

*AYA Austria
Alumni Newsletter*



December 2003



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Please visit the AYA Austria website at:
<http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/greal/AYA-Salzburg.html>

Salzburg Scholarship Donations

"Die Gruppe"

Lana Chadwick
Diana Hamidinia
Steven Harris (KPMG Peat Marwick)
Dallas Hull
Sue Mendizza
R. Eric Moore
Timothy Rericha
Larry Snavley
William Weis

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Gene and Kathleen Aufderhaar
Heather (Watkins) Burke
Gregory J. Dykhouse
Beverly K. Everett
Karlyn and James McPike
Debra S. Peters
Klaus and Ingrid Schmidt
David K. Schrader
Vickie L. Sherwood
Paula Sliefert
John and Norma Stickler
Joseph W. and Deidra L. Uffner

Contributors

Kathleen F. McCleod

Friends

Katherine Best
Mary Bridget Breitenbach
Tara Campbell
Peter Doerschler
Deborah File
Emma Tatem Kelly
Marshelle Machtan
Dominick Marrone
Judi Lindsley Nath
Joyce Long Stewart

Dr. Dzidra Shllaku Scholarship 2003-2004 Recipients



Pictured left to right: Mike Lawson, Caroline Donovan, Jessie Adams, and Ashley Wheeler

Jessica Adams: Jessie is a junior majoring in German Education. She plans to teach German to children and young adults. Her activities at BGSU include involvement in the University Honors Program and the Honors Student Association, Ballroom Dance Society, her church choir, CRU, and the United Karate System. Jessie was a camp counselor at Camp Carl during the summer of 2002. She plays the saxophone and has been a continuing member of the concert band.

Caroline Donovan: Caroline is a junior majoring in Apparel Merchandising and Product Development. Her minor is in Marketing. She plans to be a visual merchandiser working in retail, then search for a position that will utilize her German major in a corporate chain store.

Michael Lawson: Michael is a junior majoring in German Education. He plans to teach German at the high school level. He looks forward to educating students not only about the German language, but also the culture. In his own words, "Being a teacher is a great way to be a mentor to the world's youth."

Ashley Wheeler: Ashley is a sophomore majoring in International Studies. She has traveled to Germany and enjoyed learning German and the Germanic culture. She has long had the desire to study abroad. Ashley is considering the many possibilities for a car that will be offered to her through the International Studies major.

Report from the AYA Salzburg Director

Salzburg, December 10, 2003

Dear Friends of the AYA Salzburg Program,

We are enjoying a cool yet sunny December in Salzburg that is brightened by the thin layer of snow which covers the city and its surrounding mountains like sugar powder covers the Austrian Christmas pastry. Indeed, the Christkindlmarkt (which starts earlier every year) is in full swing, both the old and the new town are decorated with hundreds of lights, and the streets are busy with people out shopping or simply enjoying a cup of Glühwein or a bag of roasted chestnuts. The mood is set for the students to prepare for our own little Christmas party this Sunday afternoon. Last Saturday, a group of students came to our house and helped us bake a variety of Austrian and American cookies. The Christmas tree is up already and everyone is instructed to buy a small gift this week, which we will exchange over Glühwein, soup and song on Sunday.

My second year as director has been very rewarding. I am leading a strong group of 21 undergraduate and 8 graduate students through their study abroad experience. Directing the program for the second time around allows me to anticipate better the needs of our students and faculty, but also to be creative in planning program activities. This year, I am also benefiting from the energy, ideas, and support of our new resident director, Dr. Manfred Mittermayer and our new internship director, Mag. Fritz Baier. Together with our outstanding faculty, we as a team are able to offer the students a study abroad program that, I believe, is both academically and culturally unique in Europe.

Allow me to mention a few of the highlights of our year so far. After picking up most students from Munich airport September 30th, we had several days for our orientation program. We did not only fill out papers or talk about the various courses we and the U. of Salzburg offer, but we also added a practical tour through Salzburg, a tour where I showed students such profane places as the library, the post office, the bank, and, more importantly, the best Würstlstand, or from where to take the bus to Salzburg's biggest shopping mall. We ended the orientation program with our traditional walk across the Mönchsberg to the Augustiner Bräu. This small hike was a mere preparation for our legendary hike up the Gaisberg one week later (well, as you can probably tell from the smiling faces on the picture below, we cheated a bit and took the bus half-way up the mountain to the Zistelalm). The beginning of classes did not signal an end to our desire for more excursions. In conjunction with the geography and the Österreich aktuell courses, students were able to visit the Freilichtmuseum Großgmain, Skidata (a software business near Salzburg), the Stiegl Brauwelt, and this Friday will visit another local business, the Käsewelt Schleedorf. The famous snowshoe hike through Nationalpark Hohen Tauern is planned for January. Of course, we also offer students a more traditional cultural fare. As every year, students have the opportunity to visit the Große Festspielhaus about once a month. We also went to the theater in Munich to watch the first bourgeois tragedy, Lessing's *Miss Sara Sampson*, a play that we were reading in the Intro to Graduate Studies course.



No doubt, the highpoint of our year so far was our trip to Vienna. On our way, we stopped at Stift Melk and in Dürnstein (yes, most of us did climb up the hill to the ruins where Richard Lionheart was once a prisoner –no bus available there). Later that evening, we visited one of the more famous Heuriger in Vienna, Fuhrgassl Huber, where we had reserved a room with an open fire, buffet style food (and lots of it!) and a little bit of the fresh wine Austrians drink at a Heuriger. Two musicians who played older and newer Wiener Lieder for us and got the students and children present to dance, topped off the evening. This year, we extended our Vienna visit for a day. Subsequently, we were able to go both to the famous Burgtheater (where we had excellent seats to watch a very modern interpretation of Hauptmann's *Vor Sonnenuntergang*) and to the Staatsoper where the beautiful music of Mozart's *Zauberflöte* had to make up for our not-so-good seats. Another cultural highpoint (next to our city tours and the visit to Schloss Belvedere, of course) was our tour through the Albrecht Dürer exhibit, which was praised throughout Europe. We were told that some of the drawings we saw wouldn't be on display again for another 25 years. We had added Monday to our Vienna trip, so we could visit the Austrian parliament. Through the special connections of our history and Österreich aktuell teacher, Dr. Nicole Slupetzky, we were invited guests of the parliamentary vice president, Dr. Fischer, who also talked to us and answered questions for about 45 minutes. Most likely, Dr. Fischer will be the SPÖ candidate for president next year. In other words, there is a very good chance that we had met and talked to the future president of Austria.

Thanks to the students' hard work and dedication, this year's Thanksgiving party was a great success again. About 100 guests (from university dignitaries to alumni and roommates of our students) came to celebrate Thanksgiving with us. We chose a new location for the event this year. We were able to reserve a cozy room at Stieglbräu (a big restaurant in the heart of Salzburg). Although the restaurant served us a three-course menu, we were able to bring our own side dishes (sweet potatoes, stuffing, and pumpkin pie) that we had prepared the day before. The room also had a stage that the students used for their musical and theatrical performances, which made the evening a great success.





We also had a wonderful Halloween party where students exhibited their creativity with a wide range of both scary and funny costumes.

I am very much looking forward to the rest of our year in Salzburg. The enthusiasm of this year's group is truly phenomenal. On a more personal note, I am also very happy how the students have welcomed my wife and our two children (Allan is 2.5 and Alex is 0.5 years old now) as well as our graduate student Craig Buttke's wife and their two children (Cala is almost 4 and Oskar 1.5 years old) into the group. Thanks to the high standards of our students and the quality of our faculty and staff in Salzburg as well as in Bowling Green, and, furthermore, thanks to the continued support from former program participants, I believe the BGSU study abroad program in Salzburg is able to provide a unique environment for our students to excel academically, culturally, and personally.

Sincerely,
Dr. Edgar Landgraf
AYA Program Director 2003-2004

Special Shllaku Scholarship Initiative November 2003

Hopefully you have received the special Shllaku Scholarship initiative letter which was sent to AYA Salzburg alumni last month, along with a pledge card and some special testimonials about the program from fellow alumni. Enclosed with your newsletter, you will find a second copy of the letter, in case it hasn't reached you.

We are already receiving responses and contributions as a result of this special mailing. We thank you all for your generosity and wish you the happiest of new years.

Words of Wisdom for Current German Majors and Minors

"We need teachers who will promote language learning. There will be an opening in 4-5 years at Hicksville and I wonder who will carry on the program I've built from 11 students to 140."
-Karlyn McPike (Korsgaard), 1970-71

"www.monstertrak.com is geared specifically toward college/university students. A much more helpful resource for entry level positions than monster.com."
-Todd Heidt, 2001-02

"If you want to teach, make sure to be able to teach in an additional field to make yourself more marketable."
Georgia Craig, 1987-88

"Keep up your skills—you are never finished learning. Apply for many things—teacher and translator are not the only jobs that utilize German."
Kirsten Kunkle, 2001-2002

"Try to combine German with another field, like Political Science, Economics, or Business."
Alex Mirescu, 1996-97 and 1998-99

Alumni News

1969-70 – Dr. Ursula Lawson, Ohio University, director

**Joyce Long Stewart; 8059 Esterbrook Dr.; Nashville, TN 37221-1811
(615) 646-3267; joyces2000@yahoo.com**

I have been living with my husband in Nashville for over nine years. Since entering the teaching profession eight years ago, I have taught in the public Montessori School here. We continue to travel to Europe; however we rarely visit Austria or Germany. I occasionally meet German-speaking people and am surprised that I am still able to communicate.

1970-71 – Dr. Herbert J. Gauerke, director

**Karlyn McPike (Korsgaard); P. O. Box 6; Edgerton, OH 43517
(419) 298-2441; mcpikek@hicksvilleschools.org**

We have our first grandchild, Landon James McPike born April 11th, 2003. He and his parents live just down the street, so Jim and I are getting lots of grandparenting time. Right now I'm working on making his first word "Oma". I use my German daily in the classroom. Also I organize tours for students and adults to Europe, where I also need to use the language. If a group would like to go to Austria for a reunion, I customize tours and can arrange whatever the group would like. It has to be planned 1 to 1 1/2 years in advance.

Karlyn is a German teacher for the Hicksville Exempted Village Schools.

1976-77 – Dr. Margy Gerber, director

**Ned Delamatre; 699 Weber Ave.; Akron, OH 44303
(330) 376-0399; jmgd3@neo.rr.com**

My two sons are entering college, my wife is becoming a librarian, and I'm learning Spanish. I will be eligible to retire from teaching in five years. I started playing soccer ten years ago. I wish I had known more about the sport before I went to Europe in the 1970's.

Ned has taught at Firestone High School in the Akron Public School System for twenty years. Although Ned taught German for eight of his twenty years at FHS, he says his most rewarding "German connection" has been maintaining a 30-year friendship with a Swabian he met in Italy. He and his family have visited Ned's family and Ned and his family have visited them several times.



Brian A. Pavlac; History Dept; King's College; Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711

Office phone: (570) 208-5900, ext. 5748; bapavlac@kings.edu

Brian is an Associate Professor of History and Director of the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching at King's College. The photo of Brian is from a production of *Hamlet*, in which he appeared.

1978-79 – Drs. Joseph L. Gray and Helmut Gutmann

Ruta Bloomfield (Zemaitis); 20048 Shadow Hills Ct.; Saugus, CA 91390

(661) 297-2934; kenandruta@netzero.net

My son, Andy, is graduating from high school! Hard to believe he'll soon be off to college (majoring in Math). Daughters Abigail (15) and Lydia (12) are doing great. My husband, Ken, and I are celebrating our 20th anniversary. After the German exchange student last year, now we are hosting one from Brazil! Ruta is currently finishing her 13th year of teaching Intro. To Music and Art at The Master's College.

1980-81 – Dr. Margy Gerber, director

Manfred Brockmann; 198 Oakridge Dr.; Milford, PA 18337

(570) 296-4107; maab0108@aol.com

Recently built a new house in Pennsylvania and started a new job as vice-president and compliance officer at Sterling National Bank in Manhattan. I also just purchased a puppy to go along with my four children, aged 16, 13, 9, and 2.

1984-85 – Dr. Klaus Schmidt, director

**Silvia Harper (Milkovits); 62 Truell Rd.; Hollis, NH 03049
(603) 465-6402; silviah2@mac.com; www.sharperbooks.com**

Silvia is mother to Erin and Samantha, both five years old. She has her own business selling excellent children's books, including a few German ones. She has served as conference planner for the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, the American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics, and the New York State Nurses Association.

Silvia used German in her first job out of college when she worked as an inside sales representative for an international company and handled accounts from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Scandinavia.

1985-86 - Drs. Margy Gerber and Klaus Schmidt, directors

1988-89 – Dr. Margy Gerber, director

**Debbie (Coit) Hutchison; 7 Village Court; South Elgin, IL 60177
(847) 695-8596; debhutch@netzero.net**

I completed my teacher certification program at Northern Illinois University in May. I have been a substitute teacher while looking for a permanent position. In 2003-2004 I will be teaching German and Spanish at Naperville North High School in Naperville, Illinois. In 2004-2005 I will be the full-time German teacher due to a retirement. I have been married since 1998. My husband works for a brokerage firm in Chicago. I still keep in touch with some Salzburg alumni from both undergrad. and graduate years.

1987-88 – Dr. Klaus Schmidt, director

**Georgia Craig and Michael Bowden; 174 Harrison St.; Sunbury, OH 43074
(740) 965-1433; garsten@aol.com**

We both returned to Austria in 1989 for a year to teach and work. We returned to the states and married in 1992. We have two daughters, Catie Craig-Bowden, seven years old, and Caroline Craig-Bowden, four years old. Georgia has been teaching German at Big Walnut High School for thirteen years. Michael is working in sales at Ohio Transmission and Pump, Inc., in Columbus, Ohio. Georgia makes use of German daily in teaching. Mike has had occasion to use his German with overseas accounts.



The Craig-Bowden Family

1988-89 – Dr. Margy Gerber, director

**Laura Roesti; 3640 Brookside; Toledo, OH 43606
(419) 539-7167; roestil@wyeth.com**

MIA since July of 1989, which is only 14 years ago! I am married to Michael Green and have an eight-year-old daughter, Bonnie. Our second child, Owen Michael Roesti Green, was born September 8, 2003. I am a women's healthcare specialty pharmaceutical sales representative with Wyeth Labs. Prior to working with Wyeth, I was employed with Owens Corning Fiberglass and worked with the sales training team.

I used my German when I represented a Toledo firm at a furniture display in Heidelberg, Germany six years ago and am currently working a side job which involves gaining FDA approval for marketed products from Germany in the U.S.A.



Bonnie Noel Brazeao
September 2001
Six years old

1993-94 – Dr. Geoffrey Howes, director

Tara Campbell; 5142 MacArthur Blvd. NW #202; Washington, DC 20016

Tara's current title is Supervisor of Academic Programs, BMW Center for German and European Studies, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University—but not for long. Tara will soon be the Director of Recruitment and Admissions for Webster University in Vienna, Austria. Congratulations, Tara!!

1996-97 – Dr. Klaus Schmidt, director

Shannon Hebel

Shannon recently finished her dissertation at Georgetown University and was employed by the Justice Department as a linguist. Currently she is a college teacher.

Julie (Roberts) Kreienkamp; Marketing/Wurtec; 6200 Brent Drive; Toledo, OH 43611

1-800-837-1066; julie@wurtec.com

Julie is "following her career goal of international marketing" at Wurtec as marketing director. The company manufactures and sells elevator installation parts to the major installers like Kone, Otis, and Schindler.

1996-97 – Dr. Klaus Schmidt, director

1998-99 - Dr. Geoffrey Howes, director

Alex Mirescu, 214 9th St., Apt. 2A; Jersey City, NJ 07302

Alex is completing his Ph.D. in Political Science and teaching undergraduate courses, also in Political Science. Alex uses German on research projects and with other colleagues.

1997-98 – Dr. Christina Guenther, director

Mike Krapp; mjkrapp@hotmail.com

Mike currently teaches in Chuncheon, Korea. It is a small city surrounded by lakes and mountains. Mike has learned that it is the one place where many Koreans really want to live and he says now he understands why—a beautiful place. He is enjoying his job and says his students are very dedicated. He teaches them English in the classroom, but they "make him speak Korean" during their daily breakfast together.

Robert Meehan; c/o IPA-ELC; P. O. Box 205; 11141 Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

meehan_r@hotmail.com

Robert is continuing his teaching position in Riyadh. He was able to visit the U.S. for three weeks this year and also spent four weeks in Istanbul doing an introductory course in Turkish, run by a branch of Ankara University. In November, he found the time to visit Frankfurt, Mannheim, and Zurich.

1999-2000 – Dr. Kristie Foell, director

Michelle Bracken; 2350 Timberview #107; Kirkwood, MO 63122

brackenml@hotmail.com

Michelle moved to Kirkwood, Missouri on August 19 to start working in the St. Louis office of Deutsche Financial Services. Michelle is an account manager.

Kendra Thompson; kendraamber@yahoo.com

Kendra is the new mom of a baby boy. Suraj Alexander Kumar was born on August 19, 2003 and weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz. Kendra tells us that both happy parents are "very proud."

2000-2001 – Dr. Christina Guenther, director

Douglas Gill; Dfgill3@aol.com

Doug started a Ph.D. program in German at Ohio State University in fall 2003. He has also been hired as a residence life coordinator for a summer HS exploratory program at Cornell.

Lisa Heinrich; lisa_spaz@juno.com

Lisa has been placed in Salzburg at the Bundes-Oberstufenrealgymnasium Salzburg-Nonntal.

Anita Jayachandran; IndianMaple@netscape.net

Anita recently went home to India to spend some time with her family before she goes back to school.

2001-2002 – Dr. Edgar Landgraf, director

1997-1998 – Dr. Christina Guenther, director

Melissa Beegle; 180 Maple Leaf Dr.; Hubbard, OH 44425

(330) 534-4586; beeglem@gmx.at

Melissa is in her last year of graduate school at BGSU. She will graduate in May of 2004.

2001-2002 – Dr. Edgar Landgraf, director

Susan Buettner; 2541 Breckenridge Dr.; Ann Arbor, MI 48103

(734) 998-3534; ssbuettner@hotmail.com

Susan is currently a student at the University of Michigan.

Kirsten Kunkle; 535 S. Park Ave.; Fremont, OH 43420 ; (419) 332-7739

2222 Fuller Ct., Apt. 1108A; Ann Arbor, MI 48105; (734) 213-5665

divavoce@aol.com

Currently Kirsten is pursuing a master's degree in voice performance at the University of Michigan, substitute teaching, and working on employment as a singer/vocal instructor. She also sings in the First Congregational Church in Toledo, Ohio.

Kirsten says her German has been essential for Lieder, conversing with native Germans, and reading old texts.

Todd Heidt; 745 W. Gordon Ter. #205; Chicago, IL 60613

todd_heidt@hotmail.com

Todd has completed an MA at the University of Chicago in Germanic Studies and is currently seeking employment.

Jonna Hannasch; mistressofgerman@yahoo.com

Jonna is taking classes at BGSU through spring 2004 for teaching certification.

Jenny Snyder; 10759 Moss Hill Lane; Cincinnati, OH 45249

(513) 489-8681; jen_snyder22@hotmail.com

I'm graduating from the University of Cincinnati in June with my B.S. in Biology and my B.A. in German Studies. I start graduate school at Virginia Commonwealth University in August, working towards my M.S. in Forensic Science. I used much of the cultural knowledge I gained in Salzburg as background material for my senior thesis.

Vlad Marinescu; 3505 Green Bay Rd., #108B; N. Chicago, IL 60064

Vlad is continuing his education in the Chicago area studying molecular cell biology, embryology, and genetics.

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2980 Wentworth Dr.
St. Charles, MO 63301

Where are they now?

Oscar Retterer now resides in Little, Pennsylvania.

Joe Kaoboth lives in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Johanna Dus has moved to South Euclid, Ohio.

Anna Rulska has a position at Lyon College, her undergraduate alma mater.

News from Our Austrian and German M.A. Alumni

Andreja Wieser is program manager for IOC Services and Protocol and works on the Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games Athens 2004.

Elizabeth Attlmayr plans to finish her Ph.D. and expand on her journalistic experience.

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