



MAX KADE CENTER FOR GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

NOVEMBER 1999

Keel Receives Recognition from Germany

Among the distinguished guests who attended the Max Kade Goethe Symposium on October 8-10 were Consul General Michael Engelhard from Chicago and Honorary Consul Willard Snyder of Kansas City, both representing the Federal Republic of Germany. Consul Engelhard announced that he had been delegated by the German ministry of foreign affairs to award the Distinguished Service Cross of the Federal Republic to William Keel, professor and chair of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures.



Engelhard presented the medal and a document signed by President Johannes Rau of the Federal Republic for Keel's service in promoting the teaching and study of German language and culture in Kansas as well as for his active role in German-American educational and cultural exchanges. Engelhard stressed Keel's achievements in recording and preserving the language and dialects of German-speaking immigrants before evidence of this linguistic legacy is irrevocably lost.

Newsletter of the Max Kade Center
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International Symposium Commemorates 250th Anniversary of Goethe's Birth

The topic of the symposium, *Goethe in Exile (1933–1945)*, provided the framework for discussions that focused on Goethe's image and influence in the Nazi period. A complex mosaic of perspectives emerged as the talks explored in detail Goethe as a point of literary and political orientation. Debates centered on exiles Ernst Toller, Thomas Mann, Hermann Broch, and Georg Lukacs, as well as on 'inner immigrants' such as Gerhart Hauptmann and Hans Carossa. Gert Sautermeister began the discussion with a consideration of the idea of the exile experience in Goethe's own literary works. Peter Boerner supplied information about a comprehensive effort to deal with the problematic past and future on the basis of Goethe's legacy. He described the Aspen Goethe Convocation of 1949 organized by Arnold Bergstraesser and Robert Hutchins (both of the University of Chicago). Quoting Hutchins, Boerner reflected on the visionary nature of the earlier anniversary: "In a good Goethean world the means of communication and transportation would be used not to send bombs, propaganda, and messengers of misguided self-interest from one country to another, but to exchange students, professors, ideas, and to develop a supranational community founded on the humanity of the whole human race." In general, the discussions in Lawrence focused on the difficult past that preceded the optimistic Goethe Convocation of 1949. They produced manifold juxtapositions and contexts from which an objective view of Goethe's influence emerged. It became evident that in the time of the Nazi domination of Europe, Goethe represented a refuge of hope, both inside and outside Germany. Reviewing the impact of the symposium, Helmut Koopmann wrote that he was grateful to have been part of a successful and productive conference. He liked the balance and wide range of topics, and he found the intense discussions inspiring.

Two special events at the Spencer Museum of Art complemented the academic discussions. Stephen Goddard, senior curator of prints, prepared and introduced *Echo: Five Centuries of Influence*, an exhibition of prints by Albrecht Dürer and those who followed him. Goddard explained that Dürer's woodcuts illustrating the apocalypse (1498) and the "master engravings" of 1513-1514 (*Knight, Death, and the Devil*, *Saint Jerome in His Study*, and *Melencolia I*) set the standard the graphic arts. The prints in the exhibition, many of which are part of the Max Kade Collection, reflect Dürer's artistry and the responses to his work—even forgeries—through the centuries.



A concert of compositions by Ernest Manheim concluded the evening program. Manheim, a former professor of sociology at the University of Missouri, presently residing in Kansas City, attended the performance. The Camerata Players of Lawrence (Angela McComas, flute; Eric Williams, first violin; Merav Singer, second violin; Elena Kraineva, viola; Michele Sack, cello; and Walter Clark, guitar) performed three trios for two violins and viola, a trio for flute violin and cello, a quintet that included the instruments flute and the guitar.



Uwe-K. Ketelsen



Burghard Dedner



Helmut Koopmann



Gert Sautermeister



Hartmut Steinecke

A generous grant from the Max Kade Foundation enabled the center to host prominent scholars who have been visiting Max Kade professors at the University of Kansas. The speakers from Germany included Uwe-K. Ketelsen (Bochum), Burghard Dedner (Marburg), Helmut Koopmann (Augsburg), Gert Sautermeister (Bremen), and Hartmut Steinecke (Paderborn).



Erhard Bahr



Peter Boerner



John M. Spalek



Wulf Koepke



Leonie Marx



Warren Maurer



Guy Stern, introduced by Frank Baron



Nicholas Vazsonyi

Photos by Glenn Hudspeth

The Goethe program also included presentations by Erhard Bahr (UCLA), Peter Boerner (Indiana University), John M. Spalek (University of New York, Albany), Wulf Koepke (Texas A&M University), Leonie Marx (University of Kansas), Warren Maurer (University of Kansas), Guy Stern (Wayne State University), and Nicholas Vazsonyi (University of South Carolina).

The Ernest Manheim Symposium

A symposium honoring the life and career of sociologist and composer Ernest Manheim, who will be one hundred years old on January 27, 2000, will take place at the Max Kade Center for German-American Studies. Born in Hungary, Manheim began his scholarly career in Leipzig but went into exile in 1933. For further information call 864-4803 or contact fbaron@ukans.edu.

Tentative Program

January 28-29, 2000

Friday evening, 8:00 p.m., Spencer Museum of Art

David Smith (University of Kansas), Ernest Manheim's Work in Sociology

Christopher Reiser (Graz, Austria), Film Images of an Eventful Life

Camerata Players of Lawrence, Compositions of Ernest Manheim
Players of Lawrence, Compositions of Ernest Manheim

Saturday morning, Max Kade Center

Session I (8:30-10:00)

Eva Gabor (Technical University of Budapest), Ernest Manheim's Hungarian Background

Elisabeth Welzig (Graz, Austria), Ernest Manheim — ein Mitteleuropäer in der Mitte Amerikas

Coffee

Session II (10:30-12:00)

Stefanie Averbeck (University of Leipzig), Ernest Manheims 'öffentliche Räume' — eine Theorie der öffentlichen Meinung 30 Jahre vor Jürgen Habermas

Reinhard Müller (University of Graz), Ernest Manheim — 100 Jahre Soziologie

Lunch (12:30-2:00)

Session III (2:00-3:30), Max Kade Center

Elfriede Üener (University of Leipzig), Ernest Manheim's Leipzig Roots

Hossein Bahmaie (Lakeview Community College), Security, Authority, and Society: An Ethnological Introduction to Sociology

Leonie Marx (University of Kansas), Working Magic: Ernest Manheim's Theory of Charismatic Leadership and a Look at German Literature

Coffee

Session IV (4:00-5:30)

Charles Reitz (Kansas City Community College), Ernest Manheim's *Zur Logik des konkreten Begriffs: A Call to Concrete Thinking*.

Jean Van Delinder (Oklahoma State University), Ernest Manheim and the Social Science Testimony in the 1954 Brown Case

Frank Manheim (USA), Ernest Manheim's Theory of Modern Music

Breon Mitchell Discusses the Trials of Translating Kafka

Breon Mitchell, professor of German and Comparative Literature at Indiana University, the first recipient of the Siemens visiting professorship at the Max Kade Center, returned on October 28 to his alma mater to deliver a lecture on his new translation of Kafka's *Trial*. Published by Schocken Books, the book has received high praise in prominent national periodicals and was chosen as an alternate selection by the Book-of-the-Month Club. Mitchell stayed at the Max Kade Center for two weeks and participated in classes and seminars and meetings with students. Along with KU Professors Stanley F. Lombardo and Gerald E. Mikkelson, Mitchell also contributed to a colloquium on literary translation, on November 4. Jimmy D. Morrison, former undergraduate and graduate student at the University of Kansas and president and chief executive officer of Siemens Transportation Systems, Inc. (Iselin, New Jersey), was instrumental in arranging the visiting professorship.

Born in Salina, Kansas, Mitchell graduated summa cum laude with majors in art history, philosophy, and German at the University of Kansas. As a Rhodes scholar at Oxford University, he received a doctorate in comparative literature. Since 1968 he has taught at Indiana University. Mitchell's teaching and research combine expertise in German studies with comparative literature and art history. His numerous publications reflect these broad interests. They include *James Joyce and the German Novel: 1922–1933*, published by Ohio University Press.



Breon Mitchell in the Max Kade apartment.

With Professor Mitchell's permission, we are able to reprint excerpts from his new book:

The dominant discourse in *The Trial* is of course legal. Some critics have gone so far as to suggest that the whole of the novel is written in legalese, reflecting Kafka's own training as a lawyer and his abiding interest in the law, effacing all distinctions of tone, so that "everybody in *The Trial*, high or low, uses the same language." But in fact the voices of the novel are clearly varied. They include not only the long legal disquisitions of the lawyer Huld, but also the voices of women, of K.'s uncle, of the merchant, the painter, and the priest. Moreover, the narrative itself is recounted in a voice we have long since come to recognize as

distinctly Kafka's own. The translator's task includes rendering these voices individually, even if they are all entangled in the web of the law.

Perhaps the most striking use of a legal term occurs in the final lines of the novel, yet up to now a reader of the standard English version could have no idea it was there. When the two men thrust the knife into Josef K.'s heart, then draw near his face to observe the "Entscheidung," the Muirs, Edwin and Willa Muir, who translated *The Trial* in 1937, tell us they are "watching the final act." Yet "Entscheidung" is not only the ordinary German word for "decision," but also the legal term for a judge's verdict. This is the verdict K. has been moving toward throughout his trial, the verdict he feared would be sprung upon him, like an assault, once he was lulled into sleep or a state of helplessness. The lessons of such a final verdict are lost, he has been told, even on the officials of the court. They can be learned only by the accused, for he alone follows the trial to its very end. Thus when the two men draw near his face and lean cheek-to-cheek "to observe the verdict," they seek it in Josef K.'s own eyes.

Over the course of a year, Josef K. gradually weakens in his struggle with the mysterious forces that surround him. His true trial begins with the first sentence and ends only with his death. The translator's trial is in its own way a similar ordeal. Faced with his own inadequacy, acutely aware each time he falls short, the translator too is impelled toward a final sentence in an imperfect world. No one is more aware of these

imperfections than one who, like Josef K., has followed that process to its very end. It is always dangerous to translate an author one reveres as deeply as I do Kafka. The journey has not been an easy one, but it has brought me even closer to the most complex and intriguing writer of our century.

The following passage represents the final scene in Breon Mitchell's translation of Kafka's Trial:

They were thus soon out of the city, which in this direction bordered on open fields with almost no transition. A small stone quarry, abandoned and desolate, lay beside a building which was still quite urban. Here the men halted, either because this spot had been their goal from the beginning, or because they were too tired to go any farther. Now they released K., who waited silently as they removed their top hats and wiped the perspiration from their foreheads with their handkerchiefs while they looked about the quarry. Moonlight lay everywhere with the naturalness and serenity no other light is granted.

After a brief polite exchange about who was responsible for the first of the tasks to come—the men seemed to have received their assignment without any specific division of labor—one of them went to K. and removed his jacket, his vest, and finally his shirt. K. shivered involuntarily, whereupon the man gave him a gentle, reassuring pat on the back. Then he folded the clothes carefully, as if they would be needed again, though not in the immediate future. In order not to leave K. standing motionless, exposed to the rather chilly night air, he took him by the arm and walked back and forth with him a little, while the other man searched for some suitable spot in the quarry. When he had found it, he waved, and the other gentleman led K. over to it. It was near the quarry wall, where a loose block of stone was lying. The men sat K. down on the ground, propped him against the stone, and laid his head down on it. In spite of all their efforts, and in spite of the cooperation K. gave them, his posture was still quite forced and implausible. So one of the men asked the other to let him work on positioning K. on his own for a while, but that didn't improve things either. Finally they left K. in a position that wasn't even the best of those they had already tried. Then one man opened his frock coat and, from a sheath on a belt that encircled his vest, drew forth a long, thin, double-edged butcher knife, held it up, and tested its sharpness in the light. Once more the nauseating courtesies began, one of them passed the knife across K. to the other, who passed it back over K. K. knew clearly now that it was his duty to seize the knife as it floated from hand to hand above him and plunge it into himself. But he didn't do so; instead he twisted his still-free neck and looked about him. He could not rise entirely to the occasion, he could not relieve the authorities of all their work; the responsibility for this final failure lay with whoever had denied him the remnant strength necessary to do so. His gaze fell upon the top spot of the building adjoining the quarry. Like a light flicking on, the casements of a window flew open, a human figure, faint and insubstantial at that distance and height, leaned far out abruptly, and stretched both arms out even further. Who was it? A friend? A good person? Someone who cared? Someone who wanted to help? Was it just one person? Was it everyone? Was there still help? Were there objections that had been forgotten? Of course there were. Logic is no doubt unshakable, but it can't withstand a person who wants to live. Where was the judge he'd never seen? Where was the high court he'd never reached? He raised his hands and spread out all his fingers.

But the hands of one man were right at K.'s throat, while the other thrust the knife into his heart and turned it there twice. With failing sight K. saw how the men drew near his face, leaning cheek-to-cheek to observe the verdict. "Like a dog!" he said; it seemed as though the shame was to outlive him.



Drawing by Franz Kafka

Max Kade Center Receives Valuable Gifts

Breon Mitchell's visit at the Max Kade Center provided an occasion to get acquainted with his achievements as a book collector. A book describing his collection of Kafka editions was recently published. Displays at the Max Kade Center and Engel Library in Wescoe Hall reflect a unique view of Kafka's legacy in the covers and title pages of his published works. Professor Mitchell presented the center with a copy of Werfel's drama *Juarez und Maximilian*.

Werfel's pencil notations indicate that this volume was originally his working copy (*Handexemplar*). This notation is crossed out, however, and the title page shows that Werfel presented his book to Hugo Bergmann, a former member of Kafka's and Werfel's Prague circle at the beginning of the twentieth century. Werfel expressed his "most sincere respect and heartfelt gratitude for the unforgettable days in Palestine." The dedication of February 22, 1925, documents Werfel's relationship to Bergmann, as well as Werfel's later visit in the Middle East, an important event in his life.

Werfel, who had become alienated from his Jewish origins, was more at home in the Christian world. He was drawn to Christianity at an early age, even before he married Alma Mahler, who held anti-Semitic sentiments. The experience of visiting Palestine in 1925 represents a turning point in his relationship to his Jewish past.

Werfel's biographer, Peter Stephan Jungk, describes this development in his life: "The journey through Old Testament lands shocked Werfel into an intense preoccupation with his Jewish origins that went far beyond

FRANZ WERFEL
JUAREZ UND MAXIMILIAN

Hugo Bergmann
in anfruchtlicher
Verehrung und mit
allerinnigstem Danke
für unvergessliche Tage
in Palästina
Franz Werfel
Jerusalem 22/2./1925

his admitted interest in Israel's religion and history. In the months following his return from the Near East, he spent time almost every day reading about Jewish history, customs, and rituals; he relearned Hebrew, written and spoken, and studied German translations of the books of the Old Testament and the Talmud." (Jungk 108) During visits to the Dead Sea and Jerusalem, Hugo Bergmann, a friend of his youth in Prague and later director of the National Library of Jerusalem, was Werfel's guide. Werfel gratefully surrendered his book to express the appreciation for the insights Bergmann's guidance had provided. Shortly thereafter, in 1926, Werfel completed the drama *Paulus unter den Juden*, in which he treated the problem of the confrontation between the Jewish and Christian worlds. This issue is also central to *Der Abituriententag*, published in 1928.

Professor Mitchell's gift has a special significance in the context of the center's plans to acquire Professor Spalek's comprehensive Werfel collection.

The Max Kade library also became the beneficiary of book donations from the German Research Foundation (*Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*), the Mennonite Library and Archives of Bethel College (through arrangements by John D. Thiesen), and the Eutin State Library (*Landesbibliothek*). The occasion of the ten-year anniversary of the sister city relationship between Eutin and Lawrence made it possible to continue a tradition of library exchanges. Librarian Wolfgang Griep of Eutin, a visitor at the

Max Kade Center on two previous occasions, arranged for the shipment of a collection of exile books, which Helmut Scheewe, representing the Eutin delegation, presented to the center.

Making a Difference in German Instruction at Junior and Senior High Schools

The recent history of German instruction in a number of Lawrence schools can be characterized by flux. The retirements of Hannelore Hess and Janet Olin, as well as a series of short instructional terms, have undermined continuity. Recently, new German instructors joined the faculties of Lawrence schools, however, and now the future of German instruction in Lawrence looks promising.

A notable exception to the pattern of frequent change has been West Junior High School. Phyllis Farrar has been able to maintain a steady program of German since 1985. She added teaching German in the context of the district-wide summer elementary enrichment program in 1989.

Earlier this year the Lawrence school board voted to institute a foreign language requirement for seventh graders, starting in the 2000-2001 school year. All seventh graders will take a semester of *Introduction to Foreign Language*, in which they will receive six weeks of instruction each in French, German, and Spanish. Thus, German will be introduced to 800 students each year, instead of to only about 80. Farrar is confident that the number of eighth and ninth graders who choose to study German will increase. This is indeed a positive step for the German program in the Lawrence schools.

In 1993 and 1995 Farrar organized three-week trips to Germany for students in her junior high school German classes. She took nine students the first time and six students the second. In 1998, with the help of Friedemann and Winnie Eisert, she organized a seventeen-day trip for junior high students as part of the sister city program with Eutin. That trip included visits to the Rhine, upper Bavaria, and Dresden, and concluded with week-end home stays in Eutin. Nineteen students participated. There are plans for a similar trip in the summer of 2000. Students from junior high trips become enthusiastic candidates for the high school German program and the exchanges that are in progress with Eutin at that level.

As part of the push to communicate authentic information in the German classroom, Farrar has developed a curriculum that relates to other content areas. For example, at the eighth grade level, her program includes teaching about the Holocaust. Farrar gets strong technical support for this from the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education (Kansas City metropolitan area). At the ninth grade level, the required Kansas history course has provided Farrar with the opportunity to develop a curriculum and student projects about German immigrants to our community. Farrar has received a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant to explore community resources, including Watkins Community Museum, Spencer Research Library, and the Max Kade Center (which houses the Lawrence Turnverein's library and artifacts).

An important resource for German instruction for young children has been Sybille Zeisig. A graduate of the KU German Department with an M.A. degree, she has taught pupils of all ages, beginning sometimes as early as two. Her program of private instruction began about nine years ago. She teaches as many as forty to forty-five students in about ten individual groups in her studio downtown. In recent years she has enriched her instruction by organizing trips to Germany. Although Zeisig is responsible for arranging travel and home stays, it is the students themselves who make proposals about the places they should see in Germany.

Other junior high schools in the city now have new German instructors: Ursula Kuhn-Laird at South and Winnie Eisert at Southwest and Central.

At Lawrence High and Free State High German instruction is now under the leadership of Friedemann Eisert and Stuart Strecker. Strecker took over the organization and leadership of the summer program in Eutin last year. Eisert is preparing to head the exchange between the schools of Eutin and Lawrence next year. This year's celebrations of the city partnership of ten years have helped to create enthusiasm for the German program. Eutin teacher Edgar Freidel, who was in Lawrence with ten exchange students in September and October, returned to Germany with high praise for the experience of their stay in Lawrence. This project received a boost when Gerald Denning was able to persuade Don Potter and the Hertz Agency to make a van available for the German exchange teacher's use. The new teacher resources and community support are all positive signs for the strengthening and expanding German program.

Max Kade Center Remembers Berlin Wall's Fall



About sixty students and faculty members crowded into the Max Kade Center on November 10 to discuss the issues relating to the fall of the Berlin Wall, one of the most surprising and far-reaching events of the twentieth century. Professors Helmut Huelsbergen and Ron Francisco and students Thorsten Huth (Bremen), Monika Moyrer (Stuttgart), and Andreas Gebhardt (Halle) met for a heated roundtable discussion about causes and consequences.

Call For Papers

International Conference on Exile Studies

University of Kansas—Lawrence, Kansas (USA)

September 21-24, 2000

Humor and Satire in Exile & Rescue from the Nazis in Fact and Fiction

We are seeking papers on the use of humor and satire as a weapon against Hitler and Nazism in literary works, radio broadcast, cabaret, caricature, etc.

We also welcome conference contributions on topics related to the *Emergency Rescue Committee* and other rescue efforts

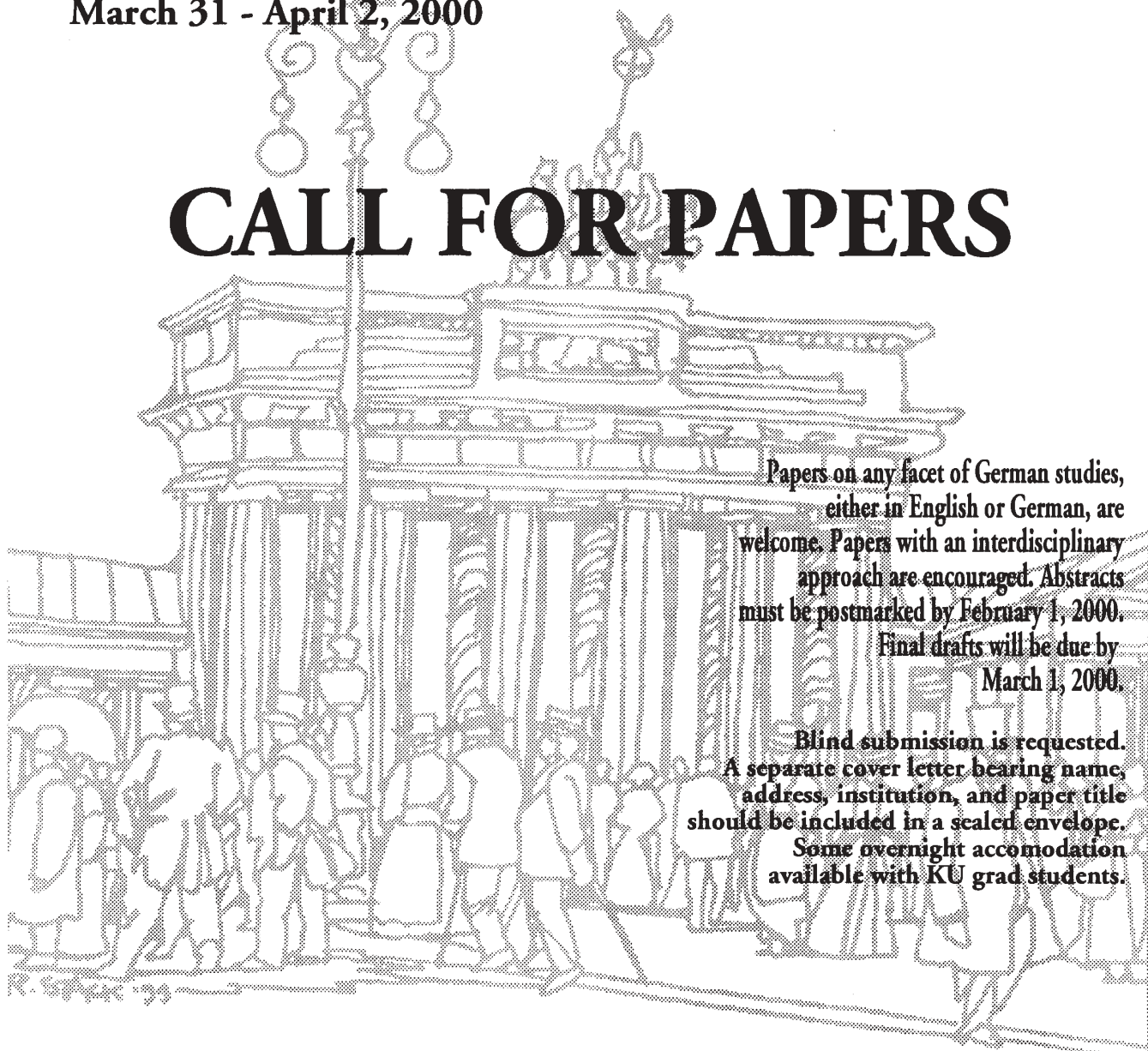
During the conference we will have the opportunity to show portions of the exhibit on Varian Fry prepared by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Deadline for abstracts is December 15, 1999. Please send a copy of your abstract (150-300 words) and a brief curriculum vitae to:

Prof. Victoria Hertling, President, *Society for Exile Studies, Inc.*
Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Peace Studies (402)
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV 89507 (USA)
Tel. 775-784-6767 FAX 775-784-6611
Email hertling@scs.unr.edu

**The 4th Annual
University of Kansas
Graduate Student Colloquium on
German Language, Literature, and Culture
March 31 - April 2, 2000**

CALL FOR PAPERS



Papers on any facet of German studies, either in English or German, are welcome. Papers with an interdisciplinary approach are encouraged. Abstracts must be postmarked by February 1, 2000. Final drafts will be due by March 1, 2000.

Blind submission is requested. A separate cover letter bearing name, address, institution, and paper title should be included in a sealed envelope. Some overnight accommodation available with KU grad students.

Please direct all correspondence to:
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Preservation of Dialects in a Global Web Archive

The work on a dialect atlas of Kansas German, which William Keel, Gabi Lunte, and Chris Johnson have conducted for several years, will move in new directions. To exploit the potential of cyberspace the Max Kade Center has begun to work closely with Professor Paul Meier in the Department of Theater and Film. Professor Meier, whose project is called the "Development of the International Dialects of English Archive (IDEA)," has made recordings of native speakers of English language dialects and housed them in an on-line archive. Working closely with IDEA, the Max Kade Center hopes to develop a uniform method of transferring dialect information to a digitized archival site on the World Wide Web. These parallel projects in English and German preserve and analyze receding linguistic traditions. A common denominator is the need to preserve endangered legacies.

This interdisciplinary plan represents the convergence of two long-standing independent research projects. By combining German and English dialect research under one technical director for both projects, we expect to gain efficiency and effectiveness. Although there are minor differences in the methodology of collecting data and in the practical use of the dialect recordings, there are, nevertheless, significant common elements to make digitalization and the creation of a single on-line archive a desirable objective. The practical concerns of stage and film are responsible for the origins of the English dialect project; whereas the need for a wide range of dialect samples to draw a scientifically accurate atlas of dialect islands was the motivation for the German project. The aims of cataloguing and outreach have brought these different initiatives together in a natural partnership. In this way we can serve the interests of actors and directors in theater and film as well as the scientific needs of linguists.

Gabi Lunte and Chris Johnson have received a grant from the Kansas Humanities Council to gather language samples from German-speaking immigrants to southwestern Kansas from Chichuahua, Mexico.

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