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A Message from the President

Dear Colleagues!

“*Jedem Anfang wohnt ein Zauber inne*“, schreibt Hermann Hesse. I hope you have all had a wonderful start to the new school year, that magical beginning full of excitement and anticipation. We have a wealth of opportunities to look forward to: I hope you will attend the annual ILFTA conference in Indianapolis from November 5-7, “Global Vision: Preparing World Citizens.” We are fortunate to have Jörg Waltje, Director of the Languages Resource Center at the University of Michigan and an expert in the field of educational technology, as our presenter for the 3-hour workshop on Friday morning. In his hands-on workshop on “Innovative Uses of Academic Podcasting” you will have the opportunity to explore academic podcasting and its implementation into the language and culture curriculum. Other conference highlights include the “Pre-Service World Languages Workshop” on Thursday night, a panel on advocacy by the Indiana German Task Force and “University Night” on Friday night, our AATG Business meeting honoring the Teacher of the Year on Saturday morning, and many great German sessions throughout the conference!

Two weeks later, the ACTFL Convention and World Languages Expo will take place in beautiful San Diego, November 20-22: “Speaking up for Languages: The Power of many Voices”. It is not too late to register! The ACTFL convention presents a great opportunity to share ideas with colleagues in workshops and in sessions or while strolling through exhibit halls and through San Diego. You will meet hundreds of German teachers from all over the country who are as passionate about German as you are! In January, we will continue to build momentum with the timely topic of our Indiana AATG Immersion 2010: “Response to Crisis.” In the spring issue of the *Mitteilungen*, I challenged you to be even more active than ever before, by subscribing to the InGerman Listserv, attending the IFLTA conference in Indianapolis or ACTFL in San Diego, or by nominating a colleague for the Teacher of the Year! This is the time to do so if you haven’t done it already! Collegial interaction and support are the corner stones of everything we strive to do in order to keep German in Indiana alive and strong. “*Nur wer bereit zu Aufbruch ist und Reise, / Mag lähmender Gewöhnung sich entrafen*“, continues Hesse in his famous poem. Far from „lähmender Gewöhnung“ I hope, but nevertheless, the IFLTA conference in November will be my last one as president as I have accepted a position as Director of the Language Program at the Goethe-Institut Boston as of October 1. It has long been one of my dreams to work for the Goethe-Institut and to be closer to the ocean again, but I still left Indiana for Boston last week with a “*lachenden*” and a “*weinenden Auge*”: I am so grateful to have worked with the most amazing group of German teachers during the last eight years and I take with me only happy memories. The Indiana AATG was the group I could always draw on for support and guidance. I hope to see many of you at ILFTA to say *Tschüss* to you in person!

The great news is that Beth Moeller-Tank, our current Vice-President, will serve as president during the second half of my term, pending approval at the Business Meeting during ILFTA. Having been able to observe her diligence, thoughtfulness, and humor during the last few years of serving on the Executive Committee Board together, I take great comfort in knowing that the Indiana AATG will be in the most competent and caring hands. Please keep in touch and drop me an email any time at langdir@boston.goethe.org. Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve such an exceptionally talented and hard-working group of teachers.

Dine Möller-Sahling, President

Indiana Chapter, AATG

langdir@boston.goethe.org

Goethe-Institut Boston

President
Folke-Christine Moeller-Sahling
langdir@boston.goethe.org.

Goethe-Institut Boston
170 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02116
Tel. (617) 262-6050

Vice-President
Beth Moller-Tank
bmollertank@indy.rr.com
Zionsville Community High School &
Zionsville Middle School
1000 Mulberry St, Zionsville, IN 46077
Tel. (317) 873-3355 (12700)
Fax (317) 873-8002

Secretary
Elma Chapman
echapman@lakeland.k12.in.us
Lakeland High School
1010 E. 485 North
Howe, IN 46746-9723
Tel (260) 463-2149 Fax (260) 463-4085

Treasurer
Laura Wilson
llwilson@bsu.edu
Dept. of Modern Languages and Classics
Ball State University
2000 W. University Ave.
Muncie IN 46306
Tel (765) 285-2446 Fax (765) 285-5877

Meet Your Executive Committee

Membership Chair
Hannelore Weber
weber.15@nd.edu
University of Notre Dame
305 Decio Hall
Notre Dame IN 46556
Tel (574) 631-7751 Fax (574) 272-9248

Testing Chairperson
John Sundquist
sundquist@purdue.edu
Purdue University
Dept. of Foreign Languages & Literatures
Stanley Coulter Hall 166
640 Oval Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2017
Tel (765) 496-6046 Fax (765) 496-1700

Newsletter Editor
Kim Warner
kwarnertcsc.k12.in.us
Tipton High School
619 S. Main
Tipton, IN 46072
Tel (765) 675-7431 x 199 Fax (765) 675-9519

Northern Rep
Fran Reigle
fmreigle@hotmail.com
Hamilton Southeastern High School
13910 East 126th Street
Fishers, IN 46037
Tel (317) 594-4190 Fax ((317) 594-4199

Central Rep
Colleen Taber
Colleen@taber.net
Franklin College
101 Branigin Blvd.
Franklin, IN 46131
Tel (317) 506-4690 Fax (317) 738-8766

Southern Rep
Donna Kramer
kramerd@vcsc.k12.in.us
Vincennes Lincoln High School
1545 South Hart Street Road
Vincennes, IN 47591
Tel (812) 882-8480 Fax (812) 885-1430

Webmaster
Ronald Warner
rwarner@bsu.edu
Dept. of Modern Languages and Classics
Ball State University
Muncie, IN 47306
Tel (765) 285-1361 Fax (765) 285-5877

IASG

(Indiana Association of Students of German)

Plan to attend with your students the *2010 Staatskongress* to be held Saturday, February 27 at Ball State University. Watch the webpage for details <<www.iasGerman.org>>.

Conference theme announced at the IFLTA Conference in November.

HILFE: Already planning to attend? Could you volunteer to help as a judge, conduct a session, help with registration? Any help is appreciated

With questions or to volunteer, contact
JJ Steed at Brownsburg High School: JSteed@brownsburg.k12.in.us or
Beth Moller Tank at Zionsville Schools: bmollertank@indy.rr.com

2009 National AATG Testing Program Report

from Chapter Testing Chair, John Sundquist (Purdue University)

In the year 2009, Indiana German students were very successful once again in the AATG testing program. We had a great group of students participate this year, and so many of them did extremely well.

We selected **Meghan Reidy** this year to be **Indiana's nominee** for the Study Award Trip. She is a student at **Carmel High School**. The Selection Committee chose Meghan from a group of very talented and accomplished applicants during a round of interviews. Meghan was selected by the national AATG selection committee as a finalist this year and was able to go to Germany this summer. We look forward to hearing more about her 4-week trip to Germany!

We also nominated a Senior Study Award winner, **Daniel Avon** from **Jennifer Brandt's** program at **Harrison High School** in Evansville. We are pleased to say that Daniel's nomination was also accepted and he was able to go on the special Senior Award Trip for which there are only five in the entire country! We were so excited for him and can't wait to hear about his trip as well.

The chapter also presented a number of special awards to the following students: the German Embassy Award goes to **Rachel Crawford** of Fishers High School, student of **Robin Geisinger**; the Austrian Embassy Award goes to **Andrew Burchill**, student of **Randy Studt**, from West Lafayette High School. The **Langenscheidt Award** goes to **Lili Kyurkchiyska**, student of Jennifer Steed of Brownsburg High School. All students who placed at or above the 70th percentile were recognized by the AATG nationals for their accomplishments. Students placing above the 90th percentile received medals and those above the 95th percentile also received prizes from our chapter.

20 Indiana schools with a total of **869 students** participated in the year 2009 National Examination. Nationally, **23,420** students participated. Our chapter had the distinction of being among those with the highest number of students scoring **at or above the 90th percentile**. 71 attained such impressive scores.

Congratulations to all the students who participated and to their teachers. We want to give a warm welcome to those teachers whose students are participating for the first time and give a special thanks to all the teachers who "go the extra mile" and work so tirelessly with their students. We are grateful also to the German Embassy, the Austrian Institute, the Goethe Institut, Purdue University, and the AATG for their support and generous contributions of prizes.

Participating Schools in 2009

Brownsburg High School (Brownsburg)
Carmel High School (Carmel)
Cathedral High School (Indianapolis)
Crawfordsville High School (Crawfordsville)
Crown Point High School (Crown Point)
Fairfield Jr/Sr. High School (Goshen)
Fishers High School (Fishers)
Hamilton Southeastern High School (Fishers)
Harrison High School (Evansville)
Indiana Academy for Science and Math (Muncie)

LaCrosse High School (LaCrosse)
Lawrence Central High School (Indianapolis)
Morgan Township High School (Valparaiso)
Munster High School (Munster)
North Central High School (Indianapolis)
South Central High School (Union Mills)
Terre Haute South High School (Terre Haute)
Washington Township (Valparaiso)
West Lafayette High School (West Lafayette)
Zionsville Community High School
(Zionsville)

For information about the AATG National German Exam, please go to <http://www.aatg.org>

Teacher of the year

Joshua Payne, Cathedral High School

Joshua is a 1997 graduate of Beech Grove High School and a 2001 graduate of University of Indianapolis (BA in German and social studies teaching). From 2001-04 he taught German at Brownsburg High School in Brownsburg, Indiana and was a 2002 GAPP exchange chaperone with JJ Steed (Wilhelmsgymnasium-Kassel). He then taught German at Moon Valley High School in Phoenix, Arizona from 2004-2006. In 2006 Joshua started teaching German at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, Indiana and was the GAPP Exchange Coordinator with the Otto-Hahn-Gymnasium Bensberg-Cologne in 2009. Joshua has been a member of AATG since 2001 and has sponsored a German Club since then. His interests include travel, theatre, movies, and spending time with family and friends.

Wir gratulieren Josh!

Nicht vergessen: Teacher of the Year 2010

Deadline for Nominations: March 21, 2010

Don't forget to nominate your colleague in German or in another world language for the 2010 Teacher of the Year Award. Each year, the Indiana Chapter of the AATG recognizes one outstanding teacher in each of three categories: 1) Elementary/Middle School level 2) Pre-Collegiate and 3) Post-Secondary Teacher. This honor goes to a teacher who makes special contributions to the lives of his/her students, and who shows commitment to the profession on various levels and in many ways.

The respective award winners are eligible for the Indiana "World Language Teachers of the Year" selected by IFLTA annually. The procedures for selection and the nomination forms are available for download on the IFLTA website:

<http://www.iflta.org/teacheroftheyear>

Planning Ahead.....

Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
2011 will be held in Indianapolis
First week in March!

(2010 Conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN)

Looking for a student exchange program?

International Experience e.V is a not for profit student exchange organization located in Lohmar Germany. Their director, Dennis Doehring, was looking for hosts in Indiana. If your school is interested, consult the webpage <<www.ie-usa.com>>

2009 – 20 Jahre Mauerfall

By Hannelore Weber

As we approach the 20th anniversary of that singular event on November 9, 1989, Sabine Heklau, from the Goethe Institute in Chicago, will present a workshop at the University of Notre Dame. She will offer teaching ideas and materials on the Fall of the Wall in general, as well as on a traveling exhibit, *Ikonen einer Grenzanlage* (see related article below). This exhibit will be on display at the University of Notre Dame from November 26 to December 21, 2009.

The workshop is free and open to all. It will take place on the campus of the University of Notre Dame on Saturday, October 10, 2009, from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Please contact Hannelore Weber, weber.15@nd.edu, for directions and exact location.

Ikonen einer Grenzanlage

By Hannelore Weber

What visible and invisible remnants of the Wall still remain in Berlin? Armed with cameras and recording devices, students in a media course at the University of Paderborn set out to answer this question. They found forgotten Wall remnants, deserted watchtowers, vestiges of the border strip and even traces of the “Mauer im Kopf.” To document and present their results, they produced the photo exhibition, *Ikonen einer Grenzanlage*. This traveling exhibit, which comes to us through the generosity and efforts of the Goethe Institute, will be on display at the University of Notre Dame, in the new Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures, Room 329 DeBartolo Hall, from November 26 to December 21, 2009. Please contact Hannelore Weber weber.15@nd.edu, for details.

Traveling film series, *Wende Flicks: Last Films from the GDR*

By Troy Byler

Dear Film Fans and Teachers,

It gives me great pleasure to announce the Indiana University DEFA Project!

From January 17 through April 24, 2010, the Indiana University Department of Germanic Studies will be screening the traveling film series, *Wende Flicks: Last Films from the GDR*, in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the political upheaval in Europe in the year 1989-90.

The series, curated by the University of Massachusetts-Amherst's DEFA Film Library and opened with much fanfare in several prestigious Los Angeles cultural venues this past spring, will be presented by university faculty and graduate students on Sunday nights at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater (January-March) and on campus (April). All admission is free to the public. At the end of the semester, the symposium, *Making Culture ReVisible: East German Cinema after Unification* (April 22-25), will bring a number of filmmakers and cultural politicians from the former German Democratic Republic as well as leading North American scholars of German cinema in contact with faculty, graduates and undergraduates, and high school students around the region.

I invite teachers who are interested in bringing their students to any of the Sunday showings and/or the tailored high school component of the symposium in April, to please contact me directly (tbyler@indiana.edu). We have developed a lesson plan to go along with one of the films in the symposium and will be creating more information packets to go accompany the individual weekly showings. Our hope is to get as many high school students interested in film and Germanic Studies, and to appreciate an event that combines the cooperation of the university, community, and primary schools. In order to be inclusive all of the films will have English subtitles, so German is not required for the viewings or the symposium. All students are welcome!

Plan to attend the 2009 IFLTA Conference

Crowne Plaza Hotel Indianapolis Airport
November 5 - 7, 2009

Pre-Registration postmarked by October 15

Details and forms available at www.iflta.org

IFLTA 3-Hour Workshop

Innovative Uses of Academic Podcasting

The use of Podcasting Technology and MALL (Mobile Assisted Language Learning) is reshaping teaching and learning by expanding and enhancing course content, learning activities, and teacher-student interactions. In this hands-on workshop we will scrutinize Academic Podcasting and how can it be implemented into the language and culture curriculum. We will get started on our own podcasting projects and take a look at a variety of applications that will enable us to produce simple as well as more sophisticated podcasts that will enhance the way in which foreign language students are acquiring language proficiency.

Workshop presented by Jörg Waltje, PhD, Director of the Language Resource Center at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dr. Waltje is an expert in the field of educational technology and presents regularly at e-learning conferences like CALICO, EUROCALL, etc. He has extensive experience in designing instructional websites as well as creating multimedia and interactive programs. He served as associate editor of the IALLT Journal (International Association for Language Learning and Technology) and received the Outstanding Foreign Language Technology award from the Ohio Foreign Language Association in 2008. A splendid time is guaranteed for all!

Membership

By Hannelore Weber

It's that time of year when the leaves change and soon the goblins and witches appear. It's also the time of year to renew your AATG membership! We currently have 126 members in our Indiana chapter. This includes all who are teaching, from the university to secondary, middle and elementary school level, as well as retirees and some other professionals. The total number of active German teachers in the state is a *great deal higher*. Let's substantially increase that membership number and join together to support each other and keep German flourishing in Indiana.

During these tough economic times, it is admittedly difficult to pay for "one more thing." But AATG membership is a bargain! It is through AATG that we get national testing, study abroad programs, advocacy on the national and state level, a wonderful and supportive listserv, workshops, immersions, teaching materials, a jobs listserv and so many more benefits. Visit the national AATG website (<http://www.aatg.org/>) and the Indiana AATG website (<http://www.bsu.edu/xtranet/IFLTA/german/index.html>) to find out more about all of the programs and advantages.

It is also important to note, that a percentage of every paid membership comes back to our Indiana Chapter in order to help us offer programs and services in Indiana.

Please take a few moments to renew your membership and encourage your friends and colleagues who are German teachers to do the same. It's easy to do online at the AATG store (<https://store.aatg.org/index.php>) or you can print out and send in the form available at (<http://www.aatg.org/forms>) or use the one that has been sent to you in the mail.

Podcasts, iPods, iTunes....How to Make Sense of It.

Our Indiana AATG 3 hour workshop at IFLTA in November will delve into Podcasting!! Until then, Julie Baird from Wawasee High School was willing to share some hints and insights that she has.....
Vielen Dank, Julie!

On iTunes there are some good podcasts to listen to that will help with language learning. Some are good for teachers to listen to current German and find out what is happening in Germany. They are:

Alte Sagen - sagenhafte Orte (a different legend or saga every 2 weeks or so)

ARD Radio Tatort - ein Krimi, perhaps more for teachers than for students

der Hofbräuhaus Podcast - if you do any Oktoberfest activities or read the book, you can hear authentic Hofbräuhaus sounds and learn a bit about the famous beer hall.

German Poems - the title says it all

Radio D Series - Learning German through the DW

Die Sendung mit der Maus - this videocast doesn't contain the entire show, only the technology or explanation segments, usually about 10 minutes long or less

Slow German - a podcast by Annika Rubens who has a lovely voice and speaks in relatively simple German about life in Germany

Schlaflos in München - also by Annika Rubens but for Germans, or wanna be Germans. She talks about different aspects of Germany. Always informative and delightful.

Wissen macht Ah! - the complete show with Sharry and Ralf.

ZDF - Alisa - Folge deinem Herzen - this is a current soap that's on German TV.

ZDF has several videocasts on the iTunes store. They include: heute-journal, logo Nachrichten, Lanz kocht, das aktuelle Sportstudio, and a few others

ARD appears to have more video and podcasts than ZDF. Their offerings include: Tageschau (in various versions), Wochenspiegel, Lindenstrasse, Marienhof, along with many shows from the various Bundesländer stations (SWR, HR, WDR)

iTunes also has a lot of "Learn German" podcasts, but I personally haven't found any that I liked well enough to share with students. If you type "German" into the search box at the iTunes store, you'll get lots of podcasts about learning German but also about different aspects of German life such as Autobahn reports, German cultural history, German movies.

Youtube is also a great source for information and some of it you can show it in your classroom. I recently discovered that Uwe Kind has a channel called LingoTech. Many of his songs are available there with delightful graphics.

AlexandJim is a Youtube channel that my students really connect with. An American and a German talk about the differences between the two countries and the two cultures. They used to have an iTunes videocast called "Germany vs. America" but that videocast no longer exists. Fortunately most of those videos are available on their Youtube channel. Although most of their content is great for middle and high school students, I still recommend previewing the shows. There are a few that are not classroom appropriate.

rewboss is also a Youtube channel that is run by a German. Some of his videos explains Germany or German customs. Not all of his videos are suitable for the classroom.

There are two fabulous Youtube videos by German teacher Todd Coyour. His channel is simply called "coyour." His videos are German question words and German 2 Way prepositions.