

## **STATE CONFERENCE FOR TEACHERS OF GERMAN NSW/ACT 2012**

### **PRESENTER INFORMATION AND PROGRAM**

#### **Marina Shine (Head of Language Department GI Australia, Sydney)**

Marina Shine completed her university degrees in teaching (German, Political Science and Pedagogy) and her teacher training in Germany. She then worked as a high school teacher and as assistant director in a German theatre. In 1985 she immigrated to Sydney, teaching in various schools, universities and finally the Goethe-Institut. She is the Head of the Language Department and the deputy director in Sydney.

#### **Workshop: GI Aktuell (Sunday, 3:00-3:30 pm)**

In this info session we will focus on the topic of 'Landeskunde' and the extensive information that the Goethe-Institut's website provides

#### **Workshop: GI Fairy tales calendar in your language class (Monday, 1:15-2:15 pm)**

'Grimm's Fairy tales' are the topic of the 2012 Goethe-Institut's calendar. We will work with eleven fairy tales and an information text about the Brothers Grimm and discuss how 19<sup>th</sup> century fairy tales can be incorporated into the modern language classroom. A wealth of creative teaching materials for all language levels will be available.

#### **Anna-Lena Schenck (Teacher, NSW)**

Anna-Lena Schenck graduated from Humboldt-University Berlin in 2009. During her studies she spent one year in the US. At Maryland's McDaniel College, as a German assistant in the Language Department where she gained her first experience of teaching German as a foreign language. After graduating in Berlin, a scholarship from the German Education Exchange Service gave her the opportunity to come to Sydney and teach at Cherrybrook Technology High School for one year. Anna-Lena decided to stay in Sydney and after working at St. Andrew's Cathedral School for six months she is now working for the Goethe-Institute and also supports the professional development facilitators in NSW.

#### **Exhibition + Workshop: The year of the Grimm's Fairytales 2012 (Sunday, 5:00-6:15 pm)**

The poster exhibition and station work Märchenwelten introduce the most important aspects of traditional and modern fairytales providing an overview of characters, symbols and themes. This workshop aims to demonstrate a variety of teaching ideas and offers a range of activities for German students.

#### **Werner Nowitzki (Deutschradio24sieben)**

Werner Nowitzki started his career as a teacher in Schleswig-Holstein, focusing on DaF/DaZ. After many years of teaching and working in the Ministry he went to New Zealand in 2002 where he worked as German Language Adviser at the Goethe-Institut for five years. He then founded the agency "Musicisthelanguage Ltd: Deutsch-Made" in New Zealand. Musicisthelanguage has specialized in creating more realistic and authentic language training with the use of creative and interactive elements. In 2010 Werner created the internet radio station Deutschradio24sieben ([www.deutschradio24sieben.com](http://www.deutschradio24sieben.com)) and in 2011 the blog [www.yourmiconline.blog.com](http://www.yourmiconline.blog.com). This blog has become a popular platform for fostering creativity within the realms of music and language.

**Keynote: Fairy Tales take place today (Sunday, 4:00-5:00 pm)**

"A fairy tale contains its own truth and has to contain it. Otherwise it wouldn't be a fairytale." This statement was made by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe in 1769 – long before the first publication of the Grimm brother's fairy tales. Searching for truth in fairy tales means to find the evident truth in different human and social universal experiences that every fairy, more or less, obtains. These categories of basic experiences (e.g. joy, grief, envy, solitude) aren't bound by any epoch or social context and offer motivating opportunities for the production and the reception of language in German courses at all levels and ages.

**Workshop: Like a Fairy Tale: Creative Projects for Your Language Classes (Monday, 9:10-10:40 am)**

The topic of fairy tales will be prepared for practical teaching purposes according to „Kreative Sachen mit Musik und Sprache“. The workshop will focus on interactive, creative material and projects, for using on the content of fairy tales rather than formal language learning. All presented projects have the opportunity to both maximize of linguistic skills and to motivate students to broaden their horizons by taking measured risks. Small and big projects will be presented, as well as projects for younger and older students, beginners and advanced learners.

**Rita Felder (Teacher, QLD)**

Rita Felder has taught German, Drama and French to primary and secondary students in both State School and Private School settings. She currently works at St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School in Brisbane, but commences work at Branksome Hall Asia in South Korea mid-year. In January 2010, Rita was awarded a three-week scholarship in Germany through the Goethe-Institut and has also been a member of the "Multiplikatorengruppe" (train the trainer group) of German teachers in QLD since 2008. In 2010, Rita was a finalist in the QLD College of Teachers Excellence in Teaching awards.

Rita has presented numerous workshops at State and National Conferences on the topics of Interdisciplinary Language Teaching and utilising Music and Drama in the Languages classroom. She has recently undertaken postgraduate studies specialising in Gifted and Talented Education with a strong focus on language learning and teaching. She has published articles and written a report for the MLTAV that was submitted to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry investigating the state of Gifted and Talented Education in Victoria with a special emphasis on language. Rita has a vested interest in interdisciplinary content-based language education and has language courses throughout the schooling process.

**Workshop: Bühne frei...los geht's! – An interdisciplinary approach to teaching German through the medium of Drama (Monday, 9:10-10:40 am)**

Drama is a powerful tool for engaging our students in second language learning. While they foster imagination, creativity and spontaneity, Drama activities also encourage and motivate students to play and take risks with language by providing a means for students' emotions and cognition to blossom.

In line with the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Brothers Grimm, this workshop will introduce an interdisciplinary German/Drama unit using the Grimm Fairytale "Die Bremer Stadtmusikanten" as a focus text. Participants will gain insights into the planning stages of this German/Drama unit and become familiar with the resources and materials that were used to scaffold student learning. Participants will also take part in a range of practical drama games and activities which are easily transferrable to any language classroom situation.

**Kathrin Denk, Katharina Urban, Anika Abstreiter (PAD Assistants)**

Kathrin Denk (28) is employed as a Teaching Assistant at Mackellar Girls Campus in Manly Vale, Northern Beaches for the current school year. She was born in Fürth, but lives in Frankfurt on Main, where she studied Elementary School Teaching. Kathrin graduated from the Goethe University Frankfurt am Main at the end of last year, majoring in German, Mathematics and English.

Katharina Urban (24) is working as a teaching assistant at Camden Haven and Melville High School. In Germany she studied special education for children with special needs, with a focus on deafness and mental disabilities, as well as English and German at the Cologne University.

Anika Abstreiter (26) is currently working as a teaching assistant at North Sydney Boys High School. Last year she completed her secondary school teacher training at the University of Regensburg, with a major in English and History.

**Workshop: Experience Germany (Monday, 9:10-10:40 am)**

Our German teaching assistants present an inside view of current and historical facts about Germany: learn about how children spend their spare time nowadays, how Germany experiences multiculturalism and why Fürth is called „Kleeblattstadt“ (City of Clover Leaves). Enjoy and get some ideas for your classroom!

**Isabell St Leon, Heike Craig, Jana Hartmann, Michael Abrahams Sprod, Paula Hay (Teachers Trainer, Teachers, NSW, ACT)**

Isabell St Leon studied at Sydney University and has taught in both the private and public sectors. Since 2000 she has worked at Castle Hill High School where she teaches German, French, Maths, English and Textile Technologies. As a member of the MLTA she had been involved in the preparation of teaching materials such as songs and short stories, Trial HSC Exams and HSC study weekends.

More recently she has been engaged in the development of the new beginners syllabus, HSC beginners exam papers and worked as an HSC marker.

Heike Craig a native speaker of German, has a Master of Arts degree in German and English linguistics and literature and a teaching diploma from Friedrich-Schiller University, Germany. She has been teaching German in schools and colleges in Germany and Australia since 1996. Heike currently teaches German at Daramalan College in Canberra. She is also a co-author of „Katzensprung“, a German textbook and a writer of the German component of the Australian Language Certificates.

Jana Hartmann was born in Germany where she also completed her studies and teachers training. Her husband's passion for travel brought them to Australia where both of them fell in love with the country. They had to wait for a while before they got the permission to immigrate, but after another period of study and after having a little son, Jana started working as a casual teacher for schools on the Midnorth Coast. For the last five years she has been teaching French and German at Camden Haven High School mainly focusing on distance education. She has constantly expanded her knowledge on teaching technologies since and is highly involved with teacher training for several schools. At conferences in Coffs Harbour (2009) and Sydney (2010) she conducted workshops focusing on Interactive Whiteboards. In 2009 she got involved with HSC assessments and started working on the development of HSC examination materials for beginners and advanced students as well as IWB materials.

In 2009 Jana gave a lecture at the International Conference for Teachers of German in Germany. In 2008 she became a professional language teacher facilitator at the Goethe-Institut Sydney.

Michael Abrahams Sprod is Head Teacher teaching and learning at East Hills Boys' Technology High School and has taught German, French, Russian, Hebrew and History at the secondary, tertiary and adult education levels since 1989. He has also taught Modern Jewish History and Holocaust Studies part-time at University of NSW and University of Sydney. A recipient of numerous local and international awards, scholarships and visiting

fellowships, he has conducted research, lectured, taught and presented in Australia and internationally. Michael's PhD dissertation entitled: "Life under Siege: The Jews of Magdeburg under Nazi Rule" is currently under preparation for publication in Germany. Paula Hay teaches German in primary schools in Beenleigh and Eagleby. Before, she was teaching at Beenleigh High School. Over the past 20 years Paula has held many workshops for teachers of German and other languages and has organized various students exchange programs. She studied in Germany.

Paula organizes many activities for students and teachers. For the past 25 years she has been an active member of MLTAQ and since its foundation in 2005 she is actively involved in the German Teacher's Branch. She is also president of the German Teachers Association in Queensland and actively involved in NATG (Network of Australian Teachers of German).

**Workshop: Fairy Tales in Language Classes (Monday, 11:00-12:00 pm)**

The workshop provided by the multipliers from/of NSW and ACT will offer you practical tools, information and interesting ideas for use in your classes. Just like in the other workshops, the focus is once again on fairy tales. You are very welcome to test the proposals and give feedback to the suggestions of the multipliers, who are all highly experienced teachers. To participate in this workshop you need a magic formula that will open you the door: *Simsalabim und dreimal schwarzer Kater!*

**Denny Walther (German language adviser, GI Australia, Sydney)**

Denny Walther is High School teacher of German and English. Additionally he is a certified teacher of German as a Foreign Language. He studied at Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Germany. During his studies Denny worked as a teacher of German throughout Germany, Norway and Australia. After his second teaching degree he moved from Thuringia, Germany, back to Sydney. Now Denny is a teacher, an examiner and a project assistant at Goethe-Institut Australien, Sydney. Since February 2012 he has been working as German Language Adviser at Goethe-Institut Australia and the Department of Education and Training in Sydney.

**Workshop: Fairy Tale Box (Monday, 11:00-12:00 pm)**

This is always a big issue: What can teachers do to turn language learning into something that is fun, something that is easy to understand and prepare and something that supports children's creativity? Well, make sure to test the fairy tale box and decide for yourself if you would like to introduce something magically simple to your classrooms. You can adapt the box to all class and language levels and you can use it for a variety of topics. Isn't that great? If you ask yourself what to bring to the workshop, the answer would be: nothing but your creativity!

**Workshop: GI Services for students and teachers (Monday, 1:15-2:15 pm)**

If you would like to do something different with your German class, then you are most welcome to join this presentation. We introduce all events Goethe-Institut Australia has to offer for teachers and students. The focus will be on the teaching materials that you can borrow from us. Feel free to contribute your own ideas and wishes for future events.

**Joanne Downing (Teacher, NSW)**

Joanne Downing is a secondary teacher of both French and German. This year she is teaching Years 7 -12 at Covenant Christian School in Belrose.

**Workshop: Transport your students into the world of the German fairy tale (Monday, 11:00-12:00 pm)**

I will start the session with a brief overview of my time in Düsseldorf this year as an ELTF awardee and what I have gained from the experience.

We will then learn about the Grimm brothers through looking at how we can use their fairy tales to enhance our students' learning experience. We will look at some websites with activities ranging from grammar to comprehension exercises, as well as noting the

benefit of using the fairy tale as a play for the entire class to perform. Try your hand at rewriting tales from a different angle such as "Hansel und Gretel" or "Rotkäppchen", or writing an alternative conclusion for "Dornröschen". As we work through the fairy tales you will be equipped with many practical ideas you can take away to use in your classroom. (This session will be relevant for teachers of year 7- 12.)

### **Susann Schuster (Teacher, NSW)**

Susann Schuster Holding a teaching degree from Constance University in English, French and German, Susann's interest in foreign languages is apparent. Her work experience as a teacher and research assistant at the University of Dortmund, Germany, have contributed to shaping her current PhD-topic "*Commitment in Learning Plans: A Pathway to Support the Autonomous Learner in The Foreign Language Classroom*". After her move to Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia she has been able to further her teaching experience as an associate lecturer of German at the Department of International Studies as well as working on her thesis.

### **Workshop: Differentiated rotated learning with Moodle (Monday, 2:15-3:15 pm)**

Considering that the majority of learner groups are heterogeneous, the concept of internal differentiation distinguishes between individual abilities and skills of learners. Rotated learning or station learning represents a common way to facilitate learning processes for heterogeneous groups of learners. It offers students the possibility to practice and extend language skills of listening and reading comprehension, speaking and writing. This workshop aims to portray and to experience an interactive version of rotated learning by using the computer programme Moodle. Moodle offers an innovative learning platform which can be used to create exercises, quizzes and assignments. The workshop will further show how exercises pursuing individual student needs can be created. In addition, based on the topic of "Grimm's Fairy Tales" participants can try out sample exercises of virtual rotated learning.

### **Birgit Matwijiw (Teacher, ACT)**

Birgit Matwijiw was born and raised in Potsdam. She studied polytechnology at TU Chemnitz and has worked as a polytechnology teacher at a comprehensive school. After finishing her studies at Bundesfachhochschule für öffentliche Verwaltung (public administration) she worked for the Federal Institute for Medication and Medicinal Products. In 1997, Birgit immigrated to Australia and started teaching German. At the moment she teaches at Narrabundah College in Canberra.

### **Workshop: Berlin – Vienna – Zurich. A scholarship journey (Monday, 2:15-3:15 pm)**

In June and July 2011 Birgit participated in the training seminar provided by Goethe-Institut with the topic: "Landeskunde - drei Wochen - Berlin – Wien – Zürich". She will present her experiences and give practical advices and examples that may help bringing the students closer to these three countries and their cultural and linguistic diversities.

### **Elke Jackel (Teacher, NSW)**

BA dip Ed UNE (University of New England Armidale NSW)

Teacher of German for 28 years both in the state and private school systems, including a secondment to the Immersion German Program at Kenmore SHS and a year at the Erich Kästner Gesamtschule in Hamburg. Treasurer of the German Teachers' Branch of the MLTAQ and a member of the Queensland Multiplikatoren for the Goethe Institute. Elke received an award of recognition by MLTAQ on its 50th Anniversary for contribution to language education in Queensland.

Elke has an interest in photography which is applied to class room settings in basic media use.



**Workshop: Be creative with fairy tales (Monday, 2:15-3:15 pm)**

Using the Fairy-tale genre to do some creative writing with students can be as simple, or as challenging as needed. Story writing in German uses the imperfect tense which is a welcome break from the worries of the perfect tense used in spoken communication. Using the idea of the fairy tale with a character (i.e. not just a person who can talk, think and do, the 'magic' and the created place) students can use their creativity to create their own story. How far this goes is up to the teacher.

Some practical presentation ideas for the stories are also presented, with student samples showing the journey and processes involved.

The second part looks at the use of PowerPoint / Word to alter photos, and adding these to photostory/ PowerPoint to create a fractured fairy tale that is spoken. This concept is not limited to the fairy tale genre, but can be applied to other aspects, like weather forecasting, or voice postcards... Student samples are shown.

By taking a green screen photo, participants can also work on their own photo and insert a background to create a simple illusion.

**Tony Collison: (Consultant for Schoolsoftware)**

Tony Collison is not a speaker of the German language but rather a reseller of software. Over the last 10 years the software Vocabulary 4 and Bingo have enhanced the teaching of many languages including German.

Tony is able to provide a strong technical background in the use of software from Schoolhouse Technologies.

**Workshop: Software für Schulen (Montag, 13:15-14:15)**

The purpose of the workshop are 3 fold

1. to identify a range of internet sites that provide German language activities focusing upon Fairy tales.
2. to explore ways to incorporate those sites and their content into lessons
3. to experience a hands on session using two pieces of software Vocabulary 4 and Bingo

At the end of the session delegates will walk away with a least 1 Fairy tale and at least 5 learning activities based upon that Fairy tale.

Delegates will also have designed and printed a game of Bingo, time permitting.

The software will also create activities in most Modern European languages, including English.

School Software has been selling this range of software in Australia and New Zealand for the last 10 years. It is easy to use but will only

function within the Windows environment unless your Apple can be persuaded to think it's a PC.