



Dezember 2004

INHALT

Grüß des GSS Chairs	1
Director's Greeting	1
Centre approved	1
Graduate Colloquium	2
Research Group	2
Winnipeg Conference	2
Was ist Deutsch?	2
German Voices	3
Bitzer-Preise	3
WatPal	3
New Website	3
Uwe Kind	4
Paul Tuerr	4
Major Donors	4
Film Course	4



Grußwort von Michael Boehringer, GSS Chair

Liebe Freunde des Waterloo Centre for German Studies,

als ich mich vor drei Jahren darauf vorbereitete, die Abteilungsleitung zu übernehmen, fragte ich meinen Vorgänger, Dr. John, was seine Pläne seien für die Zeit, wenn er von dieser administrativen Aufgabe befreit sei. Mit leuchtenden Augen berichtete er mir von einem Traum eines

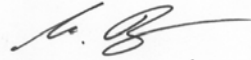


Studienzentrums an der Universität, das es sich zur Aufgabe machen würde, das kulturelle Erbe der deutschsprachigen Kanadier in der Region Waterloo aufzuarbeiten, zu erforschen und so lang Vergessenes wieder zum Leben zu erwecken. Von der modernen deutschen Kultur sprach er, die ein fester Bestandteil der Weltkultur ist, aber in Kanada kaum Resonanz findet, sieht man einmal vom Oktoberfest ab. Von jungen Menschen sprach er, die die deutsche Sprache lernen, ein Austauschjahr in Deutschland verbringen, was ihr Weltbild und ihre Lebenseinstellung auf immer verändert. Zwei kurze Jahre später ist seine Vision Wirklichkeit geworden. Das Waterloo Centre for German Studies ist ein fester Bestandteil der University of Waterloo, die Zusammenarbeit zwischen dem Zentrum und der Abteilung wächst ständig.

Ich wünsche dem neuesten

“Centre“ der Universität viel Erfolg und freue mich auf eine lange und produktive Zusammenarbeit.

Ihr



Dr. Michael Boehringer, Chair

Greetings from the Acting Director

Dear friends of the Centre,

It gives me great pleasure to bring greetings as the Acting Director of the Waterloo Centre for German Studies and to introduce this first issue of our *Newsletter*. You will be amazed at the number of things the Centre has already done despite the fact that it is officially just eight months old. The idea of a Centre goes back several years and

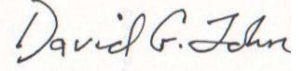


some dedicated people have been working hard to make it a reality. At the outset I wish to express sincere thanks to these key people: the volunteer community members of our steering committee, Manfred Conrad, Ernst Friedel, Wilhelm Huber Sr., Paul Tuerr, and Dr. Marga Weigel; University President David Johnston, Dean of Arts Robert Kerton, Director of Campaign Waterloo Linda Kieswetter, Chair of Germanic and Slavic Studies Michael Boehringer, Professor of German James M. Skidmore, and Arts Development Officer Debra

McGonegal.

The mandate of the Centre is to conduct research, teaching and programming with three points of emphasis: heritage, community, and youth. In the following pages you will read of and see many activities that address one or more of these, and we will continue to address this mandate for many years to come. We have no shortage of wonderful ideas and projects, but to realize them we need more financial support. Please contact me if you are interested in joining us. We welcome every new member of the team. Happy reading!

Sincerely,



David G. John
Professor of German and Acting Director

Senate approves Centre

Formal approval of Centres at the university can only be given by its highest academic body, the Senate. The process involves rigorous scrutiny of a Centre's mandate, research and teaching plans, administrative structure, finances, and relationship with the community. This is conducted by the university's Graduate Research Council chaired jointly by the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Vice-President of Research, which then makes a recommendation to the Senate, chaired by University President David Johnston. At both stages the Centre was approved unanimously and thus in May 2004 officially joined an elite group at the University of Waterloo. Now we can *really* grow!

Graduate Colloquium: Sprachen lernen und lehren

Dr. Barbara Schmenk

Am 2. Dezember 2004 fand im Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies ein Graduate Colloquium „Applied Language Didactics“ statt, in dessen Rahmen Graduate Studenten Vorträge zu neueren und neuesten Ansätzen zur Theorie und Praxis des Sprachenlernens und

Centre Research Advisory Group Formed

Eighteen researchers from five universities, experts in German history, language, and culture, have joined to form the Centre's Research Advisory Group with a mandate to set and conduct the Centre's research program. They include Professors of History Gary Bruce (UW), Ulrich Frisse (Nipissing) Geoffrey Hayes (UW),

Centre Researchers in Winnipeg

Five Waterloo researchers, Ulrich Frisse, Lori Heffner, David John, Grit Liebscher and Mat Schulze represented the Centre at an international conference on German migration organized and hosted by the Chair for German-Canadian Studies at the University of Winnipeg and its director Dr. Alexander Freund. Scholars from France, Germany, the United States and Canada enjoyed stimulating presentations, discussions and lectures on a wide range of topics related to German migration to North America. The Waterloo group gave our region a scholarly presence with contributions on German language retention and loss (Heffner, Liebscher, Schulze), the history of Berlin, Ontario (Frisse), and the Centre's research mandate (John). Under Dr. Freund's leadership the Chair for German-Canadian Studies in Winnipeg is active and flourishing, and Waterloo's Centre for German Studies looks forward to an active partnership in the future.

Macht- oder Wirtschaftszentrum hatte, waren – und sind die ca. 20 Regionaldialekte in unterschiedlicher Weise an der Herausbildung der deutschen Hochsprache beteiligt gewesen.

Zunächst kam es zur Vereinheitlichung der Schriftsprache. Sie beginnt im 14. Jahrhundert in den Amtsstuben mit der Ablösung des Latein als Verwaltungs- und Urkundensprache. In Mittel- und Süddeutschland bildeten sich aus den fränkischen, bairischen und alemannischen Dialekten allmählich regionale Schreibvarianten heraus. Im 16. Jh. lösten sie auf Betreiben der protestantischen Kirche auch in Norddeutschland die dortige - dem Niederländischen verwandte - niederdeutsche Schreibsprache ab. Der weitere Vereinheitlichungsprozess wurde insbesondere durch das Interesse der Buchdrucker an der Ausdehnung ihres Marktes gefördert. Ihnen ist zu verdanken, dass es zu keiner eigenen schweizerdeutschen Schriftsprache kam. Im 18. Jh. ist die Vereinheitlichung der Schriftsprache in Grammatik und Wortschatz weitgehend abgeschlossen. Ihre allgemeine Verbreitung beginnt jedoch erst im 19. Jh. mit der Industrialisierung und dem Ausbau des Schulsystems. Eine für die Verwaltung und die Schulen im preußischen Staat verbindliche Rechtschreibung wurde 1904 eingeführt.

Die Vereinheitlichung der hochdeutschen Aussprache beginnt erst Ende des 19. Jhs. mit dem „Lesen nach der Schrift“ an den Schulen. Sie ist bis heute nicht abgeschlossen. Nur für Schauspieler und Nachrichtensprecher gibt es seit 1924 eine verbindliche Aussprache, die sogenannte „Bühnenhochlautung“. Ein Aussprache-Wörterbuch, das die Standardsprache der gebildeten Sprecher dokumentiert, sucht man heute noch vergeblich.

(Fortsetzung folgt in der nächsten Nummer des Nachrichtenblattes)



Studenten präsentieren ihre Forschungsberichte

-lehrens hielten. So wurde etwa die Rolle von Musik im Unterricht diskutiert, und es wurden Zusammenhänge zwischen Sprachenlernen und kulturellen Begegnungen aufgezeigt. Auch wurden aktuelle Forschungsfragen zur interkulturellen Kommunikation aufgegriffen, kurz: Es ging um zahlreiche neue Trends in Forschung und Lehre.

Insgesamt war der Tag für alle Beteiligten sehr aufschlussreich und interessant: Die Graduate Studenten erhielten Gelegenheit zum Austausch nicht nur miteinander, sondern auch mit KollegInnen aus der Universität und dem Goethe-Institut Toronto. Und die Besucher des Colloquiums wurden davon überzeugt, dass der akademische Nachwuchs an der University of Waterloo den Wunsch hat, die Welt des Sprachenlernens und -lehrens so zu gestalten, dass Langlewe, Drill und Pauken bald endgültig der Vergangenheit angehören werden. Sprachenlernen kann also doch ganz anders sein!

Karen MacHardy (UW), and Kenneth McLaughlin (UW/St. Jerome's University); Professors of German Michael Boehringer (UW), Archana Hinduja (WLU), David G. John (UW), Grit Liebscher (UW), Ute Lischke (WLU), Paul M. Malone (UW), Gabriele Mueller (McMaster), Mat Schulze (UW), and James M. Skidmore (UW); Professor of Native Studies David T. McNab (York); and librarians Susan Bellingham, Helena Calogieridis, and Jane Forgay.

The group met in June and October to discuss and develop the Centre's research plans. Among others, high on the list are some of the projects you can read about in this issue, as well as new publication series on German language, culture and heritage and a future international conference. Each issue of this Newsletter will report on our progress.

Was ist Deutsch?

*Professor Karl-Heinz Bausch,
Institut für deutsche Sprache,
Mannheim*

(Ein Auszug aus seinem Gastvortrag an der Universität Waterloo, November 2004) Der deutschsprachige Raum umfasst die vier Staaten Österreich, die Deutsch-Schweiz, Luxemburg und die Bundesrepublik Deutschland. Darüber hinaus reicht



Prof. Bauschs Gastvortrag

er nach Italien (Südtirol) und nach Frankreich (Elsaß). Da er in seiner langen Geschichte kein zentrales

New Website for Researchers

University librarians Susan Belingham (Head, Special Collections), Helena Calogeridis (Germanic and Slavic), and Jane Forgay (History) have designed and implemented a new website of research links for university researchers and the general public internationally. Here you can find information on the German heritage materials in our growing archival collection, including the *Berliner Journal*, the *Concordia Club Fonds*, and many others. Give it a click and see:

<http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/WCGS/>

German Voices in Kitchener-Waterloo

Drs. Grit Liebscher and Mathias Schulze, University of Waterloo
Because of its strong German-Canadian heritage, Kitchener-Waterloo is an area which has much to offer for sociolinguistic research, which is one of the reasons why we will be conducting such a study over the next few years. Sociolinguists believe that people's language usage reflects their belonging to groups, and that speakers show their ties to various social and cultural groups through the language they use. The kind of language speakers use also reflects their experiences, in particular where and how they live. We are particularly interested in why and how speakers of German in Kitchener-Waterloo use language in certain ways. Further, we are interested in the factors that have contributed to the maintenance and/or the loss of the German language; for example, through the support of institutions such as the Saturday school and various German clubs and associations. From a larger perspective, we want to study how German-speaking minorities in anglophone Canada view themselves and how they participate in Canadian society.

W.L.Bitzer Preisverleihung

Im Oktober fand wieder die alljährliche Preisverleihung an SchülerInnen und Studierende der Gymnasien, der Samstagsschule Concordia sowie der beiden Universitäten (Wilfrid Laurier, Waterloo) wieder statt. Diesmal wurden über \$20.000 in Preisen für Höchstleistungen in der deutschen Sprache und in Wirtschaftsdeutsch verliehen. Etwa 350 Jugendliche, Lehrende und Gäste feierten den Erfolg, organisiert und gesponsert von der Kitchener-Waterloo Business and Professional Association, vielen Vertretern der Wirtschaft und der Industrie der Region, den Konsulaten der BRD, von Österreich und der Schweiz, der Firma Siemens, und den beiden Universitäten. Das Waterloo Centre for German Studies freute sich, dieses Jahr wieder als Gastgeber zu dienen.



Bitzer-Preisverleihung



Of interest are, therefore, issues of language policy as well as the linguistic phenomena themselves, and looking at language behaviour such as code-switching (the use of two languages at the same time, in this case German and English). Since German speakers are just one of several linguistic minorities in Canada and elsewhere, it will be interesting to compare the findings

about the German-speaking minority to those of these other minorities. As part of our project we envision a comprehensive collection of audio-taped interviews, conversations and similar materials which would become part of a German-Canadian archive. This archive could potentially find a lot of interest in the

community and generate new knowledge about German-speaking Canadians. Similar collections in UW's Dana Porter Library have resulted in M.A. theses on the language of advertising in the *Berliner Journal*, German-English code-switching and the maintenance and loss of German over several generations. The proposed study sees itself in the tradition of a kind of sociolinguistic work which for some time has been part of our research at Waterloo.

WatPAL: Using Technology to teach German

Dr. Mathias Schulze

WatPAL is the name of the newest research and development project in the Department, a project which was funded with \$60,000 over three years through the Learning Initiative Fund of the University. For the last year, we have been developing new resources and methods for online learning with tablet PCs. A tablet PC is a small computer that can be operated with a pen, sometimes in addition to a keyboard, and has handwriting recognition ability. In the Winter semester, 20 students of German who are registered for a "Written Communication and Grammar" course will be loaned such a tablet PC for the duration of the semester and will use it for their work with the German language.

We will analyse learning outcomes (e.g. the German texts students wrote), record learning processes (track their actions on the computer and video them in class), and ask them about their perceptions of these new learning methods and the use of new technology. Our master's and doctoral students as well as German exchange students from Mannheim and Bamberg work alongside the four professors who are actively involved in the project. The students participate in the development of new learning resources, the gathering of data and the evaluation of the learning design and the new hardware.

Uwe Kind zu Besuch

Der international bekannte Sprachanimator Uwe Kind unterhielt und animierte über 1000 Jugendliche aus den Gymnasien der Region und der Sprachschule Concordia während eines zweektägigen Besuchs in Kitchener-Waterloo. Zuerst am Cameron Heights Collegiate Institute, dann in der Sprachschule Concordia feuerte er die Jugendlichen durch Lieder, Tanz und Musik an, Deutsch zu lernen und dies fortzusetzen. Organisiert vom Sprachlehrer Ronald Rhodes (Sir John A. Macdonald), brachten 28 Deutschlehrende ihre SchülerInnen zu den Veranstaltungen und nahmen an einem gemeinsamen Mittagessen und Workshop mit Herrn Kind im Concordia Club teil. Das Centre freute sich, dieses großartige Sprachfest mitzuspensern.



Lehrende beim gemeinsamen Essen im Concordia Club



The Paul Tuerr Family

Paul Tuerr honoured as Centre's first Founder

In September, longtime Kitchener resident and businessman Paul Tuerr was celebrated at a gala dinner for his lead donation of \$500,000 to the Waterloo Centre for German Studies. He thus became the Centre's first "Founder". In his honour, sixty friends, admirers, dignitaries and family members enjoyed a gala reception and gourmet dinner, followed by an audio-visual depiction of Paul's life and his many contributions to our region since the fifties. There followed laudatory letters from Prime Minister Paul Martin and speeches by University President David Johnston, Dean of Arts Robert Kerton and Acting Centre Director David John. The University and community are immensely grateful to Paul Tuerr for his generosity and leadership in helping us found our new Centre. See pictures this page and on the Centre website.

German Film Course Welcomed Community Visitors

Through postings at the local German clubs, visitors from the community were invited to attend Dr. James M. Skidmore's undergraduate evening course on German Directors in Hollywood in the Fall Semester. Films, in English and German, included the favourites F.W. Murnau's *Der letzte Mann/The Last Laugh* and Wolfgang Petersen's *Das Boot*. Some not-so-well-known films, such as Fritz Lang's *Hangmen also Die* (a collaboration with Bertolt Brecht) and Douglas Sirk's *All that Heaven Allows* (a classic with Rock Hudson and Jane Wyman) also attracted great interest. Some fifty visitors took advantage of the opportunity to view the films and in some cases listen to Dr. Skidmore's lectures and class discussions. A German film series with expert commentary could become a standard community offering if interest and support continue.

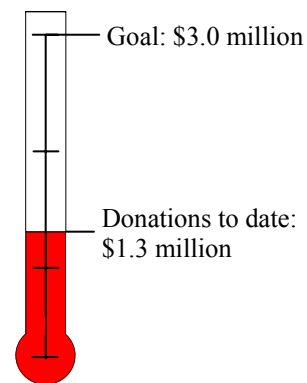
Centre honours Major Donors

In November the Centre hosted a special reception to honour four recent major donor families: Eddie and Ursula Koch, Fred and Ruth Stork, Henry and Margaret Heidt, and Ernst and Ruth Friedel. Family members, along with university and community friends, enjoyed refreshments appropriate for the festive occasion and heard speeches of recognition and thanks by University President David Johnston, Dean of Arts Robert Kerton and Acting Centre Director David John. All expressed the university's deep gratitude for the generosity of these major sponsors and for their commitment to the Centre and its mandate. See pictures this page and on the Centre website.



Ernst and Ruth Friedel with President Johnston

The Centre needs your support!



Waterloo Centre for German Studies Nachrichten / Newsletter 1 Dec. 2004

Editor: David G. John

Layout & Editing:
Tetyana Drashkaba
Peter Wood

Photographs: Chris Hughes,
David G. John

Copyright: WCGS (2004)

Comments welcome!

Germanic & Slavic Studies
University of Waterloo
200 University Ave. West,
Waterloo, ON, Canada N2L 3G1

Phone: (519) 888 4567,
ext: 3684
Fax: (519) 746 5243

E-mail: djohn@uwaterloo.ca

<http://germanicandslavic.uwaterloo.ca/centres/index.html>

Hard copies of the *Nachrichten* are mailed to all Centre supporters. Other interested parties may receive an electronic copy if they send us their e-mail address.