

# German Studies



Fall 2008, Volume 3, Number 1

## Message from the Chair



Chair Peter Höyng

Dear Colleagues and Friends of German Studies,

I am proud to share the good news of the past year, which is that the Department of German Studies continued its successes, not the least of which

was the noticeable increase in the number of students who declared German as their minor or major. This upsurge has motivated all of us in the department—faculty and staff—to continue improving the overall academic rigor for our students. There are three components of the work we have done that focus on our undergraduate students.

This fall, the department will begin the first phase of a new curriculum that more rigorously will overcome the divide between language classes and literature/culture courses by offering an integrated curriculum in which students learn the beginnings of German by reading literature from the start. Thanks to the guidance of Hiram Maxim, the entire Curriculum Committee worked hard this year to implement these first steps in a comprehensive, four-year curriculum.

Another enrichment of students' academic life came with the establishment of our Advisory Council. Ten committed citizens from the German-speaking business community in Atlanta have agreed to be ambassadors for our department, contributing new ideas as well as funds to benefit both students and the department. Through the energetic leadership of Christoph Rückel and Katja Ridderbusch, the council spared no time in establishing a speaker series that will enlarge our students' perspectives on German issues. The first guest was Karsten Voigt, the official representative

of the German government for German-American relations. His enlightening talk about the German perception of this year's U.S. presidential election was well attended by students and people from the German-speaking community. Thanks to our tech-savvy T.A., Benjamin Becker, you can listen to Karsten Voigt's lecture via our website at [www.german.emory.edu](http://www.german.emory.edu).

A third step that benefits our students has been the generous support of the Max Kade Foundation in New York. For the first time, we are able to support four students who want to join our longstanding Summer Study Abroad Program in Vienna but might not have the financial means to do so. I am writing this note from Vienna, where I find much joy in seeing these four students among the twenty-three who are exposed to the cultural riches of this beautiful city.

It is always good to remind ourselves that our students benefit from the research of our esteemed faculty, who are presenting at national and international conferences, publishing in scholarly journals, and working on book projects. Regarding the latter, we celebrate the most recent publication of Caroline Schaumann, *Memory Matters: Generational Responses to Germany's Nazi Past in Recent Women's Literature*. In addition, we invite scholars to campus—as we did in the spring when Ruth Klüger and Wibke Bruhns spoke to us about how much memory matters.

Finally, I want to express special thanks to my colleagues as well as the staff and students who have made my three-year term as chair a truly rewarding experience.

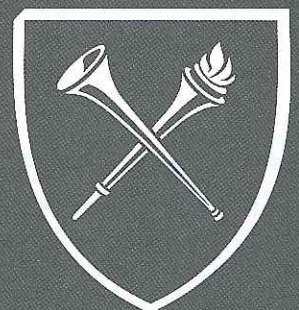
Peter Höyng

Newsletter of the  
Department of  
German Studies at  
Emory University

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EMORY





## Faculty News



**Eric Butler** published two articles on Daniel Paul Schreber; one of them appears in the *New German Critique*. He collaborated with Emory's departments of music and film studies by providing a live translation to the silent film *Das alte Gesetz*, the German inspiration for the *Jazz Singer*. This spring Butler joined the editorial staff of *Glossator*, a journal devoted to the art of commentary from medieval times to the present. He was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the Classics and Modern Literature Discussion Group of the Modern Language Association. In May, Swarthmore College invited Butler to be an honors examiner for graduating seniors.



In April 2008 **Peter Höyng** was invited to Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where he presented the paper "A Little Bit of That Ultra-Violence: Ambivalences and Ambiguities of Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* through the Eyes of Stanley Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange*." He attended conferences in Portland and San Diego and published several articles, among them "Shakespeare's Bruder: Beethovens Shakespeare-Rezeption und Ihre unerhoerten Folgen," which appears in *Shakespeare im 18. Jahrhundert*.



**Marianne Lancaster** presented "Integrating and Using Schaubilder" in Business German class at the CIBER Business Language Conference 2008, Preparing Global Business Leaders, at the University of Florida. In April Lancaster was a finalist (nominated independently by two different departments) for the Language Teacher of Excellence Award that the Emory College Language Center awards each year.



**Hiram Maxim** received numerous awards and grants, including the Emory College Language Center Curriculum Development Award (spring 2009); the Emory College Research Grant in Humanistic Inquiry (summer 2008); and a grant from the Center for Teaching and Curriculum (summer 2008). He also received the Institute for Comparative and International Studies International Travel Grant (August 2008). An article of his is forthcoming titled "Developing Formal Language Abilities along a Genre-Based Continuum" in the volume *Conceptions of L2 Grammar: Theoretical Approaches and Their Application in the L2 Classroom*.



**Caroline Schaumann** has a new book titled *Memory Matters: Generational Responses to Germany's Nazi Past in Recent Women's Literature*, which was published this spring by De Gruyter. Schaumann gave three presentations on family stories and memory culture of World War

II at the annual meetings of the Modern Language Association, German Studies Association, and Women in German. Her article "A Different Family Story: German Wartime Suffering in Women's Writing of Wibke Bruhns, Ute Scheub, and Christina von Braun" is forthcoming this summer in the volume *Germans as Victims in the Literary Fiction of the Berlin Republic*. She also invited authors Ruth Klüger and Wibke Bruhns to campus.



**James Van Horn Melton** was awarded an NEH fellowship for spring and fall 2008, which will enable him to send off the bulk of his manuscript, "Migrations of Conscience in the Old World and the New: From Alpine Valley to Colonial Lowcountry, 1733–1782," to Cambridge University Press. The subject of the book is Ebenezer, a utopian Pietist community on the Savannah River that was founded by Protestants expelled from the archbishopric of Salzburg in 1733. Reconstructing the alpine world of this community and its subsequent migration to the Georgia colony, the book then tells the story of a colonial community that led the opposition to slavery. Articles growing out of the project will appear in fall 2008 in the journal *Past and Present* and in a volume Melton has coedited with Jonathan Strom and Hartmut Lehmann. Called *Pietism in the Old World and the New: Transmissions of Dissent, 1680–1820*, it will be published later this year by Ashgate Publishers. Turkish and Spanish editions of Melton's *Rise of the Public in Enlightenment Europe* (Cambridge, 2001) are forthcoming.

## Affiliated Faculty



**Timothy Albrecht** is serving a tripartite appointment as Emory University organist, professor of music in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and professor of church music in Candler School of Theology. He came to Emory in 1982, having earned degrees from Oberlin College, Oberlin Music Conservatory, and the Eastman School of Music (where his doctoral dissertation was titled "Musical Rhetoric in the Organ Music of Johann Sebastian Bach"). He is the composer of twelve volumes of published organ music (Augsburg Fortress Press), has recorded five CDs, and has performed numerous organ recitals throughout the United States, Western and Eastern Europe, and Asia. At Emory, he is the head of the graduate organ degree program and has taught at the Vienna Emory Program since 1986.



**Thomas D. Lancaster** recently completed almost five years as senior associate dean for undergraduate education in Emory College. This administrative service followed two years as the chair of German Studies. He is on leave for the 2008–2009 academic year, working on several book projects.



**Rudolf A. Makkreel** of the philosophy department lectured this year at the University of Groningen, Penn State University, and at two philosophy meetings in Chicago and Pasadena. With the aid of a University Research Committee grant, he was able to make progress on the next volume of the Princeton Dilthey edition as well as on a book manuscript on hermeneutics and history. Recent publications include "Reflection, Reflective Judgment, and Aesthetic Exemplarity" in *Aesthetics and Cognition in Kant* (Cambridge University Press, 2007); "Psychology and Anthropology from Kant to Dilthey and Beyond" in *Fenomenologia e Societa* (2007); "The Role of Judgment and Orientation in Hermeneutics," which was the opening essay in a special issue of *Philosophy and Social Criticism* on the uses of judgment (2008); "Wilhelm Dilthey" in the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (2008); translations into Chinese of two of the introductions to *Dilthey's Selected Works in World Philosophy* (2007–2008). Starting this summer, he will be coeditor of the *Dilthey International Yearbook for Philosophy and the Human Sciences* published by Frommann-Holzboog. This fall he will be on sabbatical and hopes to complete both the hermeneutics book and the Dilthey volume.



**Andrew J. Mitchell** of the philosophy department specializes in the work of Martin Heidegger and the continental philosophical tradition. He is currently finishing the revisions to his book, *The Fourfold: Thing and World in Late Heidegger*. His publications this year include "Fassbinder: The Subject of Film," in *Cinematic Thinking: Philosophical Approaches to the New Cinema* (Stanford University Press) and "Contamination, Essence, and Decomposition: Heidegger and Derrida," in *French Interpretations of Heidegger*.

*An Exceptional Reception* (SUNY Press). He is coeditor of *The Obsessions of Georges Bataille: Community and Communication* (SUNY Press), and *Joyce and Derrida: Between Philosophy and Literature* (Stanford University Press, forthcoming). Last year he delivered the lectures "The Unacknowledged Past: History between Heidegger and Nietzsche" and "The Mediation of Space: Heidegger and the Sculpture of Eduardo Chillida," among others. He will present "The Erosion of Being: Heidegger and the Sculptor Bernhard Heiliger" at this year's Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy meeting in Pittsburgh. This year Mitchell received summer course development grants from the College Faculty Science Council (for a course on philosophical biology) and the Program in Democracy and Citizenship (for a freshman seminar on the political philosophy of American Transcendentalism), and an ICIS grant for conference travel to the Netherlands.



**Brian Vick** is joining his wife Astrid in the Department of History this fall. He received his PhD at Yale and has taught at Stanford University, the University of Sheffield in England, and the University of Colorado–Boulder. Vick has authored essays on German nationalism, historicism, and ideas of race, as well as the monograph *Defining Germany: The 1848 Frankfurt Parliamentarians and National Identity*. His current research focuses on the problems of European culture and political culture at the time of the Congress of Vienna, and on Germanist campaigns for legal reform in the mid-nineteenth century—in both cases with notions of gender playing a central role.

The Department of German Studies welcomes Brian and looks forward to working with him.

## Report from the Director of Undergraduate Studies

Hiram Maxim

As the director of Undergraduate Studies, I am pleased to report that this past year was a very successful one for the German program. Enrollments remain steady across all instructional levels, and the program has experienced an encouraging growth in the number of students declaring either a major or minor in German Studies. Interest in the Vienna summer program and the semester-long programs in Freiburg, Vienna, or Berlin is very strong, thereby ensuring that there is a good percentage of students in classes at Emory with study abroad experience.

Also of note this year have been the efforts of the Curriculum Committee to begin work on the larger project of reforming the undergraduate curriculum. Charged with integrating the study of language and content across all levels of the curriculum, the committee began work in the spring on revising the first-year course. Organized around the theme of self-identity,



[from left] Hiram Maxim with T.A. Benjamin Becker, Sarah Brandt, and affiliated faculty member Guenther Kronenbitter

the new course to be implemented this fall will focus on different societal roles that young adults play (e.g., family member, student, consumer, tourist). With its strong textual orientation and thoughtful integration of language and content, this course will serve as a template for the revision of subsequent levels in coming semesters.

Amid the curricular reform, the department continues to offer an interesting array of courses that reflect the diverse research interests of the faculty. This fall, for example, Erik Butler will offer a course on Middle High German and Yiddish, Caroline Schaumann will teach a course on contemporary German culture, and

Maximilian Aue will offer a course in translation on erotic imagination in German literature. In addition, the department has established a sizeable cohort of faculty from other departments on campus who cross-list their courses with the German Department.



## Yiddish at Emory

**M**iriam Udel-Lambert, who joined our faculty last year, asked her students at the end of the spring semester why they chose to study Yiddish, what they gained from the course, which material was most meaningful, and how they might use their new knowledge of Yiddish language and Jewish culture in the future. In their words:

### Alyssa Nagler, a first-year student:

I chose to study Yiddish because I needed to take a language for my GER requirement. I took Spanish in high school, so I wanted something new. My grandparents and mom always spoke Yiddish, and I always wondered what they were saying! Yiddish ended up being totally different than I expected. I really like relearning all of the Hebrew characters from my Hebrew school years and incorporating them into Germanic-sounding words. I honestly feel that I have gained so much because I think I have a real grasp on many parts of the language. This has also inspired me to want to go on, learn more, and become fluent.

My favorite parts of the class have been learning songs and cultural lessons/readings such as poems and newspaper articles, as well as the Four Questions [traditionally asked on Passover]. I plan to devote time to learning more about Yiddish culture (and maybe take Emory's Yiddish culture class) because it really is identical to Jewish culture and history as a whole in many ways.

I'm really proud of the fact that I'm leaving my first year of college and I can actually respond with something impressive when people ask me what I've learned.

### Robyn Deutsch, a graduating senior:

I first became interested in Yiddish because of the love and passion my bobe (grandmother) has for the language and culture. Yiddish was a source of comfort and great joy to her, and consequently it became a part of my life. I had no idea that Yiddish would be offered in college, but when I was told about the Yiddish culture and language classes available, I knew I had to take them. These classes have offered me a window into the lives of my ancestors and gave me a chance to connect with my grandparents on a special level. I loved learning how to have conversations in Yiddish, watching Yiddish movies, singing Yiddish songs, and learning about Yiddish culture from Professor Udel-Lambert for two reasons: first, she made it interesting and fun, but second, she was able to place Yiddish within a greater context of linguistics and world culture. I will continue to converse with my grandma and other family members in Yiddish and both ask questions and teach some of my knowledge to them. My experiences with Yiddish at Emory have been a great source of pride for my family and myself and will continue to be so throughout my life.

department. He presented the chapter "Die Zwischenkriegszeit" from his book-in-progress, *At Utopia's Threshold: The Reinvention of Venice in German Literature and Thought between the Wars*. We wish to thank **James Van Horn Melton** for organizing four extraordinary roundtable events and for creating a lively and stimulating dialogue across disciplines and institutions in the Southeast.

### Guest Speakers

The spring semester was a particularly busy time, as we hosted several internationally distinguished visitors. On February 25, **Ruth Klüger** gave a reading titled "The Aftermath: Living with Memories from the Holocaust." Klüger experienced the initial stages of the Nazi persecution in Vienna, her hometown. In 1942 she was deported to Theresienstadt and two years later sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau and Christianstadt (Groß-Rosen). Klüger survived together with her mother; her half-brother and father were killed in the Holocaust. After the war, Klüger and her mother moved to the United States, where Klüger became a renowned professor of German language and literature at Princeton and later University of California-Irvine. Her 1992 memoir *Weiter Leben. Eine Jugend* was received enthusiastically and quickly became a bestseller, garnering numerous prizes and awards. Following the success of *Weiter Leben*, Klüger wrote *Still Alive: A Holocaust Girlhood Remembered* (2001), her own English translation and rewriting of her previous book. At our event, Klüger read excerpts from *Still Alive*. On March 25, journalist and author **Wibke Bruhns** read from her book *My Father's*



Chair Peter Höyng with guest speaker Wibke Bruhns

campaign and in the 1980s reported international news from Jerusalem and Washington while working as a correspondent for the news magazine *Stern*. In her book, Bruhns examines her family's history from the eighteenth century to the present, seeking to understand rather than reproach her forefathers—in

*Country: The Story of a German Family* (2008), the English translation of her bestselling *Meines Vaters Land: Geschichte einer deutschen Familie* (2004). Bruhns became known as Germany's first female newscaster, presenting the *heute* news from 1971 to 1973. She also worked for Willy Brandt's 1972 election

particular, her father, Hans Georg Klamroth, who was hanged in August 1944 as a coconspirator in the attempted Hitler assassination on July 20, 1944. All three spring events drew a large crowd and were made possible by the Hightower Lecture Fund and cosponsorship by the departments of women's studies, history, the ILA, and the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies.

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2008–2009

Advisory Council board member **Katja Ridderbush** will speak as part of the council's Speaker Series.

**Martin Richenhagen**, chair of the board, president, and CEO of AGCO Corp., Duluth, Georgia, a leading manufacturer and distributor of agricultural equipment.

In November **Robert E. Norton**, critically acclaimed biographer of Stefan George, will deliver a talk on Ernst Troeltsch, theologian and philosopher of religion.

## My Year as a Teaching Assistant at Emory University

### Benjamin Becker

I still vividly remember my farewell party in Germany last July when I tried to convince my friends that, while I was looking forward to my stay abroad, I didn't really consider it necessary. My experiences had led me to assume that I was already well equipped for the future. Today, looking back nine months, I must admit that I was completely wrong. This year at Emory could not have had a bigger impact on me. It has challenged me, widened my horizon, and led me to grow as a person.

My excellent stay at Emory began when I arrived at the airport, where Marianne Lancaster was patiently waiting to pick me up—in Emory dress, of course. From this very first moment on, I have felt welcomed and a part of the German department. I have enjoyed spending countless hours in Trimble Hall, be it to work on lesson plans, to meet with students, or simply to have coffee and chat. Although I already had received some basic teaching experience at my home university, Cologne, the opportunities at Emory have proven to be invaluable. Teaching my native language, I gradually became aware of many of its grammatical and idiomatic subtleties. I tried to achieve a similar awareness on the part of my students, thereby fostering the Fulbright Program's objective of intercultural exchange and understanding.

In addition to my teaching experiences, this time in the U.S. has been marked by numerous cultural as well as personal highlights. I have come to love the proverbial Southern hospitality, and I am going to miss those small yet decisive moments when I get out of a bus and wish the driver a "good one" (something completely unusual in Germany). Then there have been the many fabulous events in and around Emory, the most spectacular ones being Salman Rushdie's guest lecture, Jimmy Carter's Town



T.A. Benjamin Becker enjoying a spontaneous reunion with [from left] former Vienna students Abigail Kahn, Melissa Hurley, Patrick Russum, Alex Vinson, Andy Shoenig, and Matt Steinberg at the annual CIPA Fair

Hall speech, and the inauguration of my, ahem, new colleague, His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

While all this may sound spectacular, it is the people who have turned this time into the most valuable experience of my life. It would be best, then, to conclude with a hearty thanks to the faculty and staff of the German department for welcoming me and respecting me as a colleague. I also appreciate the staff of Housing, ResLife, ISSP, and all the others who have supported me whenever I needed their help. I am grateful to my students and especially my roommates for teaching me more than I could ever have taught them. Finally, many, many thanks to the wonderful friends that I made here. You have not only made my day, but my entire year!

Following Trude Herr's (a famous Cologne actress and singer) motto, *Niemals geht man so ganz*, let's keep in touch. You can reach me at [benjamin.becker@uni-koeln.de](mailto:benjamin.becker@uni-koeln.de).

## Events 2007–2008

### German Studies Roundtable

#### Caroline Schaumann

This past year, **James Van Horn Melton** organized four German Studies Roundtable meetings, reviving a departmental tradition. On September 7, **George Williamson**—associate professor of history at the University of Alabama and the author of *The Longing for Myth in Germany: Religion and Aesthetic Culture from Romanticism to Nietzsche* (University of Chicago Press, 2004)—discussed his paper, "August von Kotzebue and His Eighteenth-Century Critics: The Formation of a Literary Reputation." On November 14, **Renaë Dearhorse**—visiting instructor in the department—delivered the talk "Fictionalizing the Indigenous in Humboldt's South American Journey," based on her 2007 Stanford University dissertation, which examines portrayals of indigenous peoples in German travel literature of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. On February 9, our guest was **Joe Perry**—assistant professor of modern European and German history at Georgia State University. Perry presented "The Ghosts of Christmas Past," a chapter in draft form from his book-in-progress, *Silent Night, Holy Nation: Christmas in Germany, 1800–1970*. The German Studies Roundtable concluded with a final meeting on April 23 and a discussion with **Maximilian Aue**—associate professor in the

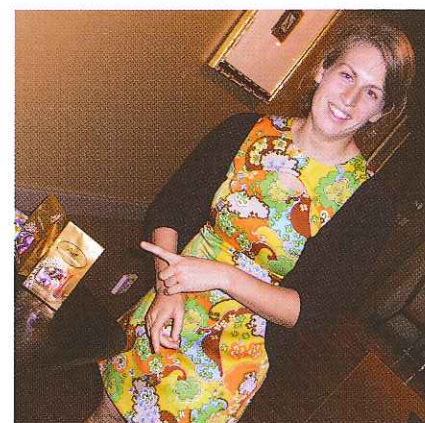


## News from Our Students

### Sarah Brandt, 2008 Graduate and German Major

German is not my first language. It's not a language my family speaks, nor does my family claim any German heritage. I didn't even start learning German until high school—after I had already taken six years of French and three years of Spanish. In other words, there must be a really good explanation for the fact that I'm now able to slip in and out of the language without much effort, and on levels ranging from casual and routine to academic and formal.

When I arrived at Emory, I placed into the 300 level, where the analytic interpretation of classic German literature was definitely a bit of a jump from the paragraphs I had been writing about my hobbies and pets. Although the classes were challenging, I think it's also fair to say that I was afforded every opportunity and the most supportive advisers I could have ever hoped for over the course of my time with the German department.



Sarah Brandt ready to eat some chocolate during the awards ceremony

The professors challenged me both in class and outside it to pursue my interests in German language and culture and then, this past year, to share these interests and help as a tutor to students in 101 and 102. With the guidance of the faculty, I was also fortunate enough to be awarded two separate grants; first from DAAD for studying abroad in Berlin and then from SIRE for conducting an independent research project in the city. The year I spent in Berlin opened my eyes to the challenges of multiculturalism in the city and led to pursuing a study of the city's school system and the unfortunate treatment of minority students. These experiences are, without a doubt, some of the most rewarding of my life and would not have been possible without my mentors in the German Department.

I'm not sure I can fairly articulate how large an impact my classes, professors, and advisers in the department have had on me. I'm incredibly grateful to have been able to be a part of such a supportive and inspiring group of people. For other students in the German department or those considering taking German classes, the best advice I can give is to tap into the wealth of knowledge and experience the faculty has—they're more than willing to share everything they can with you.

Although I'm sure I'll stay in touch, there's no question I'll miss the atmosphere and the people who have been such monumental influences in my life as an Emory student. I know I'm merely joining the ranks of former students who feel the same way. *Vielen Dank!*



[from left] William Shelburne, Matthew Kirk, Peter Höyng, Esther Albrecht, and Daniel McGrath

### Max Kade Scholarship

Thanks to the generosity of the Max Kade Foundation in New York, we were able to offer four scholarships to students participating in our Summer Study Abroad Program in Vienna. The recipients are Esther Albrecht, Matthew Kirk, Daniel McGrath, and William Shelburne.

### Awards

On April 24 the department held a separate awards ceremony to honor the many recipients of awards and grants and to present diplomas to the inductees of honor societies. Graduating senior Sarah Brandt stood out with the Department of German Studies Excellence Award for German, a SIRE grant, and a one-year DAAD stipend to study in Berlin. Andre L. Shoenig received the Emory College Language Center Excellence Award for German. Paul Syers earned a DAAD summer stipend for Munich.

Jonathan Jackson received a summer SIRE grant for translating *Das Blaue Mal* by Hugo Bettauer.

Prizes for the department's most successful first- and second-year students of German were awarded to Joshua Keller, Sarah Richards, Alexander Shoaff, and Christina Welsh.

The inductees into the National German Honor Society Delta Phi Alpha were Daniel Brunner, Michael Cover, Vlad Golgotiu, Jonathan Jackson, Abigail Kahn, and Erica Umpierrez.

Megan Bootright, Sarah Brandt, Abigail Kahn, Rebecca Perch, Paul Syers, and Vlad Golgotiu were all inducted into the National Foreign Language Society Phi Sigma Iota.

Congratulations to all of you!



[from left] Sarah Brandt, Stephanie Chen, Daniel Brunner, Bettina Bammer, Jonathan Jackson, Viola Westbrook, Vlad Golgotiu, and Abigail Kahn

## Advisory Council

Under the leadership of Christoph Rueckel, our newly founded Advisory Council began its work by adopting its bylaws and planning many activities and events. The council's main focus is to create a new form of interactive, international, and German-related communication for students, faculty, and members of the Atlanta community. In November 2007, a presentation by Karsten Voigt—coordinator of German American Cooperation with the Federal Government of Germany—offered a very successful start to the council's activities. We thank all council member for their hard work and support.

The Council members are: Johannes Eckert, Peter Höyng (nonvoting member), Christopher Hughes, Ullrich Hunn, Vivian Ingersoll, Wolfgang Krüger, Thomas D. Lancaster, Katja Ridderbusch (secretary), Ferdinand Seefried, Viola Westbrook, Rita Wübbeler, and Christoph Rueckel (chair).



[from left] Vice Consul Soenke Lorenz, Karsten Voigt, Christoph Rueckel, Wolfgang Krueger, Peter Höyng, and Katja Ridderbusch during the Karsten Voigt event

## Summer Abroad in Vienna 2007

This year's Study Abroad Program in Vienna boasted a record number of participants. Twenty-three students took German, music, and history classes while enjoying the cultural riches and the 2008 Euro Cup in soccer.



Alexandra Vinson, former study abroad student and assistant to the director

Alexandra Vinson, a 2007 graduate and this year's program assistant, wrote:

"As our program began, I thrived in the music course. I greatly enjoyed German language class, seeing it as a way of increasing my ability to interact with the Viennese. Three weeks into the program, I noticed that my work in German class was paying off. I became more personally involved with language learning and started visiting cafes by myself, keeping a journal in German, and reading children's picture books.

"After the fourth week, the music class was over. In all my planning I had not contemplated what life in Vienna would be like when my academic purpose shifted entirely to learning German. In the second month of the program, with all of my attention focused on the development of my language skills, my German began to bloom. In eight weeks I had progressed from reading "Little Polar Bear, Where Are You Going?" to Kafka's short stories. As my competence increased, my confidence grew.

"My eight weeks in Vienna were essential for my professional development as well. Learning German past the 200 level enabled me to major in linguistics, helped me secure a position as a research assistant the following summer in Berlin, and will continue to contribute to my academic success in graduate school. The courage to try something new—a skill that I developed during my first summer in Vienna—has been a far greater predictor of my success following the program. In my last free summer before I begin graduate school, I am serving as the program assistant for the Vienna Abroad Program. This position is particularly fulfilling because it allows me to spend time in Vienna, to continue to explore the complex Austrian culture, and



Program director Peter Höyng with students participating in the 2007 Summer Abroad Program in Vienna

to help this year's group of students have the best experience possible. It also has been interesting to readjust to life in Vienna. I have seen an incredible boost in my language skills, a development that continues to inspire me to learn German—no longer as an academic, but rather as a personal, pursuit."

## German Studies

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**Announcement** From April 23 to 26, 2009, the annual symposium of the Modern Austrian Literature and Culture Association (MALCA) will take place at Emory University under the auspices of the Department of German Studies. MALCA, founded in 1961, is the main scholarly organization in the United States devoted to the promotion

and study of Austrian literature and culture. Its symposia regularly draw scholars in the field of Austrian studies from around the world. The topic of this year's meeting, *Verfreundete Nachbarn*, will examine the German-Austrian encounter in literature, film, and cultural discourse during the past two hundred years.

## Alumni—Request for Information

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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**If you would like to make a gift to support German Studies at Emory,**

please contact Randy Gorod at 404.870.7690 or [randy.gorod@emory.edu](mailto:randy.gorod@emory.edu). Checks can be mailed to his attention at 825 Houston Mill Road, Suite 107, Atlanta GA 30329. You also may go online to contribute at Emory's giving page: [https://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/EMR/onlinegiving/showGiving-Form.jsp?form\\_id=282](https://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/EMR/onlinegiving/showGiving-Form.jsp?form_id=282). Please indicate your support for German Studies with your contribution.

**Gifts will be used for:**

- German Studies Scholarly Enrichment Fund
- Student Awards
- Student Travel Support

*Thank you for your support!*



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