2013 Fall Conference  
Topic: German in STEM and Business  
Environmental Issues: A German-American Comparison  
Presenter: William Markham, UNCG

Samstag, den 28. September, 2013  
**All events take place in Greene Hall 154**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Presenter/ Organizer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45-9:15</td>
<td>Kaffeeklatsch; Begrüssung</td>
<td>Alyssa Howards, Beth Gulewich</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15-10:15</td>
<td>Environmental Issues: a German/American Comparison</td>
<td>William Markham, UNCG</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15-10:45</td>
<td>Neither Dull nor Difficult: on Teaching Business German</td>
<td>Heiko Wiggers, WFU</td>
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<td>10:45-11:15</td>
<td>Pause</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15-12:15</td>
<td>STEM Grant Report</td>
<td>Beth Gulewich (Broughton HS); Jo Garrison (Ligon M.S. / Martin M.S.); Marc Reibold (NC State)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:15-13:45</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Learning and STEM fields</td>
<td>Scott Denham (Davidson College)</td>
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<td>13:45-14:15</td>
<td>DAAD and STEM grants</td>
<td>Scott Denham (Davidson College)</td>
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<td>14:15-14:45</td>
<td>Kaffee und Kuchen</td>
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| 14:45-15:45   | Business Meeting:  
Vote on German Day Theme, FLANC,  
Awards Committee, German Immersion Weekend            |                                                   |
| 15:45         | Abschied                                               |                                                   |

- Compared both countries' environmental problems
- Sociological differences
  - Geography
  - Discussions of Energy Independence (US possible, BRD not possible)
  - Population density differences & noise pollution concerns
  - Population Growth and environmental causes of growth & non-growth
  - Americans assume pop. growth is normal & good; Germans are less likely to attribute value to this notion
- Cultural differences
  - Frontier-ism
  - Sense of “individual responsibility”
  - US as reluctant “Welfare State”
• Less resistance to government regulation in Germany than in US

• History/Tradition
  • US Isolationism vs. German Internationalism

• Consumerism
  • Both consumer societies, but in US more pronounced (more material goods owned)

• Different definition of Nature
  • Americans tend to only see wilderness as “nature” and often regard German natural areas as “tree farms”

• Greater Fear of Nuclear Energy in Germany
  • Many in US oppose it, but many support it
  • Anti-nuclear sentiments have always been stronger in Germany
    • German Cold War experience as the “front line” built strong opposition
    • Chernobyl Disaster in 1986
    • Fukushima Disaster

• Economic Factors
  • Less tax revenue and smaller government in US
  • More more for govt.-financed environmental initiatives in Germany

• Political Factors
  • Germany: proportional representation
  • US: “First Past the Post” single-member, two party system
    • Multiparty system ensure broad debate in parliament in BRD
  • No meaningful Green Party in US; Influential Grünen in BRD
  • US: privately-funded campaigns; BRD: publicly-funded
    • Big business has much influence in US
    • US political spectrum shifted much farther to the right of BRD (and of Europe as a whole)
  • Strong, Organized, Right-funded anti-environmentalism movement in US
  • US government owns huge amounts of land; BRD owns very little
    • Most open land in BRD in the hands of private individuals - often descendants of old nobility
  • German EU membership constrains BRD environmental politics
    • Most German policies are strong, but relatively weak in protection of endangered species

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**Teaching Business German**

**Presenter: Heiko Wiggers, WFU**

• Intro to Business German
  • An interest in the area is enough as pre-requisite
  • Most students are juniors and above

• Why study?
  • Need for skills in other languages
  • Two different paths - Students want to learn a language but do not want to take the “literature route”

• Skills learned at WFU Bus. Ger.
  • Résumé writing
  • Cover letter writing
  • Business letter writing
  • Presentation writing
  • Vocabulary building
  • *Wirtschaftstheorie*
• Negotiating
• Trade fairs
• Consecutive Interpreting (Dolmetschen) - memory of what is said is difficult
• Writing a business plan
• Internships offered through Cultural Vistas (NYC) and at Old Salem (translating old documents)
  • Cultural Vistas:
    • Internships are usually paid in BRD but students must pay for airfare and accommodations - they usually don’t quite break even but they will not “lose their shirt” as with for-profit organizations
    • Language required and students are tested and phone interviewed
  • ZDfB (Goethe Institut language certificate) - opportunity ended, replaced by BULATS online assessment system
• Many internships available to high school graduates, however, due to changing visa requirements, students must be enrolled in a university course (college course pre-registration may be enough to escape the regulation)

**STEM Grant Report**
**Presenters: Beth Gulewich, Jo Garrison, Marc Reibold**

• Example lesson plans from 3 video sources
  • Sendung mit der Maus
  • Wissen vor acht
  • Wissen macht Ah!
• Quick activities or an entire unit can be planned for most German students
• College art, math or music majors could *present* these lesson plans as an assignment
• The link to all STEM activities presented is: [https://www.dropbox.com/l/zb9G4V1LJfLB6GNkXa7fWd](https://www.dropbox.com/l/zb9G4V1LJfLB6GNkXa7fWd)
  Access to an online workspace, whereby instructors can contribute or modify STEM activities, will be provided.

**Brochure Update: “Why NC Needs German”**
**Presenter: Scott Windham - swindham@elon.edu**
• Nearing completion with plenty of funds available
• Will be distributed by mail with a file available for advocates to re-copy as needed

**PKAL FIDL Overview**
**Presenter: Scott Denham**
• Facilitating InterDisciplinary Learning
• What works:
  • Leadership - must facilitate interdisciplinary (ID) change
  • Learning - must have clear goals on outcomes for in ID program
  • Get results via 5 strategies
    • articulate common definitions
    • assess progress
    • build a critical mass of leaders & colleagues (buy-in)
    • incorporate ID program needs into broader school plans
    • align ID learning with mission & goals
• How to implement:
• communicate about STEM as interdisciplinary - no functional STEM education w/o skills gained from humanities & FLLC studies such as German
• Demonstrate ID successes involving German (brochure, etc.)

• Allies:
  • ACG: American Council on Germany (Charlotte has a Warburg Chapter)
  • German-American Chamber of Commerce (more concern for what practically happens regarding German in NC schools than ACG)
  • Consul General ATL Christoph Sander
  • DAAD and RISE (Research Internships in Science & Engineering): Elizabeth Schreiber-Byers
  • Undergrad scholarship
  • RISE
  • Congress-Bundestag
    • Full Scholarship available for graduating seniors as well
    • German language skills not required prior to program

• Conclusion: German is the prime non-English STEM language; “If you are engaged in STEM studies, you would be a fool not to learn German"

Business Meeting
Presenter: Beth Gulewich, Broughton High School, Raleigh
• Please renew/join AATG - Our chapter receives funds based upon AATG memberships
  • AATG National Exam will again be offered to level 2-4 students and is now available for registration
  • Three awards of study trips given each year - NC has an extra award owing to the quality of our applicants
  • Deadline for registration is late October
• FLANC: Oct. 11-12, 2013 in Winston-Salem - An increased German presence is needed at FLANC
  • Motion to pay for presenters out of NC-AATG funds for accommodation (up to $100) and registration (up to $105) if their home district/school will not pay (motion passed)
• Deutsches Wochenende - Friday November 8 and Saturday November 9, 2013 at Camp Calloway near Asheboro
• ACTFL: Orlando, November 22-24
• German Day: Wake Forest University - March 5
  • Theme: Deutsch macht Ah! (STEM/MINT)
  • Possible future location(s):
    • Elon?
    • UNCC?
    • UNCH?

Point People
• Brochure: "Why NC Needs German", audience is administrators, parents, students, legislators, everyone!: Scott Windham - swindham@elon.edu
• Awards Committee: Stacy Feldstein stacy.feldstein@cms.k12.nc.us, Susanne Rinner s_rinner@uncg.edu
• Nominating Committee: Joachim Koerner joachimkoerner@gmail.com, Alyssa Howards howardal@wfu.edu
NC AATG TREASURER’S REPORT FROM 1/15/13 THROUGH 9/17/13

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<th>Shares</th>
<th>865.99</th>
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**Disbursements**

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<tr>
<td>Spring Conference expenses</td>
<td>356.76</td>
<td>1-25-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>German Day Tees</td>
<td>2,175.16</td>
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<td>German Day Trophies</td>
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<td>Martin Middle Reimburse overpayment</td>
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<td>IRS nonprofit fee</td>
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<td>UNCG German Day expenses</td>
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<td>4-19-13 through 5-20-13</td>
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<td>SECU Foundation</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>2-14-13 through 9-17-13</td>
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**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS** 3,962.89

**DEPOSITS**

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<td>German Day Registration &amp; Tees</td>
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<td>Dividend Earned</td>
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<td>2-14-13 through 9-17-13</td>
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**TOTAL DEPOSITS** 4,218.84

Submitted by Linda Horvath 9/28/13