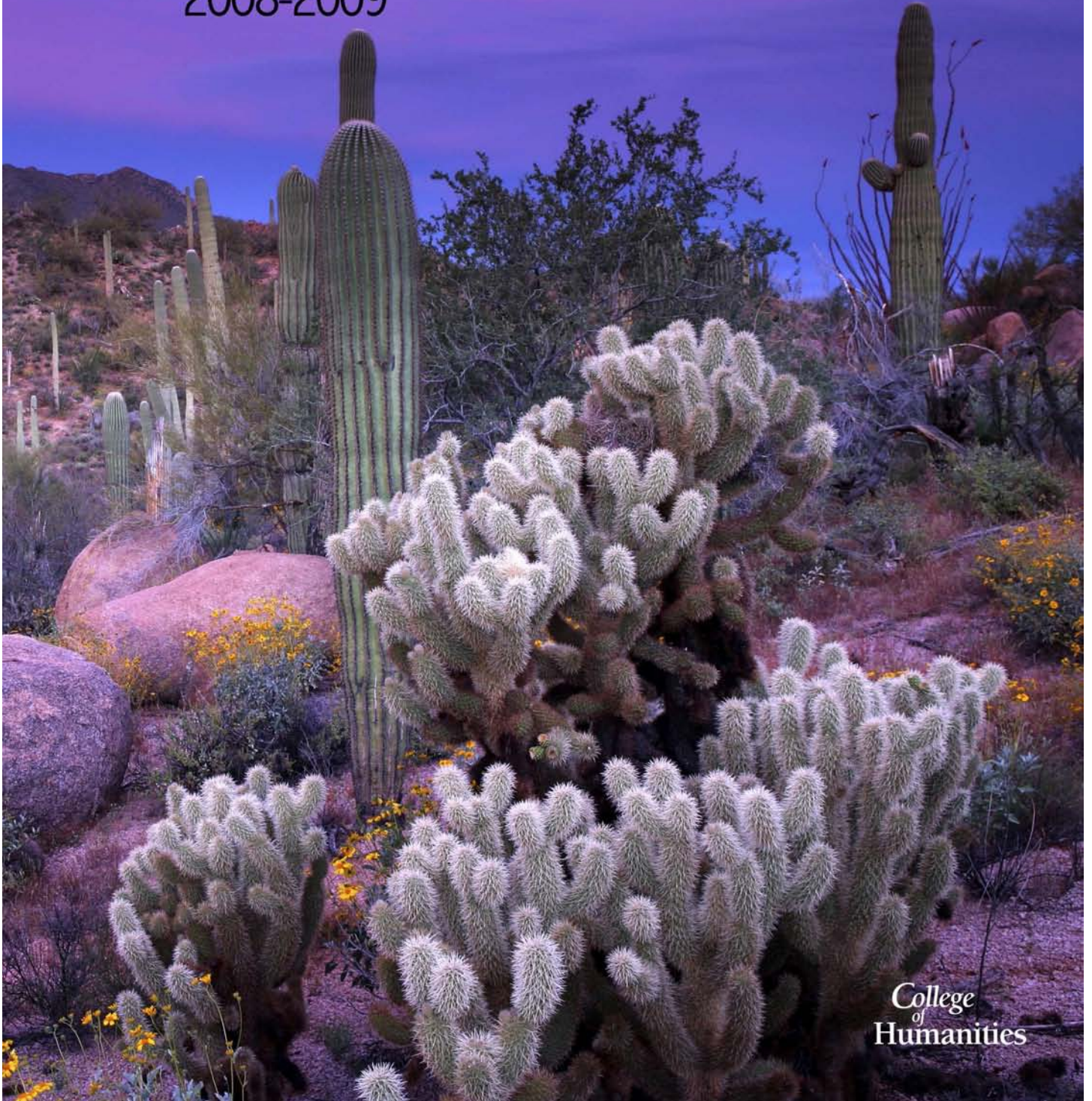


The University of Arizona



GERMAN STUDIES

2008-2009



College
of
Humanities

DEPARTMENT OF

GERMAN STUDIES

NEWSLETTER

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Greetings

To the Friends of the German Studies Department

Despite the university's financial woes and some initial administrative upheaval caused by the appointment of Mary Wildner-Bassett, Head of the Department, as Interim Dean of the College of Humanities, and her replacement by Renate Schulz as Interim Department Head for the year, 2008-09 has been a very active, busy, and productive year for the German Studies Department. In addition to the seven tenured members in the Department, we started the year with two new assistant professors, one adjunct professor, six M.A. students and seven students preparing for the Ph.D. in Transcultural German Studies. Departmental faculty and teaching assistants – including four SLAT Ph.D. students – have taught 86 courses with 1594 students enrolled. Four of our faculty members are teaching and mentoring students in the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching (SLAT) in addition to the departmental doctoral program.

Departmental faculty has been actively involved with the Partnership across Languages (PAL), a COH-sponsored advocacy group consisting of language educators from all educational levels. The department hosted a 6th international conference, this time on "Laughter in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Times" as well as the spring meeting of the Arizona chapter of the AATG. We participated in the College of Humanities Colloquium Series and in the Humanities Week, and faculty and graduate students served as judges in the annual Southern Arizona Language Fair. Our approximately 51 majors and 52 minors, in addition to the many students in our lower division language program enjoyed a number of social activities hosted by the Department during the academic year.

The department continues to serve as a testing center for the examinations administered by the Goethe Institute. The departmental film and colloquium series continue to attract students and faculty from across the campus and community.

The only sad news to report is the death of Babette Luz (93), former professor in the department, who died on May 24, 2008.

Renate A. Schulz

Interim Head,
Department of German Studies



Renate A. Schulz

Renate Schulz to Retire

Our colleague, Renate Schulz, will be retiring at the end of this academic year. In her honor, we include a few accolades that illuminate her numerous contributions to the department, the college and university, and the profession both here and abroad.

From **Mary Wildner-Bassett**, Interim Dean of the College of Humanities and Former Head of the Department of German Studies.

In late 2008, it was my distinct pleasure to nominate Prof. Renate Schulz for the ADFL Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession. This was one more in a series of distinguished awards that she has deservedly received. She is without a doubt one of the most influential and innovative teachers and leaders that our fields of German Studies, Second Language Acquisition and Teaching, and Foreign Language Education have known. It is a worthy endeavor

to give a brief overview of Renate's professional biography here.

Renate Schulz came to the U.S. from Germany in 1958. She holds a Ph.D. in Foreign Language Education from The Ohio State University. Before coming to the University of Arizona in 1981, she taught in the Peace Corps in Nigeria, at Otterbein College (Ohio), at the State University College of New

"She is without a doubt one of the most influential and innovative teachers and leaders that our fields of German Studies, Second Language Acquisition and Teaching, and Foreign Language Education have known."

York at Buffalo, and at the University of Arkansas. She also held visiting appointments at the United States Air Force Academy, at the Universidad de las Américas in Puebla, Mexico, and at the University of Leipzig, Germany.

She served as the Department Head of German Studies, the first woman to serve as Head in the College of Humanities, from 1984-1990. She has returned as Interim Department Head for one year, 2008-09, before her

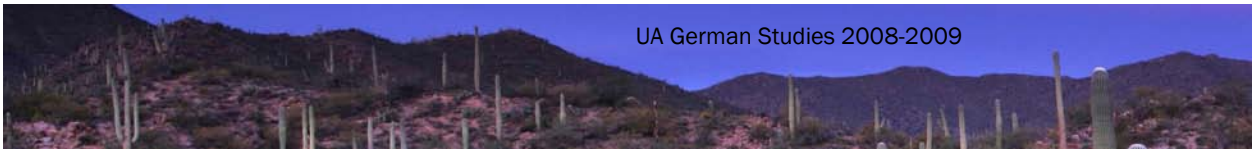
retirement. Renate served as the Chair of the prestigious Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching (SLAT) from 1994-1996.

Professor Schulz's research interests lie in the areas of second language acquisition, language and culture teaching, assessment, and foreign language teacher development. She has lectured and published widely on those topics. She is a

past president of the National Federation of Modern Language Teachers' Associations (NFMLTA) and the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG). She also is a past editor of *Die Unterrichtspraxis: Teaching German*, and currently serves on the editorial advisory boards of the

Modern Language Journal (MLJ) and other journals.

She has received numerous awards, among them the "Bundesverdienstkreuz erster Klasse" from the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, ACTFL's Florence Steiner Award for Leadership in Foreign Language Education, the ACTFL-NYSAFLT Anthony Papalia Award for Excellence in Teacher Education, ACTFL's Nelson Brooks Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Culture, and the Henry and Phyllis Koffler Prize for Outstanding Accomplishments in Teaching.



On May 26, 2008, she received an Honorary Doctoral Degree from the University of Leipzig, the first woman to receive that recognition from the Faculty of Philology, which was obviously an exceptional and rare honor.

Excerpts from an article published by the University of Leipzig, entitled “Passionierte Anwältin deutscher Sprache und Kultur – Ehrendoktorwürde für US-Germanistik-Professorin”

“On May 26, 2008, she received an Honorary Doctoral Degree from the University of Leipzig, the first woman to receive that recognition...”

states: Die Ehrenwürde von der Universität Leipzig wurde Professor Schulz “in Würdigung ihrer herausragenden Leistungen in Deutsch und ihrer historischen Verdienste als Vermittlerin in Kultur und Sprache in den USA” vom Dekan der Philologischen Fakultät, Prof. Dr. Erwin Tschirner, verliehen. Rektor Prof. Dr. Franz Häuser würdigte diese Verdienste als “gewollte Grenzüberschreitung” und verwies in seinem Grußwort damit auf das Motto der Universität: “Mit Ihnen

schreiben wir die Tradition, Grenzen zu überschreiten und zu überbrücken, fort.” “In einer engagierten Laudatio würdigte ihre Kollegin Prof. Dr. Claire Kramtsch, die an der University of California/Berkeley tätig ist, sowohl die Arbeiten und Errungenschaften von Prof. Schulz, als auch deren herausragende Persönlichkeit: sie sei schon immer eine passionierte Anwältin für Deutsch und andere Fremdsprachen gewesen. ‘Sie weiß, was ausgesprochen werden muss und was unausgesprochen bleiben sollte.’”

Renate’s colleagues in the Department of German Studies extend their wholehearted congratulations and join her in her commitment to the new Joint Ph.D. Program in Transcultural German Studies. As Renate phrased it, “Ich betrachte es als Ansporn mitzuhelfen, um unser Doktorprogramm weltweit und interdisziplinär auszubauen.”

The Association of Departments of Foreign Languages Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession, which was conferred to Renate Schulz at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association of America, reads as follows:

“Renate Schulz exemplifies the standards of this award, which honors scholar-teachers for exceptional contributions to the field of language and literature. Schulz is a dedicated and gifted administrator, advocate, scholar, pedagogue, editor, and teacher who has touched many lives. Colleagues depend on her leadership and collaboration. Her broad scholarly expertise and insight are amplified by the personal qualities she brings to her work: great energy, enthusiasm, generosity, distinctive charm, and humor. Among her recent accomplishments, Renate Schulz is renowned as founding codirector of the Center for Educational Resources in Culture, Language, and Literacy, and for her work in establishing the University of Arizona’s Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching and the joint University of Arizona–University of Leipzig Transcultural German

STAFF

Studies PhD Program. Her work on reading and assessment influenced the crafting of the ACTFL guidelines and the National Standards.”

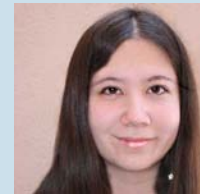
Colleagues write: “She has been a major force in pushing for an engaged, communicatively oriented, and socially and culturally relevant foreign language education. Thanks to Renate Schulz’s work, applied linguistics has acquired *droit de cité* in German departments and relevant foreign language education.”

“Everything she contributes is offered with careful reflection and with great gusto, seemingly unbounded energy and dynamism, and a wonderfully refreshing and disarming sense of humor. We owe her an enormous debt of gratitude.”

Renate: Your colleagues in the Department of German Studies celebrate the many contributions you have made over the years to the department and the profession and look forward to many more in the future. Thank you for all that you have done to promote what we do!



Susana Ruiz, Administrative Associate



Tashi Saheb-Ettaba, Student Worker

FACULTY



David Chisholm



Albrecht Classen



Renae Dearhouse



Peter Ecke



Thomas Kovach



Barbara Kosta



Steven Martinson



Chantelle Warner



Mary Wildner-Bassett

Renate Reflects on 28 Yrs in the Department

Ahhhh, those were the good old days, when David Woloshin, then Department Head, asked me to join the faculty of the German Department in 1981 as Visiting Professor. Then, in the spring of 1982, the U of A made me the proverbial offer I could not refuse, and I resigned my tenured position at the University of Arkansas, where I had been promoted to Professor in absentia. I had been a 'rolling stone' all my life and never anticipated staying here until retirement.

In 1984 the all-male faculty chose me as Head of the German Department, a position in which I served until 1990 and intermittently re-assumed two more times for short periods while the sitting heads abandoned the department for sabbaticals or other endeavors. During my initial years as department head I was not only the sole female in the department, I was also the sole representative of my gender among COH department heads.

I still remember being patronizingly addressed as 'Dear' by some of my fellow departmental administrators when I expressed an unpopular opinion, and being confronted with decisions that had apparently been made in the men's bathroom. At that time, being a female in academic administration was a training ground for battle axes (I am not sure this has changed), a training that has served me well during my career. :-)

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Under my leadership the department hired a number of outstanding faculty members into tenure-track positions who are still with us (Profs. Classen, Martinson, Kosta, and Wildner-Bassett) and whom I regularly remind that I hired them if they take a disagreeing stance. These colleagues and those who came before me or joined us since 1990 have helped transform the German Department into the German Studies Department, a nationally and internationally

recognized and highly productive unit in teaching, research and service.

In the good old days, the department head was able to fund professional travel 100%, the university bureaucratic requirements were about one third of what they are now, and I ran a six-man (literally) department (Profs. Chisholm, Dufner, Greene, Helt, Richter, Woloshin) with one administrative assistant plus

student helpers without the help of 'time-saving' computers. Back then, the Goethe Institute supplied us with any materials we requested for free, and with the help of the Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany the department

was able to present la crème de la crème of German artistic and literary talent to the local community. Also, the FRG and GDR competed Cold-War style in inviting American academics to their universities.

But the world has changed geographically, politically/ideologically, technologically, as well as economically and financially, and all of these changes have had consequences for higher education.

Unfortunately, this last year was not among the better ones during my career at the U of A. Like many other institutions, we are faced with budget cuts, reorganizations, 'transformations,' pink slips, angst, and chaotic uncertainties. But as in national politics, it is time for old fogeys like me to turn over their positions to younger colleagues and hope that they will be able to solve the problems my generation has left them.

“But as in national politics, it is time for old fogeys like me to turn over their positions to younger colleagues and hope that they will be able to solve the problems my generation has left them.”

I will miss teaching and the interactions with undergraduate students. I will miss giving guidance to and learning from graduate students. I will miss the stimulating discussions with colleagues and local foreign language educators at all levels. I will miss the competent assistance provided by the departmental Administrative Associate, Susana Ruiz, and Administrative Assistant, Kelly Dugas. But in Rilke's words: "Herr, es ist Zeit ..."



The Department Welcomes Renae Dearhouse and Chantelle Warner: Their First Impressions

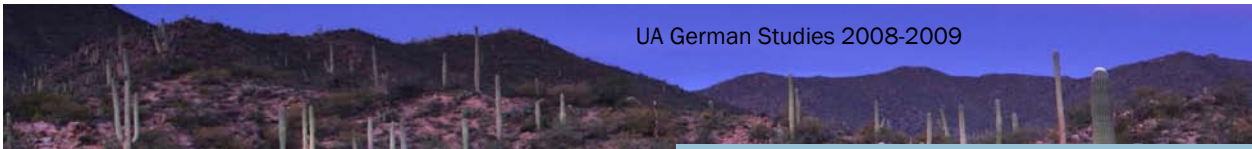
Two new assistant professors joined the German Studies faculty in the fall of 2008. Dr. Renae Dearhouse (Stanford) and Dr. Chantelle Warner (Berkeley) share their first impressions.

Renae Dearhouse

My first-year at the University of Arizona has been challenging – to say the least! I have the privilege, however, of being welcomed into a department with very congenial and supportive colleagues. I have been teaching stimulating courses on Romanticism, Minority Views of German Culture, and German History. I held a guest lecture in our introductory graduate course, “Approaches to German Studies,” on the topic of Minority Discourse in German Literature and presented a colloquium talk on culture and the media. I also shared my research abroad at the University of Pardubice, Czech Republic, University of Bremen and the Leuphana Universität Lüneburg. Additionally, in further efforts to build bridges within Humanities, I was approved affiliate status with the American Indian Studies Program at the University of Arizona. My hobby is beadwork and I hope to unveil a project I am working on by the end of the year.

In the Fall 2008, Dr. Dearhouse was awarded the German American Friendship Award of the German Ambassador.





Chantelle Warner

My first months in Tucson were as much encounters with a strange land as a new town. I was introduced to bright pink Mexican pastries, *Día de los Muertos*, the concept of Rodeo Days, and lost a pair of shoes to a very unruly cactus. I also came to know the campus where I would spend most of my days. Our corner of the Learning Services Building is a bustling, yet comfortable place to work. Hidden behind the cubicles of the graduate students, there is even a counter where treats from all corners of the globe seem to miraculously appear a couple of times a week – everything from German *Sauerkraut* to Greek *baklava* to good old American Girl Scout cookies.

Of course, a good amount of my time is spent in the classroom. During my first year at the University of Arizona, I have been continually impressed by the enthusiasm of many of the students in the department, who actively seek out opportunities to speak German and learn more about German speaking cultures, such as the weekly *Stammtisch*, the *Fall Fest Barbeque*, and the *Weihnachtsparty* complete with a holiday sing-a-long. I also enjoyed the *Film Fest*, which was organized by some of the graduate students who were teaching German 101 in the fall and which featured short videos created by members of their classes. Some of my current students actually seem to even want to do longer presentations and more work than I assign to them – and it is hard to tell them no.

New Ph.D. Program in Transcultural German Studies

The University of Arizona and the University of Leipzig have implemented a Ph.D. Program in Transcultural German Studies.

An international conference on “Transcultural German Studies” held at the University of Arizona in March 2007 initiated a new Ph.D. Program in Transcultural German Studies, jointly offered by the University of Arizona and the University of Leipzig. The first students entered the program in the fall semester 2007. The joint venture combines the strengths of a major German university and an American Research I university. Graduates of this program will have a thorough grounding in cultural, literary, and language studies from interdisciplinary, inter- and transcultural perspectives. Doctoral students at the University of Arizona spend two semesters taking courses at the University of Leipzig engaging in teaching and working on their research. University of Leipzig students spend one year in coursework and teaching at the University of Arizona. The focus of this program and its requirements distinguish it from all others in German Studies.



A Productive Faculty: Book Publications, Summer 2008 – Spring 2009

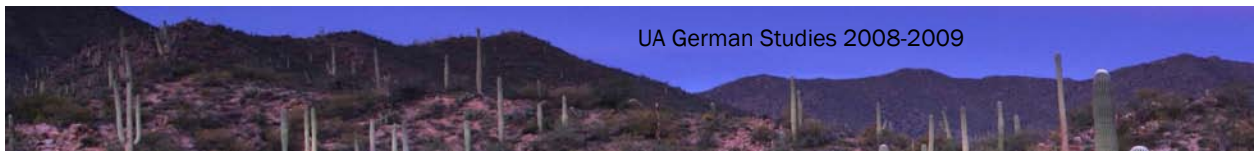
All of our faculty are active scholars and devoted teachers, and they have contributed widely to the profession of German Studies. 2008-2009 was a banner year for book publications. We list and describe their contents here.

With his English translation of the complete works of Oswald von Wolkenstein (1376/77-1445), *The Poems of Oswald von Wolkenstein*, **Albrecht Classen** has made available to an Anglophone audience the poetic oeuvre of one of the most important late-medieval German poets (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008). Oswald was a unique poet whose work anticipates, in some ways, the emergence of the new world. The poet continued to elaborate on and expand a wide range of traditional lyrical genres. Historians and literary scholars alike will profit from this translation because Oswald was a universal traveler and reflected on his personal experiences in his voluminous corpus of songs. Having his poems available in English translation will serve as a springboard for an exciting reinvestigation of late-medieval culture and mentality since Oswald was a major spokesperson for many different cultures and languages.

The volume, *Sexuality in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Times*, edited by **Albrecht Classen**, contains many articles based on presentations at a symposium held at the University of Arizona, in May 2008. The publication (Walter de Gruyter, 2008) was enriched by several additional papers that were written specifically for this volume. In

his expansive introduction, Classen illustrates the full significance of sexuality for the understanding of the history of medieval and early-modern culture worldwide. The treatment of sexuality as an object of critical investigation within the medieval and early-modern context sheds important light on basic power structures, cultural and ethical values, fears and desires, and on attitudes regarding the human body. The contributions draw upon evidence from art history, chronicles, religious and literary texts, music, and historical documents.

Thomas Kovach published *The Burden of the Past: Martin Walser on Modern German Identity. Texts, Contexts, Commentary* (Camden House, 2008). Martin Walser's notorious "Peace Prize" speech of 1998 remains one of the milestones in the recent history of Germans' efforts to come to terms with the Nazi past. This book presents the text of the speech in English translation, as well as several of Walser's other speeches and essays on the theme of dealing with the German past, the Holocaust in particular, and how this past impacts modern German identity. In addition, by providing historical context and commentary, an attempt is made to examine these speeches and essays as texts, thus including a discussion of their literary complexities, and to distinguish what may be considered a valid critique of some aspects of German intellectual life from what might justifiably be seen as problematic. Finally, Walser's texts are viewed in the contexts of post-war German writers' and intellectuals' attempts to deal with the Nazi past, German-Jewish relations in the postwar era, and the once hidden and now (due in part to Walser's speech) increasingly open discourse of Germans as victims during and following the Nazi era.



Steve Martinson and **Renate Schulz** co-edited the selected proceedings of the March 2007 International Conference on Transcultural German Studies in Tucson, which appeared as volume 94 of the *Jahrbuch für internationale Germanistik* (Peter Lang, 2008). The volume is divided into five sections: theoretical considerations and definitions, language learning and the acquisition of inter/transcultural competence in the classroom, transculturality in literature and popular culture, transculturality and drama, music, and film, and transcultural encounters that are drawn from historical documents, interviews, biographical recollections, and literary and philosophical treatises. The book marks the beginning of a new field of investigation and complements the objectives of a 2007 MLA Taskforce Report calling for the transformation of academic language programs in the direction of cultivating “translingual and transcultural competence.”

Steve Martinson and Richard Schade (University of Cincinnati) co-edited the proceedings of the 2007 International Lessing Conference, “Lessing 2000,” which co-convened with the International Conference on Transcultural German Studies (2007) in Tucson. The volume appeared in *Lessing Yearbook* 37 (2006/2007), published by Wallstein Verlag (Göttingen) and Wayne State University Press, in 2008. In his “Begrüßung,” the former President of the Lessing Society, Wolfgang Albrecht, writes: “Die Akzentsetzung ‘Building Bridges’ scheint mir hervorragend geeignet, beide Problembereiche miteinander zu verbinden. Kaum ein anderer deutscher Aufklärer—abgesehen vielleicht von Christoph Martin Wieland—hat lebenslang derart vielfältig kosmopolitisch und transkulturell gedacht wie

Lessing.” This issue of the *Lessing Yearbook* continues the tradition of offering a strong book review section. It is edited by Herbert Rowland (Purdue University).

Renate A. Schulz and Erwin Tschirner, co-edited *Communicating across Borders: Developing Intercultural Competence in German as a Foreign Language*. Munich: Iudicium Verlag, 2008. This volume presents 18 selected contributions to an international conference, supported by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, the American Association of German Teachers (AATG) and the University of Leipzig in Leipzig during June 2007. Discussions explore the definition of intercultural competence and its role in the DaF (Deutsch als Fremdsprache) curriculum. The volume addresses theoretical, practical/pedagogical, and assessment-related issues, as well as issues related to teacher development in the area of cultural awareness and intercultural competence.

Other Selected Accomplishments

David Chisholm was invited to expand and revise his entries in the *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*.

Albrecht Classen continued his prolific scholarship with numerous articles, books, and book reviews in learned journals and with excellent publishing houses. **Albrecht** also has been awarded this year's Five Star Faculty Award, the only campus wide teaching award presented by University of Arizona students. Since the award comes from students directly, one cannot be nominated for the award. The chair of the committee states: "All of our finalists this year, as every year, were phenomenal teachers, all willing to go the extra mile to ensure their students understood the material at hand in new and exciting ways." Heartiest congratulations to Albrecht!

Professor Classen writes: "I feel deeply awed and humbled by the Five Star Faculty Award. There are so many excellent teachers across campus and so many colleagues do outstanding work who are totally devoted to their students. Winning this award is a really great honor, and I would like to salute my students and colleagues who have helped me so profoundly to become the university teacher I am."

Peter Ecke published seven articles in 2008-09 (five single-authored and two co-authored). They appeared in a wide range of venues: *The bilingual mental lexicon: Methods and approaches* (edited by A. Pavlenko), *Language Learning*, *Babylonia*, *TESOL Quarterly*, *Die Unter-*

richtspraxis: Teaching German, and *Memorias del VII, VIII Encuentro AMPAL* (The Mexican Association of Teachers of German).

Barbara Kosta published an article in the proceedings volume on *Transcultural German Studies/ Deutsch als Fremdsprache*, titled "Transcultural Exchanges: Fatih Akin's Crossing the Bridge: *The Sound of Istanbul* (2005)."

Steve Martinson delivered a Charles P. Taft Lecture at the University of Cincinnati on the topic "Transcultural German Studies and the Arizona/Leipzig Model of Higher Education."

Renate Schulz received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Leipzig. The degree was conferred by the Chancellor of the University.

Chantelle Warner has published an article in *Language and Literature* titled: "Speaking from experience: Narrative schemas, deixis & authenticity effects in Verena Stefan's feminist confession *Häutungen*."

Mary Wildner-Bassett published three articles, one of which appeared in the volume on *Transcultural German Studies/ Deutsch als Fremdsprache*. The two others were published in *Opening Doors through Distance Learning Education: Principles, Perspectives, and Practices* (edited by S. Goertler and P. Winke) and *Mediating Discourse Online* (edited by S. Magnan).

Mary Wildner-Bassett has been elected President of the national Association of Departments of Foreign Languages for 2009. Congrats Mary!

Graduate Student Achievements

We are proud of the achievements of our graduate students in German Studies and the SLAT [Second Language Acquisition and Teaching] Program during the 2008/2009 academic year.

Tina Badstübner has co-authored (with Dr. Peter Ecke) an article for *Die Unterrichtspraxis*: “Students’ Expectations, Motivations, Target Language Use, and Perceived Learning Progress in a Summer Study Abroad Program in Germany” (forthcoming 2009).

Tina Badstübner and **Janna Orlova-Schaeffer** served as program chairs for the SLAT Interdisciplinary Roundtable “Crossing Borders: Interdisciplinary Approaches to SLA,” held at the University of Arizona in March '09.

Casey Hayes published an article in the proceedings volume *Transcultural German Studies/ Deutsch als Fremdsprache*, titled “Johann Gottfried Herder’s View of Culture and the Concept of Transculturality.” **Casey** also presented a talk on nineteenth-century German visual culture in the department’s colloquium series.

Courtney Johnson won first place in the humanities category at the UA Graduate Student Showcase and first place at the Board of Regent’s Showcase with her poster, “More than Music Videos: Rammstein and the Art of Reference.”

Silke Lipinski presented a number of papers at professional conferences: in Helsinki at the bi-annual conference of the European Society for Phraseology (EUOPHRAS) on “Routine Formulas in German as a Second Language Dictionaries”; at the University of Cincinnati’s Annual Focus on German Studies Conference on “*Udohla* – Platform/Vessel for the Communication of Philosophical Ideas”; and in the Second Language Symposium at the University of Iowa on “A Frequency Analysis of Vocabulary in First-Year German Textbooks”. She also presented her findings on Günderröde’s drama, *Udohla*, in the department’s colloquium series. **Silke** has two publications to her credit, “Routineformeln im Lernerwörterbuch DaF: Ein Kriterienkatalog” (*Deutsch als Fremdsprache* [2008]), and “Zu Routineformeln im einsprachigen deutschen Lernerwörterbuch: eine Untersuchung anhand von zwei Lernerwörterbüchern” (*Finnische Beiträge zur Germanistik*, forthcoming 2009). She also attended a Goethe Institute workshop on German as a Business Language hosted by Kingston College in Rhode Island.



Albrecht Klemm presented a paper at the Partnership across Languages (PAL) annual Second Language Teacher's Symposium at the U of A on "Written Teacher Feedback on Essays in the L2 Classroom", and presented his dissertational research project on "Written Teacher Feedback" at the 2009 American Association of Applied Linguistics (AAAL) conference in Denver.

Katharina Kottwitz presented a paper on her dissertational research project "Politeness in L2" at the Partnership across Languages (PAL) annual Second Language Teacher's Symposium at the U of A. Katharina also published an article titled "Anregung zur 'Begegnung in Texten' - eine Lehrerhandreichung zum Kreativen-Biografischen Schreiben im DaF und DaZ-Unterricht" (*Deutsch als Fremdsprache* [2009]).

Emily Raba passed her written and oral M. A. exams in German Studies. **Emily** received a Certificate of Honorable Mention for Outstanding Graduate Assistant in Teaching by the College of Humanities. Congratulations, Emily!

Sebastian Bock and **Katharina Kottwitz**, both of whom are from Leipzig, sing in the UA University Community Choir.

Kudos to our Undergraduates

German Studies Majors Awarded Top Honors in the College of Humanities

Ivan Grubisic, major in German Studies, Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, Biophysics, and Engineering Mathematics, received a "Pillars of Excellence Award" and the College of Humanities "Outstanding Senior Award".

Sabine Koehler-Curry, major in German Studies, minor in Art History, received the College of Humanities' Outstanding Senior Certificate of Honorable Mention for Exceptional Scholarship, Leadership, and Citizenship qualities.

German Minor Information

Brian Butler, German minor, has been accepted to participate in the 2009-2010 Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals. The program is underwritten by the United States Congress and the German Bundestag. Best wishes, Brian!

German Club News

This past year, the Deutsche Studenten Club organized a number of field trips and social events like bowling, and barbecuing. The current president of the club is Daniel Frey. The club meets every Thursday at Frog & Firking at 6 p.m. for the Stammtisch.

Study Abroad Programs

“UA students are continuing to study abroad in record numbers. Enrollments in study abroad and student exchange programs have grown a whopping twenty percent in the past twelve months. Pre-enrollments for the upcoming summer session and fall semester 2009 remain remarkably strong. UA students clearly recognize the value of international experience to their long term career success and earning power.”

Kirk Simmons, Executive Director of International Affairs at the University of Arizona, in *Update*, April 2009, p.1.

3 year-long study abroad scholarships supported by the Federation of German-American Clubs and the Grunow Scholarship Fund were awarded to:

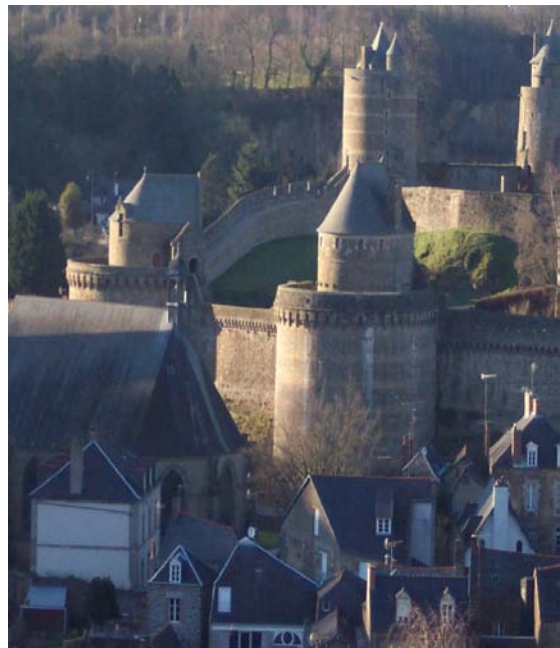
Patrick S. Moor, Horn Performance major , German Studies minor (Weimar)

William S. Simpson, Computer Science Major, German Studies minor (Karlsruhe)

Matthew B. Skinner, Philosophy major (Berlin)

Touring Medieval Europe

Every year University Distinguished Professor Albrecht Classen takes a group of some 25 students on a Medieval Travel Tour through Europe. Students study the Middle Ages both in a regular classroom (on the bus, in the hotel lobby, in a park, next to the city wall, or elsewhere) and hands-on, exploring cathedrals, castles, cities, and other medieval sites. This tour pursues a new route every year, and regularly covers 6-8 countries from Portugal to Poland, and from Germany to Italy. Increasingly, students from all three Arizona universities, now also from California, Colorado, Kansas, and Pennsylvania, are joining the tour – an exciting and inspiring learning experiences for any student of any age and background. With every tour there are repeat participants who cannot get enough of exploring medieval Europe in such an eye-opening way.



The 2008 Summer-in-Leipzig Program

Since its introduction in 2003, 140 students and 10 graduate assistant teachers have participated in the department's Summer Study in Leipzig Germany Program. In the summer of 2008, 27 students and two graduate assistants, Kacy Peckenpaugh and Alex Holzniekemper, joined the program which is directed by Dr. Peter Ecke. The one-month immersion program was created to provide Arizona students with the opportunity to experience German language and culture first hand and to help them improve their German language skills. Besides taking classes, students explored the city's numerous historic sites, visited various museums, the *Porsche* automobile factory, the *Brauhaus zu Reudnitz*, and took advantage of the many cultural events, such as concerts in the *Gewandhaus* and the *Leipziger Oper* as well as events in Europe's largest student club, the *Moritzbastei*. Day trips and weekend excursions lead the group to the cities of *Dresden*, *Erfurt*, and *Wernigerode*. Through the *Tandem-Programm*, participants paired whom they practiced German and English and explored student life in Leipzig. As always, the program received much support from colleagues and staff of the *Herder-Institut* and the *Auslandsamt* of the *Universität Leipzig*. In particular, we would like to thank Prof. Erwin Tschirner, Dr. Svend Poller, Frau Ehmke, Frau Prall, and Susan Baumgartl for their help with the program. From the UA's study abroad office, we thank Dr. David Wright, Laura Thornes, and Linda Kovach for their invaluable support.

Dr. Ecke is currently planning the 7th summer study program in Leipzig. Students will join this year's celebrations on the occasion of the 600th anniversary of the founding of the *Universität Leipzig*.

Study abroad opportunities are announced at:

<http://w3.coh.arizona.edu/german/abroad.htm>.

Scholarships can be found at:

http://w3.coh.arizona.edu/german/undergrad_scholarships.htm



Featuring Professor Barbara Kosta and German Cinema



I owe my love of cinema to my Serbian father, who still calls me today after watching a Turner classic to talk about Hollywood films from the 1940s and to reminisce about his movie-going experiences. When I began graduate school at the University of California, Berkeley and took my first film course from Anton Kaes, I realized that I could turn my love of cinema into a lifelong engagement. As a doctoral student, I learned how to dissect images closely and then to relate them to the social, cultural and political context, in which they were made. I became fascinated with German feminist filmmaking and the New German Cinema and eagerly awaited their latest films. This fascination crossed into the cinema of the Weimar Republic and its crisp, black and white images of the *femme fatale*.

My recent book, *Willing Seduction* (forthcoming 2009), is on Josef von Sternberg's 1930 film *The Blue Angel* (*Der blaue Engel*), which is among the best known films of the Weimar Republic (1919-1933). A significant landmark as one of Germany's first major sound films, it is known primarily for launching Marlene Dietrich into Hollywood stardom and for the mythic pairing of the Austrian-born American director von Sternberg with the star performer Dietrich.

My cultural study of *The Blue Angel* focuses on the debates on mass culture and high culture, the modern woman of the 1920s, cinematic spectatorship, the film's reception, and the introduction of sound. Bridging the past and present-day Germany, I also look at Dietrich as a contemporary cultural icon and at her symbolic value since the moment of German unification, as well as at Lola Lola's various "incarnations."

A Fulbright Research Fellowship in Berlin gave me the opportunity to use the archives at the Deutsche Kinemathek. The project grew out of my course on the history of German cinema and other film courses that I have taught that focus variously on specific filmmakers, stars and trends. In these courses, students learn to look at films as cultural artifacts that comment in many subtle ways on the world in which we live. Given the prominence of visual culture in our students' lives, my goal has been to teach visual literacy and to discuss the ways in which images inform and shape us. Recently, I developed a workshop on teaching film for high school teachers and media educators.

Department of
German Studies
Film Series
SPRING 2009

Screenings begin at 7:30 P.M. in ILC 140



[The 2008-09 German Studies Departmental Film Series](#)

Professor Kosta is the Director of Graduate Studies in our department. She has been organizing the German department film series and shown films from the Weimar Republic to the present. The series provides students with further opportunities to engage in German culture and gives us all a chance to see more movies. The public is invited to attend. For more information, and to be placed on the film-series mailing list contact the department:

gerstudy@u.arizona.edu

German Studies Colloquium Series (2008/2009)

Barbara Kosta has also been coordinating the department's German Studies Colloquium Series. The list of speakers and topics for the 2008/2009 academic year follow.

Casey Hayes, Doctoral Student, UA Department of German Studies

"Bilder der Revolutionen: 1848/49 im deutschsprachigen Raum" (September 26th, 2008)

Professor **Kamakshi Murti**, Middlebury College
"The Muslim Veil as a Gender Marker of Cultural Difference between Islam and Europe" (October 10th, 2008)

Professor **Paulette Kurzer**, UA Department of Political Science
"Health and Consumer Protection in the EU: The Paradox of Austria" (November 14th, 2008)

Silke Lipinski, Doctoral Student, UA Department of German Studies
"Udohla – Plattform für Karoline von Günderrodes philosophische Gedanken" (January 30th, 2009)

Professor **Shlomo Aronson**, Visiting Professor in the UA Department of Judaic Studies
"Die Wannseekonferenz" (February 20th, 2009)

Professor **Chantelle Warner**, UA Department of German Studies
"A Turkish Tale: Genre, Subjectivity, and the Controversy around Feridun Zaimoglu's *Leyla*" (March 27th, 2009)

Professor Emeritus **Gerald Kleinfeld**, Arizona State University "Dis-(?) united Germany and the Elections of 2009" (April 17th, 2009)

An additional lecture, "1989 – The Year that Changed the Map of Europe: Remembering the Fall of 'The Wall'", was presented by Dr. **Christian Stocks**, Consul General at the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Los Angeles (March 26th, 2009).

Good bye to Veronica Ostertag!



Dr. Veronica Ostertag, one of our B. A. and M. A. programs graduate, who completed her Ph.D. in the SLAT program here at the University of Arizona, has accepted a tenure-track position at Angelo State University in Texas, where she will be in charge of the German program. She is expected to build and strengthen the program and to redesign the curriculum to address the needs of German students as well as future employers who seek individuals able to understand and appreciate a foreign language and culture. Congratulations and best wishes to Veronica!

Need more information on anything? Call the German Studies department, or visit our website.

(520) 626-8268

gerstudy@u.arizona.edu.

German Companies in Tucson and Southern Arizona

Whereas national media often comment on the establishment of plants of German companies in the United States, especially by the big car companies Mercedes-Benz, Volkswagen, Audi, and BMW, recently, German solar industry has arrived in Tucson, albeit with little fanfare. Among German companies in Tucson and southern Arizona, Schletter Inc. makes mounting brackets for solar panels, having found Tucson to be the preferred site for its production. In fact, it is the largest solar-bracket company in Europe. Weapons industries from Germany are also situated in Tucson. An online report reads that RAM was "developed and produced as a joint effort between Raytheon's Missile Systems business in Tucson, Ariz., and RAMSYS, a consortium of German companies. RAM is deployed in the U.S., German and South Korean navies." There are also a variety of medical instruments companies in town. Volkswagen is said to have a secret testing site near Casa Grande.

We encourage readers to supply us with information regarding German, Austrian, and Swiss companies in Tucson and the surrounding area. You are invited to send an email to this effect to: gerstudy@u.arizona.edu.



To Our Alumni

We would like to hear from you regarding your line of work and other accomplishments. Please contact us at: gerstudy@u.arizona.edu.

Fund Raising Campaign

We regret to inform the German Studies community that the Grunow Exchange Scholarship Fund, originally established by a former faculty member, Professor Oskar Grunow (deceased), is almost depleted. Since its inception in 1979, the Fund helped support more than 40 U of A students to spend a year at a German University. As most individuals who have studied abroad will agree, a sojourn in a 'foreign' culture provides formative, life changing experiences and provides the transcultural awareness essential to succeeding in an increasingly interdependent world. The German Studies Department is starting a fundraising campaign to replenish the Grunow Scholarship Fund or to initiate other endeavors to support study abroad in a German-speaking country. This is your opportunity to enable deserving students to gain that international experience and the language and intercultural competence requisite in today's world by making a donation to the German Scholarship Fund. Any amount will be welcome and is fully tax deductible.

You can also honor yourself, a relative, friend or teacher (living or deceased) by establishing a named scholarship in that person's name for deserving students.

If you can make a contribution, please complete the form on the next page.



Make a Gift

German Studies invites you to be a partner in its service to students, faculty and community.

UA Foundation / German Studies

√ Check here.

Student Scholarships for study abroad and/or immersion programs.

Any Departmental Project Needed, such as faculty or graduate student research, visiting authors, film/music/theater performances, guest lecturers, and cultural events.

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