Liebe LeserInnen,

Herzliche Grüße vom vierten Stock von Founders Hall. Wir hatten ein sehr beschäftigtes Jahr in der German Department, und können kaum glauben, wie schnell es verstrichen ist. Dieses Jahr haben wir einige große Veränderungen am College erlebt und gut gelaunte Veranstaltungen unterhalten.


Wir haben auch die Schriftstellerin Theresia Walser im Oktober eingeladen, und organisiert einen Studentenvortrag am Brandeis, um ihren Spiel’The Whole World’ zu genießen, der uns die Möglichkeit gab, die Arbeit einer der deutschen Meisterinnen zu sehen.

(Pictured right, from left to right: Dr. Aleksandra Sojka, Dr. Eva Marlene Hausteiner, Wellesley student Katherine Robles-Ayala)

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(Pictured, clockwise from bottom left: Theresia Walser, Guy Ben-Aharon, Professor Mark Römisch, Professor Anjeana Hans)
On the more literary side, we hosted a talk by Professor Julia Creet from York University who gave a wonderful presentation on the reception of novelist and historian H.G. Adler.

(Pictured right: Professor Julia Creet)

We also hosted a visit by Anne Schicht from Dresden’s Entwicklungs­politisches Netzwerk (ENS) – the organizations’ liaison for our internship program – to get to know our students and our campus. We will have our second intern at this important organization this summer and we will also be sending our first intern to the Stiftung Frauenkirche in Dresden! Reverend Sebastian Feydt, whose interest in our collaboration we appreciate very much, recently penned an opinion piece on current political discussions and events in Dresden, featured in the magazine Der Spiegel.

(Pictured in front row, far right: Anne Schicht, with others from ENS and GenialSozial. Pictured in front row, far left: Annie Schnitzer, Wellesley Student Intern)

Under the leadership of Katherine Robles-Ayala, our German Club mounted many events throughout the year, among them a showing of their favorite German movie whose name unfortunately cannot be repeated in print (though Goethe is featured in it as well).

We also have to bid farewell to Rose Warkmester who will be returning to the Freie Universität to finish her studies. Rose spent the year working with our students as a tutor and host of language table and Kaffeeklatsch events. Her wonderful presence and will be missed by all of us.

Alles alles Gute für die Zukunft to our majors and minors, and great summer to you all!

-Thomas Nolden
Focus on Faculty

Anjeana Hans
Associate Professor of German

It’s been a busy year! This year, I taught four new courses, including an intermediate-advanced course on the cultural legacy of fairy tales that integrated a blended learning component and allowed me to design and implement an on-line grammar review and exercise system, an advanced course thematizing migration and mobility, a senior seminar on subjectivity and identity, and a film course focused on cinema and propaganda in the Nazi era. I’ll be developing a second film course for the coming year, this one examining technological innovation and its impact on the development of the medium. The film courses in particular tie in directly with my scholarship, as I find that my work in the classroom inspires so much of my research. This year, I’ve continued to move forward on two main topics. An article examining the way how Leni Riefenstahl draws on tropes of the other, in particular on cultural fantasies of ‘the gypsy,’ in the ways she stages herself in her feature films was published in Continuity and Crisis in German Cinema, 1928-1936 (eds. Barbara Hales, Mihaela Petrescu, and Valerie Weinstein (Rochester, NY: Camden House, October 2016)). That paper is part of my continuing interest in identity, gender, and ‘the other’ in early German film. In October, I went to the annual conference of the German Studies Association (GSA) in San Diego, where I presented a paper on sound film remakes, part of a second larger project, this one on the transition from silent to sound film in German-language cinema. This summer, I’ll be continuing work on that book project by doing research at the film archives in Vienna, where I’ll be working with films made between 1933 and 1937 by German-Jewish filmmakers forced into exile after the rise of the Nazis. I’m scheduled to present some of that work at the GSA conference this coming fall in Atlanta. In addition to my teaching and advising, I’ve continued as Director of the First-Year Seminar Program, fascinating work in that it gives me a chance to participate in building a stronger first-year experience for Wellesley students.
Mark Römisch
Visiting Lecturer

Following an enjoyable teaching experience at Wellesley in Fall 2015, Mark Römisch joined the German Department this past Fall full-time as a Visiting Lecturer. He focused on teaching intermediate German in Fall, and he is very excited to continue this Spring with intermediate-level courses as well as German 102. He is also busy working on a new intermediate-course for Fall 2017 that will focus on the production of a contemporary German Theater play. The play is set against the background of the cultural clash of immigrants in Germany, and he just received the wonderful news that the course will become part of the Maurer Public Speaking Program.

Professor Römisch enjoys being able to work more closely with students over multiple courses instead of a single semester. Being part of Wellesley's inspiring community gives him great pleasure, and he is looking forward to the coming semesters.

Besides teaching, he has been working on his own research, the artistic investigation of accessible and yet immediate ways to depict the cruel creativity of men with regard to methods of torture in the 21st century. Having been invited to an artist residency at the Vermont Studio Center for the second, consecutive time, he spent last summer developing new photographic works. One of the outcomes of this residency has been the works Broken, a series that questions the viewers’ perception of everyday objects by linking them in immediate context of different methods of torture. Broken will be shown in a solo show this year in late spring in Bonn, Germany.

Professor Römisch will continue this summer to work on his ongoing photographic portrait project about recreating memories told to him by strangers.
Thomas Hansen
Professor Emeritus of German

Prof. Hansen reports that he may have retired from campus life, but he certainly is still working. Too hard, he thinks. Nonetheless, a book that he translated together with his wife appeared in March: Hans Belting, *Face and Mask; A Double History* (Princeton Univ. Press, 2017). It was a challenge to penetrate the academic prose and scholarly terminology of art history in this work, but the author's response to this English version was quite positive. Prof. Hansen is currently translating the journals of Ernst Jünger, a German officer in Paris during WW II.

Jens Kruse
Professor Emeritus of German

Jens Kruse is enjoying his retirement. He continues working on various writing and other projects. Some of them are described here: [http://www.wellesley.edu/german/facultystaff/kruse](http://www.wellesley.edu/german/facultystaff/kruse).

Most recently, he gave a presentation at the Orcas Center on the topic: “Does the Late Stage of the Weimar Republic in Germany Hold Lessons for the Current Moment of the American Republic?” It can be viewed on YouTube at [https://youtu.be/T1R-ri-mdTY](https://youtu.be/T1R-ri-mdTY).

If you are interested in the text you may request it by sending him an e-mail.

He remains engaged with members of the Wellesley College community and encourages students and alums to stay in touch via e-mail at jkruse@wellesley.edu or Twitter at @jenskruse2.

Rose Warkmester
German Language Assistant 2016-2017

As the German Language Assistant, my year at Wellesley is coming to an end very soon. I am very grateful to both the German Department here at Wellesley as well as IES Abroad to have gotten the opportunity to tutor, teach, host events as well as study at Wellesley myself. It has been extremely rewarding to see the students’ progress over the past year in their academic and personal achievements. Working with them, as well as hosting events was always a pleasure, especially seeing the gratefulness that has been portrayed for everything that I do – whether that be from students or faculty. I am particularly inspired by the students’ hard work and dedication that exceeds the required work and extends towards interest in German culture and traditions.
Impressions from Abroad

Annie Schnitzer, Class of 2018

Entwicklungspolitisches Netzwerk, Sachsen. e.V. (ENS) Internship
Summer 2016

I honestly had no idea what to expect from my 10-week stay in Dresden. All I knew about the internship I had been awarded through German Department was that the ENS is an umbrella network organization that focuses on human rights and social justice issues. I had never been in Germany for more than a week and certainly not on my own, so I approached the summer with both anticipation and apprehension. Last year (2016) was the first time the German Department awarded internships abroad, which meant there was no one from past years to whom I could turn for advice. Regardless, I promised myself that I would make the most of my time in Germany.

Within the first few days, I met the entire ENS office staff and soon fell into a regular rhythm. Each Tuesday I would take the RegioExpress train to Leipzig, a nearby city to work with Simone Schwarz, who is a colleague of Anne’s and directs Saida, an ENS member organization. Anne also had assigned me the task of writing an article about the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), a proposed and highly controversial trade agreement between the European Union and the United States, which aims to promote trade and multilateral economic growth. Another very special aspect of my work was attending various meetings and conferences in Germany and elsewhere.

For me, one of the most memorable aspects of this internship was meeting so many new people. I absolutely loved living and working in the German language and being immersed in German culture. In particular, I enjoyed establishing so many professional and personal relationships. I am deeply grateful to the German Department and to Anne Schicht for providing me with this amazing experience. I look forward to returning to Germany and all the opportunities it has to offer; in fact, I cannot wait.
Lilly Strieder, Class of 2018  
Wintersession in Berlin 2017

Upon stepping off the plane for the first time in Germany, I was immediately immensely impressed. A student of Environmental Sustainability, this nation struck me as much more progressive in that regard. From the great number of public transport and biking options to the fact that many entrances are opened by the mere pushing of a button (saving energy compared to automatic doors), everything in Berlin was a mix of modern sustainability and chic, historical locations.

Having grown up in the arts, the immense variety of theatre shows and art exhibits in the city at any given time was spectacular for me to hold. As a nation, Germany supports the arts both financially (such as with its national ballet company) and in involvement and attendance. Due to all of these factors, tickets cost a great deal less to see beautiful, thought-provoking works of art.

Of course, all the museums, dance classes, and performances enhanced my learning of the language. But I also, through these channels mentioned above, learned a great deal about the other subjects I study: art, politics, and sustainable development. In addition to being exciting, it gave me an example of how a nation can turn their problems around and redevelop spaces in order to do things correctly and become an intellectual, international, and sehr, sehr Modern place.
Emily Moore, Class of 2018  
Study Abroad in Berlin, Academic Year 2016-2017

Berlin could not be a big enough of a change of scenery from Wellesley and is quite the change from the US in general. The line between Café and Bar is blurred here. On Sunday nights you don’t watch football in a crowded, noisy sports bar, but instead go to the nearest dive bar, order a beer, and sit silently in a room packed with strangers watching the newest episode of “Tatort,” an arguably terribly written crime show called “Crime Scene” that’s been running in Germany since the 80’s and still today has a loyal group of cult followers.

As for the art scene in the city, there is no comparison. There are too many galleries and museums to count, art supply stores that range from traditional, to selling exclusively spray-paint and urban-wear, to hidden and outdated little spaces that sell oils and powder pigments for you to mix your own paint, work primarily on a barter system and seem to belong to a different century. As for public art, multiple walls in the city have been designated as “legale Språhwände” or legal graffiti walls. Some of these walls are stretches left over from the “Mauer” being repurposed from a divider that split West and East Berlin between the years of 1961-1989, to a canvas for artists and teenagers to express themselves. On Sundays at Mauerpark you can watch the assembly line of sprayers practice their skills, changing the surface of the wall completely every seven days.

The city is not only known for its tradition of graffiti, which developed in West Berlin in part as a reaction to the new rebellion, which arose from the political situation of the time. The existence of over 160 km of new practice wall that split the city for 28 years and appeared practically overnight in the German capital provided abundant material for the fringe art form. The countless murals are also a trademark of Berlin, which likewise has its origins rooted in the city’s troubled past. Traces of the bombings from 1945 are still evident in the gaps between apartment houses, which still stand vacant today apart from the rebuilt first floor. These gaps, which give the buildings the appearance of being cut into with a large knife and having slices of their architecture neatly cut away, expose the blank firewalls on either side. These windowless, flat walls have proven to be the perfect large-scale canvas for artists who prefer to have their monumental works be shown in the “Freiluft” or open air gallery of the city adding to Berlin’s colorful, off-beat, never-boring vibe.
German Club

This year, German Club was led by Katherine Robles-Ayala ‘17, who helped orchestrate many successful events throughout the academic year. In the fall, Oktoberfest drew a large crowd from all over campus, where both German speakers and non-German speakers could enjoy good music, wurst and pretzels. Soon afterwards, the German Club prepared its next event, Wintermarkt, where the club sold dozens of Biersteins as a fundraiser. The German Club was also joined by four other cultural organizations on campus along with numerous individual sellers. Throughout the semester, the club enjoyed several movie nights and finished off the year with a celebratory dinner at Jacob Wirth’s restaurant in downtown Boston.

The German Club started off the new year with a Valentine’s Day fundraiser and sold goodie-bags filled with Ritter Sport chocolates, Lindt truffles, and Haribo gummies. In March, the group heard the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s performance of Joseph Haydn's 1774 Symphony No. 60, Debussy's orchestral suite Nocturnes and Beethoven's Symphony No. 7. Finally, in April the German Club helped host the panel discussion “Europe’s Response to the new U.S Administration.” Although the semester is coming to a close, the club looks forward to welcoming new faces next year and wishes its graduating seniors the best of luck!
Faculty Recommendations

Mark Römisch

Listen: Kinski spricht Schiller.
Listening to Klaus Kinski reading poems by Friedrich Schiller will take you on a trip into one man’s passionate and crazy soul.

Besides being an international acclaimed actor and terrible enfant, Kinski was notorious for his emotional outbreaks and for locking himself for hours in his room, practicing on his pronunciation.

It may be hard for you to understand the meaning of Schiller’s works, but it will be a feast for your ears to listen to Kinski’s perfect intonation of the German language.

Eat: Munich is famous for its dining scene.
Stadtcafe - Are you in the mood for some of the best cakes and pastries in Munich? Do you want to hang out with journalists from the Sueddeutsche Zeitung, film enthusiasts and local intellectuals? This is the place to go! It’s located in the heart of Munich, next to the Münchner Stadtmuseum and the renowned Filmmuseum. If you are lucky, you may even bump into some famous international Filmmakers who show their work at Filmmuseum. They also have a beautiful courtyard Biergarten in the back! Sankt-Jakobs-Platz 1

Cafe Maria - Great breakfast - Klenzestraße 97

Cafe Pini - Fantastic Coffee, homemade juice and more - Klenzestraße 45, 80469 München

In the mood for Italian? Try Trattoria Bellini - Nymphenburger Str. 120

And, of course, the most important: Munich’s most famous ice-cream parlour.
Eiskonditorei Sarcletti - Nymphenburger Str. 155

Watch: Die Spielwütigen (2004, 108 min)
It’s an intense documentary by Andres Veiel about four students at one of Germany’s hardest and most famous schools for drama. Veiel follows them over four years on their way to pursue their dream of becoming actors. Witness their struggle, successes and setbacks, to eventually stand in the limelight. Dramatic, in the full sense of words!
Anjeana Hans

**Read: Expand beyond US media.**
I like reading the *Sueddeutsche* on-line for both news and cultural information: [http://www.sueddeutsche.de](http://www.sueddeutsche.de)

**Eat: Bake!**
When not in Germany, why not bake your own? Brush up on language and kitchen skills with some of these lovely *Streuselkuchen* recipes, courtesy of *Brigitte*, one of Germany’s more popular women’s magazines: [http://www.brigitte.de/rezepte/backen/backen--streuselkuchen---rezepte-wie-von-oma-10646144.html](http://www.brigitte.de/rezepte/backen/backen--streuselkuchen---rezepte-wie-von-oma-10646144.html)

**Learn: Culture and History**
If you’re interested in German culture and history, try poking around this site, where you can find digitized versions of historical newspapers: [http://zefys.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/](http://zefys.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/)

**Watch: *Toni Erdmann***
Maren Ade’s award-winning film was so popular that there’s already an American remake planned. Why wait for that? Watch the original!
Alumnae Aktuell

Julia Becker, Class of 2012

After graduating from Wellesley in 2012 with a double major in Economics & German, I moved to New York City where I lived and worked for three years. In the summer of 2015, I decided it was time to try my hand at living abroad again and I moved to Berlin, the city I fell in love with during my junior year abroad. I currently work here in Berlin as a Software Engineer at Marley Spoon – a recipe box delivery service – combining my love of cooking and technology in this magical grey city.

Emily Betz, Class of 2011

After graduating from Wellesley, I lived in Germany for almost three years to finish my master’s degree in Global Studies from Leipzig University and work in higher education in Berlin. In 2014 I moved to Ireland where I completed an M.Phil. in Early Modern History from Trinity College Dublin. This fall I will begin my PhD on Tudor medical history at the University of St Andrews in Scotland. My German major is still an important part of my life- I use German all the time to communicate with old friends and colleagues and also in my academic research!

German Department Prize Winners

The Natalie Wipplinger (Senior) Prize
- Helen Korte
- Katherine Robles-Ayala

The Ethel Folger Williams (Sophomore) Prize
- Madeline Taylor
- Thessaly McFall
- Sally Morris

The Elizabeth Vogel Falk Prize
- Gitanjali Nagulpally
- Else Schlerman

Congratulations to our students!
The Department of German

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Economics & German Studies
Double Major

Katherine Robles-Ayala
Music & German Studies
Double Major

Else Schlerman
Physics Major
German Minor

Joanna Laperriere
Cognitive and Linguistic Studies Major
German Minor