

University of Washington Department of Germanics Spring 2006 Newsletter



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Newsletter Editor: Heidi Rauscher Tilghman

Letter from the Chair

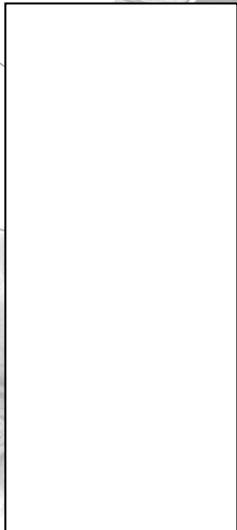


*Chair Sabine Wilke and
Konsul Rolf Schütte converse
with guests at the Fenomena
Gallery, March 2006.*

As another academic year comes to an end, we would like to share some highlights with you and look ahead to the next year. We will feature updates from our alumni and from our current students. We are very proud of the many accomplishments of our graduate students who are positioning themselves well in an increasingly competitive job market. Our undergraduate majors continue to be a delight to work with. Many are currently enrolled in our spring play (they are producing "Der Reigen" this year). The annual Delta Phi Alpha celebration was held in May in the Music Room of the

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Letter from the Chair, continued

University of Washington Club. Internationally renowned operatic tenor Mel Poll sang a cycle of Lieder from Schubert, Beethoven and Mendelssohn.

We hosted many international visitors this year, four in spring quarter alone. Professor Helmut Schneider from Bonn was our Distinguished Max Kade Professor. He offered a graduate seminar on the literature of the fantastic. Dr. Dietmar Till from Tübingen was our UW/Tübingen faculty exchange. He taught our senior seminar on the literature of unification. Dr. Klaus Vieweg was in Seattle in the fall and in the spring collaborating with Rick Gray on a Transcoop project. And Stefan Budian, a painter who lives in Mainz, spent two months in Seattle and Eastern Washington painting portraits and landscapes while on a



Visitors to recent Germanics events: Ambassador Karl Theodore Paschke (below); and Chris Landman (Arts and Sciences), UW Provost Phylis Wise, German Konsul Rolf Schütte.

"Physiognomic Expedition." His work is on exhibit at Seattle's Fenomena Gallery during early summer.

Our outreach efforts continue to thrive. During the 2005-2006 academic year we offered three public lectures in the "Connections & Contexts: Evenings on German Art and Culture" series with the Frye Art Museum. We are planning to continue this collaboration next year when the Frye is hosting an important exhibit on the new Leipzig school. The Germanics Advisory Board has held a series of events in our honor that raise the profile of UW Germanics in the community. We are very fortunate to have such an energetic group of people engaged in supporting the Department.

Next fall, UW Germanics will host an exhibit on postwar Austria, "Wieder frei," with original photographs and political posters from the Hoover Archives. Rick Gray and a group of UW colleagues will organize an international and interdisciplinary conference on the imagination in May 2007. Further events are listed on the back page.

Let me close by thanking my colleagues for making this a truly vital and interesting place to work, my students for challenging me intellectually, our staff for providing excellent support, and our board members for providing leadership initiative. I will be on sabbatical next year tying up some loose ends in conjunction with my project on Germans and the South Sea.

Sabine

Alumni Updates

After two years at the University of Cincinnati, **Anke Biendarra** happily returned to the West Coast in the fall 2005, where she started a tenure-track position at the University of California, Irvine. Anke is hard at work on her book project, which analyzes how changes in the cultural landscape after unification affect the role and understanding of authorship. Apart from that, she is preparing a special session on German pop for the MLA 2006, which will serve as the basis for an edited volume in English. Anke published an article on Kafka and photography in *Orbis Litterarum* in winter 2006 and has another article on globalization and travel in contemporary prose forthcoming this fall.

Richard Sperber continues to teach German and Spanish at Carthage College. His paper on "Colonial Encounters in Willy Seidel's Samoan Novel DER BUSCHHAHN," presented at last year's UW conference on

Germany in the Pacific islands, has just come out in the collection *Dialogics of Cultural Encounters: Nations and Nationalities in Period of Conflict* (Ed. Sura Rath). [*Editor's note: We have just heard that Richard has been promoted to associate Professor with tenure. Congratulations!*]

Erik Beck writes: "I'm still working at Microsoft but after 5 years as a software tester first in the Natural Language Group and then the Speech Group, I'm starting as a program manager in the Speech and Natural Language Group (we got merged awhile back). I'm pretty excited to be changing disciplines to PM as I was pretty sick of testing. And then in non-work news, my wife Linda and I had a baby boy five months ago which is the most exciting thing in my life right now. And as a last little tidbit, I've started playing baritone saxophone in addition to the trumpet over the last year."



Alumni gather at Seattle's Bierstube. Foreground: Prof. Emeritus Gunter Hertling.

Planning an Alumni Club

The new Alumni Relations Committee is spearheading the Department of Germanics' effort to reach out to local alumni. We held our first event on April 29, an informal social in connection with Washington Weekend at a cozy, German-themed pub near the University.

Several generations of alumni shared memories and exchanged ideas that afternoon. We are grateful to those who turned out in support of the event. In the future, we look forward to connecting with more alumni and friends of the department. If you would like to receive invitations to events in Western Washington or would like to host an alumni social elsewhere in the world, please contact Sarah Timbrook-Nugent at patsarah2003@yahoo.com. Your suggestions for future events are also welcome. With your involvement, alumni relations will become a meaningful network of support for both the department and its graduates.

Sarah Timbrook-Nugent

Letter from the Advisory Board

It has been a pivotal year for the Germanics Advisory Board, and I am very pleased to have been a part of it. We began the year with a retreat during which we crafted a document outlining the mission and goals of the Board, as well as expectations and responsibilities of Board members. This served to renew our commitment to and enthusiasm for the Department of Germanics' fine teaching, research and outreach programming. We are very pleased to have recruited two new members to the board, Jeff Gutierrez of the Summit Law Group and Edgar Schmeisser, formerly of the Ford Motor Company. We will continue to welcome new voices on the Board as we fine-tune our mission and our fund-raising and outreach activities.

We have been very successful in several activities this year. In addition to our Frye Connections and Contexts series and our Wine and Wisdom gatherings, we sponsored two very exciting events. The first was a lovely reception at Seattle's FenomenA Gallery for German Consul Rolf Schütte, who had traveled from his base in San Francisco to meet with Washington Governor Christine Gregoire. Summarizing his discussions with the Governor afterwards with the guests at the reception, Consul Schütte announced that Governor Gregoire has agreed to participate in the German Unification Day celebrations in Seattle this coming October 3. This will be a tremendous opportunity for us to highlight the Department's work while also bringing greater visibility to the contributions of the German community in the Pacific Northwest.



Advisory Board Chair Rosemarie Anderson with her husband, Bob Anderson, at a recent Wine and Wisdom gathering.

The second important event will, we hope, be the first in a continuing series. The Board's Development Committee, chaired by Jeff Quimet, along with the Summit Law Group, sponsored a lecture and reception targeted specifically for business and professional leaders interested in European-American cross-cultural business practices. Kevin Montler, Senior Corporate Counsel at Infospace®, addressed the challenges of working within different nations' business cultures. The Development Committee hopes that this and similar events in the future will serve as networking opportunities for both German businesses and for American businesses interested in opportunities abroad.

Let me close by restating what I have said at every opportunity in the past year: I am very pleased indeed to be working with such outstanding individuals dedicated to promoting and supporting a vital, important, and excellent Germanics program. I look forward to continuing our successes in the 2006-07 academic year.

*Rosemarie Anderson
Advisory Board Chair*

2006 Kade Distinguished Professor Helmut Schneider

The Germanics department is very pleased to have Prof. Helmut Schneider as its Spring 2006 Distinguished Max Kade visitor. Schneider is a Professor of German at the Friedrich-Wilhelms University in Bonn. His research in modern German literature spans a broad spectrum, but he is especially drawn to the literature of the 18th and early 19th centuries; Lessing, Kleist, and Goethe. In Bonn, he is also the director of the *Promotionskolleg* for research in German-Italian literature and is the coordinator of the German-French and German-Italian majors. I had the pleasure of sitting down with Professor Schneider for a brief interview recently. We focused on his international teaching experiences (he had tenure at UC Irvine, 1982-1990; UC Davis, 1990-1993, as well as several other guest professorships) and on his view of the changing academic face of German universities:

Question: What are the major differences between German and American academic writing among students? Schneider: German students are devout footnoters! They use many sources in their papers and tend to cite even minute details. I believe one can also write a quality paper using much fewer sources, such as is done in the USA.

Q: What are the major differences between teaching in Germany and in the USA? S: At Bonn, I have to teach five classes per term. The seminars are very full. But we are on the semester system. Here, [in the USA] the classes are much smaller...the quarter system is not ideal. But, overall, the teaching system is better in the U.S.



(left to right) Helmut Schneider speaks with Professor Ken Calhoon (University of Oregon) and Assistant Professor Richard Block at a departmental colloquium in April.

Q: Why did you eventually decide to return to Germany after such a fruitful teaching career in the UC system? S: I like my [native] language. I live on it. I found that the departments [in the USA] were getting smaller and the impact of German was decreasing. But, even if I had stayed, I'm sure I would probably have been just as happy.

Q: The German university system is on the brink of many changes and will in some ways become more similar to the American university system. Soon tuition will be charged and the Magisterstudiengang will be changed to the B.A./M.A. system. How do you feel about this? S: I am for charging tuition under the condition that stipends [for the financially encumbered] are offered, and that the money is generally put to good use in the university system. We could use many tutors for the beginning Germanics courses, for example. The new B.A./M.A. system is good for students who are very ambitious. But it will require a lot of additional academic guidance [from us professors] and will be very limiting for us. But I don't view the new system as being entirely bad. I just think it is important to mention the drawbacks.

Sunny Parrot

Dietmar Till: Tübingen Exchange Professor



Exchange Professor Dietmar Till joined UW Germanics in Spring quarter.

After receiving his doctorate in 2002 from the Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, he taught at the Institut für Germanistik at the University of Regensburg; he currently holds a position as “Wissenschaftlicher Assistant am Deutschen Seminar” at the University in Tübingen. His visit is sponsored by the UW’s Office of International Programs and Exchanges.

Although his research focuses on rhetoric and on 17th and 18th century literature, Dr. Till’s teaching interests are wide-ranging. His course at UW, “Literature and German Unification,” has been extremely popular. Kerstin Gackle, a graduate student in the course, writes: “I look forward to going to Dietmar Till’s seminar on the “Wende.” He brings the historical and political background to life by integrating photos, Powerpoint presentations, video, and audio clips. Dr. Till begins discussions of literary works with the basic literary form of the text: genre, structure, etc. He takes time to discuss the meaning of unfamiliar words and how they are used in an everyday context. Dr. Till’s teaching strategies are very effective and his subject knowledge is very comprehensive.”

New Discussion Series for Area Business/Professional Leaders

The Department of Germanics and the Development Committee of the Germanics Advisory Board has launched a new series of public lecture-discussions focused on German-American cross-cultural business strategies. The programs are aimed at promoting dialogue among business and professional leaders in the Pacific Northwest.

The series began on May 4 with a reception and presentation at the Seattle offices of the Summit Law Group. The featured speaker was Kevin Montler, Senior Corporate Counsel for Entertainment Media and Business Affairs at Infospace, a company specializing in mobile entertainment as well as web search and online directory products.

Mr. Montler, who has extensive experience in international legal and business negotiations, addressed some of the most fundamental challenges in cross-cultural dialogue, especially the need to suspend cultural stereotypes when dealing with individuals. He highlighted several examples from Infospace’s recent acquisition of two smaller companies, one based in Britain and the other in Hamburg, Germany.



l-r: Jeff Oimet (Advisory Board); Larry Locker of Summit Law Group; Kevin Montler of Infospace®

Anselm Noelle studied German Literature, Cultural Studies, and Communications in Muenster, and graduated in 2005. His thesis was on *Metaphors in Scientific Language*. He taught two classes in German Literature and Cultural Studies at the University of Muenster and also worked for the campus radio station. Since autumn 2005, he has been a TA and graduate student at the UW Germanics Department in order to earn a Master’s Degree. His special fields of interests are literature of Romanticism, Communication and Media Theory and Film.

Sunny Parrott began her undergraduate studies in Art History and Italian at Sonoma State University, in Northern California. The highlights of her undergraduate education include presenting a paper at the CSU Art History Symposium, working as a peer mentor for incoming freshman, and completing an academic year in Florence, Italy. After receiving her B.A. in 1999, she continued to live abroad, beginning German language studies in Mainz, Germany, and working at the Peggy Guggenheim Museum in Venice, Italy. From 2001 to 2005, she studied *Deutsch als Fremdsprache-Literaturwissenschaft* and Art History at the University of Heidelberg, completing the *Zwischenprüfung* and Latin exams. She is now thrilled to be a master’s student with a 2005-06 Max Kade fellowship at the UW Germanics department. Her academic interests include drama and prose of the *Fin-de-Siecle* and Romantic periods, Freudian theory, as well as pre-modern and early modern occult mysticism. She serves as a G.P.S.S senator and co-organizer of the Germanics Film Series. In her free time, she enjoys yoga and getting to know the great outdoors of the Pacific Northwest through bicycling and

Brook Rosini received her B.A. in 2004 from Hofstra University, where she double majored in Philosophy and German and minored in Music Performance. She was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa her senior year, graduated magna cum laude, and was awarded honors for her senior thesis, entitled “The Evolution of Estrangement: Alienation in Society According to Marx, Kafka, and Adorno.” From 2004-2005, Brook worked toward the M.A. in the Master of Arts Program in the Humanities at the University of Chicago, and focused her studies in the areas of Comparative Literature and Cinema Media Studies. During that year, she wrote one of her favorite papers, “Producing Consumers: Private Sponsorship of Public Education and the Indoctrination of America’s Youth.” Clearly, Brook has difficulty confining herself to one academic discipline, but in the past few years she has been interested in the following: the German aesthetic tradition, especially the Frankfurt School and Marxist aesthetic theory; theories of alienation; Weimar film theory; Nietzsche; Kafka; and Kracauer. Next year, Brook will be living in Muenster, Germany, where she will study and teach English.



End of Spring term, and Lead TA Amy Emm (left) and Viktoria Harms plead, “Don’t take a picture! Our desks are a mess!”

PhD candidate, **Morgan Koerner** has recently completed a second chapter draft of his dissertation "Intermediality and Laughter in Contemporary German Language Theater (1990-2004)." The dissertation examines the influences of television and entertainment culture on German speaking dramatists and theater directors since the early 1990s. In April he presented a paper at the annual conference of the Popular Culture Association in Atlanta entitled "Bildungsbürgertum in the media-saturated Erlebnisgesellschaft: Elfriede Jelinek's Raststätte oder sie machens alle." Morgan's broader interests include the history of drama, Austrian literature, the theatrical avant-garde, popular genres such as comedy and melodrama, theater pedagogy, and language teaching. With Verena Kuzmany, Morgan co-taught a course in the spring of 2005 that culminated in a successful student production of Urs Widmer's "Top Dogs," which drew more than 150 people from the UW community during its two-night run. Morgan and Verena will co-present a paper on their approach to the course at the 2006 AATG conference in Nashville this coming November. In Winter Quarter 2006, Morgan taught a Business German course for third and fourth year students. He is looking forward to completing his dissertation in the next academic year and finding a job at a university or college that promotes and rewards excellence in teaching.

Verena Kuzmany is from Austria and studies Comparative Literature. She earned her Mag. Art. degree from the Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz in English and American Studies. She first came to Seattle on an exchange program with Seattle University in 2000. She has been teaching in Germanics at UW since 2004. She is interested in 20th century German and Austrian literature, as well as Trauma studies and Postcolonial theory. She has worked on the hybrid course project and is teaching the German play class this spring (public performance of "Der Reigen" on 6/7 and 6/8). She has attended two conferences in the past year (IRICS, Vienna; ACLA, Princeton). In November 2006, she will present a paper on collaborative approaches to teaching drama in the foreign language classroom at the AATG annual meeting in Nashville (in collaboration with Morgan Koerner).



Graduate students Andreas Poeschl, Viktoria Harms, Verena Kuzmany, Sunny Parrot and Peter Dahlhaus at a bi-weekly "Pizza Wednesday" graduate-faculty gathering.



For the past two years, UW Germanics Professor Rick Gray has collaborated with philosopher Klaus Vieweg (University of Jena) on a project examining the works of two unlikely partners: Hegel and Nietzsche. The project focuses specifically on differences (or similarities) between conceptual and metaphorical thought and language, and the relationship between philosophy and literature. The purpose of the project is to re-interrogate a set of issues at the intersection of philosophy and literature, asking, in particular, whether the position recently upheld by poststructuralist theory—namely, that literature and philosophy are not discrete discourses when viewed rhetorically—can actually be upheld. The project thus concerns itself with questions about the articulation of philosophy and literature as disciplines and the similarity or differences of the "truth"-claims they purport to make. The project has received substantial funding from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's TransCoop Program, which supports collaborative research between U.S./Canadian and German scholars.

One key product of the collaboration was the November 2005 conference entitled "Hegel und Nietzsche: Eine literarisch-philosophische Begegnung," which took place in Weimar, Germany. In addition to the Humboldt Foundation, supporters of the conference included the Kolleg Friedrich Nietzsche der Stiftung Weimarer Klassik, the Byron W. and Alice L. Lockwood Foundation, the

UW Graduate School and the Friedrich Schiller Universität Jena. Three UW professors (Gray, Diana Behler and Henry Staten) and one UW graduate student (Tim Coombs) joined scholars from Jena, Weimar, New York, Bonn, Cologne, Urbino and Hildesheim. Discussion and papers centered around issues concerning the supposed incompatibility between Hegel's and Nietzsche's modes of philosophizing, Nietzsche generally being associated with "metaphorical," Hegel, by contrast, with "conceptual" thinking. Although at times sparks flew between the advocates of opposing sides, in the end the conference participants arrived at a certain common ground between the Hegelian and Nietzschean positions.

The final phase of the collaborative project will be a conference in May 18-20, 2007 at the University of Washington, sponsored by the Simpson Center for the Humanities and several other UW departments and institutes. The conference, entitled "Inventions of the Imagination: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Imaginary Since Romanticism," broadens the focus of the Weimar discussions to examine theories and creations of the human imagination in a variety of academic disciplines from Romanticism to the present. Panelists will hail from universities throughout North America and Europe, in addition to the UW participants. Graduate students in Germanics and Comparative Literature are organizing a graduate student conference in conjunction with the faculty conference.

Letter from Suzzallo Library

BRINGING THE WEB HOME

Among recent developments initiated by the UW Libraries is the inclusion of websites into its catalog, in which online scholarly information and texts are given full classification treatment and become searchable, accessible, and findable through all the usual access points in the catalog (author, title, subject, keyword and other aspects of the record) just as books and other formats are. The decision to catalog websites is dependent on concerns such as authorship, publisher, point of view, objectivity, verifiability, currency, and usefulness to curricular needs and the production of original scholarship. Several recent examples of web titles added:

Sophie: Literature. A Digital Library of Early German Women's Writing. This fulltext digital library will contain approximately 245 titles by German-language women writing between 1740 and 1923. These texts, which have been previously out of print and difficult to access, cover a broad spectrum of genres. Not only are these texts now directly available to us through a catalog search, but their contents are searchable as well.

Kataloge Österreichische Nationalbibliothek. The searchable catalogs of the Austrian National Library are welcome for several reasons beyond the size, age, and scope of its collections. Many of the titles findable (and therefore verifiable) in its catalogs are neither in the OCLC Worldcat catalog, large as it is, nor in

the national catalogs of Germany, partly because the online records within the national German library catalogs cover only recently published titles (Frankfurt, 1945+ and Leipzig, 1913+), whereas the Austrian catalog covers titles published 1501+.

Manuscripta Mediaevalia. The databank provides descriptions of over 60,000 medieval manuscripts held in major Central European repositories. Comprises several sections: "Handschriften Datenbank," a searchable database of manuscript descriptions; "Handschriftenkataloge online," digitized manuscript catalogs of German and European libraries and institutions; "Digitalisierte Handschriften," complete digitized versions of selected manuscripts. The site also hosts a manuscripts discussion list and a list of links to relevant sites for manuscript studies. Produced under the direction of the Zentralredaktion mittelalterlicher Handschriftenkataloge at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin.

Austria from A to Z. The online version of the Österreich-Lexikon, articles in both German and English; covers all matters Austrian (Trakl, Salzburg, Webern...?) and includes an extensive graphics (photo of Torberg?) search capability as well. Also known as the AEIOU Encyclopedia of Austria.

I urge you to bring worthwhile sites to my attention for inclusion in the catalog where they will be fully classified and integrated for more comprehensive success in finding and accessing the most valuable texts, information and bibliography. Bring the web home!

Alvin Fritz
Germanics Librarian
alvin@u.washington.edu

Kerstin Gackle is a first year Ph.D. student. She grew up in Idaho and then went on to earn a Bachelor's in German from Pacific Lutheran University and a Master's in German Literature from Texas Tech University. She spent a semester abroad in Freiburg and taught English on a Fulbright scholarship for an academic year in Kiel. Kerstin enjoys teaching German and has experience teaching in many settings: university, extension learning, language schools, and Saturday schools. She has taken two seminars on 20th century literature and is fascinated with the portrayal of the hardships of living in our epoch. She plans to concentrate on 20th century literature, focusing on the novel and connections to the eastern world. Possible authors she would like to focus on are Christa Wolf, Anna Seghers, Heinrich Böll, Hermann Hesse, or Christoph Hein. She has a two-year old daughter that she is raising to be bi-lingual.

Jan Hengge came to the University of Washington as a Ph.D. student in the fall of 2004, after having completed a joint Masters/Bachelor Degree from the University of Colorado, Boulder. His interests include post-war literature and cultural studies, East German studies, and 20th century German cinema. Extended topics and research areas include West German terrorism, Walter Benjamin, and Friedrich Nietzsche. He has participated in two departmental conferences held at the UW, one of which was on Franz Kafka and the other on East German cinema. He hopes to complete his course work this year and continue his research on the topic of terrorism and language. In the spring of 2007, he will partake in the Muenster exchange program for one semester.

Katherine Hirt grew up in the Seattle area and started learning German as a high school exchange student in Kleve, Germany. She studied music at Whitman College, where she graduated with a BA in German language and literature. After teaching English in Slovakia and Austria for a few years, she completed a MA degree in German at the University of Cincinnati and returned to Seattle for the Ph.D. program. She is interested in the relationship between music and literature and is also interested in Scandinavian studies, primarily Swedish. She is currently writing her dissertation on music and the machine in nineteenth century literature.

In January of this year, **Kevin Johnson** returned from 15 months of dissertation research in Prague, Czech Republic and Berlin, where he was funded by a Chester Fritz fellowship from the UW Graduate School and an International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) from the Social Science Research Council. Since his return, he has been pleasantly re-acclimating to the dearly missed Pacific Northwest and sifting through the massive amount of material gathered in Europe in order to begin focused writing on the dissertation. His topic is German and Czech cinema in the 1930s and 40s with an emphasis on issues of ethnic identity, borders and nationalism. In Winter Quarter, he had the opportunity to work as a TA for a course in the Comparative Literature Department on Asian Martial Arts Films. He is currently working as a TA for Professor Eric Ames' film course called "Crime Scenes" being taught in conjunction with the Scandinavian Department.

Meet our Graduate Students

Nicole Calian grew up in Munich, studied in Budapest and Salzburg before moving to San Francisco in 1994. She received her MA at University of Colorado, Boulder. She is currently writing her dissertation, the working title of which reads "Semiotik der ersten Natur: Kants Anthropologie in pragmatischer Hinsicht." Her general interests in the field of Germanics and beyond are literature and philosophy during the 18th century, intellectual history and the connection between "Geisteswissenschaften" and the natural sciences, especially those which are considered "hard sciences," and their definition as such.

Peter Dahlhaus, 26 years old, finished his studies of English/German (Erstes Staatsexamen) in Germany. He is in Seattle for one year as part of the Münster exchange. His interests cover modern, in a broader sense of the word, i.e. 19th- and 20th-century literature and theory. In early March he gave a talk on "Heimat in Differenz. Eine Untersuchung zu Urs Widmers /Im Kongo/" at a graduate conference at Rutgers University, NJ.

Sarah Dudek came to Seattle in 2005 with the Humboldt exchange program. She studied German literature and philosophy in Berlin and Amsterdam, and wrote her thesis on Comic Theory and Holocaust literature. During her studies, she also has been a reader for several German publishing houses. Her interests are aesthetics, Critical Theory (especially Theodor W. Adorno and Walter Benjamin), and turn-of-the-century literature. She is currently teaching German 103.



I-r: Graduate students Sunny Parrot, Brook Rosini, Sabina Pasic, Anselm Noelle in a recent Rey Library reception.

Before she came to the UW, **Gabi Eichmanns** studied Comparative Literature at the University of Bonn with a focus on Japanese literature. She spent a year in Japan, and then decided to continue her studies in Seattle, where she got her Master's degree in CompLit in 2002. She spent another year abroad, in Denmark, before she transferred to Germanics to get her Ph.D in German. Her main focus is on contemporary German literature, in particular on post-reunification authors. She is currently working on her dissertation entitled "How Much Heimat Can Germans Bear? A Re-evaluation of the Notion of Heimat in a World of Growing Globalization." As the title states, she is looking at the shifting concept of Heimat after Germany's reunification.

Amy Emm became a PhD Candidate a year ago this June. She completed the M.A. at UW in 2003 and received a B.A. in English and German from Cornell University in 1999. Amy's dissertation explores impishly perverse forms in Werner and Kleist's Romantic plays. At the MMLA this November, she will give a paper titled: "Dissecting Opposition: The Romantic Dialectic on its Last Legs in Zacharias Werner and Heinrich von Kleist."

Alumnus Walter Pauler: A Farewell

The Germanics Department mourns the loss of a good friend and alumnus. Walter Pauler received his Ph.D. from the Department in 1980. Professor Willy Rey writes the following remembrance:

Die Nachricht traf mich wie ein Faustschlag: Walter Pauler hat uns verlassen. Er starb hier in Seattle fruehmorgens am 6. Mai, 2006 infolge einer unheilbaren Infektion. Meine Erschuetterung erklart sich daraus, dass Walter fuer mich viel mehr war, als ein frueherer Kollege. Er war mein Freund, er war einer der letzten Freunde, die mir auf dieser Erde geblieben sind. Die Welt ist kaelter geworden ohne ihn. Was bleibt, sind die Wellen der Erinnerung.

Meine Kollegen und ich fuehlen uns verbunden mit Walter's Frau, Karen, mit der er 45 Jahre verheiratet war. Wir trauern mit ihr um einen unvergesslichen Menschen, der seine Spuren in unserem Leben hinterlassen hat. Ich werde nie vergessen mit welcher Begeisterung er an meinem 85. Geburtstag deutsche- oder vielmehr Wiener-Lieder sang, mit strahlenden Augen und rosigen Wangen. Denn Wien war und blieb seine geistige Heimat. Es war ihm ein Beduernis, mich daran teilnehmen zu lassen, und jahrelang sandte er mir aus Wien koestliche Gaben, erlesene Weine, und delikate Suessigkeiten. Das war seine Art, unsere Freundschaft zu feiern.

Was seine beruflichen Qualifikationen angeht, so betrachtete ich ihn als einen geborenen Bibliographen.

Solange er bei uns war, lebte er in Suzzallo und half mir bei der Einrichtung der Bibliothek unseres Departments. Ich zoegerte daher nicht, ihm einen Kurs ueber Bibliographie anzuvertrauen, waehrend er noch graduate student war. Mein Ziel war, ihm eine feste Anstellung als Fakultaeatsmitglied zu vermitteln, aber dem Dekan schien das zu gewagt, und so musste ich ihn mit dem groessten Bedauern ziehen lassen, obwohl er doch gerade seine Dissertation ueber seinen Lieblingsautor, Nestroy, mit meinem Beistand abgeschlossen hatte. Dass ich ihn nicht fuer unser Department erhalten konnte, betrachte ich als einen unersetzlichen Verlust. Ueberblick ueber die wichtigsten biographischen Daten: geboren 1922 in Nesselsdorf (uerspruenglich zu Oessterreich-Ungarn gehoerig, aber nach dem ersten Weltkrieg der neugegruendeten Tchechoslowakei zugesprochen). Seit 1945 Studium an den Universitaeten Innsbruck und Wien. Nach Uebersiedlung in den Vereinigten Staaten (1961) arbeitete er fuer Skidmore, Owings und Merrill, und im Jahre 1965 nahm er sein Studium an der Portland State auf, das er dann im Jahre 1967 in unserem Department fortsetzte. Ph.D. 1980 auf Grund seiner Dissertation ueber "Neue Perspektiven der Nestroy-Forschung". Nach seinem Ausscheiden aus unserem Department fungierte er als Verbindungsman zwischen europaeischen Export-Import Firmen und dem amerikanischen Nordwesten.

Professor Emeritus William Rey

Stefan Budian in the Pacific Northwest

Visiting artist Stefan Budian arrived from Mainz, Germany, on April 1, and immediately began two months of painting in Washington State. He stayed one month in Seattle, where he concentrated on painting portraits. Among his subjects were UW President Mark Emmert and UW Regent William Gates, Sr. The portraits will be exhibited at the FenomenA Gallery, 200 Roy Street near the Seattle Center, from May 25 to July 2. Following his month in the city, Budian traveled to the mountains, spending May painting landscapes in the North Cascades. The Methow Arts Alliance will host an exhibition of these paintings as part of its "Horse Crazy" show at the Confluence Gallery in Twisp starting May 27.

Budian's work is sponsored by the University of Washington and by the Transatlantik program, a German government program dedicated to promoting dialogue between Germany and North America. As part of this program, Budian offers his paintings as catalysts through which students on either side of the Atlantic share interpretations, emotions, thoughts and memories. He calls this project "Physiognomische Expedition." UW students enrolled in German 303 last spring participated in the "expedition" by viewing Budian's paintings, completed in Germany, on the project website (www.wikliba.net) and posting interpretations on the website's forum.

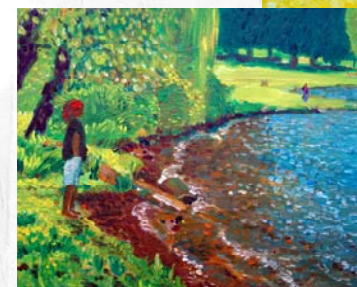
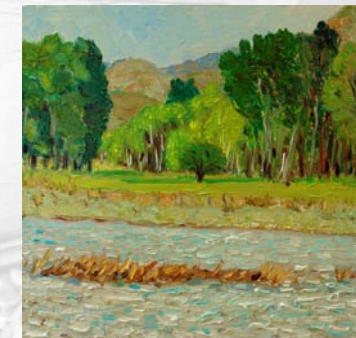
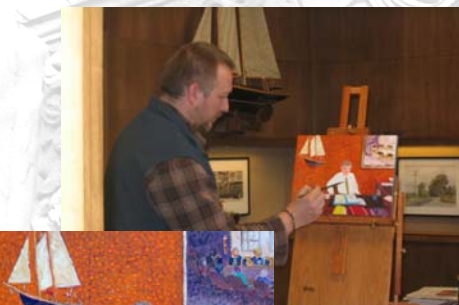
Similarly, students at the University of Mainz responded to Budian's Pacific Northwest

portraits and landscapes in a special seminar held in mid-May. Budian hopes to promote a dialogue between the American and German students as they read each other's reactions. He also hopes to expand forum to include other nationalities.

As an artist, Budian says he is most influenced by artists such as Cezanne, Vermeer, and Blinky Palermo. He is particularly concerned with color and the materiality of paint and in transforming his experiences of reality into material objects (paintings). The vivid colors and playful nature of his paintings draw the viewer in, while his figurative work incorporates psychological overtones which are difficult to ignore. Stefan stated that, while he is fascinated with the psychology present between figures in any setting, he is actually just a spectator. His primary concern is in the creation of paintings, and the relationships often present in them are left for the viewer to ponder.

He stated that his preference for working in a representational style has arisen often in his discussions with Seattle artists, where nonrepresentational art is often the norm. While Stefan finds validity in both approaches, he feels that "reality is still quite interesting to paint," and that, "in the end, it's just painting. It's fun."

Gary Carpenter, Art Major and 2005 Participant in "Physiognomische Expedition"



Among Budian's subjects have been UW President Mark Emmert (top), and Regent William Gates, Sr. (right).