blicke ich zurück auf unser erstes Jahr in GISB und auf ein Schuljahr mit vielen Kooperationen *across campus*. Die Früchte der Arbeit konnten auch in Bloomington gezeigt werden. Im Oktober hielt ich einen Vortrag über das medizinische Werk von Jakob Ruf an der in Bloomington abgehaltenen Tagung „Renaissance Surgery between Learning and Craft“. Im Dezember präsentierten die Studierenden aus meinem Hörspiel-Kurs (G424) ihre Produktionen. Im Dialog mit einem Kunstwerk aus dem IU Art Museum, wo unsere Veranstaltung stattfand, waren kurze Hörstücke auf Deutsch entstanden, die auch das Publikum überzeugten.

Auch die Ausstellung „The Performative Book“ in der Lilly Library, kuratiert in Zusammenarbeit mit Rosemarie McGerr und Cherry Williams, war sehr erfolgreich. Ein vielfältiges Begleitprogramm mit Workshops, Talks, Filmvorführungen im IU Cinema und an andern Orten auf dem Campus bot vielen eine Chance zur Mitwirkung; unsere Kollegin **Julia Karin Lawson** übersetzte die Untertitel zum Film „Der Ozean im Fingerhut“, der im IU Cinema mit Live-Soundeffects von Tony Brewer gezeigt wurde, und die Doktoranden **John Paul Ewing, Maria Fink** und **Arne Willée** arbeiteten in der Ausstellung und im Begleitprogramm mit. Die Semesterprojekte der Studierenden meines G332 wurden im Mathers Museum for World Cultures gezeigt. Für Studierende des Spanish Department gab ich eine Ausstellungs-Tour auf Spanisch.

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In Richtung Lateinamerika brachen wir auch in der musikalisch-literarischen Performance auf, die Ende März 2016 zur Uraufführung kam. In Zusammenarbeit mit dem Spanish & Portuguese Department, dem *Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS)* und dem *Latin American Music Center* bereiten wir die multimediale Performance „Un viaje con Alfonsina / A Journey with Alfonsina“ auf Englisch und Spanisch im stimmungsmässig idealen Buskirk-Chumley Theatre vor. Im Zentrum stand die Uraufführung der Originalkomposition von Francisco Córtes Álvarez, unter seiner Leitung mit zwei Ensembles der Jacobs School of Music, und eine narrative Tour durch Alfonsina Stornis Lebenswerk, realisiert durch die spanische Sängerin Patricia Illera und mich. Von Germanic Studies engagierten sich **Maria Fink** als Chefredaktorin des Programmhefts und Mitarbeiterin in der Presse- und PR-Arbeit, **Arne Willée** als Produktionsassistent und Stage Manager und **Julia Karin Lawson** als Drehbuch-Übersetzerin.

Wir konnten einen weiteren Schweizer Autor nach Bloomington einladen, mit Unterstützung von Pro Helvetia und des Schweizer Generalkonsulats in New York. Der bekannte Performer und Autor Pedro Lenz bescherte uns einen amüsanten deutsch-schottisch-berndeutsch-spanischen Abend, der auch ganz gut ins Global Studies-Gebäude passte, und am Film-Abend mit Pedro Lenz als Drehbuch-Autor füllte sich die Aula. Zum Glück fanden Pedro und ich zwischendurch Zeit für Sprachaufnahmen, die später mit dem erfahrenen Radiomann

Richard Fish und mit Loïc Lerme, Doktorand im *French Department*, ergänzt werden konnten; **Julia Karin Lawson** übersetzte die wilden frühberndeutschen Verse von Niklaus Manuel (1484-1530) kongenial ins Englische. Über den Sommer sind in Zürich und Berlin drei Hörspiele auf Deutsch, Englisch und Französisch entstanden. Bald sind sie in der Ausstellung „Söldner Bilderstürmer Totentänzer. Mit Niklaus Manuel durch die Zeit der Reformation“ (Historisches Museum Bern, 13.10.2016-17.4.2017) zu hören.“

Nikole Langjahr has much to be proud of in her work with German House and *Stammtisch*, two outreach activities so important for the promotion and support of Germanic Studies both within and outside of the department: “I am enclosing a few photos that highlight some enjoyable German House events of last year: *Stammtisch* (still going strong, and growing more and more diverse every year, the wonderful labyrinth created by **Sharon Wailes** (Ph.D., '13) and the annual *Nikolausfeier*. There are too many departures on this photo: **Maggie Kline**, **Erik Troske**, and



Elizabeth Magill have graduated, **Theresa Schulze** has left for the East Coast. Happily, we still have **Darla Wheeler** and **Ben Robinson** around!”

Gergana May, Ph.D., Coordinator for Norwegian Language and Scandinavian Culture Senior Lecturer in Germanic Studies and European Studies reports: “The Norwegian Program is as busy as always! While the first year enrollments are slightly down, the second year boasts a nice group of 18 motivated undergraduates and 2 graduate students. I am also teaching officially for the first time K 300 (fifth semester of



Norwegian) to six talented and dedicated young people. (I have only been able to teach it before as an independent study.) In the spring 2017 I will offer again “The Tales of Hans Christian Andersen” and hope for a good enrollment. Thanks to a travel grant from the Institute for European Studies, I was able to spend a week in Denmark this past summer, visiting Copenhagen and Odense (H.C. Andersen’s birthplace), delving into the universe of the remarkable storyteller by tracing his footsteps, as well as continuing my research on the painters of the Modern Breakthrough. The Scandinavian Coffee Hour is going strong for a second year, being held every Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Runcible Spoon in Bloomington. Besides students and speakers of Norwegian from the community, the coffee hour also attracts speakers of all Scandinavian languages, so you will often be able to hear and practice your Danish and Swedish. Velkommen! The Scandinavian Lecture Series will return in the spring with two exciting lectures by U.S. scholars. Stay tuned!”

Breon Mitchell sends greetings and an update: “Just a note to say that Lynda and I are enjoying retirement, serving on the MLA literary translation prize committee for the third year, with over sixty titles of world literature to read and enjoy. On the Germanic front, I’m translating the book Günter Grass completed shortly before his death this past April. It’s out in Germany now under the title “*Vonne Endlichkeit*” [Danzig dialect] and is on the best-seller list. It includes illustrations, poems, and short prose pieces from the final years of Grass’s life. My version will be out next fall

with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt under the title *Of Final Things*. Fortunately only the final poem is in dialect.”

William Rasch’s contribution is both brief and witty: “I am chair of Germanic Studies one last time (2016-2019) before I retire. We hope to weather a number of departures and retirements during this time and enter the third century of Indiana University on a solid footing. Those of you who are teaching, send us your promising undergraduate students to pursue graduate study. And send us your children for our undergraduate program! We’ll take good care of them, promise. We’ll even let them do a double major with International Studies.”

And from **Ben Robinson** we learn: “The past year was a busy one, co-chairing the College Themester, “@Work: The Nature of Labor on a Changing Planet.” We had some terrific guests—[here’s a podcast](#) of a wonderful discussion between the head of the North Carolina NAACP, the Rev. William Barber, and the head of the AFL-CIO, Richard Trumka. As for the German dimension of all this, my colleague Alex Lichtenstein (History) and I hosted an international Themester event at IU’s new Berlin European Gateway on “Labor, Migration, and the State,” which addressed, among other topics, the current refugee crisis in Germany. The IU Berlin European Gateway promises to be a valuable resource for our faculty and students! Last year was my final year co-chairing the campus Educational Policy Committee, and I’m happy to be taking a break from faculty governance this fall. I was able to work on

several essays, finishing a piece on Franz Fühmann, two articles on Anna Seghers, and a piece on the National Bolshevik activist Ernst Niekisch. Sabine Hake, from the University of Texas, was my guest this summer, commenting on a chapter of my book project called, “On Indexes and the Significance of Disruption.” My teaching this past year included advising an impressive honors thesis by **Elizabeth Magill** on Kafka and Bely, and working with undergraduate Cox Research Scholar **Amy Scobey**. Maybe because I found myself writing about very long novels by Anna Seghers, I taught an undergraduate course on short forms including miniatures from Bloch and Benjamin to Jenny Erpenbeck. I’m looking forward to my graduate course in the spring on qualitative and quantitative representations of the social, especially how the humanities have responded to an image of society fostered by statistics and big data.”

Mark Roseman published “National Socialism and the limits of ‘modernity’” in Geoff Eley, Jennifer Jenkins and Tracy Matysik (eds.), *German Modernities From Wilhelm to Weimar: A Contest of Futures*, and “The Holocaust as a European Catastrophe” in Nicholas Doumanis (ed.) *Oxford Handbook of Modern Europe 1914-1945*. He wrote an *American Historical Review* featured review of Tim Snyder’s, *Black Earth*. A short monograph is at the press with Yad Vashem entitled *The barbarians from our “Kulturkreis.” Nazi perpetrators in the eyes of German Jews*. It will be published as No 24. in the series Search and Research, ed. International

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Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, 2016. A co-edited volume *Beyond the Racial State* is at the press with Cambridge University Press. He gave the papers “On biographical writing” at the conference *Writing the Biography of Gershom Scholem: An International Workshop* Indiana University, Bloomington; “Race to complexity” in the panel *Complexity as an Analytical Category* at the *German Studies Association Annual Conference*, Washington, D.C., October 1-4 2015; “Did Germans and Jews break bread together” at the Borns Jewish Studies Program New Institute held in South Bend, October 18, 2015; and “Biography, the historians, and the Wannsee Conference” at the workshop *Biographical Approaches to the Wannsee Conference*, at the Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz, Berlin, November 20, 2015. He was the invited speaker at the Holocaust Memorial Day Celebration, at IUPUI, April 18, 2016, where he gave the address “Commemoration and the meaning of the Holocaust.” He was also honored to be invited once again to conduct the Silberman seminar in Holocaust

education at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, June 6-17, 2016.

Emeritus Professor and former Newsletter editor **William Shetter** sends this: “In her annual request for news, Julie asked us, “If you’re new to the department, please take this opportunity to introduce yourself.” Well, I’ve been out to pasture for so long (I retired 22 years ago) that maybe I need to (re)-introduce myself. In 1965 I started teaching courses in linguistics and in the language and culture of the Netherlands. Last fall, to celebrate this 50th anniversary, **Esther** and **Bieneke** put together an ambitious two-day celebration.

Let me also say how pleased I am, after 30 years in Ballantine, to have been able to see my department in such a splendid building—yes, I know, it’s not without its faults. I’ll dare to say too how bewitching I think those glass stairs are—anyone agree? I come in most weeks, usually on Friday afternoon so as not to get in anybody’s way, to enjoy working there for an hour. So when you see some old relic at the ‘emeritus’ computer, that’s probably me.”

And we will all remember to say “Hello, Bill!”

And **Johannes Türk** winds it up for us: “This has been a busy year: I have given talks at the Sorbonne in Paris as well as at a meeting of the Transitions movement in Paris. Transitions has also published a French translation of my article on Freud, Proust, and Kafka that introduces the outline of a literary immunology. With our former graduate student **Anita Lukic** (Ph.D., ’16), I co-organized a panel on the concept and literary examples of the turning point at the ACLA at Harvard. I was invited to present a talk on affect and politics at a workshop on representations of terror at Rice University in Houston with Joseph Vogl and Willi Goetschel. For the second time, **Ben Robinson** and I hosted the Midwest Symposium in German Studies – an exceptionally collegial and inspiring annual event. My oldest daughter is going to first grade now, and for her, I assume, time is even fuller. I’m looking forward to my second decade in Bloomington.”



Alumni News

Jeannine Blackwell (Ph.D., '82), now Professor and Dean Emerita Blackwell, writes from Kentucky: "Our big news is the marriage of our daughter, Bettina, to Filip Stojkovski. We attended the Orthodox ceremony in Skopje, Macedonia, in December 2015, and the American repeat wedding was in Lexington, Kentucky, in August 2016. VIPs in attendance included IU alumna **Jeanette Clausen** and local Germanists Linda Worley, Sigrid Suesse, and Ted Fiedler. Bettina and Fil will continue to live and work in Skopje, where he's in a think tank and she's teaching business English at the University College of Skopje. In other news, I retired in June 2016 from U. Kentucky after 30 years. And in October, Michael and I are taking a Viking cruise on the Danube to celebrate, and to meet up with the children in Budapest."

Writing with greetings and news is **Brian Crawford** (M.A., '03): "In 2013 my first novel was published from Royal Fireworks Press (Unionville): *The Weaver's Scar: For Our Rwanda*. This is the first English-language young adult novel dealing directly with the Rwandan genocide. The novel won two awards: The Skipping Stones Honor Award for International and Multicultural Literature and the YOYA Top Shelf Award for Middle School Fiction.

This September I had six novels published from Epic Press, an imprint of Abdo Publishing (Medina). The novels, also YA historical fiction, all deal directly with the Holocaust and form a six-part series called *Prisoners of War*. Much of my graduate research came

into play as I wrote these books. The novels feature quite a bit of German.

I am currently working on seven other novels, which are slated for release from Epic press in 2018. I am also currently writing a humorous travel memoir about Rwanda.

Aside from writing, I have been teaching 8th-grade language arts for the past seven years at Seattle Country Day School. This past February I took a group of 15 middle school students to Rwanda, where I have developed a jumelage with a school in Nyamata, Rwanda. Should you be interested, my author website is www.authorbrianc.com.

I miss all of you at IU. Please give my best to **Fritz Breithaupt**, **William Rasch**, and **Marc Weiner**, all of whom had a great influence on my intellectual growth."
— Will do, Brian!



William D. Keel (Ph.D., '77) wrote to us with greetings from Kansas: "I am still at Old KU and the last of the full professors in German—at least for the time being. Nancy and I are holding steady with 13 grandkids. My work in German-American Studies and German-American Dialectology was recognized this past spring with the "Outstanding Achievement Award" from the Society for German-American Studies at its annual conference in San Antonio, Texas. We are engaged now in a cooperative effort with the *Deutscher Sprachatlas* in Marburg to make our recordings of German dialects in communities in Kansas and Missouri available online." Bill is also the President of the Kansas Association of Teachers of German, Editor of the *Yearbook of German-American Studies*, and Member of the Lawrence Sister-Cities Advisory Board.

We're always happy to hear from **Astrid Klocke** (Ph.D., '00): "I am still at Northern Arizona University but have moved from teaching into an administrative role, first, in May 2015, as Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs in Extended Campuses and now, since February 2016, as Interim Vice President for Extended Campuses. Our division delivers blended undergraduate and graduate programs across the state of Arizona and both course-based and competency-based programs online—to provide affordable access to education to post-traditional and especially place-bound students. We serve almost a third of the university's students (over 7,000 this fall) and have wonderful support

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staff at our twenty community campuses across the state and at the branch campus in Yuma. It's been quite a ride, to say the least, and a change from teaching German literature and Cinema Studies for sure. I do enjoy the process and results-oriented administrative work and the new challenges. No more triathlon training for now, but the morning dog walk through the forest keeps me healthy."

And from **Andrew Mills** (Ph.D., '09): "The past year I've been establishing and expanding upon a new course at the University of Michigan, which might be the only one of its type in the U.S.: an intermediate-level German-language topics course dedicated to the study of the honeybee and beekeeping in Germany. The course encompasses literary and cultural studies, biology, ecology, and hands-on work with honeybees at the University's own apiary. The apiary has seven beehives and is owned by the University of



Andrew Mills working with the hive



Michigan student beekeeping club, of which I am now faculty advisor. The University awarded me two substantial grants for a beekeeping research trip I planned and executed through Germany over four weeks in July and August 2016, during which time I met with the President of the German Beekeepers Association, honeybee researchers in Würzburg, and commercial and hobbyist beekeepers throughout Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg, and Thuringia, as well as in Berlin and Bonn. And so now, on top of my own beekeeping experience, I have a full roster for the third semester in a row, knowledge, contacts in Germany, and a teaching apiary. When students finish the course, they've learned that what was once hidden to them was never hiding. They learn that what has been found is worth keeping."

Joe O'Neil (Ph.D., '09) was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at the University of Kentucky. His book *Figures of Natality: Reading the Political in the Age of Goethe* will appear in 2017 with Bloomsbury Press in the series New Directions in German Studies.

David Scrase (Ph.D., '72) sends warm greetings and reports that he is busy and productive in his retirement: "Retired at seventy, I am still doing almost all of what I did as Professor of German and Director of Holocaust Studies at the University of Vermont. Almost no teaching, of course, and thankfully no administration, but some writing, translation, lecturing, and even fund-raising. I have been lecturing on my personal view of the Germans and the Holocaust over the postwar period (seventy years of change), usually to an audience of senior citizens.

Most of my time, however, is now spent in my woodworking shop, where I concentrate on woodturning. One of my items is a yarn bowl, and I often think of **Martha Rohlfing** (Ph.D., '76), fellow IU grad student and avid knitter. I sell my stuff at three craft galleries, primarily at the "Niblic" on Chebeague Island in Maine, where I live most of the time.

A book of Holocaust-related memoirs, *The Holocaust. Personal Accounts*, which I edited in 2002, has just appeared in a German version (Helmut Donat Verlag,



Bremen) under the title *Nichts konnte schlimmer sein als Auschwitz*.

Music remains a central part of my life, and is one of the reasons why IU remains such a fond memory. I often say, and mean it, that my two years on campus (1969-71) were two of the happiest years of my life. The department was so vital, so open, so active. Older faculty, like my Doktorvater Norbert Fürst, Ulrich Weisstein, Hugh Powell, Dorit Cohn, the chair Frank Ryder, Henry Remak, and Frank Banta inter alia, plus Fred Piedmont, Stephen Wailes and all the others (I know I am leaving out many) were just so inspiring and

welcoming. An embarrassment de richesses. Wonderful years.”

Wendy Westphal (Ph.D., '10) catches us up on her busy life: “I am in my fifth year at Marian University and am still juggling the three hats as Assistant Professor of German, Department Chair and Director of Study Abroad. This summer, my family and I enjoyed being able to visit Germany, again. Our older two boys attended a school in Matthias’ hometown (Trier) for four weeks, while the youngest was a guest at a preschool. It was a great experience for all of us and succeeded in bringing the

boys’ German back ‘up to snuff’! We also spent a week in Slovenia and were completely enchanted by the country - eine wahre Entdeckung für uns! As far as professional accomplishments go, I was very pleased (and completely surprised) to be selected as IN-AATG’s German Collegiate Teacher of the Year this year. This fall, I presented at the GSA Conference in San Diego and will be presenting at ACTFL, as well — maybe I will see some of you there! We are also looking forward to hearing Dr. Eugen Drewermann during his visit to Indianapolis in November.”



Class Notes from the IU Alumni Association

Graduate

Naomi I. Stephan (B.A., '61, Ph.D., '73) is the author of *Duplicity's Daughter*, a fictional memoir covering her student days and time spent in Cold War Germany. An author, educator, singer, and composer, Stephan studied voice as a Fulbright scholar in Berlin. During her studies there, she performed as a soloist in both West and East Berlin. Stephan has held professorships at Luther College, Valparaiso University, and the University of North Carolina at Asheville, where she focused on German culture and music history. She also co-founded Women in German, an organization dedicated to the advancement of professional scholars, researchers, and teachers worldwide. After leaving academia, Stephan launched Life Mission Associates, a consulting firm in California that specializes in helping people find a purposeful life. She currently resides in Germany.

In February, Athens (AL) State University named **Joe G. Delap** (M.A., '87, Ph.D., '92) provost of the university. He began his tenure on July 1. Delap served for 13

years as vice provost and dean of graduate studies at Jacksonville (AL) State University. He began his career as a teaching assistant at the University of Arkansas prior to faculty positions at IU and Kansas Wesleyan University. Delap also served as associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Central Arkansas.

Jill S. Smith (M.A., '99, Ph.D., '04) is Osterweis Associate Professor of German at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. Her research interests are 19th and 20th century German literature, intellectual history, and culture; German Jews in the 19th and 20th centuries; literary and artistic representations of the Holocaust; fin-de-siècle Berlin and Vienna; popular fiction, art, and film of the Weimar Republic; language pedagogy, curriculum development, teaching with technology; and gender and sexuality studies.

Undergraduate

In October 2013, the IU College of Arts and Sciences in Bloomington welcomed three alumni back to campus as members of the inaugural class of the College's Luminaries Program: **Donald M. Fehr** (B.A., '70), executive director of the National Hockey League Players Association; **Lorna G. Schofield** (B.A., '77), U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of New York; and **Robert A. "Bob" Chapek** (B.S., '81), president of Disney Consumer Products. The Luminaries Program brings successful College alumni to campus to share personal and professional ideas and experiences with students, alumni, faculty, and staff in order to inspire future leaders.

In 2014, **Ericka Dreesen McFee** (B.A., '09) received a JD degree from the New England School of Law in Boston. While at the school she completed clerkships with the law offices of Jeffrey R. Chapdelaine and Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy; interned at Savitz Law Offices; and completed an externship in Florence, Italy.



Remembrances



Dr. Robert Paul Bareikis died April 5, 2016 following a long, bravely fought battle

with cancer. He was a source of inspiration and admiration to all who knew him. He was born on January 18, 1932, in Boston, Massachusetts. He is survived by his brother, Gerald Bareikis; his wife, Grace Gillham Bareikis; daughters, Arija Allison Bareikis; and Anitra Wynne Bareikis and her spouse, Deno Fischer; stepdaughter Kimberly Johnson; stepson J. Parker Johnson; and granddaughters Arija Olivia Bareikis and Iris Liberty Bareikis.

Dr. Bareikis was raised in Mattapan, Massachusetts. He entered military service following graduation and served his country during the Korean War as a Naval Aviator. Following five years in active duty he remained in the Navy Reserves achieving the rank of Captain.

He earned the bachelor's degree and Ph.D. from Harvard University. He enjoyed a long and successful career as a Professor of German Language and Literature at Indiana University (1965-88), California State University Long Beach, and as Visiting Professor at the University

of California, San Diego, University of Pittsburgh, Johns Hopkins University, and Harvard University. During his years in Louisiana he served two terms on the Louisiana Board of Ethics and was a member of the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors. He will be remembered for his generous service, his love of music and rare books, and for the glorious gardens he left behind.

Excerpted from the Shreveport (Louisiana) Times



Ferdinand Piedmont, 89, passed away on March 16, 2016, with his children by his side. He was born

on November 19, 1926, in Wasserliesch, Germany, and grew up in Bürvenich, in the Eifel in North Rhein-Westphalia.

Ferdinand received his Ph.D. from the University of Bonn in 1953. In 1960, he came to Indiana University on a Fulbright Exchange program and taught German for an academic year. After his return to Cologne, he met Beate Kuetgens and they began dating. He returned to IU in 1963 as a faculty member in the Department of Germanic

Studies. In 1966, he returned to Germany and married Beate, who then joined him in Bloomington. A specialist in 18th-century theater, he published *Staging Schiller: Voices of Drama Criticism, 1946-1985* and many essays on Schiller, Lessing, and Goethe. He also integrated the study and performance of drama into language pedagogy at IU and through workshops for high school German teachers. He developed and led the teacher training program for associate instructors in the Department of Germanic Studies, and he contributed to the vibrancy of the department by staging annual theatrical readings, leading German Club activities, and playing Saint Nicholas at the annual Christmas party.

After retirement in 1994, he taught German classes through the city of Bloomington's adult community center for many years, and served as a Student Advocate. His patience, diplomacy, and caring made him particularly well-suited for this post-retirement volunteer job.

Ferdinand was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years, Beate (Kuetgens) Piedmont. He is survived by his son, Tilman Piedmont, with wife Jill, and his daughter, Isabel Piedmont-Smith, with husband David J. Smith, and three grandchildren: Tucker, Abe, and Charlotte Piedmont.

Excerpted from the Bloomington Herald-Times

