

MODERN GERMANY UPDATE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TRANSATLANTIC OUTREACH PROGRAM
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Federal Republic of Germany
Foreign Office



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Robert Bosch Stiftung

“Going to Germany with TOP changed my school forever!”

Different jobs apply “pressure” in vastly different ways. For me, working under pressure is sometimes experienced during that five-minute window between workshops at a Social Studies conference when some forty teachers line up at the booth wanting complimentary materials. They are often excited, having just attended one of our workshops on Germany, but also eager to maximize their hard-earned time and get to that next workshop.



A TOP study tour group meets with Dieter Berg and Anne-Kathrin Fix at the Robert Bosch Stiftung near Stuttgart. Photo courtesy of R. Thiele, August 2007.

The date was February 23, 2006, and the location was the North Carolina Council for the Social Studies conference. I was moving as fast as I could to roll maps and distribute them, along with additional materials, to teachers waiting patiently in what seemed to be an endless line. I honestly had underestimated the number of attendees in the previous workshop and had prepared too few sets of maps, so the map-rolling-process was the bottleneck of the morning. I was short of breath yet trying to maintain as professional an outward appearance as possible when suddenly one teacher ducked behind the booth, grabbed some maps, and began rolling.

“Just thought I would lend a hand,” she said.

And that is how I came to meet Leah Perry-Lawless, just one of a thousand or so Social Studies educators attending the conference and one of the educators interested enough in Germany to attend one of our workshops.

Leah took our teaching materials home, used them in her classroom, and ended up applying for one of our study tours to Germany. While the study tour alone was fantastic, what Leah accomplished afterwards was even more impressive. I often wonder myself if Leah ever thought she would impact so many lives some 15 months after sitting in a 50-minute workshop one early morning in Greensboro, North Carolina.

I asked Leah to write a short article about her experience in Germany and the events that followed...

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Celebrating 400 Years of Germans in America!

The first German immigrants bound for the New World landed at the Jamestown colony in October 1608. They did not know it then, but these pioneers would become the forerunners of the largest single nationality to immigrate to the United States.

These first German settlers boarded the English vessel *Mary and Margaret* in July 1608 and arrived in Virginia after completing the three-month-long voyage. The famed English "Pilgrims" would not navigate the same crossing aboard the *Mayflower* until some twelve years later. The Germans brought skills necessary for the infant colony, many of them glassmakers, carpenters, and home builders.

German immigration to the Colonies would continue to grow steadily throughout the 18th Century. They migrated for many reasons such as worsening economic opportunities in Europe and religious persecution. The ability to own their own land was of great incentive to European farmers. Pennsylvania and upstate New York were common destinations for many. Germans constituted some nine percent of the population of the United States when the first Census was conducted in 1790.

German-Americans were the largest group of immigrants during the 19th century. Many of the six million immigrants were professionals, journalists and politicians. Despite many having fled conflict in Europe, thousands of German-Americans volunteered to fight for the Union in the American Civil War. By 1900, the cities of Cleveland, Milwaukee, Hoboken and Cincinnati were all heavily German.

During World War I, German-Americans, especially those born abroad, were sometimes accused of being too sympathetic to Germany and the Triple Alliance. Some vocal opponents of the war were imprisoned. The Red Cross even barred individuals with German last names from joining in fear of sabotage. It was during this time that many chose to "Americanize" their names. For example, Schmidt to Smith, Müller to Miller, Eisenhower to Eisenhower. Similarly, foods with German names such as sauerkraut and bratwurst were renamed "liberty cabbage" and "liberty sausage".

During the escalation to World War II between 1931 and 1940, over 100,000 Germans fled to the United States fearing Nazi oppression. Among them were notable Jews like Albert Einstein and Henry Kissinger. President Franklin D. Roosevelt kept his promise to German-Americans that they would not receive the same resentment as they did during World War I. To this end, Roosevelt made a deliberate effort to name prominent German-Americans to top war jobs, including General Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Admiral Chester Nimitz. Many who had fluent German language skills were also an important asset to wartime intelligence.

After World War II, Germany's rocket scientists like Wernher von Braun were brought to the U.S. These engineers contributed decisively to the development of rockets for the military, such as the Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile for the worldwide deployment of nuclear warheads, as well as for NASA, designing the Saturn V booster responsible for sending Americans to the moon and ending the Space Race with the Soviet Union.

The list of prominent German-American names would continue to grow throughout the 20th century. Joining notable cultural icons like Heinrich Engelhard Steinweg (Steinway & Sons Piano), Eberhard Anheuser and Adolphus Busch (Anheuser Busch), Levi Strauss (Levi Jeans), Henry Heinz, and Marlene Dietrich would

be Clark Gable, Leonardo DiCaprio, Bruce Willis, and Sandra Bullock.

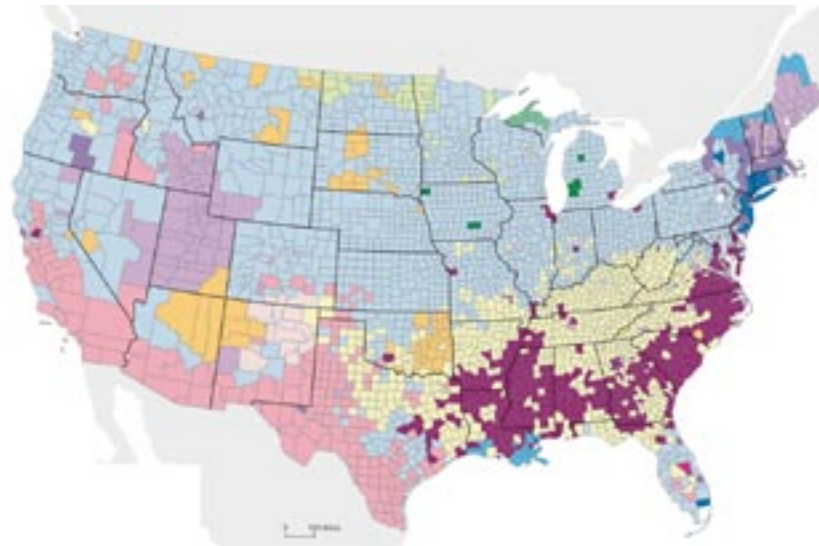
According to the 2000 Census, some 42.8 million Americans, or about 15% of the population, considered themselves to be of German ancestry, forming the single largest ancestry group in the United States (see the light-blue shaded counties on the multi-colored map).

Throughout next year, the German Embassy in Washington, D.C., along with its partner organizations such as the German Information

Center and the Goethe-Institut, will celebrate four hundred years of German heritage in America. Those interested in learning more about the many profound contributions that Americans of German descent have made to American society, culture, and science are invited to visit the web site dedicated to the celebration:

www.germanoriginality.com.

In addition, the *Germans in America* series will broadcast throughout the United States on public television in Spring 2008. This four-part TV series recounts the story of German immigrants to the United States, using gripping stories about naive settlers and successful farmers, about devout free-thinkers and political refugees, about the heyday of the German-language press in America, and about the founders of industrial dynasties in the new homeland. For more information, visit **www.germansinamerica.org**.



The counties in which the majority of the population declared German as their primary ancestry are colored in light-blue. Source: 2000 US Census.

LINKS OF INTEREST:

German Originality Web Site: www.germanoriginality.com

Germans in America TV Series: www.germansinamerica.org

German Emigration Center Bremerhaven:
www.dah-bremerhaven.de

German Information Center: www.germany.info

Goethe-Institut USA: www.goethe.de/usa

IN MEMORY OF SUSAN STERN

Those of you who met Susan during one of our study tours will remember her



Susan joins a study tour group for dinner in Frankfurt, August 2006.

as we do: an extremely energetic, insightful woman and fellow educator/expert in German-American relations. A highlight of the tours, Sue's lectures were always seemingly too short, our hunger for her information never quite satiated. Such was the breadth of her knowledge and her skill in its delivery.

Beyond her contributions to the yearly study tours, Sue played an even more vital role in the development of the Transatlantic Outreach Program. She served as the "bridge" between friend and former Program director, Dr. Michael Nentwich, and Deutsche Bank. Minus her efforts, TOP would likely not be the successful public/private partnership that it has become. And it is for Sue's efforts that Dr. Nentwich often referred to her as the "mother of TOP".

Susan Stern was a British-born, American-educated, long-time resident of Germany where she was a tenured lecturer at the University of Frankfurt since 1971.

As a writer, journalist, and author of *These Strange German Ways and the Whys of the Ways*, her field was contemporary Germany, focusing on the relations between Germany and the United States in such areas as cross-cultural communication, the effects of globalization on German business culture and comparative management practices.

A Jew herself, she published and lectured extensively on the life and concerns of Jews in Germany today, and the relationship of the Jewish community with the outside world.

She lectured frequently at universities and other institutions in the U.S. and elsewhere: Harvard, Princeton, Georgetown, Brandeis, Wellesley, Tufts, the University of Massachusetts Boston, Duke, the Universities of California at Berkeley and San Diego, the University of Vancouver, the University of Birmingham (U.K.), the Chinese University of Hong Kong; the Warburg chapters of the American Council on Germany, World Affairs Councils, and many more.

Susan Stern died on October 4, 2007 in Frankfurt from complications with cancer. She is survived by her only daughter.

Recent Workshop Leaders Summer - Fall 2007

Michael Baron	Flagstaff, AZ	Rebecca Haskel	Hilton, NY
Daneille Erb	Glendale, AZ	Diane Hodson	Brooklyn, NY
Curtis Gentry	Glendale, AZ	Lori Megivern	Cortland, NY
Katie Hall	Yuma, AZ	Larry Paska	Albany, NY
Susan Jeffries	Bryant, AZ	Rebecca Pietropaoli	Hilton, NY
James Kinney	Yuma, AZ	Allison Weller	Copiague, NY
Elizabeth Lantka	Phoenix, AZ	S. Linda Cotter	Columbus, OH
Rustell Markham	Phoenix, AZ	Vicki Knauff	Worthington, OH
Leslie Radler	Paradise, CA	Nancy NgDung	Columbus, OH
Karen Green	Carbondale, CO	Linda Petz	Canton, OH
Sue Ayers	Orlando, FL	Cathy Adams	Sapulpa, OK
Jessy Hamilton	Orlando, FL	Toni Lampkin	Pendleton, OR
Mary McCullagh	Miami, FL	Sigrid Olsen	Salem, OR
Amy Mezni	Titusville, FL	June Satak	Corvallis, OR
Anne Roycroft	Pensacola, FL	Amy Bartholomew	Columbia, SC
Nicholas Oster	Mableton, GA	Hale Edwards	Greer, SC
Mike Raymer	Fayetteville, GA	Vicki Gadecki	Lexington, SC
Jerry Snider	Thomson, GA	Betty Hopkins	Columbia, SC
Lance Boyd	Honolulu, HI	Reggie Terry	Ware Shoals, SC
Eric Schulz	Anamosa, IA	Dorothy Davis	Ashland City, TN
Kay Weller	Cedar Falls, IA	Susan Gratz	Harrogate, TN
Christopher Bryant	Lake Forest, IL	Jaci Stewart	Franklin, TN
Catherine McVey	Chicago, IL	Lorelei Clark	Missouri City, TX
Stacy Kerrigan	Indianapolis, IN	Judith Guenther	Houston, TX
Ben Silver	Mooresville, IN	Jennifer Langam	Houston, TX
Kay Gandy	Bowling Green, KY	Stephen McCullough	Seguin, TX
Fred Hebert	Thibodaux, LA	Deborah Pellikan	El Paso, TX
William Fitzhugh	Reisterstown, MD	Anne Presley	McKinney, TX
Seth Roberts	Frederick, MD	Joseph Brannan	Falls Church, VA
Rebecca Berger	Farmington, ME	Barbara Haynes	Harrisonburg, VA
Renee Davis	Turner, ME	Janet Martin	Fairfax, VA
Leigh Hallett	Pittsfield, ME	Lynne Stover	Harrisonburg, VA
Mary Melcher	Farmington, ME	Lynn Wilczewski	Richmond, VA
Brenda Pellatier	Lewiston, ME	Gladys Fox	Tukwila, WA
Jill Brandeberry	Adrian, MI	Sue Gogue	Baraboo, WI
Thomas Smith	Auburn Hills, MI	Kyle Gorden	Elkhorn, WI
Scott Noet	Owatonna, MN	Frank Lammers	Milwaukee, WI
Regina George-Bowden	Durham, NC	Peter Michaud	New Berlin, WI
Pauline Machayo	Charlotte, NC	Susan Nigohosian	Racine, WI
Melissa Matusevich	Greenville, NC	R.E. Schallert	Winneconne, WI
Ann Ackerman	Nashua, NH	Tom Sorosiak	Madison, WI
Barbara Mee	Londonderry, NH	Deborah Gallaher	Shady Spring, WV
Alyce Hunter	Chester, NJ	Catherine Hartley	Casper, WY
Turk MacDonald	Fall River, NS		
Gary Renouf	Brookfield, NS		
Teri Funsch	Fallon, NV		
Stephanie Konieczka	Carson City, NV		
Marc Lederer	Las Vegas, NV		
Omer Alptekin	LaGrangeville, NY		
Thomas Bittner	North Collins, NY		
Keith Chu	New York, NY		
Thomas D'Ambrosio	Levittown, NY		
Khieta Davis	Rochester, NY		
Christina Donohue	Farmingdale, NY		
Daniel Dunne	Rochester, NY		
David Goldberg	Merrick, NY		



Lynette Swiger of Fairmont, WV encourages a student at the Wieseschule elementary school near Soest, Germany.

News from "TOP" Fellows

RECENT ACTIVITIES OF PAST PARTICIPANTS OF THE STUDY/TRAVEL SEMINARS TO GERMANY

Ann Ackerman, 2006, NH, was appointed to the NH State Social Studies Frameworks Implementation Committee. She recently testified before the joint NH Senate-General Court on the NHCSS's position on Education Adequacy. Dr. Ackerman has presented several workshops on Teaching Modern Germany at Southern NH University and Rivier College.

Kay Bale, 2005, IN, traveled with fifteen participants from throughout the United States to Russia this summer for a month with the University of Illinois' Russian, East European, Eurasian Center.

Jennifer Beaver, 2002, SC, became a National Board certified teacher in Early Adolescent Social Studies this past December. She is currently working on her Master's Degree in Secondary Social Studies at Charleston Southern University.

Bart Becker, 2005, MN, is keeping busy with his wife and 2-year-old son, Eli. He is currently trying to find a way to start graduate school with the goal of earning his PhD. He was also accepted as an alternate for this year's Korean Studies Summer Fellowship through the Korea Society.

Lorelei Clark, 2006, TX, gave a presentation at the Texas Council for the Social Studies Conference on German Nationalism and the World Cup. She also created a Germany Traveling Trunk that she loans out to teachers in the area.

Sharon Coleman, 2002, GA, retired from Okefenokee RESA in April, 2006, and is now working part time at RESA doing gifted endorsement and social studies teaching/consulting. She was the fall 2006 recipient of the Berryman Award from the GA Council for the Social Studies for outstanding service to the organization.

Adalia Davis, 2002, TX, received a new position as an Instructional Technology Facilitator and was selected to be the Texas representative at the EarthCaching Train-the-Trainer Workshop in June 2007. She also completed a two week trip to Egypt.

Lisa DosSantos, 2003, FL, was awarded a trip to South Korea to study South Korean relations with North Korea. Lisa was also given the opportunity to study in Lithuania in November last year.

Monica Duval, 2006, CT, retired on June 30, 2007.

Judy Epstein, 2002, NV, earned her National Board Certification for Teaching. She was also selected to go to China on the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia from the University of Colorado.

Kim Este, 2005, MS, was elected as Vice-President of the Mississippi Council for the Social Studies and received the Lucille Cornet Award for Professional Development from Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Kim was also a participant in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program to Japan in July of 2006.

William Fitzhugh, 2004, MD, spent all of July this year in Israel and Jordan.

Kay Geiger, 2005, TX presented in July at the Southwest Regional Convention of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Diane Godfrey, 2006, AZ, was selected for the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund program for October of 2007. She presented her TOP lessons at the AZ Council for the Social Studies Conference and GeoFest at the end of 2006 with fellow TOP participant Carol Barnes. She received a "Great Moments in Social Studies" teaching award presented by the AZ Council for the Social Studies and co-presented a workshop at NCSS in December of 2006.

Whitt Jones, 2005, GA, married Jamie Vining on March 31st, 2007, in Tyrone, GA.

Barbara Hairfield, 2001/05, SC, currently serves as a Social Studies Teacher Specialist to coach teachers in underperforming schools. She was recently accepted into ASPIRE, a collaborative effort between The Citadel and Charleston County School District, and is working on a degree in Educational Leadership. Barbara serves on the Board of Directors for NCSS.

Marie Harris, 2005, OK, will be going to the UK to research how oral history is collected and used in intergenerational programs in classrooms there. Her focus will be on the WWII generation and how the personal passing on of stories of this era impacts students' sense of civics.

Joseph Iannacone, 2005, TX, travelled to Hong Kong and southern China in June 2006. He was accepted back at his graduate alma mater, Teachers College-Columbia University for an EdD in educational administration. He received a National Park Service fellowship at Valley Forge, and was a founding member of the new Dallas chapter of AIPAC. He has recently relocated to New York.

Lorraine Jenkins, 2005, FL, has fully recovered after a lingering illness and retired to enjoy traveling with family and teaching ESOL class to adults.

Merit Justice, 2005, SC, completed her first year as coordinator of the state Geographic Bee and travelled to Eastern Europe this summer.

Virginia Ann Kennedy, 2006, OK, travelled to Kiev in December with a group of teachers from her state, sponsored by the National Council for Economic Education, and learned about how the nation is making the transition from command economy to capitalism. In February she presented a workshop for the Oklahoma Department of Education on using international travel opportunities in the classroom. This summer she travelled to South Korea with the Korean Studies Program.

Robert Kerr, 2005, NE, was asked to lead this year's junior and senior German language student trip to Germany due to his own experience with TOP.

Laura Lay, 2006, VA, led an interdisciplinary workshop at her high school entitled, "Modern Germany: Challenges and Opportunities," focusing on diversity in the German population. She also was

selected as "Teacher of the Year" for the Richmond Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Manuel Lopez, 2004, CA, was chosen as Teacher of the Month in April this year for the Salinas Valley.

Mary T. McCullagh, 2006, FL, presented with Jennifer Jolley at the Florida Council for the Social Studies. She was appointed to the Florida State Task Force on Holocaust Education and presented a session at the AP National Conference this summer.

Suzie Moss, 2004, IN, was recently selected as a James Madison Senior Fellow and spent the summer at Georgetown University.

Kim O'Neil, 2003, NY, as president-elect of NYSCSS, chaired the 2007 convention, *Social Studies: The Global Tapestry*. The keynote speaker was Dr. Joachim Ott from the European Commission in Brussels. She was also recently elected to the NCSS Board of Directors as the elementary representative.

Laurel Panser, 2005, MN, gave presentations in February to two groups of students studying World Cultural Regions in the Department of Geography at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse as well as a presentation at the "What's Up in Sustainable Agriculture?" seminar series at the University of Minnesota-St. Paul.

Larry Paska, 2006, NY, presented TOP workshops at the Central NY Council for the Social Studies in October 2006 as well as the NY Council for the Social Studies in early 2007.

Nicole Pauly, 2004, NY, is currently the department chairperson for history at Kenmore Middle School and recently presented a virtual tour of the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site at the NY State Social Studies Conference.

Leah Perry-Lawless, 2006, NC, and her school Exploris hosted fourteen German students for three weeks and they are planning on going to GeFrees, Germany before the end of the year.

Tom Riel, 2006, WA, conducted a session at the WA State Council for the Social Studies retreat in Chelan in March. He and his wife Ana were blessed with their third son on January 3rd.

Keith Samuelson, 2006, Canada, published an article about the TOP Program entitled "Welcome to the Land of Ideas" in "The Bulletin". His article will be published internationally. Keith was a finalist for the Governor General's Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Canadian History. In December, Keith was a member of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO's Delegation to the 9th Annual Student Conference on Human Rights at United Nations Headquarters in New York. He was also a Provincial Team Leader for the "Tools for Tolerance" Program at the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, sponsored by the Canadian Friends of Simon Wiesenthal this year in February, followed by being a delegate to the Canadian Commission for UNESCO's Annual General Meeting and Conference in Ottawa.

Congratulations Henry & Linda!

In May, Keith visited the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and monuments to freedom and democracy in Washington, DC for the travel component of the Asper Foundation's Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program with 30 students and four teachers. He attended Columbia University's International Institute on Peace Education's 25th Anniversary at the UN in New York this summer.

Jamie Staub, 2005, LA, was named the "Outstanding Teacher of American History" by the Louisiana Society Daughters of the American Revolution. In April her students competed in the National Finals of the "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" competition.

Timothy Sweeney, 2006, SC, presented on the European Union at the SC Council for the Social Studies Conference in Greenville in September 2006.

Margaret Telford, 2006, TX, wrote an article for a College Board workshop publication for AP European History, in addition to being a reader/table leader for AP European History. She was named Distinguished Teacher by 20 graduating seniors at Grapevine High School.

Kay Weller, 2004, IA, was awarded a Fulbright-Hayes Group Project Abroad to Bangladesh for the summer of 2007. The group consisted of university faculty and K-12 teachers who will generate geography curriculum focusing on natural hazards and health related issues in Bangladesh.

Glenn Wiebe, 2006, KS, presented current research and strategies regarding the use of video games in Social Studies classrooms at the National School Board Association T&L Conference in Dallas during November of 2006, as well as the Rocky Mountain Regional Conference for the Social Studies in Albuquerque in April of this year.



Social Studies educators take a tour of the reconstruction site atop of the Wiesenkirche steeple in Soest, Germany.

Henry Rehn of Sterling Heights, MI received the second-annual TOP Fellow of the Year award at the 2006 National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) conference in Washington, DC. Nearly 200 guests joined Ricarda Redeker of the German Embassy and Michael Hickey of the Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation to present the award to Henry at the Goethe-Institut.

As the second of three sons from a German immigrant mother and an American father of German immigrants, stories of life in Germany and an emphasis on German culture were always present in Henry's household.

Henry's interest in studying and teaching about Germany developed when he was a teenager. In 1978, he went to Germany for the first time with his family to sightsee and visit relatives. He always thought of Germany as being a home away from home. From that point on, he kept a keen interest in all things German, be it *Fussball* (soccer), *Geschichte* (history), or even popular culture.

After graduating from high school, Henry attended Michigan State University, (MSU) where he majored in History and received his first bachelor's degree in 1988. Not long after, Henry furthered his education by getting a second bachelor's degree in English in 1990, and a master's degree in history in 1998. Henry is currently in his 16th year of teaching Advanced Placement European History and U.S. History at Eisenhower High School in Shelby Township, MI. He also teaches at the nearby Macomb Community College.

Additional career highlights include being selected as the Social Studies Department Chairman at his school, and recognized many times for being "Coach of the Year" in soccer. Henry is also quite proud that his lesson plan on "What East German Women Lost through Unification" is featured on the TOP website.

Presently, Henry is working on ways to integrate the teaching of Germany into his U.S. History classes. For example, some of his new lessons detail the Weimar Republic's effect on U.S. foreign policy during the 1920s, the U.S. role during the Berlin Airlift, the construction of the Berlin Wall, and life in Germany from 1945 to 1962.

When Henry first heard of the Transatlantic Outreach Program, he notes it was an opportunity too good to pass up. Putting on workshops for fellow educators was a natural fit for him, and therefore Henry became a prolific workshop leader for TOP. He applied for and was accepted to travel to Germany in the summer of 2004. While in Germany, he studied alongside educators at a state teaching academy in Donaueschingen, visited a high school located on Lake Constance, operated an organ grinder at the Coo-Coo-Clock museum in Triberg, and traveled to cities and towns like Frankfurt, Berlin, Dresden, Weimar, and Apolda.



From left to right: Michael Hickey of the Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation, Cara Rehn, Henry Rehn, Stefan Brunner, Director of TOP, and Ricarda Redeker, Head of the Cultural Affairs Department at the Germany Embassy.

The Transatlantic Outreach Program would like to extend its warmest thanks to Henry for all his outstanding contributions and hard work to strengthen German-American relations in the classroom and beyond.

This year, the TOP Fellow of the Year award will be presented to Linda Cotter at the NCSS conference in San Diego, CA. Linda is a fourth grade teacher at the Saint Mary School in Columbus, OH. Please join the Transatlantic Outreach Program for the award reception at 6:00 PM on Friday, November 30 at the Hilton San Diego Gaslamp Quarter hotel located across the street from the convention center in the Marina A/B conference rooms. Free food and drink will be provided.

"Going to Germany with TOP..." (continued from cover)

Going to Germany with the Transatlantic Outreach Program changed my school forever!

While I was on my flight to Germany, I realized I was about to embark on an opportunity that few of my students would be able to have. Would my students ever have the chance to realize that we Americans are similar to everyone else in the world and that our basic needs and wants of health and happiness as Americans somehow cannot be superlative to those living in other nations? Such a realization is a very powerful concept and absolutely necessary in a world where international cooperation and cross-cultural understanding are essential. The idea of creating global thinkers was emphasized throughout the two-week-long trip to Germany, especially during presentations at the Federal Foreign Office, the Robert Bosch

pairing a German school with our school, even though we are only a small middle school. Her optimism gave me hope about building future transatlantic bridges for our students.

Upon returning to the States, I presented the idea to my principal, who seemed very interested in the idea of broadening our students' views of the world. I immediately contacted the GAPP office in New York. They sent me an informational package, which I shared with my principal, and we began the process immediately. He and I were excited about the possibilities and were eager to present our newfound information to the staff.

The rest of the teachers embraced the concept whole-heartedly. There were a few kinks we had to work out, such as the holiday schedules in Germany, of which we were all extremely envious. In the end, all hurdles were jumped, and we finally were able to commit to a wonderful school in Gefrees near Bayreuth, called the Jacob Ellrod Schule.

The Jacob Ellrod Schule wanted to send a total of 14 students and teacher-chaperones to Raleigh, NC. Being a small middle school, we were unsure if we would be able to get enough families willing to host the German students for three weeks, but to our surprise, we had an abundance of families willing to open their homes up to our

visiting students. After families were chosen, emails began to be sent and relationships began to build.

When the students from the Jacob Ellrod Schule finally arrived at the airport, we were all waiting with banners and flowers. Everyone was excited. Exploris Middle School students welcomed the German students the following Monday morning with an abundant program. The German students were introduced, and the three weeks began.

The exchange was scheduled such that the German students would have one week with their host families, attending Exploris Middle School, and then one week of spring break vacation. Some of the visiting students went to the beach, others to Washington, D.C. and New York City; one girl even went

to Disney World. Each student had his or her own unique experiences during that week. During the third and final week of their stay, they spent time visiting other schools such as a global elementary school where they taught German to the children.

Events were scheduled to permit the German visitors and their American hosts to gather and socialize every few days. These activities included baseball games, hikes,

"This was a life-changing event."

bowling, touring local universities, and so on. We tried to give them a real feeling of America and they helped us see the world through their eyes.

During the final family gathering someone stopped to tell me how this student exchange had positively changed not just their middle school child, but also their entire family. A few minutes later another parent stopped me. And then another. They all echoed the same sentiments.

This was a life-changing event.

Inevitably the last day came. Not a dry eye was to be found in our group at the airport. Everyone was crying. Even fathers got emotional as their German "sons" and "daughters" began to walk to their departure gate.

Soon after their departure, we put plans in motion to visit the Jacob Ellrod Schule. Students began anxiously writing essays and preparing for their interviews, hoping to be chosen to be part of this global experience in the future.

As for me personally, I am reflecting on this wonderful experience and thanking the Transatlantic Outreach Program, its supporters, and the German-American Partnership Program for broadening the minds and views of 180 students and 17 teachers in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Introduction by Wood Powell. Letter by Leah Perry-Lawless, Exploris Middle School, LPerry@exploris.org.



Students from the Jacob Ellrod Schule are greeted by their hosts in North Carolina. Photo courtesy of Charlie Beigel, May 2007.

Stiftung, and Deutsche Bank. How could I help my students really become more global in their everyday thoughts and actions? How could I bring this realization to my students back home?

While I toured Germany and saw amazing sights, I continued to think about ways to make these global connections for my students and fellow teachers. During one of our visits, we met with Annemarie Bechert, a woman at the KMK (KultusMinisterKonferenz) in Bonn who works with the German-American Partnership Program. GAPP specializes in pairing German and American schools and then encourages those schools to begin a dialogue leading to student and teacher exchange. Over time, relationships are made and friendships bloom. I spoke to Ms. Bechert about the possibility of

Visit the German-American Partnership Program Online:
<http://www.goethe.de/gapp>

Social Studies & German Language Teachers Work Together in the “Show Me” State!

In September 2006, the Transatlantic Outreach Program cooperated with Jeanne Schueller of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Madeline Uranek of the Wisconsin Department of Instruction, and Antje Petty of the Max Kade Institute to host a Social Studies and German Language educator cooperative workshop. The first of its kind organized by TOP, the fifty attendees from throughout the state of Wisconsin used the all-day workshop to improve their knowledge of modern Germany as well as learn about study abroad opportunities available to educators of either discipline.

The workshop was so well-received that planning began almost immediately for a second workshop of its kind sometime in 2007. The question as to where to host the workshop was soon answered by Gert Wilhelm, German Language Consultant for the Goethe-Institut Chicago, who suggested that TOP work together with the Center for International Studies at the University of Missouri, St. Louis. Gert invited members of his German Language teacher network in the St. Louis area. Bill Gerling, 2007 TOP Fellow and Social Studies Coordinator for the Missouri Department of Education, also contributed to the event by forwarding an invitation to Social Studies educators throughout the state.

The invitation process evolved slightly from that used a year prior in Milwaukee such that German Language teachers were asked to bring a Social Studies colleague from the same school and vice versa. In the end, some 25 teachers registered for the event to be held at the University of Missouri, St. Louis campus on Saturday, November 3.



German Language teacher, Deborah, and TOP Fellow, Frank Lammers, prepare a short presentation about a TOP textbook, November 2007.

The all-day workshop began bright and early at 9:00 AM. To get everyone’s blood flowing, participants were asked to participate in a brief lesson. A 6-foot by 6-foot grid was outlined on the floor and three participants were asked to stand within the grid. They had plenty of elbow room, no complaints. An additional fifteen participants were then asked to stand in the same grid! Now, with a total of eighteen, the picture was a bit different. All of a sudden space was not too plentiful and it was all too easy to determine who ordered onions on their breakfast burrito!



Social Studies and German Language teachers work together to review TOP textbooks. November 2007.

What was the point of this entire charade? The 6x6 grid represents the combined land area of Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina. Three people in the grid represents the population density of the three states. Eighteen people in the grid represents the population density of Germany in the same amount of land. In the end, a very simple, yet hands-on lesson demonstrating the concept and issues surrounding population density.

After getting to know each other through various “people search” exercises, the discussion turned to current issues in Germany, followed by group projects involving the examination of the TOP textbooks (*see page 10 of this newsletter for more information*). Work continued after a delicious lunch hosted by a local Danish bakery as each group gave a short presentation on its assigned textbook, discussing how various lessons could best be incorporated into Social Studies and German Language curriculum.

In a striking example as to how workshop attendees can go “full circle” with the Transatlantic Outreach Program, 2006 Milwaukee workshop participant, Frank Lammers, gave a presentation about his experiences while in Germany this past summer. By using a PowerPoint slideshow featuring some sixty photos, Frank discussed how the study tour impacted him on both personal and professional levels as an elementary teacher in the Milwaukee area.

The workshop came to a close at about 3:30 PM following a discussion about the opportunities available to German Language and Social Studies educators who want to take part in study tours to Germany.

As is the case with all workshops sponsored by the Transatlantic Outreach Program, everyone left with their hands overflowing with textbooks, wall maps, and additional teaching materials. But more importantly, they left with a heightened spirit of cooperation with their German and Social Studies colleagues. They came together, in many cases for the first time, and successfully worked for one day in St. Louis, so who knows what possibilities lie ahead?

TOP 2007 Travelers

USA:			
Cathy Adams	OK	Rebecca Haskel	NY
Elizabeth Anderson-Molde	ND	Barbara Haynes	VA
Michael Baron	AZ	Fred Hebert	LA
Ellen Bartling	WI	Molly Henrikson	CT
Mary Barton	OR	Jan Hess	WI
Linda Bennett	MO	Jennifer Jolley	FL
Michael Boucher	MN	John Keh	MA
Lance Boyd	HI	Stacy Kerrigan	IN
Christopher Bryant	WI	James Kinney	AZ
Karen Burgard	MO	Peter Kurtz	TX
Dennis Burin	MI	Frank Lammers	WI
Rita Cochran	TN	Toni Lampkin	OR
Thomas Coen	VA	Elizabeth Lantka	AZ
Diana DaBell	ID	Kathryn Lapp	CO
Rene Diamond	LA	Richard Lee	CA
Arthur Dietrich	VA	David Listorti	PA
Daniel Dunne	NY	Janet Martin	MD
Hale Edwards	SC	Joan Mastromonaco	CT
Daneille Erb	AZ	Jessina McEntire	ID
Gladys Fox	WA	Barbara Mee	NH
Zach Garver	ME	Peter Michaud	WI
Curtis Gentry	AZ	Bridgette Nadzam-Kasubick	OH
Bill Gerling	MO	Sheila Nice	AZ
Kimberly Gilman	MO	Susan Nigohosian	WI
Steven Goldberg	NY	Sigrid Olsen	OR
Ruth Gordon	FL	Nicholas Oster	GA
Susan Gratz	TN	Michael Pasqua	CA
Carla Grotegut	WI	Deborah Pellikan	TX
		Linda Petz	OH
		Rebecca Pietropaoli	NY
		Anne Presley	TX
		Joann Prewitt	DE
		Andrew Radler	CA
		Laura Raeder	SD
		Mike Raymer	GA
		Henry Rehn	MI
		Devin Reynolds	TX
		Seth Roberts	MD
		June Satak	OR
		Lenore Schneider	CT
		Eric Schulz	IA
		Christopher Shaffer	AL
		Benjamin Silver	IN
		Virginia Smith	IN
		Theresa Stahl	KS
		Regina Stuck	FL
		Lynette Swiger	WV
		Monica Swope	IL
		Linda Taylor	TN
		Allison Weller	NY
		Michelle Woolman	MI
		CANADA:	
		Shannon Black	NS
		Shawn Bradbury	NL
		Turk MacDonald	NS
		Barbara Odenwald	QC

TRAVEL TO GERMANY IN 2008: FAQ!

HOW MUCH DOES THE PROGRAM COST?

All expenses are paid by TOP through the generosity of its partners. This includes the cost of flying from your nearest major airport to Washington, D.C. and back (if you live outside a 100-mile radius from Washington, D.C.), the cost of a hotel room in Washington, D.C. on the night prior to departing to Germany, the cost of flying from Washington, D.C. to Germany and back, all study-tour-related transportation within Germany, all lodging in Germany, two meals per day in Germany, and all associated fees such as museum admission, etc. The Program does not pay for expenses incurred during free time. The Program does not pay for incidental hotel costs (long distance telephone calls, Pay-Per-View, laundry services, Internet services, etc.). *A refundable deposit of \$250.00 USD is required.*

WILL I HAVE TO SHARE A HOTEL ROOM WITH SOMEONE?

No. Every participant will have his or her own hotel room.

IS KNOWLEDGE OF THE GERMAN LANGUAGE A REQUIREMENT?

No, though experience speaking the German language is always appreciated and only serves to enhance the experience for participants.

WHO MAY APPLY?

K-12 Social Studies educators, Social Studies university methods professors, Social Studies curriculum coordinators, applicable authors, and applicable State Departments of Education employees from the United States and Canada.

WHAT IS THE CATCH?

Above all, this is a STUDY tour! We ask that all participants come willing to participate, ask questions, and absorb a lot of information during a fun, yet PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY intense two weeks in Germany.

Upon returning from Germany, we request that each participant 1) Write a lesson plan AND 2) Conduct a minimum of two workshops on Teaching Modern Germany at the local, district, state, regional, or national level within one year!

HOW CAN I IMPROVE MY CHANCES OF BEING ACCEPTED?

Priority is given to applicants who have conducted in-service training workshops. If you are interested in conducting an in-service training workshop using complimentary "TOP" teaching materials, please refer to page 11.



Teachers enjoy "German culture" at a beer garden near Potsdam. July 2007.



Teachers prior to their visit with Hanns Michael Hoelz at the Deutsche Bank Player's Championship near Hamburg. July 2007.



Social Studies educators participate in a lesson about teaching tolerance at the German Trade Union Confederation, Saxony.

2008 APPLICATION FORM FOR PARTICIPATION IN A STUDY TOUR TO GERMANY



DATES FOR STUDY TOURS SUMMER 2008 (Check all dates for which you are available for travel.)

DEPART: JUNE 13 - RETURN: JUNE 28 DEPART: JUNE 27 - RETURN: JULY 12 DEPART: JULY 11 - RETURN: JULY 26 DEPART: JULY 25 - RETURN: AUG. 9

DIRECTIONS: Print and carefully read this entire application form. Use this form as your cover sheet and attach Application Requirements 1-4 listed below. Please type or write as legibly as possible.

PARTICIPANT NAME: _____
Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss First Name Last Name

TEACHING ASSIGNMENT/JOB TITLE: _____
[specify course title, grade level, etc.]

SCHOOL/EMPLOYER: _____

WORK ADDRESS: _____
Street

City State Zip Code

Work Telephone: (_____) _____ Work FAX: (_____) _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____
Street

City State Zip Code

Home Telephone: (_____) _____

E-Mail Address you check *regularly* (IMPORTANT): _____

Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year): ____/____/____. Disabled? Yes No If yes, please describe on an attached page.

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

A. Which best describes you?

- Social Studies classroom teacher University Social Studies methods professor State Dept. of Education employee
 Curriculum consultant/coordinator Author Other: _____

B. In how many overseas study tours have you participated during the past four years?

C. Are you in good health, able to face the environmental and physical challenges associated with this study tour? Yes No

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Attach an official letter from your supervisor verifying your current employment status as well as the likelihood of maintaining your current employment status in 2008 and beyond.
2. Attach at least one letter of recommendation in addition to the letter specified in Requirement 1.
3. Write a resume (CV) documenting your contributions to Social Studies education. For example, list all **in-service training workshops you have led** as well as any relevant lesson plans, curriculum guides, textbooks, publications, etc. that you have written.
4. Write a single-spaced, 1-2 page essay outlining 1) what about Germany interests you, and 2) steps you will take upon returning from the study tour to convey the lessons learned to your classroom and to your peers and colleagues.

NOTE: Applications will be accepted from individuals in all 50 states and Canada without regard to gender, race, or religion. Team applications (from married/unmarried couples, family members, etc.) are discouraged and will only be considered if such applicants request to travel to Germany during different time periods. Travel groups may be formed based on job type, subject/grade level taught, areas of interest, etc. to ensure a productive and cohesive team. Priority will be given to teachers in the Transatlantic Outreach Program teacher network who have conducted modern Germany workshops in the past.

Questions? E-mail top@washington.goethe.org or call (202) 289-1200.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APPLICATION PACKET MUST BE RECEIVED, NOT POSTMARKED, BY FEBRUARY 8, 2008.

Send completed application package to:
TOP Coordinator c/o Goethe-Institut Washington
812 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3718

Leading Workshops on Modern Germany

The Goethe-Institut has been providing complimentary teaching materials to Social Studies educators since 1990. Each of the kits below are authored by American Social Studies specialists, edited by Program staff, and printed in Germany. Each contains a book of lesson plans, teacher resources, handouts, worksheets, and full-page, color transparencies. The kits as well as wall maps and additional teaching materials are available free-of-charge to in-service workshop leaders.

Whether you are an experienced workshop leader or are simply looking to conduct your first in-service workshop and want to request complimentary "TOP" materials, please refer to the instructions on the facing page.

Workshop leaders receive priority consideration for TOP study tours to Germany.

A KID LIKE ME ACROSS THE SEA, 2005 EDITION



This kit is designed for elementary classrooms. The lessons draw heavily on interpretation of photographs, working with maps, creating timelines, charts, graphs, and other process skills. The topics of physical and cultural geography, meeting basic needs, political symbols, and people are addressed in a comparative context with the United States.

WELCOME TO GERMANY, 2005 EDITION



This kit is designed for middle school classrooms. The lessons correlate to the study of world cultures (perspective taking and symbols), physical and cultural geography, and state and national government in a comparative context with the United States.

GERMANY TODAY, 2007 EDITION



This kit is designed for middle and secondary classrooms. The lessons examine Germany's changing position in Europe and in the world as well as political institutions in Germany in a comparative context with the United States. Each lesson demonstrates the integration of research models for alignment, instructional scaffolding, and backward design of instruction and assessment.*

GERMANY IN EUROPE, 2007 EDITION



This kit is designed for middle and secondary classrooms. The lessons examine European Union governance, multiculturalism, and the Euro currency from the context of one of the Union's largest member nations. Each lesson demonstrates the integration of research models for alignment, instructional scaffolding, and backward design of instruction and assessment.*

**Based on "Understanding by Design" concepts
(Grant Wiggins and Jay McTighe).*

UPCOMING CONFERENCES SPRING 2008

MICHIGAN COUNCIL
Dearborn, MI
February 18-20

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL
Greensboro, NC
February 20-22

MISSOURI COUNCIL*
St. Joseph, MO
February 22-23

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL COUNCIL*
Indianapolis, IN
February 28-29

MINNESOTA COUNCIL*
Mystic Lake, MN
March 6-7

TENNESSEE COUNCIL
Knoxville, TN
March 6-7

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL*
Oakland, CA
March 7-9

WEST VIRGINIA COUNCIL*
Pipestem, WV
March 21-22

NORTHEAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
New Haven, CT
March 26-28

WISCONSIN COUNCIL
Middleton, WI
March 31-April 1

NEW YORK COUNCIL
Buffalo, NY
April 1-4

MAINE COUNCIL
Augusta, ME
April 2

COLORADO COUNCIL*
Denver, CO
April 11

OHIO COUNCIL
Worthington, OH
April 11-13

**TOP Staff Plans to Attend with
Workshops/Booth*

If you have any questions or comments about TOP's involvement with any of the above conferences or would like to invite TOP to your conference, please let us know:

Attn: Assistant TOP Coordinator
Email: top2@washington.goethe.org
Tel: (202) 289-1200

Goethe-Institut Washington
812 Seventh Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

How to Request Materials for a Workshop

PLEASE NOTE: BEFORE ACCESSING THE ONLINE MATERIALS REQUEST FORM, YOU SHOULD HAVE ALREADY DONE THE FOLLOWING:

1. Decided on a date and location for your workshop.
2. Decided on the audience (elementary, middle, secondary).
3. Have a good idea as to the number of participants.

If you are planning to lead a workshop using complimentary "TOP" teaching materials, please follow the steps below:

!!!MATERIALS REQUEST MUST BE SENT 2-3 WEEKS PRIOR TO WORKSHOP DATE!!!

4. Scroll down to the section, **Multiple Copies for Workshop Leaders Only**.
5. Click on the **Online Materials Request Form** link.

1. Using your preferred Internet Browser (Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, etc.), browse to the TOP web site at <http://www.goethe.de/top>.
2. Once at the TOP web site, use the menu at the left side of the page and click on **Instructional Kits**.



6. A new browser window should open containing the Materials Request Form.

3. Next, click on **Order Information** from the submenu.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

A confirmation e-mail containing attendance forms will be sent when materials successfully ship from the warehouse. Materials typically ship at least one week prior to the workshop date.

Following the presentation of your workshop, the completed attendance forms must be mailed or faxed to the Goethe-Institut Washington at (202) 289-3535.

If you experience any technical difficulties with the online materials request form, please send an e-mail to top@washington.goethe.org.

Please note that any and all information submitted to the Transatlantic Outreach Program in the form of materials requests or attendance information is subject to strict European Union privacy laws and will NOT be shared with unintended parties.



Goethe-Institut Washington
812 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3718
Tel: (202) 289-1200
FAX: (202) 289-3535

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Federal Republic of Germany
Foreign Office



GOETHE-INSTITUT

Deutsche Bank



Robert Bosch **Stiftung**