Events in Germanics

Friday, December 9, 1:30 p.m., Rey Library
DAAD Visiting Professor Katrin Braun, University of Hannover: “Beyond Sovereignty and Bio-politics: Political Action, “Life” and Natality in Hannah Arendt”

Friday, January 27, 1:30 p.m., Rey Library
Professor Rochelle Tobias, Johns Hopkins University: “I’m not Me: Autobiographical Conceit and Fiction in Bernhard and Sebald”

Thursday, February 2, 7 p.m., Frye Art Museum
Professor Richard Gray, University of Washington: “Memory, Remembrance, and Recollection in the Freudian Unconscious”

Friday, March 10, 1:30 p.m., Rey Library
Professor Jeff Librett, University of Oregon: “Goethe as Jew: Rethinking the Oriental in Goethe’s Poetry”

Contact Department of Germanics
206-543-4580
or visit our website: http://depts.washington.edu/uwgerman
2005-06 promises to rival last year in the depth and breadth of our departmental activities. We have already hosted an Advisory Board retreat in which we discussed the Department’s strategic and development plans. We have welcomed the new German Consul General, Dr. Rolf Schütte, to the Department for a brief visit; the DAAD head of section for the USA and Canada, Dr. Christian Schäfer, also visited us from Bonn in early October. Our Frye Lecture Series and the Wine and Wisdom receptions continue.

Under the direction of Professor Manfred Bansleben, we have launched a new language curriculum using web-based learning strategies. We are once again sponsoring the Spring in Vienna program, for which we are now accepting applications. Professor Richard Block has planned a diverse lecture series that began already on October 14 with Professor Donahue from Hofstra University.

Professor Rick Gray continues his work as a Distinguished Lockwood Professor and, in association with Professor Klaus Vieweg of the University of Jena, Germany, organized an international colloquium on Hegel and Nietzsche in Weimar in November. Finally, I am very happy to report that Professor Jane Brown has received the distinguished Alexander von Humboldt prize; she will be in Tübingen in the Spring quarter 2006 through Winter quarter 2007.

At a time when public funding for higher education is shrinking in Washington State and across the country, contributions have become increasingly important for the programs offered by the Department of Germanics. We depend on private contributions to help us support undergraduate and graduate students, sponsor lectures and special programs, and improve our technical facilities.

The Department encourages donations at the $35 Chair’s Club level, which entitles you to receive subsequent newsletters and special invitations to events sponsored by Germanics; at the Dean’s Club level of $500, which, in addition to Germanics’ newsletters and invitations, entitles you to special invitations and news from the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; and at the $1000 President’s Club level, which additionally entitles you to invitations from the Office of the University President.

Donations can be made to any one (or all) of three targeted funds:

• The Friends of Germanics Fund is our most flexible fund and supports everything from invited lectures to weekly lunchtime colloquia to simple office renovations. The Friends Fund also supports the printing costs for our newsletters, such as this one.

• The Behler Fund honors the late Professor Ernst Behler by supporting student scholarship and graduate student travel to conferences.

• The William H. Rey Fund, established by Emeritus Professor Willy Rey, supports the William H. Rey Library, our primary facility for graduate research and the venue for our lectures and receptions. Donations to this fund allow us to expand and update the library’s collection.

We thank the following individuals, companies and foundations who supported our programming in the past year:


Above: Arts and Science’s Director of Development Michael Podio and Advisory Board member Richard Day. Right: Advisory Board member and events coordination Petra Walker.
Graduating Class of 2004-05

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<th>Master’s of Arts:</th>
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<td>Gabi Eichmann</td>
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<td>Amy Emm</td>
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<td>Petra Faiferova</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Standal</td>
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Doctor of Philosophy (Dissertation Title noted in parentheses)

- David Canfield-Budde: “Sacred and Seductive Space: The Problem of Domesticity in Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister’s Wanderjahre”
- Craig Smith: “Déjà Vu, the Sublime and the Uncanny: The Route to Self-Overcoming of Hans Castorp’s ‘Schnee’ Vision in Thomas Mann’s Der Zauberberg”
- Laura Stahman: “Degenerate Hope: Philosopher and Literary Responses to Antisemitism and the Holocaust”

Germanics Hosts Distinguished Guests

The Department of Germanics will host four distinguished visitors this academic year.

**KLAUS VIEWEG** (Philosophy, Jena) was here in fall quarter and will be back in the spring. Together with Rick Gray he is pursuing research on Hegel and Nietzsche in conjunction with a Transcoop grant from the Humboldt Foundation. In spring 2007 they are planning an international and interdisciplinary conference at the University of Washington on the Imagination.

**HELMUT SCHNEIDER** will be our Distinguished Max Kade visitor in the coming spring term. He is professor of German at the University of Bonn. He has lots of experience teaching American students through his tenure at UC Irvine (1982-1990) and UC Davis (1990-1993), as well as recent guest professorships at Georgetown (2005), Harvard (2004), Indiana University (2003), Ohio State (2001), UC Irvine (2000), and the University of Virginia (1998). He works very broadly in modern German literature with numerous publications on Lessing, Schiller, Goethe, Winckelmann, Büchner and many others. Prof. Schneider will be offering a graduate seminar on the European tradition of the fantastic.

**Dr. DIETMAR TILL** (German, Tübingen) will be our Tübingen exchange in spring 2006. His dissertation on transformations of the theory of rhetoric was published in 2004. He is currently working on his habilitation on the figure of the sublime. He will be teaching our senior seminar.

And last but not least, we will have an artist in residence in April and May 2006: with funding from the German government and the College of Arts & Sciences, we will be sponsoring STEFAN BUDIAN’S visit to Washington State as part of his project on “physiognomic expeditions.” Budian will spend a month in Seattle and a month in eastern Washington painting landscapes and portraits, interact with students and faculty in Germanics and the School of Art, and exhibit his work at a downtown art gallery in Seattle and the Confluence Gallery in Twisp.
New Short-term Study Abroad Opportunity: September in Berlin

In its ongoing effort to increase the number of foreign study opportunities for German language and culture students, Germanics has inaugurated a three-week summer program in Berlin, called September in Berlin. Heidi Rauscher Tilghman created the program in close association with Manfred Bansleben, David Fenner and the Office of International Programs and Exchanges. When illness prevented Heidi from traveling to Berlin, Germanics graduate Cody Shotwell stepped in as coordinator. Program instructors were former UW graduate student Alexandra Wagner and Professor Reinhard Isensee of Berlin’s Humboldt University. They were assisted by two other former UW graduate students from Berlin, Mirjam Eisenzimm and Barbara Groth. Fourteen students participated in intensive, task-oriented German language study (intermediate to advanced). “Task-oriented” means that grammar and vocabulary were organized around specific exercises completed at various venues across Berlin. In addition, students enrolled in German 399, a cultural history course focused on the art, architecture, and political history of the German capital. Finally, students also completed small-group projects focusing on chosen areas or monuments in Berlin.

Do You “Moodle”? Germanics’ New Hybrid Language Curriculum

As part of the Web Enhanced Language Instruction Program funded through the College of Arts and Sciences, Professor Manfred Bansleben and his intrepid crew of graduate research assistants (Amy Emm, Viktoria Harms, Geoff Cox, plus the staff in the Language Learning Center), with the help of the on-line course platform Moodle, are now launching Germanics’ latest innovation in language teaching. Hybrid language learning features a combination of traditional classroom instruction and intensive web-based programming to achieve more enrollment flexibility, enhanced participation, and, we hope, greater fluency. WELIP is part of A&S Dean David Hodge’s broad technology advancement initiative, and it is changing the way many departments, but especially language programs, think about curriculum development.

WELIP’s first pilot program was launched in 2004-05 by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese in an update of its former WebCt® course. The Spanish program also developed a completely new course, Spanish 103 Web. Germanics has been even more ambitious, introducing web-enhanced instruction for the full elementary language sequence (101, 102, 103) by the end of the 2005-06 academic year.

Finally, students also completed small-group projects focusing on chosen areas or monuments in Berlin.

Community Outreach

Thanks to the hard work of our Advisory Board, and especially inspired by the dedication and creativity of Board member Petra Walker, Germanics has been increasingly visible in the community outside the UW campus. Starting last Autumn, the Department launched a series of outreach events called “Wine and Wisdom” which feature area galleries and merchants with connections to German language and culture. Locations thus far have included Gallery 110 in Pioneer Square and Classical Grands in downtown Seattle. Steve Mezter of Classical Wines (and Classical Grands!) has generously provided German wine at the events, and food has been donated by Costco. While the events often center on a guest speaker, they are conceived primarily as opportunities for community members to get to know each other and the Germanics program. Upcoming Wine and Wisdom locations include Szmania Restaurant on Queen Anne Hill and the Miele Showroom in Tukwila. Please watch our monthly electronic newsletters for dates and times.

Germanics’ collaboration with the Frye Art Museum, “Connections and Context,” continues this academic year with three lectures focusing on divergent aspects of German culture. On October 20, Affiliate Professor Heidi Rauscher Tilghman lectured on “Franz von Stuck and the Birth of Modernism.” The lecture was in conjunction with the Frye exhibition “Spectatorship and Desire: Lust” and was preceded by a reception in the Museum’s café. On February 2, Professor Richard Gray will discuss the works of Freud in conjunction with the exhibit “Spectatorship and Desire: Loss.” The title of the talk will be “Memory, Remembrance, and Recollection in the Freudian Unconscious” and will begin at 7 p.m. in the Frye’s lecture hall. Finally, the UW School of Art’s Professor Christine Goettler will discuss “Photography, Collection, and the Experiential Construction of Space: Candida Höfer’s Pictures of Public Interiors,” a lecture associated with the Frye’s exhibition of Candida Höfer’s architectural photography, on March 2, also at 7 p.m. in the Frye lecture hall. Lectures are free and open to the public, although tickets must be reserved in advance by calling the Germanics Department at 206-543-4580.

Rosemarie Anderson Joins Board

The Germanics Advisory Board is very happy to announce that arts advocate and retired banker Rosemarie Anderson has agreed to serve as Board Chair, replacing the outgoing chair Eckhard Schipull. Rosemarie was born in Bavaria and has been a Seattle resident since 1979. She is a member of the Seattle Opera Board and is a member of WAM (Wagner and More), a society dedicated to the promotion of Richard Wagner’s works. She was recently featured in the Seattle Times as part of the newspaper’s coverage of this summer’s Seattle Opera production of Wagner’s Ring cycle. Beyond her love for Wagner, however, Rosemarie brings to the Board years of high-level fund-raising board experience. We look forward to working with her.
Max Kade Visiting Professor Monika Fick

The Germanics Department was honored to host Monika Fick of the Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen as its Kade Visiting Professor for Spring 2005. Professor Fick’s research is wide-ranging and widely respected. She is the author of the Lessing Handbuch: Leben, Werk, Wirkung, as well as books on Goethe’s Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre, on the Jahrhundertwende, and, together with her colleague Sybille Gößl, an Einführung in die Ästhetik.

Her current project, designed for the Internet, is called “Sinne und Synapsen. Erkenntnistheorie und Wahrnehmungswandel in der Klassischen Moderne und der konstruktivistischen Postmoderne.” The ambitious project focuses on perceptions of reality as they are considered in neural physiology, cognitive sciences, art and literature, and digital media; historical periods are the turn of the last century, Expressionism and present-day. In this, Professor Fick is a member of a larger project team that is developing a multi-media internet presentation for students and teachers. Professor Fick offered a very well-received graduate-level seminar which engaged the same topic: “Wahrnehmung und Wirklichkeitskonstruktion in der Literatur der Gegenwart.” She charmed the department colleagues with her enthusiasm and intellect, and we hope she returns to Seattle soon!

Germanics Faculty Updates

Eric Ames has completed work on a co-edited volume entitled Germany’s Colonial Pasts: An Anthology in Memory of Susanne Zantop (Nebraska University Press, 2005). An essay on German cultural foreign policy and early American film theory will appear this year in the volume Transfer Effects: The Appropriation of German Culture in Nineteenth-Century America. In addition, he is currently completing a book manuscript on Carl Hagenbeck and the emergence of mass culture in Imperial Germany. Eric serves as the Department’s undergraduate adviser and has developed several new courses: an undergraduate course and a graduate seminar on East German cinema, and a university course entitled “Crime Scenes: Investigating Film and Culture,” to be co-taught with Andrew Nestingen from Scandinavian Studies.

Hellmut Ammerlahn completed the indices as an addendum to his recently published book, Imagination und Wahrheit. Goethes Künstler-Bildungsroman „Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre“: Struktur, Symbolik, Poetologie. Among them, the detailed „Begriffs-, Figuren- und Sachregister“ also facilitates locating the analyses of interconnected symbolic constellations in the novel and related works of Goethe. He completed another article on “The Marriage of Artist Novel and Bildungsroman: Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister” and started research on Goethe’s biography for The Literary Encyclopedia.

Charles Barrack has been busy publishing: “Kortlandt’s Glottalic Account of Proto-Indo-European: A Response,” an article to appear in the Interdisciplinary Journal for Germanic Linguistics and Semiotic Analysis; a review of The Gothic Language: Grammar, Genetic Provenance and Typology. Readings (New York: Peter Lang) for the IJGLSA; and “The Dearth of "b in Indo-European," also for the IJGLSA. He has also completed a manuscript on the relationship of the love lyric of Andalusian Spain to the Courtly Love Lyric of Hohenstaufen Germany. His current work analyzes the unusually high occurrence of murmured (so-called ‘voiced aspirated’), as compared to plain voiced stops in the Lexikon of Proto-Indo-European.
More Faculty Updates

Diana Beher served her fourth and final year on the Council for the College of Arts and Sciences in 2004-05. She also served as the faculty adviser to the Spring in Vienna program, teaching a course on site in Vienna in June and July. She presented a paper at November’s international symposium on Hegel and Nietzsche, organized by Rick Gray and Klaus Vieweg, in Weimar, Germany.

Manfred Bansleben completed work on his manuscript on twentieth-century Central European history. He continues in his role as coordinator of our language program and TA supervisor. In the spring he shared his teaching materials and philosophy with colleagues in Korea and presented a paper on Austrian history at the annual Modern Austrian Literature and Culture Association meeting.

Richard Block had a very active and successful first year in the Department. His graduate seminar as well as his large undergraduate course examining the Holocaust, were well received. He has published several new articles and book reviews since his arrival and has become a trusted and insightful voice within the Department, the Jewish Studies Program, and the University as a whole. Richard has received a Research Fellowship from the Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities for 2005-06 in support of his work on "From Classical Weimar to Zion: Remapping a Literary History through Textual Configurations of Homosexuality."

Jane Brown has been extremely active in Germanics and Comparative Literature. She was a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Rutgers University in the Winter and Spring 2005. She has also won the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Prize for career achievement and will be residing in Germany in 2006 and working on a new book on Goethe and the discourse of psychoanalysis.

G. H. Hertling, Professor Emeritus, has now retired. He writes: "Since my heart has grown such deep roots in the profession over the past 44 years, adjustments to a more relaxed lifestyle have been more challenging than I imagined. Most of all, I miss my daily association with students and colleagues." He has been assisting Professor Emeritus W. H. Rey in reorganizing the departmental Rey Library, and he keeps himself informed on departmental and university affairs. He now fully enjoys his freedom to correspond, to read, to research and to write, recently having returned to C. F. Meyer and to Adalbert Stifter (essays in print).

Brigitte Prutti was on sabbatical in 2004-05, doing research for a monograph on myth, gender and culture in Grillparzer. She presented a paper on contemporary Austrian border fiction at the annual Modern Austrian Literature and Culture conference in the spring. She also spoke about Grillparzer and Sealsfield at the German Studies Association and about Stifter at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association this fall. An essay on Grillparzer’s romantic treatment of the Hero-and-Leander-myth is in print with the Zeitschrift fuer deutsche Philologie.

Affiliate Assistant Professor and Department Administrator Heidi Rauschen Tligman gave a paper on the work of architect Adolf Loos at the 2005 Modern Austrian Literature conference. She also gave the Department’s 2005-06 opening lecture at the Frye Art Museum on October 20. The topic of her Frye lecture was the symbolist paintings of Munich artist Franz von Stuck.

Rick Gray’s manuscript for the Franz Kafka Encyclopedia, written and edited in conjunction with three other well-known Kafka scholars, was completed in fall 2004, after close to 10 years (!) of work. It was published by Greenwood Press. Rick is also editing a new literature series for the UW Press, "Literary Conjunctions," which has been consuming the majority of his research time. The first book, "A.W.G. Sebald Companion" appeared last summer, and the second volume, "Speaking Havoc" (on narratives of violence in India and Pakistan) has also been published. More volumes are in the works, and the editors hope the series will help launch the UW Press into new directions in humanities publication.

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Sabine Wilke and Mimi Kahn from Anthropology organized a conference on "Narrating Colonial Encounters: Germany in the Pacific Islands" which took place on May 19-21, 2005. This international and interdisciplinary conference explored colonial encounters between Germany and the Pacific Islands, focusing on the rich body of literary and anthropological documents that narrate the encounter. The conference brought together individuals from a variety of disciplines and institutions around the world. It was sponsored by the Simpson Center for the Humanities, DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), the Max Kade Foundation, the Graduate School, the College of Arts & Sciences, the Center for West European Studies, the Department of Anthropology, and the Department of Germanics. The Samoan visual artist Olga Krause showed her latest work in a moving image exhibit on the first day of the conference.

Joe Voyles published an article on Hittite phonology in the "Interdisciplinary Journal for Germanic Linguistics and Semiotic Analyses" and completed work on his manuscript on "An Introduction to Proto-Indo-European and the early Indo-European languages." He is now writing a course book on the history of the German language for a publisher in Munich.