

## Alumni—Request for Information

Tell us about your recent accomplishments. We would like to share them with our other alumni in our next issue.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if new address      Phone number \_\_\_\_\_      Year graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Newsworthy item \_\_\_\_\_

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# German Studies

Fall 2006, Volume I, Number 1

## Message from the Chair



Chair Peter Höyng with graduating senior Ming Zhao.

Dear Friends of German,

When I came to Emory a year ago, I was a bit anxious about getting acquainted with a new home department, institution, and metropolis. Yet, my wonderful colleagues, together with our new academic administrator Silke Delamare and longtime secretary Elizabeth Soilis, made me feel welcome from the very beginning. They were all very helpful, guiding me through every step of the many new things that I had to learn and do.

It is a blessing to work within such a congenial

atmosphere as our department and, indeed, at Emory.

A year later, I proudly offer you our first annual newsletter, delighted to share with you the many activities, events, and accomplishments of our dedicated faculty, staff, and, above all, students. Students and people from outside perceive us often mainly as teachers of German language, literature, and cultural history. Yet, as you rightly expect from Emory's reputation, it rests to a great extent on our scholarly activities. Thus, have a look at our faculty's many accomplishments during the past year. You will see that they reflect the scope and breadth of our discipline. As satisfying as scholarly and professional services at times are, there is, however, nothing more rewarding than when we see our students flourish. This past year alone, of the twenty-eight students who majored and minored in German, five stand out: Ming Zhao, David Cohen, Kelly Cowan, Erica Connelly, and Sarah Brandt. I am sure that you join me in congratulating these gifted and promising young men and women.

We hope you will enjoy getting a glimpse of our multifaceted activities, and we are eager to hear back from you. For your convenience, check our newly designed web site at: [www.german.emory.edu](http://www.german.emory.edu). We hope you will continue your support for our department.

Cordially,  
Peter Höyng

Newsletter of the  
Department of  
German Studies at  
Emory University

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# EMORY



## Faculty News



**Maximilian Aue** (associate professor) serves as director of graduate studies in the Department of Comparative Literature. His latest publications include his edited edition and translation (along with C. Grant Luckhardt) of Ludwig Wittgenstein's, *The Big Typescript: TS 213: German-English Scholars' Edition* (Blackwell, 2005). Aue also delivered a paper on Robert Musil's *The Man*

*without Qualities* at the 2006 *Modern Austrian Literature and Culture Association* at Wake Forest University.



**H. Erik Butler** (assistant professor) presented papers on various topics at the annual meeting of SAMLA, the German Studies Association Conference, as well as delivered several talks at the Atlanta Goethe Institute. Recently, he published "Dr. Mabuse: Terror and Deception of the Image," in *German Quarterly* (2005) and "Empires of Future Past: Justus Georg Schottelius and the Berlin

Grammaticale," in *Forum for Modern Language Studies* (2006).



**Peter Höyng** (associate professor) is chair of the Department of German Studies. His most recent publications include "Laufet Brüder Eure Bahn': Zur Geistverwandtschaft zwischen Schiller und Beethoven," in *Monatshefte* (2005) and "Lessing's Drama Theory," in *A Companion to the Works of Gotthold Ephraim Lessing* (Camden House, 2005). In addition, he presented papers

at international conferences and was invited for a guest lecture on his ongoing research project about Beethoven as a reader of literature.



**Marianne Lancaster** (lecturer) spent two weeks in Düsseldorf at a workshop that focused on the teaching of business German. She also received a grant from the Emory Center for Teaching and Curriculum, which enabled her to revise the courses German 320 and 321. Lancaster is an active member of the Emory community and sits on several committees, including the Executive

Committee of the Emory College Language Center.



**Marc Miller** (visiting assistant professor) is the author, most recently, of "Tradition and Hegemony: Soviet Yiddish Literary Critics and American Sweatshop Poetry in the Interwar Period," *East European Jewish Affairs* (2005); "The Artificiality of German in Modern Yiddish Poetry: A New Perspective on *Daytshmerish*," *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* (2005); and

"Sholem Aleykhem the Modernist: The Subjectivity of Reality in *The Letters of Menakhem Mendl and Sheyne Sheyndl*" *Huliyot* (2005).



**Caroline Schaumann** (assistant professor) will be away on academic leave for the fall 2006 semester and will return in the spring. Schaumann delivered the paper "Far Away, So Close: Barbara Honigmann's Border Crossings as a Jew and a German Writer" at the 2005 World Congress of Jewish Studies meeting in Jerusalem. Her recent publications include "Tanja Dücker's

Himmelskörper: A Third-Generation World War II Narrative," in *Gegenwartsliteratur* (2005); and "A 'German Book' for an American Audience: Ruth Klüger's Cultural Translation of her Holocaust Memoirs," *Shadows and Echoes* (2005)



**Erdmann Waniek** (associate professor) received a completion leave during which time he will complete work on his monograph, which treats the customs and motif of the wedding journey in the works of Theodor Fontane and other writers. Professor Waniek will return for the spring 2007 term.



**Viola Westbrook** (senior lecturer) presented papers on various German literary and linguistic topics at the annual IDV, AATG-GA, SAMLA, and FLAG conferences. Westbrook received a grant for her continued work with German high school teachers in the Atlanta area. In addition, she developed a new course; the Freshman Seminar titled "The Germans."

## Welcome to our New Visiting Faculty Members

**Alison Beringer**, a native Canadian, comes to us from Princeton University where she recently received a PhD. Her dissertation is an investigation of fourteenth-century religious text, the *Klosterneuburger Evangelienwerk*. Beringer has taught at the University of Illinois and Princeton University, and she is particularly interested in German literature of the fourteenth and fifteenth century, and how these texts interact with art history. Her current research focuses on the concept of "vernacular illustration" in German manuscripts.

**Francien Markx**, originally from Amsterdam, The Netherlands, was awarded a PhD in 2003 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) where she completed her dissertation on the topic "*Der Kritiker als Magier: E.T.A. Hoffmanns Musikerzählungen im Kontext der Allgemeinen Musikalischen Zeitung*." She has taught at Ohio State University, Ball State University, and at UIUC. Her main focus is on the intersection of music and literature. She is currently researching how, in the



Alison Beringer and Francien Markx introduced themselves to the department during their July trip to Emory.

1920s, Mario Costelnuovo-Tedesco broke with previous composers by scoring Heinrich Heine's ironic and mordant poems, as opposed to previous composers who focused on his more melancholic and sentimental ones.

## Yiddish at Emory

In his second year at Emory, Professor Marc Miller continued to develop our new program in Yiddish Studies. His courses—which focus on a range of subjects including the language, literature, film, and culture of Eastern European Jewry—quickly became popular among our students. Professor Miller was instrumental in bringing this past year's Tenenbaum Lecturer to Emory, Harvard University Professor Ruth Wisse. The lecture was standing room only, with members of the University and local community coming out to support the event in its tenth year. Professor Miller's presence in our department expands and strengthens the ties we already have with the



Professor Marc Miller with his Yiddish 101 students.

Institute for Jewish Studies, and we are working very hard to make Yiddish a permanent offering at Emory. This year, Professor Miller will teach several more courses, including *Yiddish 101 & 102* (a first-year language course), *Yiddish Culture: From the Shtetl to the Lower East Side* (a survey of Yiddish literature and film in English translation), and *The Holocaust in Yiddish Literature*.

## German High School Teachers Visit Emory

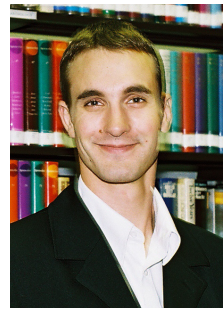
For the second year in a row, the Department of German Studies at Emory invited a group of high school German teachers from the metro-Atlanta area to spend a day at our campus. With generous support from the *Center of Teaching and Curriculum*, senior lecturer Viola Westbrook planned a full program for our guests on November 12, 2005. Following a warm welcome from Peter Höyng, the department's new chair, Höyng presented a lecture that—with a nod to the approaching Mozart year—focused on effective ways to introduce Mozart's and Schikaneder's *Die Zauberflöte* into the language curriculum. A congenial lunch followed, offering more opportunities for conversation and the exchange of ideas and professional concerns. The visit concluded with a tour of the campus and *Kaffee und Kuchen* in the German *Wohnung* on Emory's Clairmont Campus. There, Jan Gössling, this past year's teaching assistant from Germany, and the students living in the German House were our hosts and made everyone feel most welcome.

## My Year as a Teaching Assistant at Emory University

Emory's Department of German Studies has been importing teaching assistants from Germany for the past eighteen years to teach our undergraduates. These skilled and dedicated teachers are selected by the Fulbright Foundation. Jan will be replaced by Melvin Haack from Braunschweig, Germany, for the academic year 2006–2007. This past year, Jan-Michael Goesling joined our faculty, and we are pleased to present to you his report.

From August 2005 to May 2006, I worked as a teaching assistant at the Department of German Studies. Like my predecessors, I was responsible for practicing German with students and engaging them in social activities within a German context. At the same time, I had to adapt to another way of life and a new academic setting (as I had to study two academic classes additionally to my teaching responsibilities). Both sides of the coin were quite challenging, but also very rewarding and enjoyable.

I was quite surprised how many students had already had some experience with German prior to coming to Emory, having then no idea of how many American high schools offer courses in German. It was also interesting to learn about the German background of many of the students and their families. This made me understand how strong the ties between our two countries really are, even on an individual level. Having learned this, I was very happy to see how students did not rest on previous knowledge, but pursued to further improve their skills in



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talented and diligent. —Jan-Michael Goesling

German. They struck me as exceptionally talented and diligent, even, for instance, at the early academic stage of a freshman. I also was amazed at how many international students are learning German, be they from South Korea, China, or France. All in all, I found the students, apart from their academic excellence, to be very friendly and hospitable towards their new teacher from Germany. Being equally warmly welcomed and supported by the faculty and the staff helped in creating a friendly, almost family-like environment for living and working.

Each month, I organized at least one specific German event, mostly at the German House. I would, for instance, often offer a German movie, showing recent and acclaimed films (such as *Goodbye Lenin*), which gave the students insight into current German issues in a non-bookish way. Also, I found these movies to be a great tool for the students to enhance their listening skills (just the same way watching English-speaking movies helps me quite a lot). In addition, we often had German game nights with German music, playing group games like *Taboo* and *Outburst*. Apart from being great fun, these activities are difficult enough for a native speaker, not to mention the challenge they amount to for a student of a foreign language. We also had a regular get-together called “*Stammtisch*” at Everybody's in Emory Village. Following an old tradition, students were able to meet and discuss their experience and views on Germany, German, or simply “*Gott und die Welt*.” Naturally, it was also a good time to exchange the latest of colloquial language, which hopefully will be helpful to the students, should they ever visit Germany. I know it will help me to show off in front of my fellow students at home.

I thoroughly enjoyed my stay at Emory. It was a unique opportunity for me to learn about American ways firsthand, both as to academic life and in general. As a teacher, I learned to cope with my initial nervousness and learned to ask myself the right questions—as for the answers, I trust that I will find them later. After my stay at Emory, I was able to make a decision in favor of the profession of a teacher on the basis of experience. I already miss the people I met at Emory and also the beautiful campus itself. I have had great times that will be a lifelong memory.

Goodbye and good luck to ‘y’all.’

## Welcome Silke Delamare

This past year, we welcomed Silke Delamare as our new academic department administrator. Delamare moved to Atlanta two years

ago with her husband Andre Rogatko, who accepted a position as associate director at Emory's Winship Cancer Institute. Although this is Delamare's first experience working in a university setting, she has extensive experience working in corporate settings, including long stints at the Dresdner Bank and Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. She is also an experienced translator, having worked for Düsseldorf's Pro-Sport-Presse Service for



Silke Delamare

many years. Delamare is also an accomplished athlete who won a bronze medal as part of the West German Olympic swimming team in the 1972 Olympics. We are delighted to welcome Delamare on board and wish her much success.



Chair Peter Höyng honoring Elizabeth Soilis at Canoe Restaurant in recognition of her fifteenth anniversary with the department.

## Tribute to Elizabeth Soilis

This past academic year, the department celebrated fifteen years of splendid service by Elizabeth Soilis. When she joined the department we were in the Humanities Building (now Callaway North). Regardless where we were housed (three locations altogether), or who played chair (six so far, all with their own foibles), or how business was conducted (from shorthand to email), she provided a bedrock of common sense. Always ready and eager to help, unfailingly courteous in all her dealings, she has been a most welcome voice for all (bewildered) students—who know how many have taken German because of her. In the college, her network of trustworthy connections has made almost all transactions seem easy, and whatever bureaucratic obstacle presented itself was removed without the least hint of officiousness. She has been the secretary of our dreams who has made life as easy as it can be made for chaos-prone and deadline-impaired faculty. We trust many former and current students will join all of us in saying: Thank you, Elizabeth, and may there be many more years of good health and humor.

## Farewell to Jörg Kreienbrock

It is with sadness, but with the best wishes that we bid farewell to our visiting assistant professor Joerg Kreienbrock.

Professor Kreienbrock taught in our department this past year, impressing both his many students, as well as his colleagues. He has accepted a tenure-track position at Northwestern University, and we wish him the best of luck in his endeavors.

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2006–2007

This coming year, the Department of German Studies will sponsor, organize, and participate in events on and off the Emory campus that explore the troubled and troubling worlds of recent Austrian theater, in particular the plays of Thomas Bernhard and Nobel Prize laureate Elfriede Jelinek. We are very happy that PushPush Theater in Decatur—whose production of Schiller's *Robbers* showed Atlanta audiences the timeliness of eighteenth-century German drama for twenty-first-century America—is considering to perform Jelinek's plays. In conjunction with this, our department is planning to invite a Jelinek scholar, as well as the author's new English translator to give a presentation on Jelinek, thereby strengthening our connection with PushPush. On campus, our course offerings will include classes on Jewish culture, fin-de-siècle drama, and early-twentieth-century modernism. Throughout the year, German studies will screen films by directors including Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Michael Haneke, and Valie Export who share and shape the deeply embittered yet strangely resilient world of artists in the land that gave history Mozart, Freud, and Hitler. We will announce our lectures and film series on a regular basis, so please check our website for updates.



Jörg Kreienbrock

## News from Our Students

I'm very excited to say that for the coming academic year, I will be studying at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, living in a Studenten-WG with both international and German students, and taking advantage of the incredible grant I have received to conduct a research project studying the attitudes of Turkish Berliners toward Turkey's controversial pending membership in the European Union. I hope to be able to greatly improve my German skills and absorb everything from German and European culture that I can, hopefully in an effort to return to Emory my senior year with a world of new experiences and the foundations necessary to write an honors thesis. The DAAD Undergraduate Scholarship will have a large role in realizing these ambitions, and I'm very grateful to them and to the professors in Emory's German department for helping to make my studies in Berlin possible. *Vielen Dank!*—Sarah Brandt

I am currently participating in the Transatlantic Program, sponsored by the German-American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest. I recently spent ten days in Berlin, along with twenty-four other American college students and recent graduates, participating in an orientation program. The orientation focused on German culture, politics, and economics. We had numerous lectures with business leaders and governmental agencies. Thank you for all you've done to help me. I look forward to seeing you next year.—Erica Connelly



Professor Maximilian Aue with David Cohen and Kelly Cowan, this year's Fulbright scholarship recipients.

It's hard to imagine that it was nearly four years ago that I entered the crowded gymnasium bustling with freshman and peppered with representatives from the college's academic departments. I must have spoken with a dozen or so, but the one that remains a vivid memory is my initial meeting with the German department's very own, Professor Aue. His presentation of the department and its offerings was more than a pamphlet or a dry statistical analysis of the German Studies Program—it was an invitation to embark on a cultural journey at the end of which stood not only a solid understanding of the German language, but also an enriching appreciation of the culture and history of one of the most interesting people in the world. Four years ago I accepted the invitation. Today, I am poised to reap its rewards, as I take the knowledge and experience I gained while at Emory and apply them to a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Berlin next year.—David Cohen



This year's inductees to Delta Phi Alpha, our German National Honor Society, were Ming Zhao, Romina Savova, Sarah Brandt, and Elizabeth van Graafeiland. The awards were presented by Senior Lecturer Viola Westbrook during our year-end BBQ.



The Department of German Studies ending the academic year with its traditional BBQ Fest behind Trimble Hall.



Andrew Schoenig and Terez Whatley-White mastering the grill at the BBQ.

## Emory's Long-Standing Summer Study in Vienna

The German Studies Department is proud to conduct one of Emory's longest standing Summer Study Abroad Programs. For the past thirty-three years, up to twenty students have enrolled in eight-week courses in Vienna, the former imperial city of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire, and today one of the booming and truly international cities in Central Europe. Our students take courses ranging from Introductory to Advanced German, as well as course in music and cultural history. One of the elements that make this program unique is that students stay with host families and thus are afforded the opportunity to experience unmediated European lifestyle. This past summer, we held a dinner for Emory alumni in Vienna for the first time, and it was by all means a wonderful evening, with the former students sharing many stories and memories with each other.

We are particularly committed to our Vienna program because the city's charm itself is striking. Moreover, our Summer Study Program gives our department a unique window into German-speaking culture and literature. Finally, Austria's rich history and its exposed position in Central and Eastern Europe lends itself to combine our department's efforts in focusing on German literature in Austrian countries, German-Jewish culture, and Yiddish, the vernacular and culture that was predominant in the Eastern periphery of the former empire.



Summer abroad students of 2006 visiting the United Nations in Vienna.



German Studies students departing from Trimble Hall: Peter Höyng with TA Jan-Michael Gösling and students Sarah Brandt, Kelly Cowan, Terez Whatley-White, and Ming Zhao departing for the Election Day Event last October at the Goethe Institut Atlanta, which hosted the event on the day of the German Parliamentary Elections in 2005 with live coverage. Our students also had the opportunity to listen to a panel discussion led by Consul General Hans-Jörg Brunner.

### German Studies

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