



GOETHE NEWS AND NOTES

XIX.2 FALL 1998

GSNA EVENTS AT THE 1998 MLA CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO

BUSINESS MEETING OF THE GSNA

Tuesday, 29 December 1998

1:45 – 3 p.m.

Hunt Room, Fairmont Hotel

Benjamin Bennett, presiding

1. Reading and approval of the minutes of the last Business Meeting.
2. President's Report, by Benjamin Bennett.
3. Treasurer's Report, by Martha Helfer.
4. Executive Secretary's Report, by Meredith Lee.
5. Yearbook Editor's Report, by Thomas P. Saine.
6. New business.

* * *

PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE GSNA

Sunday, 27 December 1998

5:15 - 6:30 p.m.

Empire Room, Fairmont Hotel

FROM WEATHER THEORY TO STRANGE WEATHER; OR, DID GOETHE DO CULTURAL STUDIES?

Peter J. Burgard, Harvard University,
presiding

1. Nature and History: Concepts of Inter-
disciplinarity in Goethe and Benjamin.

Uwe Steiner, Freie Universität, Berlin

2. Goethe und kein Ende.

**Stuart Barnett, Central Connecticut State
University**

3. Respondent.

Benjamin Bennett, University of Virginia

* * *

CLARK MUENZER NAMED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Clark Muenzer, University of Pittsburgh, has been named by the Executive Board to succeed Meredith Lee as Executive Secretary for a three-year renewable term beginning January 1, 1999. He is Chair of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Pittsburgh.

**MINUTES OF THE 1997
BUSINESS MEETING**
Toronto, December 30, 1997

Presiding: Benjamin Bennett, Vice-President/
Incoming President

The minutes of the 1996 meeting are approved.

Martha Helfer will chair the 1999 GSNA MLA session on a topic as yet to be determined.

Bennett has been talking to Bernd Kaufmann in Weimar in connection with the 250-year Goethe celebrations in hope of collaborating efforts.

The current officers conclude their three-year terms at the end of 1997. Ehrhard Bahr will be stepping down as President of the GSNA, as will the two Directors-at-Large, Scott Abbott and Irmgard Wagner, and the Secretary-Treasurer Todd Kontje. Thanks to all. Benjamin accedes to the presidency. The new vice-president is Hans Vaget. The two new Directors-at-Large are Waltraud Maierhofer and Simon Richter.

Meredith Lee will be stepping down from her position as Executive Secretary at the end of 1998. Many thanks to her for many years of service for the GSNA.

Horst Lange is proposed and accepted as chair of the GSNA section for the GSA meeting in 1998.

Meredith Lee announces that Ehrhard Bahr has proposed that the GSNA award a prize for the best book on Goethe or the Goethezeit, but that a committee has not yet been formed.

Gloria Flaherty Prize. A committee consisting of the Vice-President of the GSNA and two Directors at Large will form to award a prize from funds bequeathed to the Society for that purpose by Gloria Flaherty. There will be one yearly deadline

of October 15. All applications will be considered together. They may be either to support travel to libraries or archives, or to travel to a conference to present a paper on Goethe and/or his age. The award will be approximately \$500. At total of two prizes will be offered each year.

Treasurer-Secretary Todd Kontje presents the annual finances. This past year showed a considerable profit, largely because there was no Yearbook in 1997. A Yearbook costs the Society approximately \$3,500 to print and another \$1,000 to mail.

Executive Secretary Meredith Lee announces that Astrida Tantilillo will be chairing the 1998 ASECS section, Horst Lange the 1998 GSA section, and Peter Burgard the 1998 MLA section. 84 members voted in the recent election of officers for the GSNA. We do have new members, some of whom are attracted via the new web site on the internet.

Additional comments and discussion: Bennett suggests that the GSNA needs a committee for awarding a prize for the best essay on Goethe or his times. Sammons argues that we should postpone discussion of this matter now. Lee wonders if we should continue the tradition of supplementary volumes to the Yearbook, perhaps a parallel edition of the two versions of Goethe's *Werther*. Kontje suggests the Society use excess money to support symposia to be planned for the 1999 Goethe Year. Bennett points out that he will try to get funding from separate sources. Sammons wonders if those who do not pay dues receive the Yearbook. No, answers Lee. Tom Saine needs more manuscripts to consider for the upcoming Yearbook. Irmgard Wagner plans a Goethe day on April 4 in Washington D.C.

Todd Kontje
Secretary-Treasurer

**GERMAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION
7-10 OCTOBER 1999
ATLANTA**

**GOETHE AND THE QUESTION
OF NATIONAL IDENTITY**

Abstracts should be sent to Jonathan Hess, by February 10, 1999. Jmhess@email.unc.edu; 919-962-3708 (fax); Department of Germanic Languages, CB #3160, 438 Dey Hall, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3160

**EAST-CENTRAL AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR
EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY STUDIES
21-23 OCTOBER 1999
WASHINGTON AND JEFFERSON COLLEGE
WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA**

Program Theme: *Eternal Verities, or, Death, Taxes, & Other Sensitive Subjects*

We invite papers on these and other topics of abiding interest to scholars of the long eighteenth century. As always, there will be sessions devoted to research in progress and teaching the eighteenth century. Send suggestions for panels by January 1, 1999; send papers or one-page abstracts by June 1, 1999 to: Linda V. Troost, Department of English, Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, PA 15301-35343; 742-222-4400; ltroost@washjeff.edu

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GSNA
ANNUAL MEETING
FALL 1999**

The fourth annual Southern California GSNA symposium will be held on a Saturday in October or

November, 1999, (date to be determined) at the Clark Library in Los Angeles. Discussion will focus on *Der West-östlicher Divan*. Why did Goethe turn to *Weltliteratur* at a time when others were beginning to write the history of Germany's national literature? Was there a German Orientalism that differed significantly from that of England or France, and did Goethe's Orientalism differ from that of his German contemporaries (Friedrich Schlegel and others)? One or two-page proposals on these or other aspects of the text should be sent to either Ehrhard Bahr (UCLA) or Todd Kontje (UCSD) by August 1, 1999.

**NEASECS
UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
9-12 DECEMBER 1999
PROJECTS AND PROJECTORS:
INVENTIONS OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT**

**GOETHE'S PROJECTS:
LITERARY, ADMINISTRATIVE, SCIENTIFIC**

Members of GSNA are invited to submit papers. Inquiries should be addressed to Edward T. Larkin, Program Chair, Dept. of Langs., Lits. and Cultures, University of New Hampshire, Murkland Hall 18, Durham, NH 03824; etl@christa.unh.edu
Additional information can be found at the home page of the conference: <http://www.unh.edu/history/golinski/NEASECS/panels.html>

**MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION
27-30 DECEMBER 1999
CHICAGO**

GOETHE AND AESTHETICS

Abstracts should be sent to Martha Helfer by March 1, 1999. Dept. of Languages and Literatures, 1400 LNC), University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112; Martha.Helfer@m.cc.utah.edu

LOOKING AHEAD

**THE 1999 ASECS CONFERENCE
MILWAUKEE
March 24-28**

**GOETHE AND MUSIC
IN WEIMAR OR BEYOND**

Chair: Simon Richter, University of Pennsylvania

1. The Triumph of Love: Goethe, Brahms, Gluck,
and the Maternal Voice.

Rose Mauro, University of Pennsylvania

2. Der Drang zu Gesang: On Goethe's Dramatic
Form.

Jane K. Brown, University of Washington

3. Poetic Intentions and Musical Production: Die
erste Walpurgisnacht.

Meredith Lee, University of California, Irvine

SEASECS CONFERENCE

**March 4-6, 1999
University of Tennessee, Knoxville**

COMMEMORATING GOETHE

Chair: Peter Höyng, University of Tennessee

1. Commemorating Goethe Commemorating
Luther.

Paul Kerry, Brigham Young University

2. What's 'Left' of Goethe?: Georg Lukács &
Thomas Mann's 1932 Goethe Essays.

Nicholas Vazsonyi, University of South Carolina

3. Commemorating Goethe by Ignoring Sources.
**W. Daniel Wilson, University of California,
Berkeley**

Registration materials: Peter Höyng, Dept. of
Germanic Languages, University of Tennessee,
Knoxville 37996; hoeyng@utk.edu

GERMAN STUDIES SYMPOSIUM

**April 8-10, 1999
University of South Carolina**

**SEARCHING FOR THE COMMON GROUND:
GERMAN NATIONAL IDENTITY 1750-1871**

GOETHE AND THE NATION

**Moderator: James Hardin, University of South
Carolina**

1. The Holy Roman Empire and its Discontents:
Goethe and Möser Reconsidered.

Horst Lange, University of Nevada, Reno

2. Goethe's Concept of Volk and his Disagreement
with the Contemporary Discussion from Herder to
Fichte.

**Ehrhard Bahr, University of California, Los
Angeles**

The symposium is bringing together a select group of
scholars, representing a total of six disciplines, who
will exchange ideas on a range of issues pertaining to
German national identity formation preceding the
founding of the second Reich. The symposium is
funded by the University of South Carolina as well as
grants from the Max Kade Foundation, DAAD.
Goethe Institut/ Atlanta and the German Embassy.
For more information, please contact Nicholas
Vazsonyi, University of South Carolina;
vazsozyi@sc.edu

FROM THE EDITOR OF THE GOETHE YEARBOOK

At this time I am inviting submissions to be considered for inclusion in volume ten of the *Goethe Yearbook*. The *Yearbook* is open to papers on any aspect or author of the "Goethezeit," not just on Goethe. In contrast to many other publications, there is no stringent limit on the length of papers that can be considered. We adhere more or less to the *Chicago Manual of Style* rather than to the *MLA Style Sheet*.

Thomas P. Saine
Editor

Dichtung und Wahrheit"; **Robert Bledsoe, Rice University**: "Educating the Reader: Dichtung und Wahrheit and the History of Reading"; **Karin Pagel-Meiners, University of Kansas**: "Friendship and Goethe's Portrayal of F. H. Jacobi in Dichtung und Wahrheit"; **Victor Terras, Emeritus, Brown University**: "Dichtung und Wahrheit on Radio Voornezh, 1935." The program concluded with a reception hosted by the Clark Library. A 1999 meeting is planned, with the *West-östlicher Divan* selected as the core text. It will be co-chaired by Todd Kontje, University of California, San Diego and Ehrhard Bahr, University of California, Los Angeles.

* * *

CASH BAR AT THE MLA

Tuesday, 29 December, 5:15-6:30 p.m.
Crystal Room, Fairmont Hotel

Members of the Goethe Society of North America are cordially invited to join their colleagues for drinks and conversation on Tuesday, December 29, at 5:15 p.m. The Cash Bar is organized by the German Department of the University of California, Irvine.

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND EDITOR

With this issue of *Goethe News and Notes* editorship passes to the new Executive Secretary, Clark Muenzer, University of Pittsburgh. He has asked me to alert you to his deadline for the spring edition: April 15. He would like to continue the practice of listing any significant publications on Goethe by GSNA members, as well as completed dissertations, and would be grateful to receive such information regularly from you.

I have enjoyed the past twenty years of service to the Goethe Society and am delighted by its good health and intellectual vitality. Thank you for your support! The work continues and you have found wonderful people to carry it on!

Meredith Lee
Executive Secretary

OTHER NEWS AND NOTES

GSNA PROGRAMS

The third annual Southern California regional meeting of the GSNA took place on October 24, 1998 at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library. Some 35 people gathered to discuss *Dichtung und Wahrheit*. Papers were read by **Gabrielle Bersier, Indiana University, Indianapolis**: "A Naïve Political Enlightenment: Gretchen and the Old Reich in

WEB SITE

For GSNA:

<http://www.hnet.uci.edu/tpsaine/gсна.html>

For the *Goethe Yearbook*:

<http://www.hnet.uci.edu/tpsaine/gyb.html>

DUES SCHEDULE

The dues for membership in the Goethe Society of North America are as follows:

active members	\$ 20
senior members	\$ 30
members paying in DM	DM 50
patrons	\$100
emeriti	\$ 10
students	\$ 10
institutions	\$ 30

Dues are payable in each calendar year. For further information, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer.

OFFICERS OF THE GOETHE SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

President: Benjamin Bennett, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, Cocke Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22903. (804) 924-6695 (o); (804) 831-2423 (h). E-mail: bkb@virginia.edu

Vice-President: Hans Vaget, Department of German, Smith College, Northhampton, MA 01063. (413) 585-3409 (o). E-mail: hvaget@smith.smith.edu

Secretary-Treasurer: Martha Helfer, Dept. of Languages and Literature, 1400 LNCO, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112. (801) 581-7737 (o); 581-7581 (fax). E-mail: Martha.Helfer@m.cc.utah.edu

Director-at-Large: Waltraud Maierhofer, German Dept., The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242. Currently: Universität Regensburg, Institut für Germanistik, D-90340 Regensburg, Germany; Tel: (+49) 941 943 3457; (+49) 941 943 1979 (fax). E-mail: Wmaierh@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu

Director-at-Large: Simon Richter, Dept. of Germanic Languages and Literature, 745 Williams Hall/CU, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6305. (215) 898-7332 (o); E-mail: srichter@sas.upenn.edu

Executive Secretary (until December 31): Meredith Lee, German Department, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697-3150. (949) 824-6406 (o); (949) 824-6416 (fax); (714) 836-7970 (h); E-mail: malee@uci.edu

Executive Secretary (after January 1): Clark Muenzer, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260. (412) 624-5909 (o); (412) 361-1220 (h); E-mail: muenzer+@pitt.edu

Editor of the Yearbook: Thomas P. Saine, Department of German, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697-3150. (949) 824-6406 (o); (949) 824-6416 (fax). E-mail: tpsaine@uci.edu

Book Review Editor: R. Ellis Dye, Department of German Studies and Russian, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN 55105