Message from the Chair

What a banner year 2007-08 was for UCI German! Department members garnered a myriad of awards, fellowships, grants, and other honors—Ruth Kluger’s Bundesverdienstkreuz erster Klasse, Glenn Levine’s Celebration of Teaching Award, and Anke Biendarra’s AAUW Fellowship to name just a few. See below for more!

I am pleased to announce that we have some really exciting events planned to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the fall of the wall in Berlin. We’ll host a traveling exhibit sponsored by the Goethe Institute of San Francisco in fall 2009. “Ikonen einer Grenzanlage—Icons of a Border Installation” displays images taken in November 2006 by students from the University of Paderborn who traveled to Berlin to capture the visible and invisible traces of the Wall. The exhibit documents their project in fifteen large-scale photo panels that are accompanied by texts and a sound installation. The show will be on display at the UCI Student Center from September 28-November 2, 2009.

The department will use the presence of this exhibit as a point of departure for an interdisciplinary, international conference that explores the relationship between cultural images and the maintenance or breakdown of political divisions, “Walls in Our Heads,” October 22-24, 2009, on the UCI campus. The conference will explore the relationship between cultural images (broadly conceived) and the maintenance or breakdown of political divisions. Walls are not just physical entities; they also rely on and propagate segregationist forms of knowing and depicting “the other.” This means that alternative representations are necessary if walls are to be replaced by new social unities. While the German context will be the central focus, we intend to include papers that compare other historical situations or spatial configurations. Some of the questions we shall raise are:

- What kinds of cultural images serve as “icons” of political divisions?
- How do such images function to internalize or naturalize divisions within the individual citizens and social self-understanding?
- What happens when we situate the border on the cultural terrain? What function can culture, esp. as a phenomenon of globalization, specifically play in challenging political divisions?
- How do cultural borders suffuse other discourses and cultural practices?
- How are border encounters encoded, appropriated and transformed in different cultural texts? What textures do they create?

More details will follow at a later date. Stay tuned!

John H. Smith
Professor of German and Chair
The academic year 2008-09 got off to an inspiring start when the department celebrated the award of Ruth Klüger’s Bundesverdienstkreuz erster Klasse! The award, in existence since September 1951, is the only state decoration given by the Federal Republic of Germany. Presentation was made by Consul General Christian Stocks of the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Los Angeles (Shown in this photo with Professor Klüger). The department is extremely proud of Ruth’s honor and pleased to share her remarks upon the presentation.

Bundeskreuzverleihung
Remarks by Professor Emerita Ruth Klüger
September 23, 2008

A favorite object in my house is a bust of Heinrich Heine, a gift of the Heine Society in Düsseldorf. It’s the so-called Lazarus bust, showing the emaciated face of the dying poet. I treat him as a household god and I like to bring him gifts and request in return his inspiration for my work. But I have never given him anything as venerable as what he is getting today: this decoration which I shall hang round his neck, for guests to admire when they come in the door, rather than hide it in a box in a drawer. For Heine was an exile who loved Germany and its language with a feeling heart and a critical mind and yet couldn’t or wouldn’t return except for an occasional visit. (Sometimes, late at night, I talk to him.) No one deserves or deserved a medal of honor more than this German son of the Jewish Enlightenment, the Haskalah, and I fancy myself his spiritual daughter, a latecomer, a ‘Nachzüglerin’ in this tradition.

Being Jewish and being German were often seen as a contrast in the post-Holocaust era. A person must be one or the other, not both at the same time. From a later vantage point many tended to chide the German Jews of pre-war times for being so foolish as not to see the incompatibility of the two, not to see that ‘mein Weg als Deutscher und Jude’ (‘My Road as a German and a Jew’) as a book by the Jewish pre-war writer Jakob Wassermann is entitled, was a way into disaster. Those who escaped the disaster often swore they would not speak German again, renounced their own and their parents’ past and worked hard and often successfully to build a new life elsewhere that would have nothing to do with the country which for many years had been considered the most enlightened in Europe with regard to Jews and they would not speak its language which since the eighteenth century, beginning with Lessing’s drama Nathan the Wise, had been the language of enlightenment and tolerance.

Those who totally rejected all things German were mostly the older generation, the generation of my parents and older brothers and sisters, if they survived. A younger generation of German Jews exists now and is notably active in German public and cultural life. This is partly due to the generous sponsorship of the German government which tries to encourage the rejuvenation of Jewish life within its borders. And, I hasten to add, gets amply repaid through the contributions of the Jewish minority to their homeland. German and Jewish is no longer a contradiction in terms for these younger people, though the combination may still pose some dilemmas.

But I belong to neither generation. I didn’t have a past, not even a proper childhood with schooling in German, I come directly out of the cauldron that sucked up millions and spewed out a few. I tried to describe what this does to one’s sense of identity in the book which Consul General Dr. Stocks has so generously praised and to which I owe the honor of having been singled out for the order of merit. Without consciously meaning to, I bridged the gap between the older and the younger German-speaking Jews by showing what it was like to have been born between them, not to have known my birth city as a homeland but rather as the opposite and yet to be attached to a mother tongue that, for me, remained unblemished, because it was mine and not my enemies’. Being Jewish and speaking, writing and teaching German is inextricably intertwined for me. I don’t mean the ‘der, die, das’ part of the language, the basics which we teach beginners. I mean the larger aspects, including Yiddish, a Germanic language that developed as a derivative of German. Through Yiddish much of German thought and literature entered into Jewish intellectual life, and I have a notion, which I cannot substantiate, that Talmudic mysticism and legalism on the one hand and German dialectical thinking are made for each other, a perfect fit.

The divide between being German in this cultural and linguistic sense and being Jewish through kinship and loyalty and that led to the rejection of a culture and language that had been the backdrop to genocide, runs
through my upbringing and adult thinking. If there is merit in the book *weiter leben*, for which you found such kind and eloquent words, Dr. Stocks, it lies in how it demonstrates that divide, without pretending to bring the broken pieces together, for that would be a lie or the literary equivalent of a lie, which is Kitsch. Instead, I tried to hold up and show these fragments for what they are, the golden hair of Margaret, the ashen hair of Shulamith, as Paul Celan put it in his “Todesfuge.” My life comes out of this rift, is an example of it, and the book in turn was its expression. I am grateful to my readers who have understood what I was telling them and am astonished and grateful to the Federal Republic to have been thought worthy of the Bundesverdienstkreuz.

**DEPARTMENT NEWS**

The department, along with UCI’s Center for Writing and Translation, Literary Journalism Program, and Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program along with Poets & Writers, Inc. of Los Angeles, sponsored a visit to the campus by German contemporary novelist Antje Rávic Strubel (right) and translator Dr. Zaia Alexander (left) on October 13, 2008. The two conducted a translation workshop attended by faculty, students, and community members. Strubel talked about the task of translating Joan Didion’s *The Year of Magical Thinking* and Dr. Alexander added remarks on her own work translating Strubel’s novels. Later on, Strubel gave a literary reading of selections from her *Kältere Schichten der Luft* and spoke in detail about the writing process.

Undergraduate students of German in the Southern California area gathered in the department on October 25, 2008, for our inaugural **German Graduate Day**. The group convened to learn more about what to expect of graduate schools in general and a German program in particular. After the guests gave a brief overview of their studies, faculty member Kai Evers conducted a “mini seminar” to give a snapshot of the graduate classroom. David Pan gave an overview of nuts-and-bolts issues such as the application process, fellowships, and future professional opportunities. Glenn Levine (shown in photo addressing the guests) and several UCI graduate students described the role of the teaching assistant and professionalization. The event concluded with a brisk question-and-answer period. Our guests found the day-long program to be informative as well as motivational. We look forward to hosting this event again in the future.

UCI German will be well represented at the 2008 MLA Convention in San Francisco. If you plan to attend, we cordially invite you to presentations by our faculty.

Glenn Levine will present his paper “**Critical and Intercultural Theory in Language Teaching: Central Questions and Problems**” first during session 540, Critical and Intercultural Theory and Language Pedagogy, Monday, December 29, 12:00–1:15 p.m., Nob Hill D at the Marriott. This is a special session, presiding: Glenn Levine.

David Pan will give two papers. He will speak first on “**Historical Event and Mythic Meaning in Carl Schmitt’s Reading of Hamlet**” during session 142, Shakespeare and Schmitt: Art, Myth, and Sovereignty, Saturday, December 27, 8:45–10:00 p.m., Yerba Buena Salon 4 at the Marriott. This is a special session, presiding: Russell Berman, Stanford University.

David will also speak on “**Law and Sacrifice in Brecht’s Massnahme and Kafka’s Prozess.**” His will be the third presentation during session 293, Brecht and Kafka: Clashing Modernisms?, Sunday December 28, 1:45-3:00 p.m., Pacific Suite F at the Marriott. This program is arranged by the International Brecht Society, presiding: Margaret Setje-Eilers, Vanderbilt University.

John Smith will give the second presentation, “**Hearing the Unheard: On the Novelle and/as Ereignis,**” during session 162, The Sound of Change: New Sounds of and in Literature, Saturday, December 27, 8:45–10:00 p.m., Pacific Suite E at the Marriott. The program is arranged by the Division on Nineteenth- and Early-Twentieth-Century German Literature, presiding: Irene Kacandes, Dartmouth College.
The department looks forward to spring quarter '09 when Professor Anne Marie Rasmussen from Duke University will be in residence as our Distinguished Visiting Professor.

And finally, we are pleased to share that all of our affiliated faculty have chosen to continue their ties to our department for 2008-09.

The list includes:

Edward Dimendberg, Associate Professor of Film & Media Studies
Alexander Gelley, Professor of Comparative Literature
Robert Moeller, Professor of History
Jane O. Newman, Professor of Comparative Literature
Annette Schlichter, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature
Gabriele Schwab, Chancellor’s Professor of English and Comparative Literature
Martin Schwab, Professor of Philosophy
Ulrike Strasser, Associate Professor of History

At the GSA in St. Paul and at PAMLA in Claremont, she spoke on the Gespenster trilogy of German filmmaker Christian Petzold. She is currently revising the two talks for an article-length publication. She is particularly looking forward to an invitation she received from the University of Luxembourg, where she will present a paper on media constructions of authorship at an international conference on globalization and contemporary German literature in December 2008.

This past year Kai Evers published an essay on Canetti’s destructive satire in The Worlds of Elias Canetti: Centenary Essays (eds. William Collins Donahue and Julian Preece). His article “Fantasies, Echoes, and Whispers: The Experience of World War I” that appears in Peter Weiss’ Abschied von den Eltern and Die Ästhetik des Widerstands is forthcoming in the next issue of the Germanic Review. Thanks to generous support from the Summer Research Initiative funded by the UCI Offices of the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost and the Vice Chancellor of Research, he and graduate students Simona Moti and Rebecca Schuman have collaborated in their research on the works of Franz Kafka. Kai currently serves as Acting Chair of the European Studies Program.

Gail Hart taught at the University of California Washington Center this past winter quarter and enjoyed the big city during the primary season (shown in the first row, second from the left, with her students). As of July 2008, she began a term as Chair of the Humanities Faculty at UCI. Gail has essays on eighteenth-century robber fiction appearing in Seminar and Colloquia Germanica; an essay, “True Crime and Criminal Truth in Schiller's Verbrecher aus verlorenen Ehre,” in Jeffrey High, ed., Schiller's Literary Prose Works, 2008; and “Some Day My Prince Will Come: Fürstenspiegel and the Bourgeois Writer,” forthcoming in The Self as Muse: Narcissism and Creativity in the German Imagination 1750-1850, ed. Alexander Mathaes, 2009. She has given talks at GSA and at Dartmouth College, Case Western Reserve University, and Syracuse University. She has also collaborated with Ursula Mahlendorf and Thomas P. Saine in editing the unfinished book manuscript left

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FACULTY NEWS

For the academic year 2008-09, Anke Biendarra received a year-long postdoctoral fellowship from the American Association of University Women (AAUW). The national fellowship, awarded to only twenty scholars each year across all disciplines, supports work on her study on the effects of globalization on contemporary German culture. The book evaluates how contemporary German-speaking artists respond to the pressures that globalizing factors impose on the concept of authorship, the individual and society and what their aesthetic responses mean for identity constructions in the Berlin Republic. Anke will spent most of the year in residence in Irvine and conclude her research leave in summer 2009 at the Literaturarchiv in Marbach, supported by a UC Senate Grant. For fall quarter 2008, she is also the recipient of a UCI Career Development Award. 2009 will see the publication of a special issue of Literatur für Leser on German pop that Anke edited. Closing Borders, Bridging Gaps? Deutscher Pop an der Jahrtausendwende contains five articles from colleagues in the US, Canada, and Europe and spans literature and the performing arts. Anke’s article on “Pop & Politik: Formen von Engagement in der zeitgenössischen Popliteratur” is also part of this issue. In 2008, interviews with authors Terézia Mora, Antje Ràvic-Strubel, and Gregor Hens appeared online in Transit, Glossen, and Literaturkritik.de respectively.

Anke presented recent work at three conferences this fall.
2007-08 was another inspiring year for Professor Emerita Ruth Klüger! In addition to receiving the Bundesverdienstkreuz erster Klasse (see Department News above), her book *weiter leben* was chosen by the city of Vienna for its "einstadtseinbuch" ("onecityonebook"), the city’s annual project for which one book is selected for a licensed reprinting of 100,000 copies distributed free after a gala reception hosted by the mayor. She was also awarded the Hermann Cohen Medal for achievements in the field of Jewish cultural philosophy. This award, in honor of the German philosopher Hermann Cohen, is given by the Hermann Cohen Akademie that was established to study the place of Jewish thought within the broader context of European intellectual history. This past year Ruth published another book, *unterwegs verloren. Erinnerungen* (Wien: Zsolnay Verlag), which was selected for serialization in the *FAZ* (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung). She also gave an exile poetry reading to the Austrian Parliament and was interviewed for a feature article in *Der Spiegel*.

Professor Emeritus Herbert Lehnert continued his Thomas Mann research, working on corrections to the two-volume set of texts and commentary of Mann's essays written between 1945 and 1949, the end of the war in Europe and Mann's first visit to Germany (much quarreled about in West Germany and in the US because it included a visit to East Germany) for the Frankfurt Thomas Mann edition of Fischer Verlag. Some of these essays were not or but little known. Herbert published an essay in the *Thomas Mann Jahrbuch 2007*, "Thomas Mann: Schriftsteller für und gegen deutsche Bildungsburger," which was a lecture he gave in Lübeck in 2006. He also published three review articles in *Orbis Litterarum* 2007 and 2008: “Zur Biographie Thomas Manns: Erkenntnisse aus Biographien der Familienmitglieder,” “Neue Aspekte zur Biographie Thomas Manns,” and “Nebenfiguren in der Biographie Thomas Manns.”

Glenn Levine received the 2008 Celebration of Teaching Award from the School of Humanities, an award that recognizes excellence in undergraduate teaching (shown in photo). He continues to serve as the campus director of the Center for International Education, as chair of the School of Humanities Foreign Language Advisory Committee, and as a UCI steering committee member of the UC Language Consortium. Along with graduate students Rebecca Schuman, Jessica Wood, Natalie Eppelsheimer, Simona Moti, and Eric Blankenship, Glenn presented the results of a year-long curriculum project at the 2008 UC Language Consortium Bi-Annual Conference at UC Santa Barbara. The well-attended panel was entitled "Teaching and Learning Facts, Ideas, and (New) Perspectives: A Curriculum Presentation and ‘Town Hall’ Discussion on Cultural Literacy in University-level Language Instruction."

In June 2007, Glenn was invited to present at an Expertenseminar at the University of Leipzig on "Die Entwicklung von interkultureller Kompetenz im Kontext DaF: Lernziele, didaktische Ansätze und Evaluierung." His presentation was an analysis of the development of sociolinguistic awareness among study-abroad students in Berlin entitled, "Soziolinguistisches Bewusstsein als Mittel zur L2-Sozialisierung und der Entwicklung interkultureller Kompetenz: Bericht über eine Fallstudie." A revised version is forthcoming in a volume on the topic of the symposium edited by Renate Schulz and Erwin Tschirner and published by Iudicium. In November 2008 he and graduate students Erin Hourigan and Eric Blankenship hosted a panel and presented a paper, "How is Critical Thinking Facilitated/Not Facilitated by Language Teaching and Learning?: LPD and GSI Perspectives," at the AATG/ACTFL Convention in San Antonio, Texas. At the same AATG/ACTFL Convention, he presented a paper entitled, “‘Othering’ German Culture through its Grammar in Research and Classroom Practice.”


In his free time (!), Glenn is coordinating a symposium, "Critical and Intercultural Theory and Language
Pedagogy," to be held March 6-8, 2009, at UCI. The goals of the meeting are (1) to bring to nationally and internationally renowned scholars in the fields of applied linguistics, literary studies, anthropology, and critical pedagogy together for a public forum/roundtable discussion on key theoretical and practical issues of university language teaching and learning and (2) to present chapter drafts and plan an edited volume. He is pleased that the volume has already been accepted for publication by Cengage Heinle in 2010 in the AAUSC Professional Series.

David Pan has just completed an English translation with Jennifer Rust of Carl Schmitt: Hamlet or Hecuba, which will appear next year with Telos Press, for which he was awarded a translation grant from the UCI International Center for Writing and Translation. He also organized the session on “Cross-Cultural Encounters: Colonialism and Its World-Historical Legacy” at the Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, Long Beach, CA, April 25, 2008. Recent papers he has presented include: “Sacrifice in Bertolt Brecht’s Der Jasager und der Neinsager” at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Annual Conference in Claremont, CA, November 11, 2008; “National Socialist Perspective on Kleist’s Hermannsschlacht” at the German Studies Association Annual Conference in St. Paul, MN, on October 4, 2008; “Poetry is the Mother Tongue of the Human Race’: Johann Georg Hamann on Aesthetics and Revelation” at the conference, The Grandeur of Reason: Religion, Tradition and Universalism, sponsored by The Center of Theology and Philosophy in Rome, Italy, September 3, 2008; and “The Cultural Construction of Sacrifice” at the conference, Catastrophe and Conversion: Political Thinking for the New Millennium, sponsored by the Colloquium on Violence and Religion, Riverside, CA, June 19, 2008. He has just published two articles entitled “Carl Schmitt on Culture and Violence in the Political Decision” and “The Sovereignty of the Individual in Ernst Jünger’s The Worker in Telos” 142 (Spring 2008) and Telos 144 (Fall 2008) respectively. He has additional articles forthcoming in 2009 in German Quarterly on Schmitt, Benjamin, and Agamben and in Germanic Review on Brecht and Schmitt.

John Smith continues as chair and graduate advisor for the department. He presented the paper “Logos, Dialogue, and the Plurality of Reason: Challenges to Ratzinger/Benedict XVI’s History of Europe” at the symposium “The Grandeur of Reason: Religion, Tradition and Universalism” coordinated by the Centre of Theology and Philosophy, September 1-4, 2008, in Rome, Italy. He participated in the panel “Public Spheres, Reason and Rationality in the 18th Century” at the seminar “Public Spheres, Blogospheres” held by the UCI Humanities Center and Humanitech, October 2008. John also attended the 2008 Goethe Society of America conference “Goethe and the Postclassical: Literature, Science, Art, and Philosophy 1805-1815”, November 6-9, 2008, Pittsburgh, where he spoke on “Die Gretchenfrage: Philosophies of Life and Religion – Goethe, Kant, Hegel, and Schelling.”

Graduate Student Announcements

The department welcomes new graduate student Jonathan Fine (right), shown in this photo with Professor Kai Evers (left). Jonathan joins us having received his BA in 2007 and MA in 2008 from NYU in Comparative Literature. He enters our program with a 2008-09 UCI Enhanced Regents’ Fellowship as well as an Entering Graduate Student Fellowship in Modern European Studies supported by the Institute of European Studies at UC Berkeley.

Rose Jones received a ’08 School of Humanities Summer Dissertation Fellowship.

Friederike Kaufel received a full fellowship to attend the Trans-Atlantic Summer Institute in European Studies held in June 2008 at the University of Minnesota. The Institute brought together European and North American graduate students and faculty from Germany and the United States to collaborate on the topic “Immigrants in Europe and North America: Representations of Self and Others.”

Rebecca Schuman was awarded the IFK/ Fulbright_Junior Fellowship for the academic year 2008-09 and is spending the year in Vienna. The grant is dually supported by the AAEC (or Austrian Fulbright Commission) and the IFK (Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften), which is an independent, interdisciplinary research center next door to the University of Vienna, where Schuman is working on her dissertation alongside eight other Junior Fellows under the directorship of Prof. Helmut Lethen—that is, when she can tear herself away from the coffee houses! Her dissertation is about the so-called "Language Crisis" (Sprachkrise) of the early 20th century,
specifically how Ludwig Wittgenstein's work on ordinary language philosophy relates to language and communication phenomena in some of the better-known work of Franz Kafka.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW PH.D.S

Natalie Eppelsheimer received her Ph.D. in summer 2008. Her dissertation is entitled “Homecomings and Homemakings: Stefanie Zweig and the Exile Experience: In, Out of and Nowhere in Africa.” Progress on her work was expedited by a fall quarter School of Humanities Dissertation Fellowship and spring quarter by a Frances Bend Dissertation Fellowship, a highly competitive award across the UCI campus. Meeting with much success on the 2007-08 job market, Natalie assumed a tenure track position this fall as Assistant Professor of German at Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.

Jason Wilby received his degree in spring quarter 2008. The title of his dissertation is “Searching for a German National Self: Journeys through Transitional Spaces, 1770-1815.” This fall Jason headed off for an appointment as a Visiting Assistant Professor of German at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque.

Jason was also selected as one of six winners of the Gloria Flaherty Prize in conjunction with the Goethe Society of North America Workshop on Writing a Goethezeit Dissertation. Each winner received $250 and a waiver for the conference registration fee. The conference and workshop took place November 6-9 in Pittsburgh.

UNDERGRADUATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS to Katrin Kask, Kevin Marx and Nicolas Voss who received BAs in German Studies in 2007-08.

German Studies major Aurora Romero served as an intern at UCI’s International Center for Writing and Translation fall quarter 2007. She says of her experience, “My time at the International Center for Writing and Translation taught me what it takes to host a remarkable event like ‘Global Conversations’ and introduced me to a broad spectrum of available research opportunities in any languages. It was inspiring to meet such a diverse community of researchers, activists, and poets all focused on linguistic rights, the preservation of languages and their accompanying cultural legacies, and even the restoration of near extinct languages. I will not forget their optimism and zeal as I advance in my own language studies and look to translation as not only an academic endeavor but a means of creative expression and cultural preservation.”

The department selected three recipients for the 2008-09 Leindecker Travel Award to Germany: Joanne Buenaventura, Marie Ellis and Diana Fischer. All three are UC Education Abroad participants this year. Marie, a senior honors English major, excelled in our German 2A, 2B and 2C classes last year and this fall is attending Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin for one semester. Describing the purpose of her trip she said, “I believe that after my studies in Germany, my writing style will expand by acquiring new viewpoints and I will become a more versatile thinker.” Diana, a German Studies major who was also the recipient of the 2007-08 award for the most meritorious undergraduate student in the major, is attending Georg-August Universität for two semesters. Of German heritage, she said, “Studying in Germany will give me a year of continuous exposure to the German language and culture, which I deem to be very useful for a well-rounded education....”

Joanne, a Philosophy major who may add German Studies for a double major, joins Diana at Georg-August-Universität. Anticipating that her experience will help prepare her for a career in foreign service, she said, “Only by living and working in a foreign culture can one truly understand the subtleties and the difficulties attached to working across borders....”

Joanne (second from left) and fellow UC EAP students enjoy time at Bergpark Wilhelmshöhe in Kassel.
the University of Wyoming in Laramie. Next semester she will serve as Chair of the Faculty Senate. The University of South Carolina Press published her *Understanding Thomas Mann* in 2004. Hannalore’s current research focuses on the construction of German national identity in recent German novels.

**Christina Mitchell**, (B.A., 2005) received an MA in Journalism and Mass Communication from the University of Oklahoma in 2007. She returned to Orange County and worked as communications director for the PBS television series “Roadtrip Nation.” She recently started a full-time faculty position in the Communication Department, East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma, teaching television production classes. Christina says she is “really excited to work with students again.”

**Brigitte Prutti** (Ph.D., 1995) was co-organizer of the 2008 MALCA symposium on Cultures of Performance in Modern Austria held at the University of Washington where she is an Associate Professor of German. Her recent publications include essays on the links between gender politics and the staging of power in Grillparzer's *Treuer Diener* (DVjs 2007), on the plague narrative in Stifter's *Pechbrenner* novella (*Oxford German Studies* 2008), and on the language of tears in Stifter's *Brigitta* (*Stifter Jahrbuch* 2008).

**Phillip Seymour** spent two months in high school attending a *Hochschule* in Goslar, Germany, and then enjoyed his UCI junior year at Georg-August Universität on the Education Abroad Program. He says that he “will never forget the views and tastes and sounds of Europe.” Since receiving his BA in 1985, he has remained in the Orange County area and has been back to the campus several times.

Phil has assisted the Walt Disney Company with translating and interpreting. He still keeps in touch with many of his German friends and plans to return to Europe soon. “When I was fifteen years old, I promised my host mother that I would return with my *Frau,*” he said. “After thirty years, she is still expecting me to hold up my side of the bargain!”

Since receiving his MA in 1976, **Arthur Turfa** established a bi-vocational career as pastor and teacher. In 1981 he was ordained by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and currently serves in its South Carolina Synod. Two years ago he retired as a chaplain from the US Army Reserve Component as a Lieutenant Colonel (after a fifteen-month deployment to Würzburg). He has had thirteen years experience as an educator on the secondary and post-secondary levels, currently teaching high school English and German and the same subjects in a technical college.

VDM Verlag in Saarbrücken recently published his dissertation *Lost Opportunity yet Seedbed for Later Discussion*, which follows the Council of Ferrara-Florence and the Tübingen-Constantinople Correspondence.

After visiting appointments at the University of Iowa and Duke University, **Kevin Yee** (Ph.D., 1997) moved into faculty development. He is now a senior staff member at the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning at one of the nation’s largest colleges, the University of Central Florida in Orlando (where total enrollment tops 50,000!). As academic support coordinator, he supports all UCF faculty and is particularly interested in new technology tools for teaching, such as classroom clickers, wikis, blogs, podcasts, online pedagogy, and persistent online worlds.

**GERMAN DEPARTMENT SUPPORTERS**

The department is extremely grateful to **Kendra Leindecker Mirasol** (BA, UCI German 1988 and MBA, University of Chicago, 1993) who continued to share her generosity by again making a gift with 100% matching funds from IBM, her husband’s employer, for the 2008-09 Leindecker Travel award to Germany. (See above.)

Since inception of the award in 2001-02, Kendra’s generosity has helped to support the travel of twenty UCI students to Germany for a myriad of educational purposes. Our hats are off to you, Kendra, for your support!

The department is also grateful to **Professor Emeritus Tom Saine** who made a gift to help the department weather California’s current economic crisis and UC budget cuts. Thanks, Tom, for your generosity and also for continuing to volunteer your time winter and spring quarters to teach a class.

Many entities and agencies vie for charitable gifts during trying economic times such as we currently face. Keep higher education in your sights when making benevolent decisions. Contact german@uci.edu or call (949) 824-4942 for details about gift giving to German at UCI.