

MODERN GERMANY UPDATE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TRANSATLANTIC OUTREACH PROGRAM
A PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP



Federal Republic of Germany
Foreign Office



GOETHE-INSTITUT

Deutsche Bank



Robert Bosch Stiftung

It's Up to You and Me!

What is up to you and me? Well, that is what Alicia, Moritz, Dr. Michelle Davis, and Dr. Tobias Blume are out to discover!

Alicia, from Denver, Colorado, is an aspiring veterinarian who loves her cats and dogs. Moritz lives near Munich, Germany and enjoys playing "Fussball" as well as hiking with his family. Dr. Davis is an Environmental Science engineer who enjoys volunteering at the botanical gardens in her free time. Finally, Dr. Blume works for a windmill manufacturing company in Germany.

These four characters form the centerpiece of the Transatlantic Outreach Program's latest resource for educators and students: *It's Up to You and Me, Here and Across the Sea*.

The first section of the workbook aims to help upper-elementary and middle-school-aged students understand the causes and effects of global warming and climate change. The second section encourages students to explore the Kyoto Protocol while the third section asks students to identify what countries like the USA and Germany are doing to prevent global warming. The fourth and final section explores what students can do at home and at school to minimize their carbon footprint.

Each section is presented in a colorful and engaging "text-message-style" layout where students are first asked to "brainstorm" key concepts before concluding with a series of research activities.

To obtain free hardcopies of the workbook for your classroom, simply send an e-mail to top@washington.goethe.org. The hardcopies are printed on 100% recycled paper.

To download the workbook in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, simply click the "Green Education" link under the "Teaching Materials" section of the TOP website: www.goethe.de/top.

Continue reading to learn more about the materials and opportunities offered by the Transatlantic Outreach Program and what educators like you are doing in their classrooms to build transatlantic bridges...

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES FALL 2009

Florida CSS
Palm Beach Gardens
September 24-27

Idaho CSS
Boise
October 1-2

Illinois CSS
Palatine
October 2

South Carolina CSS
Myrtle Beach
October 8-10

Oregon CSS*
Salem
October 9

Washington CSS*
Edmonds
October 10

Virginia CSS
Richmond
October 23-24

Maine CSS
Portland
October 23

NSLTA*
Nova Scotia, Canada
October 23-24

Texas CSS
Dallas, TX
October 30-November 1

NAGC*
St. Louis, MO
November 5-8

National Conference*
Atlanta, GA
November 13-15

**TOP Staff Plans to Attend with
Workshops/Booth*

If you have any questions or comments about TOP's involvement with any of the above conferences or would like to invite TOP to your conference, please let us know:

Attn: Assistant TOP Coordinator
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Recent Workshop Leaders SUMMER 2009

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Chasidy Miroff | Vance, AL | James Feldman | St. Clair Shores, MI |
| Melinda Staubs | Jacksonville, AL | Thomas Smith | Auburn Hills, MI |
| Carma Meitzen | Springdale, AR | Scott Noet | Owatonna, MN |
| Kerri Packwood | Springdale, AR | Tracy Cobden | Raytown, MO |
| Kim Crom | Colorado Springs, CO | Steve Klawiter | Valley Park, MO |
| Deirdre Hearnen | Brighton, CO | Julie Heintz | Columbus, MS |
| Marianne Kenney | Denver, CO | Jo Conrad | Dodge, NE |
| Katie Rockwell | Highlands Ranch, CO | Melissa Gates | Omaha, NE |
| Sharon Powers | Wallingford, CT | Emily Johnson | Omaha, NE |
| Carsten Binsner | Washington, DC | Ann Ackerman | Nashua, NH |
| Brian Jones | Washington, DC | Nancy Shotland | Keene, NH |
| Patricia Casanova | Tampa, FL | Kristen Heider | Collingswood, NJ |
| Denny Dawson | Ft. Pierce, FL | Christopher Spaman | Williamstown, NJ |
| Betty Estevez | Miami, FL | Bonnie Karch | North Las Vegas, NV |
| Tom Glaser | Hialeah Gardens, FL | Tom Bittner | North Collins, NY |
| Nicholas Leone | Tampa, FL | Christina Donohue | Smithtown, NY |
| Michael Littman | Miami, FL | Mary Kuebler | Williamsville, NY |
| Wendy Lockard | Ft. Lauderdale, FL | Mary Rockwell | Buffalo, NY |
| Cheri Mascitelli | Port St. Lucie, FL | Sharon Sobierajski | Buffalo, NY |
| Barbara Woody | Venice, FL | Marie Suchan | Flushing, NY |
| Sally Stanhope | Atlanta, GA | Leslie Coleman | N. Ridgeville, OH |
| Susan McDanel | Centerville, IA | Wanda Dengel | Portsmouth, OH |
| Pam Danielson | Orofino, ID | Don Martin | Waverly, OH |
| Mark Heiden | Fisher, IN | Kim Miller | Findlay, OH |
| Diane Lang | Overbrook, KS | Wendy Silvius | Cincinnati, OH |
| Vicki O'Neal | Baxter Springs, KS | Bill Wyss | Louisville, OH |
| JuTina Singletary | Merryville, LA | Lyndal Caddell | Noble, OK |
| William Fitzhugh | Baltimore, MD | Marie Harris | Oklahoma City, OK |
| Joshua Fradel | Newark, MD | Stephanie Leslie | Sand Springs, OK |
| Thomas Gray | Rockport, ME | Timothy Cate | Ashland, OR |
| | | Abigail Brazina | Yardley, PA |
| | | Kimberlee Johnsen | Portsmouth, RI |
| | | Lynn Tutuska | Hilton Head Island, SC |
| | | LaNessa Hof | Dell Rapids, SD |
| | | Cynthia Cupp | Strawberry Plains, TN |
| | | Dorothy Davis | Ashland City, TN |
| | | Merwin McCoy | Chattanooga, TN |
| | | Brandon Rader | Memphis, TN |
| | | Tammy Smith | Knoxville, TN |
| | | Lorelei Clark | Missouri City, TX |
| | | Julie Hufstetler | Katy, TX |
| | | Sandra Kelley | Boerne, TX |
| | | James Barton | Riverton, UT |
| | | Niki Fullmer | Springville, UT |
| | | Amy Dawson | Moseley, VA |
| | | Margo Jantzi | Penn Laird, VA |
| | | Bianca Smith | Richmond, VA |
| | | Lynn Wilczewski | Richmond, VA |
| | | Paul Dickler | Dodgeville, WI |
| | | Mark Hoernke | Friendship, WI |
| | | Rhonda Watton | Sussex, WI |



“Gut Leben Ohne Viel zu Haben!”

By Cynthia Jenkins

Social Studies Teacher, Borah High School, Boise, ID

International Project Specialist: Idaho Human Rights Education Center

The title quote as translated by Dr. Dieter Woerner, Director of the Environmental Office in the City of Freiburg, reads, “A good life is more important than many possessions.” This reference became the premise for the Transatlantic Outreach Program’s topic-specific study tour facilitated in conjunction with the Idaho Human Rights Education Center (IHREC).

The week-long study tour to Germany this past March featured the themes of using less energy, implementing renewable energy sources, and developing more efficient technologies. The Transatlantic Outreach Program (TOP) sponsored and organized the unique all-Idaho-teachers study tour with the specific topic of Environmental Justice, based upon the principles of human rights and environmental protection drafted by the United Nations in Geneva in May 1994.



The group visits the Solar Fabrik AG Company in Freiburg.

Within hours of landing in Germany, the Idaho teachers, IHREC Executive Director Amy Herzfeld, IHREC Education Director Dan Prinzing, and group leader Norma Broadwater were trekking through the Black Forest surrounding the city of Freiburg. There they huddled around a child-height campfire and learned about the Forest Kindergarten program.

Forest Kindergartens are a growing trend for German parents who wish to send their children, three to six years of age, into the woods in order to strengthen their link to nature. The group also observed science lessons in local secondary schools and questioned Professor Miranda Schreurs from the Freie Universität Berlin on the complications of a paradigm shift required for a sustainable future in Germany and throughout the world.

Environmental values dominate many aspects of life in Freiburg, considered to be the “greenest” city in Germany and perhaps the world. Here the delegation observed how science, industry, and politics can successfully work together. Their visit to the town hall included a presentation outlining both practice and policy that the city adopted to reduce CO2 emissions 25% by 2010.

A highlight of the time in Freiburg, a city of 225,000 inhabitants, was visiting with two advocates who shared their successful and innovative visions for “going green.” Matthias Lubke discussed the city’s use of multi-mobility: trains, tramlines, park-and-ride, and bike-and-ride. He touted the rapid increase of car-sharing, a private initiative using chip card technology to create car free neighborhoods. The city’s cycle lane network has grown to 300 miles. Freiburggers proudly point out that there are approximately three bikes for every two residents.

Hans-Georg led the delegation around the Quartier Vauban, formerly a French military barracks and is now a car-free quarter in which a majority of the families do not own cars. Virtually every roof was topped with solar panels from the Solar Fabrik AG Company, a provider of local jobs as well as ecological savings to residents.



The group visits Deutsche Bank AG in Frankfurt.

In Heidelberg, the teachers visited the prestigious Max-Planck-Institute of Comparative Public Law and International Law. The focus shifted from the local activist level where change is being executed from the bottom-up to international law where compliance is being implemented from the top-down through international treaties and European Union law.

Heidelberg’s Director of Environmental Policy, Dr. Hans-Wolf Zirkwitz, presented the framework for the city’s successful campaign of public participation in their climate protection plan. Past city actions included energy efficiency tests, energy consumer teams or “E” teams in the schools, solar boat races providing cash incentive awards to students, and testimonial poster contests.

During a short stop in Frankfurt, Deutsche Bank presented a film entitled “A Global Player,” depicting its program of corporate social responsibility. A primary partner of the Transatlantic Outreach Program, Deutsche Bank is also retro-fitting its twin towers into the most ecological, “green” skyscrapers in the world.

Challenging the delegation to examine Environmental Justice through a human rights lens, the Independent Institute for Environment, a non-profit international group under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, presented the implications of the Aarhus Convention, a 1998 environmental agreement that links environmental rights and human rights. The Convention establishes the rights of citizens to access environmental information and participate in decision-making that impacts environmental decisions. Likewise, it acknowledges the right of all persons to a secure, healthy, and ecologically sound environment.

Finally, the delegation enjoyed the rich historical sites of Berlin: viewing remnants of the Berlin Wall, standing under the Brandenburg Gate, exploring the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, museums, Checkpoint Charlie, the Bundestag, and an unforgettably moving excursion to the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp.

The Study Tour provided personal insight and inspiration and will culminate in the creation of curriculum designed to bring the meeting and discussion topics home to Idaho – and through the power of the Internet – to the world. The lessons will be available this Fall on the IHREC website www.idaho-humanrights.org under the subject link of Environmental Justice.

TOP Hosts an “Innovation” Workshop with FPRI

By Paul Dickler, 2006 TOP Fellow
Senior Fellow, Wachman Center, Foreign
Policy Research Institute

On Saturday, April 4th, The Goethe-Institut hosted and co-sponsored an Innovation Workshop in conjunction with the Wachman Center of the Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI) of Philadelphia. The purpose of this one-day program was to encourage teachers to incorporate more of the history of innovation into their curricula and to highlight the role of Germany as a leader of “Green” innovation.

Innovation plays a crucial role in both the natural and social sciences, but students are usually taught from an early elementary school age to separate these disciplines and to overlook the obvious connections. Think of how the telegraph, refrigeration, or the harnessing of electricity has changed history! Other than a mention of the inventors involved, little is said about the impetus for the innovations or the profound impacts they have on society. Conversely, in science classes, little is discussed concerning the application of scientific breakthroughs and their meanings for society.

The workshop at Goethe was designed to stimulate the participants with regard to these oversights. Lawrence Husick, an intellectual property attorney (and world class hacker), presented, “From Stone to Silicon: The 25 Most Important Innovations in the History of the World.” His presentation was followed with suggestions on how to adapt presentations like these into classroom lessons, whether one teaches American, European, or World History, or any branch of science.

Participants were then treated to Till Kötter’s exposition on “Green Innovation in Germany” including current and future breakthroughs in energy generation and conservation, and other “green” areas of pursuit. Till works for the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Washington.

Finally, Stefan Bruner and Wood Powell spoke about TOP opportunities for educators and the ability to pursue topics, such as Green Innovation, in Germany. The program was well attended, and as usual, no one left Goethe empty-handed or with an empty stomach!

For more information on this program or to try and schedule one near you, please visit FPRI.org/education.

VIDEO CONFERENCING BRINGS DISTANT CLASSROOMS TOGETHER

By Kim O’Neil, TOP Fellow & TOP Consultant
Teacher, Liverpool Elementary, Liverpool, New York

For those of us who have had the good fortune of being a TOP Fellow, we know there is no better way to learn about another country than to travel throughout its borders, enjoy the local cuisine, and meet the people. Since it would prove to be a rather large undertaking for me to provide this experience for my sixth grade students, I decided to offer them a “virtual” visit to Germany.

Through the efforts of a TOP study tour guide, Ayla Öztürk-Banha, my email was forwarded to the Pedagogical Exchange Service (PAD) in Bonn that in turn set out to find a German teacher of English who would be willing to embark on a series of live video conference exchanges. To my good fortune, Marlise Kasper from the Albert Schweitzer Gymnasium in Gundelfingen, Germany, agreed to participate.

Prior to each of the three video conferences, we decided on the topic for which both sets of students would prepare questions, allowing each group time to think of appropriate answers before being asked in “person” on the day of the “vidcon.” These were typical “getting to know you” questions as well as those dealing with school and family life. Between sessions the students also exchanged personal hand-written cards and small mementos, making the live contacts even more meaningful.

Since the German students did not have a school mascot, we proudly posted ours, a stuffed alligator. Questions from the German students were frequently about President Obama, so we sent them a poster of the President. Congressman Maffei from our district in central New York State provided a US flag flown over the Capitol in honor of Mrs. Kasper’s class. In return, chocolate euro coins and mini chewy bear candies were greatly appreciated. The technical support was provided by my school district as well as the University of Freiburg where the German students traveled to conduct the sessions.

Ultimately the success of any program of this kind is determined by the commentary of the students.



So far away but so close. The German children appear on screen.

FROM THE GERMAN SIDE:

“Not many students in Germany have the chance to speak English outside the classroom with ‘real’ Americans.” (Christina, 13)

“These video conferences were unique chances for us to speak and understand American English.” (Stephanie, 12)

“The video conferences were fun and we learned a lot about your way of life in the USA.” (Maica, 13)

FROM THE US SIDE:

“We learned much about other people and ourselves. Also, it was fun!” (Abby, 11)

“I feel that I made new friends and that I learned more about another lifestyle.” (Connor, 12)

“We learned more about their culture than we could have if we just read about it out of textbooks.” (Megan, 11)

Both Mrs. Kasper and I were very pleased with the excitement and enthusiasm generated by the video conferences. We would be very happy to assist you in your efforts if you wish to provide such an international learning experience for your students. I may be reached at the following e-mail address: kdoneil@twcny.rr.com.

Self-Portraits Span Two Continents: ART BRINGS CHILDREN TOGETHER

By Wanda Dengel, 2008 TOP Fellow

Elementary teacher, Notre Dame Elementary, Portsmouth, Ohio

ART SPEAKS A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE AND REACHES ACROSS CULTURES. IT STIRS OUR SENSES AND EMOTIONS...

My journey into this art exchange all began with a wonderful principal at the Grundschule an der Brucker Lache in Erlangen, Germany. Her name is Andrea Gerhardt. I received her contact information from former TOP director Stefan Brunner. Ms. Gerhardt found an enthusiastic, young student-teacher named Barbara Billmann. Barbara had been an exchange student in Michigan during her high school years. She was a perfect match!

Since students in Erlangen, Germany were still on vacation when we began school here in Ohio on August 25, 2008, it took every ounce of patience on my second graders' part to wait to make our initial contact with an as-yet unknown teacher in Germany.

We finally received an introductory e-mail on September 27th from Ms. Billmann. She explained that she was a student-teacher and that she had a group of seven- and eight-year-olds to whom she taught art and a group of nine- and ten-year-olds who were learning English. Because we had celebrated Constitution Day a day earlier, we introduced ourselves to Ms. Billmann and her classes by sending them a digital photo of our entire class holding up the first three words of the Preamble to the Constitution ("We the People..."). We did this electronically such that the exchange would be as close to real time as possible. We used e-mail and my blog to communicate and share ideas.



Erlangen students' artwork.

Ms. Billmann responded to our photo by sending us photos of the artwork that her second graders had just completed that day. My students were excited to receive their first art photos from their peers in Germany. We reciprocated by sending the children in Germany photos of our latest projects. We continued to exchange art lessons in

this manner, learning from each other and marveling at what each other had created.

As the art collaboration evolved, Ms. Billmann and I decided that students of each class would produce "head and shoulders" self-portraits of themselves. Each teacher would determine which medium she wanted her students to explore.

The German children used markers to create their self-portraits, which were then cut out and glued onto brightly colored construction paper. Their portraits were very innocent and childlike.

My students based their self-portraits on Picasso's paintings during his cubism period. They took digital "head and shoulders" shots, which were then copied four times. They used three of the photographs to cut into rectangles, squares, and other geometric shapes and then glued those shapes onto a sheet of cardstock. The cut shapes were placed in such a way that it appeared that they had three or more eyes or a mouth in an unusual place, just like Picasso. The fourth photo was sent to Germany so the children there could have some fun matching each self-portrait with each head and shoulders shot.

The self-portraits were exchanged via the postal mail and subsequently exhibited at each other's school for nearly a month. During that time period, Notre Dame Elementary held their Art Show/Grandparents Evening. The German self-portraits were a highlight of that evening's program.

After nearly a month, the second graders eagerly awaited the return of their artwork. Students in both Erlangen and Portsmouth

were excited and thrilled that their self-portraits had been exhibited on two continents.

An important lesson that the children learned through this exchange and through their year-long study was that although the cultural environment and the language of their peers may be different, they share many similar interests and are very much alike!



Portsmouth students' artwork.

News from TOP Fellows

The latest updates from past study tour participants.

Ann Ackerman, 2006, NH, was a 2008 participant in a Fulbright-Hays Seminar Abroad to Greece and Bulgaria and has presented at NCSS and NEA NH, as well as several other forums regarding her experiences and research from traveling to Germany, Greece, and Bulgaria. Anne recently co-authored "Teaching Social Studies as a Subversive Activity," *Social Education*, Jan-Feb 2009. This summer she will travel to Korea with the Korean Studies Workshop and will be a participant in a roundtable discussion at the International Assembly in Atlanta in November, utilizing her various international experiences.

David Brennan, 2006, OK, will be attending Oklahoma State University for full-time work on a PhD in Education with an emphasis on Social Studies.

Tom Bittner, 2008, NY, would like to thank fellow TOP alum Pam Su'a (2008) for her assistance in coordinating an affiliation with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History for fourteen Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Buffalo. Tom also recently served as a multiple choice item writer for the NY State Regents Exam in Global History & Geography.

Lorelei Clark, 2006, TX, presented on Modern Germany at the Friends of Geography Conference this Spring and will be traveling to Calgary, New Orleans, D.C., and Belize on a variety of programs this summer.

Rita Cochrane, 2007, TN, and her 7th grade class were awarded the Runner-Up placement in the National Izzit Educational for their project "Banding Together for a Better World." In addition to being awarded the Keizai Koho Fellowship for travel to Japan this summer, Rita looks forward to the arrival of her first grandchild this coming October!

Linda Cotter, 2006, OH, led a TOP group last summer as part of her TOP Fellow of the Year Award. She will also be presenting a workshop at the Ohio Catholic Education Association convention in Cincinnati in October.

Brian Cushing, 2006, ME, was recently in Frankfurt, Germany with five students as part of a trip to Europe, which also included visits to Greece and Italy.

Laura Delmore Lay, 2006, VA, took part in a three week fellowship in Ecuador in 2008 with the Virginia Geographic Alliance. While there, she studied the changing physical and cultural landscapes of Ecuador. Since the birth of her daughter (Alexandra Candler "Sasha" Lay, born August 17, 2008), she is currently doing freelance on-line curriculum design work for Chesterfield County.

Wanda Dengel, 2008, OH, Dr. Margaret Eisenhart, a University Distinguished Professor of educational anthropology and research methodology at the University of Colorado has invited Wanda to join her as an education delegate to an international

exchange program in South Africa this Fall. The goal of this delegation is to learn more about women's representation and participation in higher education in South Africa, and discuss questions with South African counterparts that deal with trends in South Africa and compare them to the U.S. and Europe.

Lori Dumerer, 2008, TX, had an article published in the Winter 2008 edition of *The Social Studies Texan*, describing her experiences training in the Republic of Georgia during a State Department teacher exchange. Lori has also been selected to attend the College Board Mentor training in August, 2009 in Nevada.

Daneille Erb, 2007, AZ, was awarded a 2008 Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher's Program for a three-week study tour to Japan. She visited Tokyo, Unzen, and Nagasaki. Her follow-on project integrated Social Studies, Literacy, and Character Education using read-alouds of Japanese and American folk tales.

William Fitzhugh, 2008, MD, was awarded a Fulbright Seminar in Ethiopia for five weeks.

Gladys Fox, 2007, WA, has been selected to participate in the 2009 Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program administered by the U.S. Department of Education in cooperation with the Fulbright Commission, U.S. Department of State. She will be participating in a two-country seminar with fifteen other teachers for 6 weeks in Mongolia and New Zealand. The goal of the seminar is to understand how communities develop and sustain themselves over time, and the seminar will combine visits to rural and urban communities, archaeological sites, and schools and museums.

Rehana Ghani, 2008, IL, assumed the role of director for her school's first fashion show in April. The fashion show, Project Runway: Erin Corcoran's Designs, was orchestrated by an eighth grade student to feature her original creations. Donations for the fashion show were raised for the World Wildlife Fund.

Mark Heiden, 2008, IN, recently finished his administration graduate work and is now the principal at Creekside Elementary School in the Franklin Community School Corporation in Franklin, Indiana.

Jennifer Langam, 2006, TX, is moving to Arlington, Virginia where she will be teaching 3rd grade for Arlington Public Schools. Jennifer will help to run NCSS in Atlanta this November.

Manuel Lopez, 2005, CA, received a Fulbright for five weeks to do a study tour in Morocco over the summer. He plans to focus on various aspects of the Moroccan economy and how Moroccans living in Europe are transforming various aspects of Moroccan life.

Mary McCullagh, 2006, FL, presented two sessions at the Florida Council for Social Studies annual conference in October 2008, one of which highlighted Goethe-Institut materials and study-travel opportunities. Mary also presented "The International Book Sharing Project" in January, 2009 at the International Studies Schools Association annual conference in Tampa, Florida and participated in the "Teaching about the Nuclear Age" seminar with the Foreign Policy Research Institute with Jennifer Jolley (TOP Fellow 2004). Mary was named to the Advisory Board of "Our Elder Brothers And Sisters Foundation" as the Educational Outreach Coordinator, recognized as Teacher of the Year for her school, Christopher Columbus High, and continues to coordinate international communications between students in Germany and her classes in online forums.

Susan Mitchell, 2006, CA, traveled to Costa Rica with the Toyota International Teachers Program to focus on environmental issues, and is heading to China this summer with the Freeman Foundation to study the Peoples Republic of China which is celebrating its 60th Anniversary.

Bridgette Nadzam-Kasubick, 2007, OH, presented the "Women in Media" project at e-Tech of Ohio in February and the National Educator's Computing Conference (NECC) in Washington, DC in June, 2009. Bridgette also traveled to Germany with Recorder Consort in November 2008 and will be traveling to India in December 2009 with 15 upper school students.

Matthew Nelson, 2005, TX, has been accepted into the Region XIII Principal Certification Network. He hopes to have an assistant principal position next school year after 18 years in the classroom.

Vicky O'Neal, 2008, KS, will be participating in a Fulbright-Hays seminars abroad program to New Zealand and Mongolia this summer. The trip will focus on "A Day in the Life of: Exploring the Origins of Community." Vicky received word that her school, Lincoln Elementary in Baxter Springs, Kansas, has been chosen to receive the "Kansas in the World" Award for Excellence in International Education. The award will be presented in the Fall at the Kansas State Department of Education conference.

Kim O'Neil, 2003, NY, was awarded Central New York Council for the Social Studies Elementary Teacher for 2009 and participated in video conferences with Marlise Kasper's English class in Germany.

Lauren Panser, 2005, MN, went to Morocco during 2008 on a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship and had a spectacular experience.

Sharon Powers, 2008, CT, will be going to Korea this summer on a study tour with the Korean Society. She will be visiting schools, businesses and having lectures on Korean history and culture.

Mike Raymer, 2007, GA, has been selected

CHANGES AT TOP

to travel to Japan this summer to participate in the Keizai Koho Center Fellowship sponsored by the Japan America Society.

Gary Renouf, 2008, NS, was recently selected as one of ten teachers in North America to receive a Fellowship from the Keizai Koho Program. He will be traveling to Japan this summer for ten days. Gary recently returned from Italy where he led a group of 25 students on a World War Two Battlefield Tour. Gary and his students visited important sites involving Canadian soldiers as well other historic sites in Rome, Florence, and Venice.

Barbara Spillane, 2005, NJ, has enjoyed retirement for the past 3 years from Belleville Middle School. She is presently an adjunct in the Secondary Education Department at William Paterson University and a mentor for student teachers at Montclair State University. Barbara is the proud grandmother of seven grandsons including twin boys born on April 7th, and enjoys traveling and being an active member of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs on both a state and local level.

Regina Stuck, 2007, FL, presented the workshop "20 Years Since the Fall of the Wall" in February at the Miami-Dade Council for the Social Studies Conference and will again be presenting a workshop on Summer Opportunities with Tom Glaser (TOP 2008) giving numerous teachers an overview of what is available to them. Regina was named Teacher of the Year at her school, Robert Morgan Educational Center, and a finalist for the Southern Regional Center.

Kay Weller, 2004, IA, has had adventures in Bangladesh this past year and will be going to Russia and Chile.

Wilma "Jeannie" Wilson, 2005, TX, is a liaison with Bell County Museum for the upcoming exhibit and presentation on Dürer/Rembrandt.

Since TOP was transferred from the Goethe-Institut Atlanta to the Goethe-Institut Washington in October 2006, the "TOP team" remained unchanged until earlier this year.

The first change at TOP occurred in April when Assistant Coordinator, Kelsey Smith, resigned her position to take advantage of a work-travel Visa to Australia where she is currently traveling throughout the country and the region for the next year. Kelsey had been with TOP for nearly four years and was an incredible asset to the program. Her skills, dedication, and friendship are missed by all who worked with her.

Following a lengthy process, Kelsey's successor, Sarah Yabroff, began her employment with TOP on April 20. Sarah, a California native, was a Goethe intern and comes to Washington after completing her Master's Degree in Applied Linguistics from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

The second change at TOP occurred in June when Program Director, Stefan Brunner, moved to Düsseldorf, Germany to become the Director of the Goethe-Institut there. His departure was certainly expected as his six-year rotation in Washington came to an end. Prior to his arrival in Washington, Stefan worked at the Goethe-Institut in Sydney, Australia for five years. After a total of eleven years abroad, it was time for Stefan and his family to return home.

On July 1, Klaus Brodersen assumed the responsibilities as TOP Director. Klaus is married with three children and has been working for Goethe for the past fifteen years, mainly in West Africa and France. He arrives in Washington directly from the Central Office of the Goethe-Institut in Munich, Germany where he was in charge of the central scholarship programs as well as the production of materials for teacher training.

Sarah, Klaus, and Wood will continue the work as the "TOP team" to ensure the continued success of the program, to encourage cross-cultural dialogue, and to provide Social Studies educators with global understanding from an international perspective using Modern Germany as the basis for comparison and contrast.

Klaus Brodersen, Director: kbrodersen@washington.goethe.org
 Wood Powell, Coordinator: wpowell@washington.goethe.org
 Sarah Yabroff, Assistant Coordinator: syabroff@washington.goethe.org



Kelsey Smith, Wood Powell, and Stefan Brunner in San Diego in December 2007.

TOP 2009 Travelers

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|--------------------|----|---------------------|----|------------------------|----|-----------------------|----|----------------------|----|
| Amy Smallwood | AR | Carmen Santiago | FL | Dan Prinzing | ID | Norma Broadwater | MD | Seth Altman | NY | Kristi Brand-Neuroth | TN |
| Amy Braun | AZ | Tari Sexton | FL | David Reeser | ID | Frederick Delello | MD | Dan Dunne | NY | Tammy Smith | TN |
| Rhonda Leduc | BC | Silvio Vargas | FL | Heidi Renk | ID | Jonathan Keiler | MD | Steven Goldberg | NY | Julie Hufstetler | TX |
| Eric Duval | CA | Christopher Cannon | GA | Maritt Wolfrom | ID | Gail Rauch-Tilstra | MD | Laryca Makarczuk | NY | Heather Wheeler | TX |
| Curtis Greeley | CA | Michael Melvin | GA | Karen Kelly | IL | James Feldman | MI | Lynn O'Brien | NY | Niki Fullmer | UT |
| Daniel Jocz | CA | Nimblewill Dearden | HI | Tom Mcoon | IL | Sharon Goralewski | MI | Kim O'Neil | NY | Jill Gammon | UT |
| Jeanne Scheppach | CA | Susan McDanel | IA | Rex Morrow | IL | Henry Rehn | MI | Susan Tornatore | NY | Lauren Braun | VA |
| Laura Thompson | CA | Jennifer Call | ID | Kathleen O'Halloran | IL | Tierney Cherise-Dick | MO | Tonya James | OH | Timothy Davis | VA |
| Darlene Torres | CA | Jennifer Compton | ID | Michelle Emily | IN | Victoria Deniston Reed | NE | Angela Lynskey | OH | Allison Holzgang | VA |
| Christina Imholt | DC | Danni Gilbert | ID | Matthew Laker | IN | Emily Johnson | NE | Bonnie Morosi | OH | William Linser | WA |
| Wood Powell | DC | Andrew Grover | ID | Mary Ellen Lennon | IN | Nathan Larsen | NE | Craig Winegarden | ON | Bradley Veile | WA |
| Sarah Yabroff | DC | Sharon Hanson | ID | Gregory Lewis | IN | Shannon Fernald | NH | Timothy Cate | OR | Debra Ballweg | WI |
| Elyn Sue Ayers | FL | Amy Herzfeld | ID | Juliette O'Dell | IN | Dana Foulds | NH | Caryn Connolly | OR | Sigurd Piwek | WI |
| William Ballenger | FL | Cynthia Jenkins | ID | David Stigall | KY | James Rooney | NS | Michael Williams | OR | James Wendt | WV |
| Nicholas Leone | FL | Laron Johnson | ID | Daniel Zeitz | KY | Kariye Mull | NV | Nicole Roper | PA | | |
| Michael Jon Littman | FL | Marsha Kaufman | ID | Nikki Clark | LA | Kim O'Reilly | NV | Kimberlee Johnsen | RI | | |
| Belkis Madera | FL | Jessica Lipschultz | ID | Arlin Scharfenberg | MB | Michael Stamcoff | NV | Patricia Ward-Maguire | SD | | |

TRAVEL TO GERMANY IN 2010: FAQ!

1. WHO MAY APPLY?

From the United States and Canada: Grades 1-12 Social Studies educators, Social Studies university methods professors, Social Studies curriculum coordinators, and applicable State Departments of Education employees.

2. HOW LONG DO APPLICANTS HAVE TO WAIT BEFORE BEING NOTIFIED?

Applications are typically due the first half of February. Notification letters are sent via the U.S. Postal Service during the second half of March.

3. WHAT COSTS ARE INVOLVED?

All expenses are paid by TOP through the generosity of its partners. This includes the cost of flying from your nearest major airport to Washington, D.C. and back (if you live outside a 100-mile radius of Washington, D.C.), the cost of a hotel room in Washington, D.C. on the night prior to departing to Germany, the cost of flying from Washington, D.C. to Germany and back, all study-tour-related transportation within Germany, all lodging in Germany, two meals per day in Germany, and all associated study tour fees.

The Program does not pay for expenses incurred during free time. The Program does not pay for incidental hotel costs (long distance telephone calls, Pay-Per-View, laundry, Internet, etc.). Each participant has her or his own hotel room.

A refundable deposit is required upon acceptance. The deposit amount is currently \$250.00 USD. Refund depends on the successful completion of items listed below in question 7. A \$50.00 USD "deviation fee" may also apply.

4. WHEN DO THE STUDY TOURS TAKE PLACE?

During the summer months. The first group typically departs in mid June; the fourth and last group returns in mid August. Applicants may request the desired group date(s) on the application form.

5. HOW LONG ARE THE STUDY TOURS?

They are two weeks in length.

6. IS KNOWLEDGE OF THE GERMAN LANGUAGE A REQUIREMENT?

No, although experience speaking the German language is always appreciated and only serves to enhance the experience for participants.

7. WHAT IS THE CATCH?

Above all, this is a STUDY tour! We ask that all participants come willing to participate, ask questions, and absorb a lot of information during a fun, yet physically and mentally intense two weeks in Germany.

Upon returning from Germany, each participant is required to 1) Write a "unit of learning" consisting of 1+ "Germany" lessons AND 2) Conduct a minimum of two "Germany" workshops at the local, district, state, regional, OR national level within a specified time period.

8. JUST HOW "PHYSICALLY INTENSE" ARE THE STUDY TOURS?

While the groups travel long distances by train, motor coach, or public transport, participants must often walk distances of several city blocks; for example, from a train station to a hotel or between scheduled events. Punctuality is paramount, so walking briskly is sometimes necessary.

Participants are also asked to be responsible for their own luggage at all times, even when embarking/disembarking trains, often within three minutes or less. Navigating older train stations without elevators or escalators can also pose a challenge to the most experienced travelers.

In addition to walking, groups may also explore a town or city while on a bicycle tour.

The fact that the study tours take place during the heat of the summer months can also pose a challenge.

9. HOW MANY CITIES ARE VISITED?

Although itineraries are always subject to change, the study tours typically begin in Berlin where the aspects of German government are studied. The tours typically end in Frankfurt am Main due to the city's proximity to the (FRA) international airport. The two or three destinations visited in-between depend largely on which German states have schools in session. Some groups go north, some south. The itinerary does try to maintain a balance between eastern and western German states as well as larger cities and smaller towns. Unless a German border town is being visited, the groups remain in Germany at all times.

10. HOW CAN I IMPROVE MY CHANCES OF BEING SELECTED?

Priority is given to applicants who have workshop leadership experience. If you would like to gain experience, we invite you to lead a "Germany" workshop using TOP materials. Please see page 11 for more information.



Participants present gifts to Christian Haesel at the Robert Bosch Stiftung, Stuttgart.



Canadian participants, Gary and Rima, atop the Reichstag in Berlin.



Participants enjoy apple wine at a farm near Frankfurt (Main).



Participants are invited to the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin for lunch at the International Club.

2010 APPLICATION FORM FOR PARTICIPATION IN A STUDY TOUR TO GERMANY



DATES FOR STUDY TOURS SUMMER 2010 (Check all dates for which you are available for travel.)

DEPART: JUNE 11 - RETURN: JUNE 26 DEPART: JUNE 25 - RETURN: JULY 10 DEPART: JULY 9 - RETURN: JULY 24 DEPART: JULY 23 - RETURN: AUG. 7

DIRECTIONS: Print and carefully read this entire application form. Use this form as your cover sheet and attach Application Requirements 1-4 listed below. Please type or write as legibly as possible.

PARTICIPANT NAME: _____
Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss First Name Last Name

TEACHING ASSIGNMENT/JOB TITLE: _____
[specify course title, grade level, etc.]

SCHOOL/EMPLOYER: _____

WORK ADDRESS: _____
Street

City State Zip Code

Work Telephone: (_____) _____ Work FAX: (_____) _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____
Street

City State Zip Code

Home Telephone: (_____) _____

IMPORTANT: E-Mail Address you check regularly (From Home): _____

Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year): ____/____/____. Disabled? Yes No If yes, please describe on an attached page.

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

A. Which best describes you?

- Social Studies classroom teacher University Social Studies methods professor State Dept. of Education employee
 Curriculum consultant/coordinator Author Other: _____

B. In how many overseas study tours have you participated during the past four years?

C. Do you have experience leading in-service workshops? Yes No

D. Are you in good health, able to face the environmental and physical challenges associated with this study tour? Yes No

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Attach an official letter from your supervisor verifying your current employment status as well as the likelihood of maintaining your current employment status in 2010 and beyond.
2. Attach at least one letter of recommendation in addition to the letter specified in Requirement 1. This letter should be from a different person.
3. Submit a résumé (C.V.) that specifically highlights your contributions to Social Studies education. For example, list all **in-service training workshops you have led** as well as any relevant lesson plans, curriculum guides, textbooks, publications, etc. that you have written.
4. Write a single-spaced, 1-2 page essay outlining 1) what about Germany interests you, and 2) steps you will take upon returning from the study tour to convey the lessons learned to your classroom and to your peers and colleagues.

NOTE: Applications will be accepted from individuals in all 50 states and Canada without regard to gender, race, or religion. Team applications (from married/unmarried couples, family members, etc.) are discouraged and will only be considered if such applicants request to travel to Germany during different time periods. Travel groups may be formed based on job type, subject/grade level taught, areas of interest, etc. to ensure a productive and cohesive team. Priority will be given to teachers in the Transatlantic Outreach Program teacher network who have conducted modern Germany workshops in the past.

Questions? E-mail top@washington.goethe.org or call (202) 289-1200.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APPLICATION PACKET MUST BE RECEIVED, NOT POSTMARKED, BY FEBRUARY 15, 2010.

Send completed application package to:
TOP Coordinator c/o Goethe-Institut Washington
812 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3718

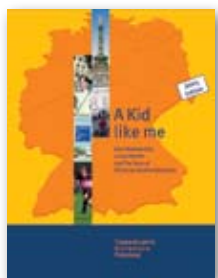
Leading Workshops on Modern Germany

The Goethe-Institut has been providing complimentary teaching materials to Social Studies educators since 1990. Each of the kits below are authored by American Social Studies specialists, edited by Program staff, and printed in Germany. Each contains a book of lesson plans, teacher resources, handouts, worksheets, and full-page, color transparencies. The kits as well as wall maps and additional teaching materials are available free-of-charge to in-service workshop leaders.

Whether you are an experienced workshop leader or are simply looking to conduct your first in-service workshop and want to request complimentary “TOP” materials, please refer to the instructions on page 11.

Workshop leaders receive priority consideration for TOP study tours to Germany.

A KID LIKE ME ACROSS THE SEA, 2005 EDITION



This kit is designed for elementary classrooms. The lessons draw heavily on interpretation of photographs, working with maps, creating timelines, charts, graphs, and other process skills.

The topics of physical and cultural geography, meeting basic needs, political symbols, and people are addressed in a comparative context with the United States.

WELCOME TO GERMANY, 2005 EDITION



This kit is designed for middle school classrooms. The lessons correlate to the study of world cultures (perspective taking and symbols), physical and cultural geography, and state and national government in

a comparative context with the United States.

GERMANY TODAY, 2007 EDITION



This kit is designed for middle and secondary classrooms. The lessons examine Germany's changing position in Europe and in the world as well as political institutions in Germany in a comparative context

with the United States. Each lesson demonstrates the integration of research models for alignment, instructional scaffolding, and backward design of instruction and assessment.*

GERMANY IN EUROPE, 2007 EDITION



This kit is designed for middle and secondary classrooms. The lessons examine European Union governance, multiculturalism, and the Euro currency from the context of one of the Union's largest member nations. Each lesson demonstrates the integration of research models for alignment, instructional scaffolding, and backward design of instruction and assessment.*

MAPS & POSTER

TOP currently distributes two wall maps and one poster to workshop leaders. The Political Maps of Germany and Europe are both provided in the German language. The “Cultural Collage” poster comes with a bilingual German/English answer key allowing students to explore the past and present cultural heritage of Germany.



These lessons use ideas from research-based best practices, such as "Dimensions of Learning" (R. Marzano) and "Understanding by Design" (J. McTighe and G. Wiggins).

The full-page, color transparencies for the instructional kits, “A Kid Like Me Across the Sea 2005” and “Welcome to Germany 2005”, are available online in downloadable, PowerPoint format.

The entire “Germany in Europe 2007” and “Germany Today 2007” instructional kits, including the lesson plans, teacher resources, handouts, transparencies, etc. are available online as of December 2008.

Please visit the “Teaching Materials” section of the TOP web site at www.goethe.de/top.

How to Request Materials for a Workshop

PLEASE NOTE: BEFORE ACCESSING THE ONLINE MATERIALS REQUEST FORM, YOU SHOULD HAVE ALREADY DONE THE FOLLOWING:

1. Decided on a date and location for your workshop.
2. Decided on the audience (elementary, middle, secondary).
3. Have a good idea as to the number of participants.

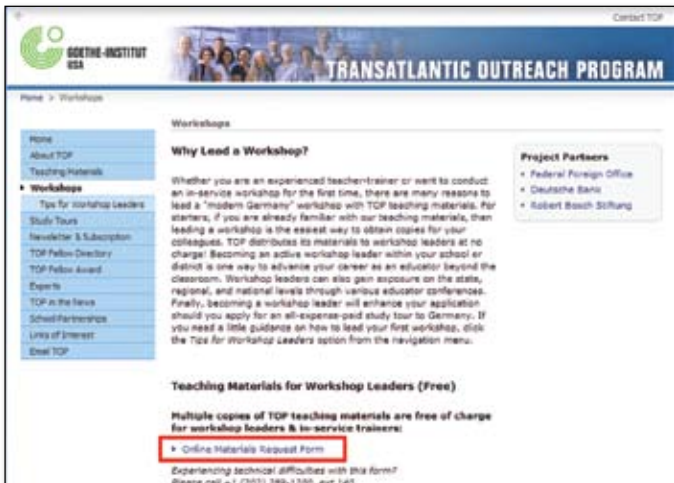
If you are planning to lead a workshop using complimentary “TOP” teaching materials, please follow the steps below:

!!!MATERIALS REQUEST MUST BE SENT 2-3 WEEKS PRIOR TO WORKSHOP DATE!!!

1. Using your preferred Internet Browser (Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, etc.), browse to the TOP web site at <http://www.goethe.de/top>.
2. Once the TOP web site has completely loaded, select “Workshops” from the left-hand main menu.



3. Click on the Online Materials Request Form link under the “Teaching Materials for Workshop Leaders” section.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

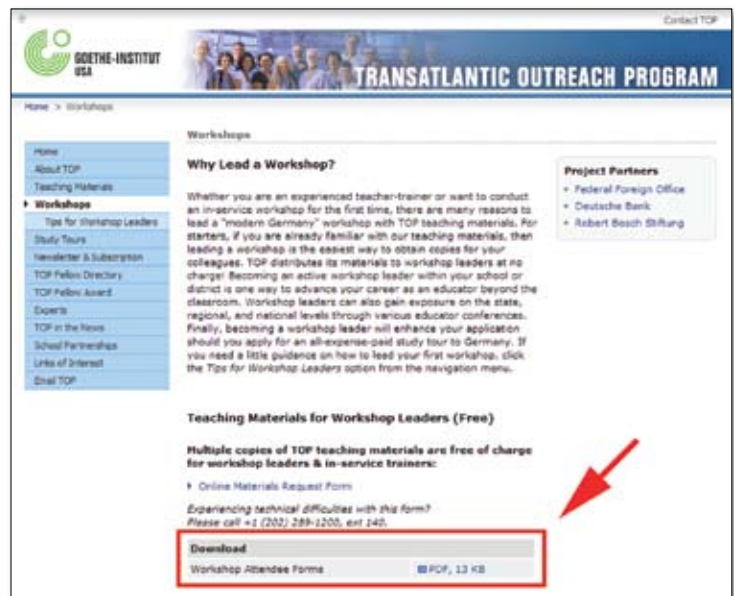
A confirmation e-mail containing attendance forms will be sent when materials successfully ship from the warehouse. Materials typically ship at least one week prior to the workshop date.

Following the presentation of your workshop, the completed attendance forms must be mailed to the following address:

**Assistant TOP Coordinator
Goethe-Institut Washington
812 Seventh Street NW Washington, DC 20001**

4. A new browser window (or browser tab) will open containing the Materials Request Form. Complete the form and click the “Submit” button.

5. Download the “Workshop Attendee Forms” PDF file. Be sure to collect workshop attendee information, and mail the completed forms back to TOP at the address below.



If you experience any technical difficulties with the online materials request form, please send an e-mail to top@washington.goethe.org. Please note that any and all information submitted to the Transatlantic Outreach Program in the form of materials requests or attendance information is subject to strict European Union privacy laws and will NOT be shared with unintended parties.



Goethe-Institut Washington
812 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3718
Tel: (202) 289-1200
FAX: (202) 289-3535

**TO CHANGE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION STATUS OR SIGN UP FOR THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE AT:
WWW.GOETHE.DE/TOP**



Robert Bosch **Stiftung**