

Wellesley Wegweiser

Issue 10

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Spring 2003

The Chair's Message

Liebe Leserinnen und Leser,

I hope this new edition of our newsletter finds you all well! Germany has been in the news quite a bit this year, and I am not only thinking about Caroline Link winning an Oscar for best foreign movie with her film "Nowhere in Africa." Whether the differences in outlook on current international affairs between the US and Germany—as some observers see it—mark a new chapter in the relationship between the two countries, nobody doubts the strength of their partnership. Our work as students and teachers of foreign languages and cultures proves ever more important: Learning foreign languages enables us to understand each other's attitudes and Weltanschauung, and studying different cultures and their histories allows us to define common traditions and solutions to conflicts.

Thus, supporting our students' studies abroad remains one of the priorities of our work as a department to complement the education that we offer them here on campus. Again, a large group of students spent Wintersion studying in Vienna, accompanied by Professor Thomas Hansen and myself. We have 9 students signed up to participate in our Wellesley-in-Vienna program next year. Indeed, these are wonderful numbers and they attest to the strength of



Class of 2002 German & German Studies majors enjoy the senior breakfast. Back row: Lindsey Nelson, Anne-Laure Py, Viennese exchange student Patricia Reiter, Melanie Prasol, Angela Kappler, Cecily Goodrich. Front row: Viennese exchange student Agnes Hellmuth, Diane Morgan, Katharine Riso, and Natalie Ondiak.

our academic program overall. We will graduate 9 majors in German Language and Literature and German Studies, as well as 3 minors. We have a wonderful group of students returning to Germany and Austria as Fulbright teaching assistants and fellows—our department has ranked nationwide as one of the most successful departments to win such awards. Angela Kappler '02, currently a Fulbright student in Frankfurt, was chosen to address the Fulbright Commission in March. Read on for her speech.

Thomas Hansen and Jens Kruse took students to New York City to visit the Kafka exhibit at the Jewish Museum and the early twentieth century German and Austrian collections at the Neue Galerie. On campus, Professor David Price (Southern Methodist University) gave a lecture on the work of Albrecht Dürer. Author Susan Stern lectured on the political relationship between Germany, Europe, and the US.

On Rosenmontag March 3 colleagues hosted a Faschings celebration for the students. German food was prepared and it was a festive time for all.

We have designed new courses on "Youth and Adolescence in German Literature" and "Film in Germany 1919

– 1999" to introduce students to other aspects of German culture, and we continue to design new instructional programs for our language courses.

Given the College's tight budget, we may have to scale back some of our programs and projects: offering Wintersion abroad programs annually will become more difficult, and leave replacement instructors will no longer cover all the courses we would like to offer. Next year, Thomas Hansen will be on research leave in the spring, and I will be away from teaching for the entire year, reading, writing, and spending time with our new daughter Anna, who was born on April 10.

With this issue we say goodbye to Amanda Zoellner who has so ably designed, assembled and edited the Wegweiser. We will miss her! see page 6.

As always, do keep in touch with us. Wir freuen uns auf Ihre Neuigkeiten.

Thomas Nolden, Chair

Contents

Alumnae Aktuell	2
An Alumna Remembers	3
Focus on Faculty	4
Kreuzworträtsel	5
Wintersion in Vienna	6
Wellesley-in-Vienna	7
Tanner Conference	8
Fulbright Students	8
Awards & Prizes	10

Alumnae Aktuell

In June 2002 we welcomed back former students from the reunion classes of 1942, 1977, 1982, 1987, and 1997 at our annual open house. We hope many more alumnae connected to the German Department will stop by to see us this year right before the Saturday reunion luncheon on June 7th between 11:30-12:30 in Founders 407. We look forward to wishing you: "Herzlich Willkommen!"

On this visit Ann White Kurtz '42 shared with us her experience of being drafted into the top-secret effort to break the German's Enigma code right out of Wellesley. She gave a talk on the subject at her local Raleigh N.C. alumnae club meeting in January, an adaptation of which appears on page 3. When she sent us the text recently, she wrote, "I really enjoyed my visit last June, and realize how much of me is still in those halls!"

Venita Kaleps '77 now lives in Hamburg where she works for Geo magazine. Check out their website at www.geo.de.

Margo Loebel '82 who had recently left a post at Nike when we saw her last June, has been appointed Group Vice President-Finance at Archer-Daniels Midland Company in Decatur, IL. Congratulations, Margo.

Heike Pahl '87, who in the summer of 1986 baby-sat Prof. Ward's one-year-old son at her family's home in West Berlin while Frau Ward was doing research in East Berlin archives, is now a professor of medicine at the university in Freiburg in Breisgau, where Prof. Ward once spent her



Heidi Meyer '97, Heike Pahl '87 and family, Margaret Loebel '82, and Venita Kaleps '77 enjoy the Reunion 2002 German Department reception.

junior year as an undergrad! She brought her husband and one-year-old son to reunion this time.

Heidi Meyer '97, our first graduate to go to Vienna as a Fulbright Teaching Assistant in 1997-98, is now based in Minneapolis where she works as Participant Support Coordinator of the Great Lakes Region for the student exchanges supported by the American Field Service. She plans to pursue graduate studies in Human Resources and Industrial Relations in order to work in the future in organizational development and corporate training.

Here are some other students we've heard from recently:

Hilde Werschul '93, another major to go on to a Teaching Fulbright in Vienna after graduation is also based in New York where she is studying for the Ph. D. in Art History at Columbia. She is currently working on her dissertation on the drawings of Eva Hesse and teaching a course on Neoclassicism and Romanticism at Hunter College.

Ann Pingoud '94 was married to Marc Alain Chung in October 2001, and they are contemplating a move to Asia from their home in New York City. She is pursuing her love of fashion, and enjoys taking classes and doing some modeling. However, she has been in touch with a German-speaking group in Hong Kong, "Man Spricht Deutsch", so that she can maintain her German if they move. She still gets to visit relatives in Germany, and it reminds her of her year in Konstanz.

Maria Lesser '95 has moved to New York where she is now working for the College Board, administering education programs. She has also just started a masters program in

non-profit and public management at NYU. She writes that she continues to keep in touch with her classmates Kathy Witgert and Davina Vora. Kathy is living in Atlanta and works for the Center for Disease Control, and Davina is finishing her Ph.D. in Texas.

Alexandra Meder, an exchange student from Konstanz in '97-98 writes that after working in ecotourism and as a foreign journalist at ZDF, she is now teaching in Konstanz.

Kat Bolstad '01 has just entered a doctoral program in marine biology in New Zealand, where she's studying squid. She recently appeared in the news at CNN.com with a colossal squid that had been feeding off the coast of Antarctica and was caught by a fishing boat. Kat's specimen is only the second intact colossal squid ever recovered. Congratulations to Kat on her record-breaking catch!

Diane Morgan '02, who has been sailing nearly everywhere in the world—or so it seems—while on her Watson fellowship this year, has sent us e-mail from Holland, Cyprus, Egypt and now Japan. She made it all the way to Antarctica on a Dutch vessel, but is nevertheless repeatedly drawn back to Berlin where she spent part of her junior year. In her last post she told us that she had just been awarded a teaching Fulbright in Germany for 2003-04!

Please continue to send your news both exotic and quixotic to Margaret Ward at mward@wellesley.edu.



Kat Bolstad '01 and a colleague at New Zealand's national museum in Wellington, with the world's second intact example of the colossal squid. (photo: cnn.com)

An Alumna Remembers

It was in November 1941 that a strange note appeared in my mailbox. "Please meet me in the astronomy lab at 1530 on Friday next. Signed: Helen Dodson." When I went to see her I sensed something interesting was looming. "We are inviting a few seniors to do classified work for the government which will result in a job after commencement. This is not to be mentioned to anyone, not even members of your family. If you agree, you are to come to the zoology building at 7:00 PM on Tuesday. Any questions?"

Only math and language majors had been invited. We were given large brown envelopes with lettered strips of paper and instruction booklets. We were told the FBI would complete background checks before commencement, and we did assignments from a correspondence course in cryptanalysis. December 7th gave us a sense of urgency. War changed our lives; ration books were issued. Wellesley students knitted mittens and facemasks for crews of the North Atlantic convoys. On graduating, our group was assigned as assistant cryptanalyst aides in Washington, D.C.

In October some of us were sent for officer training, but our course only lasted three weeks. We returned wearing the uniform of the WAVES. I was welcomed by Commander Engstrom who stated, if a leak were traced to me, I would be shot. He introduced me to my co-workers—three career code breakers. The operation was soon moved to a more secure site. A gun was always placed on my desk, to be used if anyone tried to gain entrance illegally. We worked on the Enigma, desperately, blindly.

Initially, the Enigma had been available commercially in Germany. Distrustful of their bellicose neighbors, the Poles acquired one and tried to crack its mechanical code. They were able to obtain tables of indicators for specific times, and the young Polish officer, Marion Rejelski, first broke the code by reconstructing

the wiring of the rotors. The Poles presented their British and French allies with reconstructed Enigmas just as the Germans prepared their invasion of Poland in 1939.

Our working materials consisted of a modified Enigma machine, designed for deciphering the cryptograms; a book of current headings if one had been captured; a list of U-boats with names of their commanders; and another list of possible cribs. A short message from the German Admiral Dönitz to a far-flung U-boat included an address and an order to report position; to a closer one, directions to proceed to one of the ports on the French coast. There were daily weather reports. In the early years, if we lacked the list of bigrams (indicators) currently in use, reading plaintext was impossible. The mathematicians calculated probabilities and how these would be multiplied should a new rotor be introduced. The only solutions would come later from the British Turing bombe, a leviathan of electrical circuits, machines and creative technology. (Alan Turing is regarded as the father of the computer.)

There were months when we lacked any clues except those from radio transmissions. During the winter of 1942-43, a message sent by Dönitz to his Wolf Pack described a convoy of 57 ships just passing the southern tip of Greenland en route to Britain. Neither the British nor the American cryptanalysts had broken the code for several days, so we could only guess at the content of the intercept. We knew the approximate location of the U-boats from communications intelligence. If only we could figure out their exact locations, we could direct the convoy to change course! Later, when we were able to break the code, we discovered that we had lost 50 ships and many merchant seamen.

At times we caught glimpses of the U-boat crews as individuals. On one occasion the admiral proclaimed the birth of a son to one of his commanders on all

frequencies. A colleague from the University of Virginia delighted us with his translation of this announcement:

From here to Capetown

Be it known

A little Leuth

Has now been bo'n.

(apologies for the Southern accent!)

It has been claimed that endeavors of cryptanalysts both in this country and abroad shortened the war by at least a year. However, we also depended on the courage of British seamen and officers who boarded sinking submarines and other ships for the purpose of recovering keys and Enigma machines.

Thanks to Ann White Kurtz '42 for sharing her fascinating story, just one more example of the amazing accomplishments to which a Wellesley education can lead.



Ann in uniform, 1944.

Ursula Dreher graciously hosted a Thanksgiving party at her home in Konstanz where many of the former participants of our wonderful Wellesley-in-Konstanz program gathered. Best wishes to all of you!

Focus on Faculty

The German Department faculty have been very active again this year. In addition to all their work described below, they have been working to hire an instructor to serve as a faculty leave replacement for next year.

Prof. Thomas Hansen has been working over the past year on a revision of the first-year German textbook *Neue Horizonte*, of which he is co-author. This new updated version will include an interactive DVD that lets students do activities and play games to learn the language.

His article on Charles (Karl) Follen appeared in the Sept.-Oct. 2002 issue of *Harvard Magazine*. Follen, who had been a fiery *Burschen-schaftler* at the University of Giessen, emigrated to the United States in 1824, eventually to be hired by Harvard College as the first professor of German in the United States. You can read this article on line and find out more about Follen as an abolitionist at <http://www.harvard-magazine.com/on-line/0902141.html>.

This year he introduced a new survey course to the curriculum on "Images of Childhood, Youth, and Adolescence in German Literature." It is designed to introduce students to a broad spectrum of great writers in German while focussing on a specific theme.

During his sabbatical leave in

2001-2002, Prof. Jens Kruse mostly worked on Franz Kafka. He finished a book manuscript entitled *Writing and Reading in the Penal Colony*, which is currently being considered for publication. Several book reviews and an article called "Kafkas Ein Traum and the 'Ende' chapter of *Der Proceß*" -- to be published in the May 2003 issue of *German Studies Review* -- are also products of this leave.

His work on Kafka also found expression in the teaching of German 276/376: *Franz Kafka* in the fall semester. In addition to several German majors, the English portion of this course also attracted a good number of students from other departments. Prof. Kruse also taught German 101-102: *Beginning German* and EXTD 254: *Imaginary Crimes and Courts: the Law in Literature*.

Prof. Kruse has been invited to give a paper at a conference on "The Intersection of Politics and German Literature, 1750-2000" to be held in May at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library of UCLA. He will speak on "The political uses of 'Goethe' during the Nazi Period: *Goethe Fictions* between 1933 and 1945."

Prof. Kruse also has received an invitation to a reception at the College Club which states that it is his 20th anniversary at Wellesley College. While the calendar does not



Prof. Thomas Nolden and Prof. Thomas Hansen at a ball they attended with students as part of Wintersession-in-Vienna 2003.

lie, Prof. Kruse steadfastly refuses to believe that he is really 20 years older now than when he first arrived on campus.

Prof. Thomas Nolden had a busy year running two big international conferences. In September, he led a seminar on contemporary Jewish writing in Europe as part of a program that he co-organized with the European Institute for Jewish Studies at Sweden's annual book fair in Goeteborg. He also introduced writers from Poland and the UK to the Swedish audience.

Prof. Nolden was also one of the organizers of a conference that brought together fifteen scholars from Europe and the United States to discuss the emergence of Jewish literatures in contemporary Europe. He and Geoffrey Hartman (Yale) gave the opening lectures at the meeting. The conference was held in October at the newly-founded Jewish Studies program at the University of Antwerp, Belgium.

In January, while teaching the January-in-Vienna program, he gave a lecture on Jewish Writing in contemporary France as a guest of the Department of Romance Literatures at the University of Vienna. He also was invited to give a talk at the Salomon Ludwig Steinheim-Institut in Duisburg this May.

His articles on Jewish French writing were accepted by *French Forum* and *Romanische Forschungen*, *Vierteljahrsschrift für romanische Sprachen und Literaturen*.

While doing research in Berlin last



Prof. Ward enjoyed a home-cooked meal with Wellesley-in-Vienna students, new exchange students, Martha Gutschli and Gunda Schlaeffer and Resident Director Christiane Hartnack in May 2002.

Focus on Faculty



Wellesley-in-Vienna Resident Director Christiane Hartnack enjoyed an outing with students to Balcon.

May, Prof. Margaret Ward had the chance to see Aiyana J. Maleki '01 who was spending the year there for both a Fulbright fellowship and a Bundestag Parliamentary internship. They enjoyed a marvelous concert of music by Hildegard von Bingen in the Marienkirche. A. J. has decided to stay on in Berlin for a few more years

to pursue a Masters in Economics at the Humboldt University. Prof. Ward then ventured on to Vienna where she was warmly welcomed by our contingent of six Wellesley students, who prepared a home-cooked Viennese meal: Wienerschnitzel, Kartoffelsalat, and Apfelstrudel! This fall Prof. Ward had these returning students and five others in her seminar: "Christa Wolf in Perspective." During the second semester she has enjoyed advising Zlata Hajro '03 in an independent study on "Language, Death, and Women in the works of Ingeborg Bachmann."

Prof. Ward attended the annual Women in German Conference in Tucson, AZ in October. Eight previously published biobibliographical texts on famous women have been reprinted in 2002 and 2003 in a new a two-volume Suhrkamp Taschenbuch edition of *Berühmte Frauen*. (st3398 ; st3453). Several others have appeared for the first time on-line at <http://www.fembio.org/frauen-biographie/Louisa-adams.shtml> and <http://www.fembio.org/frauen-biographie/maxi-wander.shtml>.

Ones on the Puerto Rican poet, Julia de Burgos, and the German writer, Therese von Bacheracht, have been submitted. As May 1 approaches, she looks forward to her youngest son's decision about where he will attend college next year. Hint: it won't be Wellesley! 2003-04 will mark her last year of full-time teaching, followed by a sabbatical and half-time teaching under the early retirement plan thereafter.

The German Department joins Thomas Nolden and his wife in welcoming Anna, the newest member of their family, born April 10, 2003.

Kreuzworträtsel

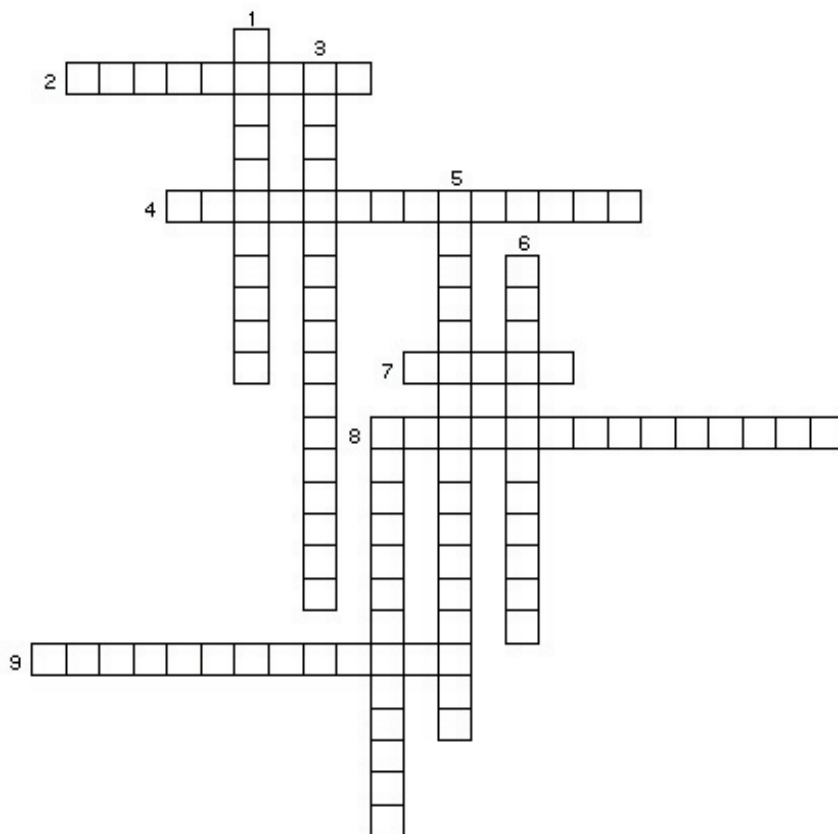
Deutsche Filme German Club

Waagrecht

2. 2 Wörter—ein Mädchen läuft
4. 3 Wörter—zwei Frauen im zweiten Weltkrieg
7. 1 Wort—das Leben einer österreichischen Kaiserin
8. 2 Wörter—über den Fall der Berliner Mauer
9. 3 Wörter—von Hildegard Knef, sehr avant garde, wenig Information

Senkrecht

1. 2 Wörter—eine Köchin muss für ihre Nichte sorgen
3. 3 Wörter—hat den Oscar gewonnen, von Caroline Link
5. 3 Wörter—früher Film von Caroline Link über die Musik und die Familie
6. 2 Wörter—mit Hildegard Knef, nach dem Krieg, eine Frau macht etwas Unmoralisches
8. 3 Wörter—nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg in Wien, mit Orson Welles



Wintersession in Vienna



Liz Abbey '05, Kleopatra Sekuj '05, and Emily Vardell '05 enjoyed warming up in one of Vienna's many cafés after seeing the sights.

Vera Hannush '05 drew inspiration from Gustav Klimt's "The Kiss" at the Oberes Belvedere.



Prof. Nolden and a group of students were dressed to impress for the ball they attended at the Hofburg.



Fay Galbavy '03 waltzed with Prof. Hansen at the Hofburg.

Fay Galbavy '03 shared some of her Wintersession in Vienna memories: "About twelve of us went to the ball at the Hofburg. The waltz with Prof. Hansen has to be one of the funniest memories of the trip. The music was playing so fast...I thought we were going to fall! And Vera was running around the dance floor trying to take pictures of us. Despite my fear, I couldn't stop laughing."

On Academics:

"I found the classes challenging, primarily because they were almost every day, and we had to write all our

papers out by hand. I didn't mind, but it was quite time consuming. We also laughed...a lot."

On Culture:

"Because I am a music major and a German Studies major, I thought some of the greatest moments in Vienna were at the Staatsoper and the Musikverein. I also enjoyed touring around finding composers' houses and visiting their graves in the Zentralfriedhof. But my favorite memories are of laughing with the girls and going to the cafés to sip melanges and practice our German."

Editing and Layout

To all our Wegweiser readers:

I've worked as a student assistant for the German Department since my first semester at Wellesley, and the Wegweiser has been one of my special projects since the beginning. This issue is my fourth (and last) one, and it has been something I have very much enjoyed doing. Thanks to all the students, professors, and alumnae who have contributed over the past four years--there is no Wegweiser without your contributions.

As for me, I look forward to reading future issues of the Wegweiser

and faithfully providing my alumna updates each spring. Although I will graduate this spring, I won't truly be gone. I'll remain at Wellesley next year to complete a certification program in preparation for teaching high school earth science.

Best wishes to all of you!

Amanda Zoellner '03

Amanda has fond memories of decorating the department for holidays, changing the toner in the copier, and working all those early morning hours.



Wellesley-in-Vienna

Three Wellesley students studied abroad through our Wellesley-in-Vienna program in 2002-2003: Sarah Barron (full year), Elizabeth Castagna (spring), and Sarah Teetor (full year), all class of '04. Below, Sarah Barron shares an experience she had while abroad.

"Neplante" stamped in my passport - what does that mean? I was standing at the Austrian-Czech border on a foggy November morning with a group of other young travelers. We had been asked to depart the bus from Vienna to Prague and open our luggage for inspection. While one border policeman emptied an Italian man's clothing onto the inspection table, another asked me how much cash I was carrying and demanded to see my credit card. Those of us carrying bank and credit cards were herded into the customs office, where another official ran them through a computer system and demanded we enter our PIN numbers. We frustrated the officials by responding that we didn't have our PIN numbers memorized, because we never use credit cards for cash withdrawals.

After a flurry of discussion, they agreed that our bank cards would suffice. Supervised by two guards, each of us was required to enter our bank account PIN number into a calculator-type device, while the others in line waited and watched. Although I considered refusing to enter such private financial

Students enjoyed a trip to Budapest, Hungary. This magnificent view shows the Houses of Parliament as seen from across the Danube.



Elizabeth Castagna '04 and Sarah Barron '04 enjoyed the snow during a trip to Heviz, Hungary, at the edge of the Balaton, where they also visited hot springs.

information, the look of the border policeman, and the difficulty I found communicating with him in either German or English, changed my mind. After a nod from the woman reading the computer screen, we filled out forms in English and Czech with personal information. Suddenly one of the guards returned, pointed to each of us individually, and stated: "You, You, You - Back to Austria". Our pleas for an explanation (in English, German, Italian, and French!) were completely ignored. Our bus driver, who was Czech, refused to translate, and the only word we could understand was one mention of "NATO" before our group of 5 "deportees" was loaded into a police van by two border guards and escorted back across the border zone to Austrian territory.

The Austrian officials were surprised to see a group of travelers in their 20s deposited alongside the highway by Czech border police, but

told us that a bus headed towards Vienna would cross the border in 4 hours. Luckily we found a simple restaurant and had plenty of time to compare our passports stamped "invalid" and devise our theories of why we had been denied entry.

Back in Vienna, I finally received an explanation after Christiane Hartnack, our program advisor, phoned the Czech Embassy. Apparently, the police were preparing for the NATO summit scheduled for Nov. 21-22 in Prague. Based on past violence from radical protestors, border police began profiling young people crossing the borders - beginning the morning that I was traveling. All potential



Sarah Teetor '04 (front left) and Sarah Barron '04 (front right) attended a ball in Vienna in January with a group of friends from their dormitory.

protestors were to be denied entry! I suppose the baroque architecture course books I was carrying could have been perceived as potential weapons. It became a good joke among friends in Vienna that Czech border police could consider "kleine Sarah" dangerous. Luckily, my mother visited Vienna in April and we traveled to Prague together. Entering and returning, the border police raised their eyebrows at my "Neplante" stamp, but took one look at me and stamped my entry. I guess I am not so suspicious looking after all!

by Sarah Barron '04

Tanner Conference

Returning Wellesley-in-Vienna students Caroline Geiersbach, Yan Ho, Laura Puttlitz, and Liz Renner, all Class of 2003, participated in the college's second annual Tanner Conference, a forum for students to share their experiences studying and working away from Wellesley. Their presentation was a panel discussion centered around musical experiences in Vienna.

Yan Ho talked about singing with the choir and taking a course on women in music at the university. One of the composers Yan studied was Nancy van de Vate, a Wellesley alumna who composes music and owns a record label in Vienna. Van de Vate, who received an Alumnae Achievement Award a couple of years ago, discussed what it was like to nurture a work in progress and the difficulties of having a piece performed, finding the right musicians and venues, and making revisions of one's work.

Liz Renner and Laura Puttlitz worked at internships which were supported by Wellesley stipends

from the Susan Rappaport Knafel International Internship Program.

Liz talked about her internship at the Orpheus Trust, a "Verein für die Forschung vertriebener und vergessener Kunst", an organization for research on musicians from Austria and Hungary who were persecuted or murdered by the National Socialist regime. She also played pieces by musicians and composers that she learned about during her internship, ranging in style from cabaret pieces to serious classical music. Liz said, "I talked about the main exhibit we did in May and June 2002, which consisted of speakers attached to buildings where these musicians had lived throughout Vienna's 7th district. They played music by former residents of the houses at the push of a button - so it was a big project."

Laura Puttlitz presented on her internship at the Ernst Krenek Institute. Ernst Krenek is a very influential composer of 20th century classical music, which was banned during the Nazi time period. The institute was founded in 1997 through funds

made available by the Vienna City Council, in commemoration of the significant Austrian composers who had been branded by the Nazis as "degenerate musicians" and forced to flee their homeland. Laura's work at the institute included translating materials from German into English, updating the Institute's database, and corresponding with scholars and musicians about upcoming projects and concerts.

Unlike the other students who presented at the Tanner Conference, Caroline Geiersbach '03 did not take a music class at the University of Vienna or participate in a music-related internship. Caroline said, "I wanted to be involved in Tanner because I found my experience to be musically enriching even if it was recreational. I talked about the various performances I had seen and how the Wellesley-in-Vienna program endorsed our attending concerts during our free time."

Fulbright Students

In 2002-03 we had a total of four Wellesley students on Fulbrights in Germany. At the opening ceremony of the Berlin Seminar 2003 "Education for Leaders" held in the famous Berliner Ensemble Theater on Schiffbauerdamm on March 24th Angela Kappler '02 was asked to give the student address to the Fulbright Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States of America and the Federal Republic of Germany. With many dignitaries in attendance—and Evangeline Frey '00, Cecily Goodrich '02, Lindsay Nelson '02 and Natalie Ondiak '02 cheering her on—she addressed her audience as follows:

To the members of the Board, honored and distinguished guests, and fellow Fulbrighters,

Greetings to all of you and welcome. It is an honor to stand before you today. I would like to introduce myself and to thank the German and American Board members on behalf of all Fulbrighters for this unbelievable Fulbright experience.

My name is Angela Kappler, and I grew up in New York State and New Jersey. When I was younger, I thought that New York City, which is about 10 miles from where I live, was the center of the world. In high school I developed a passion for writing and my dream was to study at the Columbia School of Journalism and one day head The New Yorker magazine. A little ambitious, maybe, but I chose a school which would hopefully help me get there. Through my four years at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, I received an extraordinary education.

Wellesley is a woman's college, and people often ask me why I chose to

study at a single-sex institution. I can only answer that Wellesley promises to produce "women who will make a difference in the world." And I strongly believe in its motto, "Non Ministrari, Sed Ministrare"—that we are here not to be served, but to serve others.

At Wellesley I majored in English, and to my surprise, German. While I grew up in an area of the United States in which one is more likely to hear Spanish or Korean, much of my decision to study German had to do with the fact that my grandfather was born in Germany and immigrated to the United States. When he passed away before I left for college, I wanted to learn more about the country and the language from which he originated.

I loved my first German classes at Wellesley and I applied for the Wellesley-in-Vienna study abroad program. I also served as editor-in-chief of a joint Wellesley-M.I.T. magazine, and I was able to combine my interests in German

Fulbright Students

and journalism by participating in two journalism internships while in Vienna.

Despite a sometimes challenging study abroad experience, I chose to apply for a Fulbright grant to Germany. Much as I believe in Wellesley's motto, I believe in Senator Fulbright's: "We must dare to think unthinkable thoughts." With a Fulbright grant, we have all been given a unique learning opportunity, and this opportunity should not just be about what a Fulbright grant can do for us, but rather what it allows us to do for others. Everyday that is difficult as an American abroad, because of the current political situation, reminds me that I can try to give back by engaging in dialogue with my community and trying to promote understanding between our two similar, and yet so different, societies. And nothing is impossible. If we only believe in change, we are already more than halfway there to making it reality.

This year as a Fulbright has afforded all of us the chance for change. My Fulbright year has expanded my education in ways which otherwise might not have been possible. I applied to study Germanistik at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe Universität in Frankfurt am Main, with the hope of gaining fluency in German and later working as a foreign correspondent on German current events. I also hoped to complete another internship, this time with the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung.

But before I even arrived in Germany, I realized that to achieve my goals I would need to continue my education with coursework in political science and economics. Because my undergraduate degree was in English and German, I first thought that such a change might be "unthinkable." But while challenging, my classes at the University of Frankfurt have expanded my knowledge about world events, and have increased my prospects as a future graduate school applicant.

The Fulbright year has not only extended my education, but it has also enhanced my marketability as a journalist. In January I participated in the Fulbright Hauptstadt Berlin Program with several other



Sonya Jacobs '03 spent spring break in Vienna and met up with Fulbrighter Angela Kappler '02 and Wellesley-in-Vienna exchange student Sarah Barron '04 at Café Demel.

journalists and students. Through this seminar, Fulbright provided us with access to Germany's most important political, economic and media institutions. Furthermore, through my application for the Fulbright internship program, I was accepted as an intern with Deutsche Welle, one of Germany's largest news broadcasters. I know that I speak for everyone in thanking the Fulbright American Program Unity Committee for all of the effort which they devoted to helping this year's grantees find internships.

On a personal note, my year as a Fulbrighter has offered me a meaningful reconnection with my past. While I never had the opportunity to travel with my grandfather on one of his many trips back to Germany, I recently met with his relatives in Durlach, a small town outside of Karlsruhe. Although no one else in my family can speak German, I was able to get to know my grandfather's family because of my language ability. During my visit, one of my relatives said to me, "Du sprichst besser Deutsch als dein Opa" (Your German is better than your grandfather's.) Needless to say this was a moment of personal triumph that I am sure we have all experienced in the course of this year.

Since becoming a Fulbrighter, the world has changed, and my own

plans for the world have changed. Journalism and New York City are no longer the only possibilities. Germany is no longer the country in Europe where my grandfather was born and about which I knew very little. And so I believe that for all of us, the Fulbright experience is not only a realization of our dreams, but also a redirecting of them.

To the members of the Board of both the German and American governments, I would like to say thank you for this opportunity. The theme of our conference this March is leadership, and you have provided us with a chance to become leaders not only in our academic fields, but perhaps more importantly, in our own communities. Thank you for allowing us to try ourselves and to push past our boundaries, both academic and personal.

Thanks to Angela for sharing her speech with us, and congratulations to all our Fulbright students who have accomplished much of which to be proud.

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Congratulations!

The 2002 Ethel Folger Williams
Sophomore Prize was awarded to:

- Sarah Barron '04
- Emily Randall '04

The 2002 Natalie Wipplinger Prize was
awarded to:

- Angela Kappler '02
- Katharine Riso '02

Bettina Scholz '03 has received a Fulbright Grant to
study in Germany in 2003-2004.

Nicole Hatch '03 and Diane Morgan '02 have re-
ceived Fulbright Teaching Assistantship Grants for
2003-2004 in Germany.

