

2008

Biddy Martin Comes Home - As Chancellor



Carolyn "Biddy" Martin

Carla Love

In September the Department of German was delighted to welcome back to campus alumna Carolyn "Biddy" Martin as the new chancellor of UW-Madison—and as the newest member of the department faculty. Martin was a graduate student in the German department

in the early 1980s, and wrote her dissertation, "The Death of God, the Crisis of Liberal Man, and the Meanings of Woman: A Study of the Works of Lou Andreas-Salomé," under the supervision of professors Jost Hermand and David Bathrick.

After receiving her PhD in German literature in 1985, Martin left Wisconsin for an illustrious career at Cornell University, where she was a faculty member in both the Department of German Studies and the Women's Studies Program. She served as chair of the German Studies department from 1994 to 1997 and

as senior associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences from 1996 to 2000 and was appointed provost in July 2000, a position in which she reported to the president as the university's chief educational officer and chief operating officer.

Publishing actively since her graduate school years, Martin is a distinguished scholar of German studies. She is the author of two books, *Woman and Modernity: The (Life)Styles of Lou Andreas-Salomé* (1991) and *Femininity Played Straight: The Significance of Being Lesbian* (1996), and has published many articles in the field of gender studies.

"My education in German prepared me for my professorial and even administrative career."

"I am delighted to be back in Madison and honored to be chancellor of this great university,"

Martin says. "My education as a PhD student in German prepared me well for my professorial and even for my administrative career. The years I spent studying in Madison were among the happiest of my life and I am glad to be here again among former teachers, colleagues, and friends."

Questions? Comments? News?
 Department of German
 818 Van Hise Hall
 University of Wisconsin
 1220 Linden Drive
 Madison, WI 53706
 Tel: 608/262 2192
 Fax: 608/262 7949
 german@mailplus.wisc.edu

Max Kade Institute Takes Stock and Celebrates!

Cora Lee Kluge

Throughout the academic year 2008-2009 the Max Kade Institute is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Some of us remember the official dedication ceremonies on October 12, 1983, with Dr. Karl Carstens (President of the Federal Republic of Germany), Dr. Erich Markel (President of the Max Kade Foundation, whose founding grant established the new MKI), Dr. Irving Shain (Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison), J. William Fulbright (former U.S. sena-



Karl Carstens (President of the Federal Republic of Germany), Irving Shain (Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison), and Erich Markel (President of the Max Kade Foundation) celebrate the founding of the Max Kade Institute in October, 1983.

tor), and Frank P. Zeidler (former mayor of Milwaukee) among the distinguished visitors. The purpose of the new MKI as reported in 1983 was "to serve as a base for those studying the background and history of German-speaking immigration and how it has influenced and enriched American culture." Some of its goals were to establish a reference and research library; to collect, restore, and display artifacts of German-American culture; to prepare material for schools and other audi-

ences; to host conferences and workshops; and to assist scholars. In short, the MKI was to serve scholarship, research, and education, to raise awareness of America's German heritage, and to engage in outreach activities throughout the university and beyond.

We now review the accomplishments of our first 25 years. We have set up a library and archives, including a world renowned collection of North American German dialect recordings, which are visited by scholars and other visitors from around the world; we have developed courses and programs in various aspects of German-American studies (on topics such as immigration and German language in America); we have continuously worked with the general public through outreach presentations and special publications (the "How German is American?" poster and booklet, and the "German Words—American Voices" dialect CD package); and we are actively engaged in cooperative activities with other institutes, community organizations, and schools, not only in the state of Wisconsin.

Our publication series includes such titles as: *The German-Speaking 48ers of Watertown* (Wallman, 1992); *German-American Artists in Early Milwaukee* (Merrill, 1997); *German-American Urban Culture* (Merrill, 2000); *A Word Atlas of Pennsylvania German* (Seifert, 2001); *Dictionary of German Names* (Bahlow, tr. Gentry, 2002); *Land Without Nightingales* (ed. Bohlman and Holzappel, 2002); *German-Jewish Identities in America* (ed. Mauch and Salmons, 2003); *German-American Immigration and Ethnicity* (ed. Kamphoefner and

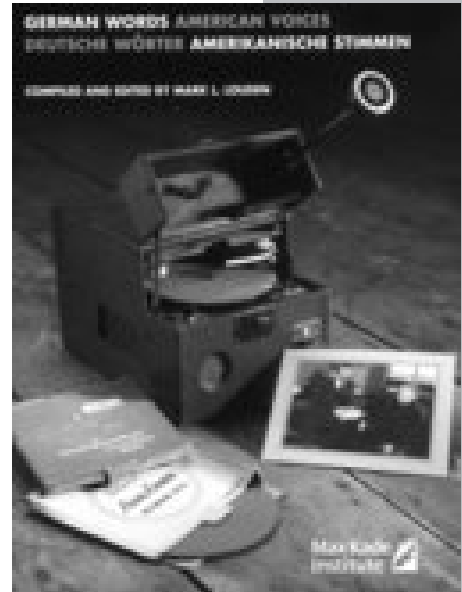
Helbich, 2004); *The Wisconsin Office of Emigration* (Strohschänk and Thiel, 2005); *Wisconsin German Land and Life* (ed. Bungert et al., 2006); and *Other Witnesses: An Anthology of Literature of the German Americans, 1850-1914* (ed. Kluge, 2007).

We have sponsored or co-sponsored symposia and conferences on topics such as "Mathilde Franziska Anneke" (1984); "The Forty-Eighters" (1986); "The German-American Press" (1987); "Charles Sealsfield" (1988); "German Influences on U.S. Education to 1917" (1990); "The German Language in America, 1683-1991" (1991); "Defining Tensions: Germans in Wisconsin" (1998); "German-Jewish Identities in America" (2000); "The German Experience with the Land in Wisconsin" (2000); "Sounds of Two Worlds" (2002); "Stories of Contact and Change" (2004); and "The German Language and Immigration in International Perspective" (2006).

These lists reflect the innovative and interdisciplinary work we have undertaken. We feel we have a lot to celebrate and to build on as we embark on more new and exciting projects. The first of our anniversary events, hosted by the MKI, the Friends of the MKI, and the UW-Madison German Department, took place on October 23rd and featured a lecture by Frank Trommler, Professor Emeritus of German, University of Pennsylvania, on "The Lusitania Effect: German Propaganda and German-American Identity in World War I." Another highlight of the year-long festivities will be an interdisciplinary and trans-national conference entitled "Excursions in German-American Studies: Celebrating 25 Years at the Max Kade Institute,

UW-Madison," scheduled for April 1 to 3, 2009, which will bring Ambassador Klaus Scharioth of the Federal Republic of Germany to Madison, as well as a group of distinguished scholars in various disciplines related to our field. Please save time to join us, and watch for announcements on our Website (mki.wisc.edu). We do hope to see you soon!

There are, of course, challenges yet to be solved. Funding for our staff is a constant concern, with the result that too much of our time is spent in applying for short-term grants to support our work. In addition, we are looking for secure financial backing for our publication series. Furthermore, room for our operation has become a real issue, as our library and activities have far outgrown the space available inside the Keystone House, while on the outside, our lovely old building is under increasing pressure because of recent and current expansion projects of the UW Medical School and Hospitals. We do hope that we may be given new quarters within the next few years! Meanwhile, we remain excited about the many important endeavors that lie ahead, we are encouraged by the enormous interest in our activities, and we are—as always—very grateful for the support we have received.



The cover of the MKI's new CD and brochure "German Words / American Voices" (2007) features an early photograph of Professor Lester W.J. Seifert interviewing an American speaker of German. He is using a "soundscriber," which can be found at the Max Kade Institute.

German Department Emeriti News

Valters Nollendorfs

"I n meinem früheren Leben war ich Germanistikprofessor an der University of Wisconsin in Madison," I sometimes inform my German visitors, whom I guide through the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia in dead center Riga. The Museum deals with Latvian history of the years 1940-1991 when Latvia was occupied by the Soviet Union and by Nazi Germany. As the Museum's Director of External Relations, I am in charge of most state protocol visits in the Museum, including parliamentarians, ministers, presidents, kings, queens, like Queen Elizabeth and the Japanese Emperor and Empress. When not doing that, I write and edit for the Museum and the Latvian Historians' Commission, and am in charge of the Museum's Development Program, which includes planning the Museum's reconstruction and fundraising. In other words, I am not at a loss for work but I am a volunteer, after all.



From left to right: Lilita Zatlare, the First Lady of Latvia; President Valdis Zatlers of Latvia; Her Royal Majesty, Elizabeth II of England; Valters Nollendorfs

Don Becker

A s I enter my 10th (!) year of retirement, I must say that the best thing about it has been the opportunity it has afforded me to engage in time-consuming pleasures like travel, language learning, and music making. I've been able to take ten international trips (half to Europe and half to South America), visit some of our national parks and monuments, travel "virtually" via satellite and internet TV and radio, greatly improve my Spanish, and become proficient on the "bayan" (B-Griff chromatic accordion), which I play with the wonderful UW-Madison Russian Folk Orchestra.

Jost Hermand



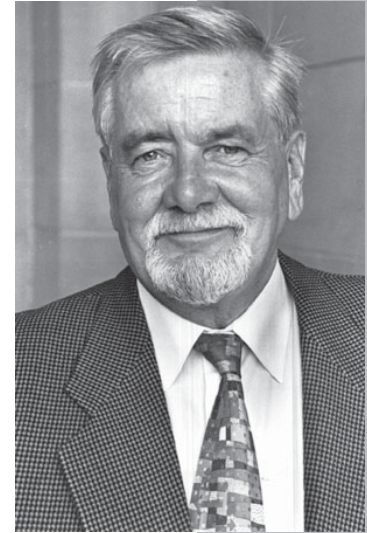
I retired in Fall 2003, but am still an active teacher and researcher. I hold an "Honorarprofessur" at the Humboldt Universität in Berlin, where I teach every Fall (large lecture courses on Thomas Mann, Nazi-Kultur, Bertolt Brecht), and I continue to teach every Spring at the UW-Madison as well, a large-enrollment undergrad course on Nazi Culture. My recent books include *Heinrich Heine. Kritisch. Solidarisch. Umstritten* (2007), *Die Utopie des Fortschritts. 12 Versuche* (2007), and *Glanz und Elend der deutschen Oper* (2008). In Berlin I have also given public lectures on Pablo Picasso, Brecht, Ernst Barlach, exile literature, and have been interviewed on German television about my research on German exiles.

Hank Geitz

Retirement is to be recommended without reservation. This pressure-free lifestyle is most pleasant. Somehow I seem to be busy all the time, but that's because it takes me longer to do things. A good deal of time is spent broadening horizons by reading material previously postponed and discovering new things. Add to the mix an often frustrating struggle with a bit of Hungarian and attempts to fathom the mysterious ways of computers. Finally, I continue to pursue some research on two fronts: the history of German-language Freemasonry in the US, and the history of German settlement in pre-WWI Hungary. Certainly, one of the great joys of retirement is being able to spend more time with family, especially grandchildren, as well as with friends old and new. I have distilled the positives about retirement into four points: 1) one does what one wants to do; 2) one doesn't do what one doesn't want to do; 3) one doesn't have to answer to anyone; and 4) one still gets paid. If that sounds attractive, it is!

Klaus L. Berghahn

Klaus L. Berghahn retired at the beginning of 2008. The last eight months he considered to be a long sabbatical during which he followed Goethe's motto: "Tätig sein, ohne zu arbeiten." He lectured at the Universities of New Hampshire and Florida, and participated in a DAAD conference at Stanford University. He finished a book called *Zukunft in der Vergangenheit. Auf Ernst Blochs Spuren* (Aisthesis Verlag) and a new Reclam edition of *Das Pathetischerhabene. Schillers dramentheoretische Schriften*. This Fall semester he is teaching once again an honors seminar in ILS, "The Temptation of Hope" (not to be confused with Obama's *The Audacity of Hope*). As Prof. emer. Berghahn says: "Retired, but not dead yet."



Charlotte Brancaforte

Ich verließ die Universität Wisconsin-Madison im Jahre 2000. Meine Familie zog nach New Orleans um, war aber auf Reisen, als der Hurrikan KATRINA und seine Folgen unser Haus 6 Monate lang unbewohnbar machten. Ich besuchte einige afrikanische Länder, begleitet von meiner Tochter Stephanie, die für Amnesty International arbeitete. Ich lehrte als Gastprofessorin an der Tulane University in New Orleans und hielt Vorträge über deutsch-amerikanische Geschichte in Service Organisationen in Deutschland und Italien. In Italien gab ich auch viele Deutschstunden für italienische Gymnasiasten und ihre Professoren. Ich bemühe mich, die Beziehungen zwischen einigen italienischen graduate schools und Madison zu fördern. In diesem Jahr forschte ich in deutschen Archiven über die Beiträge meiner Vorfahren zum deutschen und bayerischen politischen und kulturellen Leben. Ich fand z.B. heraus, daß mein Urgroßvater zur Zeit Bismarcks im Reichstag die Zentrumspartei vertrat. Ich genieße die Zeit, die ich mit meinen Enkeln Gabriela (11) und Ariel Sebastian (8) verbringen darf und bin sehr stolz auf meine Tochter Daniela, ihre Mutter, die nur Deutsch mit ihnen spricht. Ich würde mich freuen, von Ihnen zu hören, entweder über Facebook oder email: clbranca@wisc.edu. Da wir Madison sehr vermißten, kauften wir hier ein Condo und werden die Hälfte des Jahres wieder in Madison leben.

Faculty Awards, Honors,

SALVATORE CALOMINO:

Encomia. Bibliographical Bulletin of the International Courtly Literature Society. Vol. 27 (2005), [appeared 2007], 293 pp. Co-editor and International Bibliographer.

Encomia. Bibliographical Bulletin of the International Courtly Literature Society, Vol. 28 (2006), [appeared 2008], 286 pp. Co-editor and International Bibliographer.

"Mahler's Saints: Medieval Devotional Figures and their Transformation in Mahler's Symphonies." *Naturlaut* 5, 3 (2006): 8-15.

"Medieval Sources, Versions, and Composition: Mahler's Path to Das klagende Lied." Invited lecture as featured speaker, Colorado Mahler Fest XXI, University of Colorado-Boulder, January 2008.

MONIKA CHAVEZ:

Hamel Faculty Fellow, College of Letters and Science (5-year award).

SABINE GROß:

"Narration in *The Tin Drum: A Quirky Narrator in Search of the Truth*" in: Monika Shafi (ed.): *Approaches to Teaching Günter Grass's The Tin Drum.* New York: Modern Language Association, 2008: 173-204.

JOST HERMAND:

Heinrich Heine. Kritisch. Solidarisch. Umstritten (Köln: Böhlau, 2007).

Glanz und Elend der deutschen Oper (Köln: Böhlau, 2008).

CARLA LOVE:

Appointed to UW-Madison Chancellor Search and Screen Committee, Spring 2008.

MARK LOUDEN:

Delivered the Professor J. William Frey Memorial Pennsylvania German Lecture at Franklin and Marshall College, October 1, 2008.

VENKAT MANI:

Resident Fellow, Institute for Research in the Humanities, UW-Madison (Spring 2008).

University of Southern California German Exile Studies Research Grant for Research on Lion Feuchtwanger (for the book project, "Transposed Signs of Modernity") (2009).

German Academic Exchange Services (DAAD) Grant for Center for German and European Studies, UW-Madison. Project Leader, "Positioning Modern Germany in the World: Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism, Colonialism, and Migration" (2008-2012).

Division of International Studies Research Workshop Grant, for "Rethinking World Literature/s," UW-Madison (2008-09).

Social Science Research Council Grant "Academia in the Public Sphere: Islam and Muslims in the World Context." Principal Investigator for the UW-Madison Project, "Inside Islam: Dialogues and Debates." [Collaborators: Global Studies (Leader), UW-Madison National Resource Centers, Division of Information Technology, and Wisconsin Public Radio] (2008).

"Cages in Search of Birds: Preliminary Reflections on Naiyer Masud." In *Annual of Urdu Studies* (2008): 21-35.

Activities, and Publications

SABINE MÖDERSHEIM:

Exceptional Service Award, 2008, College of Letters and Science, for work with First-Year Interest Groups.

Center for European Studies International Travel Award.

Elected newsletter editor for the International Society of Emblem Studies.

MARC SILBERMAN:

"Brecht's Epitaphic Writing," in Stephen Brockmann et al., eds., *Brecht and Death, The Brecht Yearbook* 32 (Pittsburgh: International Brecht Society, 2007), 93-105.

"The First DEFA Fairy-Tale Films: Cold-war Fantasies of the 1950s," in John E. Davidson and Sabine Hake, eds., *Take Two: Fifties Cinema in Divided Germany* (New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2007), 106-119.

"Indústria cinematográfica alemã: padrões de competitividade e proteção," in Allesandra Meleiro, ed., *Cinema No Mundo: indústria, política e mercado* (Sao Paolo: Escrituras Editora, 2007), Vol. 5: Europa, 89-112.

Kuhle Wampe, "Introduction" and English subtitles for restored DVD edition (Icestorm and DEFA Film Library, 2008).

Director, UW-Madison Center for German and European Studies (2008-).

Digital resource grant from the UW-Madison Library System to digitize the first 22 volumes of the German Dept.'s Wisconsin Workshops (1969-1991), which will be made freely accessible through the UW Digital Collections: (<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/German/>).

JAMES STEAKLEY

Taught courses on Büchner and on recent German gay literature on a faculty exchange at the Freie Universität Berlin, Fall 2007.

Cora Lee Kluge Receives the *Bundesverdienstkreuz*

Professor Cora Lee Kluge has been awarded the *Bundesverdienstkreuz*, the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, for her work in furthering German-American understanding and friendship and her contributions in the fields of *Germanistik* and German-American studies. German Consul General Wolfgang Drautz (Chicago) presented the award in a ceremony on November 24 in Memorial Union.

Kluge's teaching and research focus on German-American immigration, German-American studies, particularly the period from 1848 to World War I, and the history of German studies in America. As director of the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies, she also organizes outreach events to bring a better understanding of German-American immigration, history, culture, and language to a general public as well as to school children.





Student Activities

Honors Students

Left: Delta Phi Alpha inductees, from left to right: Joseph Semrad, Tyler Gunderson, David Stephan, Andrew Heller, Robert Schultz, Jesse Allhands, Erica Cameron, and Erika Hutz. Not pictured: Heather Feltz, Natallia Janechek, Rebecca Karr, Sarah McDole, Randi Mitchell, Alexa Nelson, Nicole Skurich, Maria Sundaram, and John Tucker.

Right: A winning poster from the annual German Day competition and festival.

German Day



Left: A student stands in front of the mock Berlin Wall, erected by the German Club. Students were allowed to graffiti the Wall, which was later celebratoriously knocked down.

The Wall came down...

German Club



Top: German Club members enjoy an excursion to Chicago's Weihnachtsmarkt

Middle: German Club party at the Essen Haus

Bottom: Stockwerk Deutsch participants in the live-in classroom (L) and on an outing to the local Swiss village of New Glarus (R)



UW-Madison's DAAD Center of Excellence Re-funded

Marc Silberman, Director, CGES

Those of you who have read previous issues of *Mitteilungen* know that the UW-Madison Center for German and European Studies was founded in 1998 under the auspices of the German Department's Klaus Berghahn as a DAAD Center of Excellence with generous funding from the German Academic Exchange Service. Last year you read about the CGES's 10th anniversary conference, and this year I am pleased to report that the Center has been refunded for another five-year cycle by the DAAD and UW-Madison.

The "re-launch" took place on September 30, and included a welcome from our new Chancellor, Carolyn "Biddy" Martin, who herself earned a PhD in the German Department in 1985. Sara Lennox, President of the German Studies Association, pro-



Professor Marc Silberman and filmmaker Rainer Simon

The CGES has established four research teams that will be organizing graduate seminars, workshops and conferences, lectures and publications through 2012: "After the Violence: The Work of Memory in German Culture and Society" (Leader: Marc Silberman, German), "Positioning 'Modern' Germany in the World: Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism Colonialism, Migration" (Leader: B. Venkat Mani, German), "Transforming European Governance" (Leader: Jonathan Zeitlin, Sociology), and "Work, Family and Education in Europe: Challenges of Globalization and Gender" (Leader: Myra Marx Ferree, Sociology and Women's Studies). Already this semester the CGES has co-sponsored with the German Department visits by DEFA filmmaker Rainer Simon from Potsdam and writer Angela Krauss from Leipzig.



Professor Marc Silberman, writer Angela Krauss, and Professor Sabine Groß

essor of German at U-Mass, Amherst, and UW-Madison alumna (PhD 1973) delivered the keynote address about "Transnational Perspectives on German Studies."

For more information on the CGES and its programs: <http://daadcenter.wisc.edu/>

Recognizing (Dis) Order

Claire Doughty

The 10th Annual Conference of the German and Dutch Graduate Student Association, "Recognizing (Dis) Order," took place on March 28th and 29th, 2008. Co-organizers Regina McConaghy, Kristopher Imbrigotta, Maria Carone, and Claire Doughty worked over the course of a year to bring together graduate students from across the United States and abroad to discuss notions of order, disorder, and chaos as they relate to German literature and linguistics.

The conference began with a keynote address by David Fertig, an associate professor in the Department of Linguistics at SUNY Buffalo whose work in the field of Germanic linguistics is widely known and well-respected. Dr. Fertig delivered a lively and thought-provoking talk, entitled "The Many Priests in Kafka's Temple: How Speakers, Linguists, and Prescriptivists 'Do Things with Junk'," to a large audience of students, faculty, and members of the community. During his brief stay in Madison, Dr. Fertig was also kind enough to meet with graduate students informally to answer questions about research, teaching, and professional development.

Graduate student papers were grouped into five panels addressing the collapse and regeneration of order, order in the Middle Ages, institutional narratives and narrative as an institution in Austrian litera-

ture, language in time and space, and finally turning points in 18th century thought. Reflecting the diverse interests of our own German department, paper topics ranged from examinations of (dis)order in historical linguistics, second language acquisition, and literature. Our presenters came from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Cornell University, University of California-Berkeley, Indiana University-

Bloomington, University of Konstanz via Brown University, and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. Together with the keynote address, their presentations offered a rich variety of insights into the linguistic, narrative, philosophical and social systems that shape our experiences of the world.

The conference was co-sponsored by the Departments of German, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature, as well as the Center for German and European Studies. The Anonymous Fund and the University Lectures Committee also provided generous support. We would also like to thank Professor Sabine Groß and our department coordinator Joan Leffler for all of their help and advice.

"The presentations offered a rich variety of insights into the linguistic, narrative, philosophical, and social systems that shape our experience of the world."



Professor
David Fertig

The FIG Experience

Ashley Katherine Lee (BA, 2010)

Arriving on a campus of 40,000 students is more than a little daunting, especially when 88% of them don't exactly look like you. It's not hard to feel lost when you are one of only two students of color on your dormitory floor, but I was also one of two in my first lecture-style course with upwards of three-hundred students. This article is not intended to be about the lack of diversity on campus, or even my experiences as a minority here. It is about the program that is responsible for my still attending the university today, the program that became my refuge, the program that became my home.

I first heard about this program at SOAR when a passionate woman spoke about the numerous advantages of a relatively new initiative called First-Year Interest Groups (FIGs). She said that the FIG would help us relate to one another and create a close-knit learning community. I was sold, and signed up for a FIG called "Race, Racial Conditioning and The Oneness of Humankind". Our eyes were opened to issues many of us never knew existed; we were challenged to think about things we had only skimmed the surface of before the FIG.

In my German literature course, we were able to realize that many German minorities share similarities with us, though our roots are different. In Consumer Sciences, we were trained to notice instances of environmental racism and injustice and taught never to accept them. Our "Oneness of Humankind" course made our own experiences the topic of the course as we filled hours upon hour with tough discussion on race, discussions that many people

are too afraid to have. Ironically enough, it was only through the sometimes painful talks that we realized that we were truly one people. In addition to learning about these eye-opening subjects, we were given the privilege to work with amazing professors. Through studying under three of the best teachers I will ever have, I was able to establish valuable faculty connections, which will last a lifetime.

While the learning and faculty connections were wonderful, the most rewarding part of the FIG was the strong family unit we all gained. The class was composed of around 20 students, half of whom were racial minorities. The environment was small and comfortable, allowing for a safe space in which we could share issues and obstacles that we felt uncomfortable talking about with friends and family members. Throughout the semester, we became more than a class; we became a family. We shared more laughs, arguments, and crying sessions in one semester than many good friends do in an entire lifetime. We entered strangers and became brothers and sisters. To this day, when we see one another, the greetings are nostalgic and warm. FIG means always having a group of individuals who are like home to me on a campus where I do not always feel welcome and wanted. It means I will never drop out because I feel alone or because I feel like I can't make a difference here. In one semester, we found out things about ourselves, our peers, and what our college experience can and should be; information more valuable than material you can learn from any textbook. I could never imagine a freshman year or a college education without my First-Year Interest Group; I would not be the same individual I am today without it.

Working at the U.S. Consulate in Leipzig?!

When our new Chancellor Carolyn Martin stated in August 2008 at the Chancellor's Convocation that she had come to UW-Madison as a PhD candidate specifically for the German Department, I was one of the few but eager students to proudly cheer along with her. Four years ago, I began as an undergraduate in the department, for the exact same reason she had. When I think back now to my very first course in German, I could never have imagined the support I would receive from the department to expand my interests in the German language and culture both on and off the UW-Madison campus.

After four years of searching for a way to combine my two favorite areas of study, German and Political Science, my efforts were well rewarded when I was selected by the U.S. Department of State for one of their coveted internships abroad. For three months this past summer I lived a dream, working in the sector for political and economic affairs at the American Consulate General in Leipzig, Germany. In addition to researching the political and economic development in the region of Middle Germany, an area still struggling to unify itself with the West, I gained valuable insight into the work and life of the 6,500 Foreign Service Officers serving throughout the world. The highlight of the internship included drafting a cable back to Washington D.C. on the market transition of logistics giant DHL. I was later notified that the cable was actually used in briefing a congressional delegation back on Capitol Hill. Within three months I was able to see the work of four years of study come together to form what will hopefully be a future career.

Joe Semrad (BA, 2009)



Joe Semrad in front of the new U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Pariser Platz (July 4, 2008)

Since returning to campus from Leipzig, I have developed an even greater appreciation for the years of support I have received from the German Department, which ultimately motivated me to seek out opportunities such as this. As an underclassman in the German immersion dormitory, Stockwerk Deutsch, I was given my first opportunity to connect with faculty members while meeting students who shared my interest in the German language. Later, after months of personal advising from multiple professors, I received the approval and encouragement of the department to spend my junior year in Berlin on an independent study. Even to this day, I continue to receive emails from professors notifying me of local and global opportunities to use my knowledge of German. As I graduate this May, it is with sincere gratitude and the utmost respect for the department's genuine desire to see students, such as myself, succeed in the field of German.

Accolades for Hans Adler

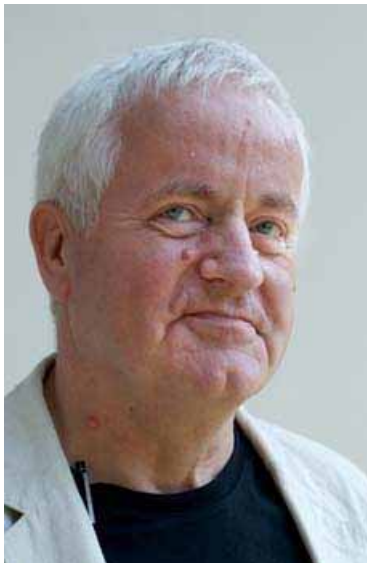
Hans Adler was appointed the Halls-Bascom Professor in Modern Literature Studies.

His recent edition - *Nützt es dem Volke, betrogen zu werden? / Est-il utile au Peuple d'être trompé? Die Preisfrage der Preußischen Akademie für 1780*. 2 vols. (Stuttgart: Frommann-Holzboog, 2007) was selected as NDR/*Süddeutsche Zeitung* - "Sachbuch des Monats."

For the first time, this edition presents all existing submissions-transcribed from the manuscripts in the Berlin Academy Archive-for the famous 1780 essay contest of the Prussian Académie des Sciences et Belles-Lettres. Frederick II forced his academy into this scandalous topic in 1777, and it became the most successful of all essay contests in the 18th century. Europe was shocked and the problem, known since Plato, has still not been solved today. The 1780 question about the legitimacy of deceiving the people may be considered the watershed of German Enlightenment. From then on, the qualitative determination of what *Aufklärung* was or should be was transformed into the quantitative question of who should be enlightened.

The introduction provides information about the history and topicality of the problem of legitimate deceit of the people from antiquity to the present, the discussion within the academy, its decision procedures concerning the distribution of the

prize, a partial attribution of the manuscripts, and a brief contextualization of the writings. Besides the usual scholarly reviews, the edition also attracted the interest of newspapers such as *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, *Il Secolo XIX* (Genoa), *Süddeutsche Zeitung*.



Hans Adler

Adler and Rainer Godel (our former guest as Feodor Lynen post-doc Fellow) organized an international trilingual conference in August 2008 in Halle at the Exzellenznetzwerk "Aufklärung-Religion-Wissen" on "*Formen des Nichtwissens der*

Aufklärung" with participants from 6 countries. The conference started from the assumption that neither "knowledge" as one of the core concepts of Enlightenment, nor its borders, limitations, and the antonyms of 'knowledge' can be taken for granted. Not only was the reliability of different ways to acquire knowledge contentious, but there was also no consensus about the extension of the realm of knowledge or what gave knowledge its profile by way of contradiction. The conference dealt with the obscure and gray areas of knowledge in the Enlightenment. The conference presentations will be published soon.

Listen to the interview with Etienne Balibar (Paris), Claudia Brodsky-Lacour (Princeton), Eberhard Knobloch (Berlin), and Hans Adler on *Deutschlandradio* here: http://ondemand-mp3.dradio.de/file/dradio/2008/08/28/dlf_20080828_2009_856f5497.mp3

Letter from the Chair

Dear Alumni and Friends,

However familiar the cycle of the academic year is to us, it is also always new. One significant and exciting change from our point of view is in our highest leadership: Professor Carolyn A. (Biddy) Martin, who received her Ph.D. here – in German and Women's Studies – has returned as our Chancellor. We are delighted to welcome her back to campus and eagerly anticipate her leadership in these admittedly challenging times. We note, too, that congratulations are in order to Professor Robert C. Holub, also an alum of the Department, who was recently appointed Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

As we reflect on our activities and consider the lives of those who enrich our work by studying in the Department, we are delighted to note many achievements. As in the two examples just mentioned, the study of German – whether here on campus or abroad – may have been an important factor, one which we hope was transformative and opened up valuable opportunities. We understand the study of German to be a broad and open enterprise with connections to many other fields, work that engages us in the life of the university and the world. I would like to focus for just a moment on the broad and deep commitments and connections that our faculty and staff maintain to cross-disciplinary work and to a range of activities that link us to others beyond the Department.

Several of our colleagues have appointments and teach courses in sister departments: Nancy Kaiser in the Department of Gender and Women's Studies, Hans Adler in Comparative Literature, Charles James in Curriculum and Instruction, Sabine Gross and Marc Silberman in Theatre and Drama (film). James Steakley chairs the Committee on Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issues. B. Venkat Mani is a faculty affiliate of the Program in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies; he served as Interim Director of Global Studies in 2007-08. Sabine Moedersheim is our liaison to the Center

...Continued on next page

The German Department is pleased to announce the achievements of the following students.

Undergraduate Students

Karl and Theodora Pisk Award (\$1,000):
Jesse Allhands, Robert Schultz

Undergraduate Writing Awards (\$200):
Kenneth Rosenkranz, Michael Muehlbauer

Bonn Sommerkurs Stipend Recipients (\$1,900):
Carrie Broz, Michael Muehlbauer, Shana Thoreson

Stockwerk Deutsch Stipend Recipients (\$200):
Dane Devetter, Margaret Donaldson, Melissa Flores, Carlos Gil del Alcazar, Sylvia Janicki, Barbara Jedele, Alexandrew Kaufer, Sabine Knoppke-Wetzel, Nicholas Monaco, Benjamin Morris, Laura Sexauer, Teagan Wolter

Graduate Students

Edith M. Deuss Fellowships:
Helena Ruf (Fall 2007)
Regina McConaghy (2007-08)
Benjamin Parrot (2007-08)

Dr. Arthur Schultz Fellowship:
Ivana Bradaric (Spring 2008)

Graduate School Dissertation Fellowships:
Shannon Dubenion-Smith (Fall 2007)
Lynn Wolff (Spring 2008)
Andrea Menz (Spring 2009)

Travel awards:
Antje Krueger, Thyra Knapp, Shannon Dubenion-Smith, Andrea Menz, Rose Rittenhouse, Adam Woodis, Charles Webster, Joshua Bousquette*, Todd Ehresmann*

* = Netherlandic Fund Awards; all other recipients received German Department Travel Awards

Student Awards

for Early Modern Studies, while Salvatore Calomino connects us to Medieval Studies on this campus. Mark Loudon has just returned from a year as Program Director of the Study Abroad Program in Freiburg. Monika Chavez and Charles James serve as core faculty in the Doctoral Program in Second Language Acquisition; Chavez has held leadership positions in the Language Institute here on campus. Marc Silberman is the Director of the Center for German and European Studies; Cora Lee Kluge directs the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies; Joseph Salmons is the Director of the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures. Rob Howell is the Director of International Academic Programs (= Study Abroad) and Associate Dean in the Division of International Studies. Carla Love recently served on the university-wide search and screen committee for our new chancellor.

I hope that you are as proud of my colleagues as I am – of their commitment to education in the broadest sense, to forging connections across campus, to improving opportunities for students. I am working on a project with others here on campus to help students better understand the goals and value of a broad education. I would very much like to hear from alumni about the role that your UW-Madison education has played in your life and work. Did you set off on a path directly related to "German"? If not, how did learning German affect you? What did you gain from your education, and how did your experience of studying German contribute? I look forward to hearing from any of you who have a story to share. And to all: thank you for your support of the Department. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,

Jolanda Vanderwal Taylor, jvtaylor@wisc.edu

Mitteilungen aus Madison

Department of German
818 Van Hise Hall
University of Wisconsin-Madison
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, WI
53706

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage PAID
Permit no. 658
Madison, WI