



goethesociety.org

## GOETHE NEWS AND NOTES

XLI.2, Fall 2021

Burkhard Henke, Editor  
Davidson College

### *FROM THE EDITOR*

Besides customary updates on the *Goethe Yearbook*, the books series, and the many activities undertaken or sponsored by the Goethe Society in the recent months, this number of the *Goethe News and Notes* also invites you to elect new members to the board of the Goethe Society. You can find the candidates' personal statements below, along with instructions on how to cast your vote by October 15.

Below you will also find information on two upcoming conferences. With the GSA just around the corner, and the Atkins Goethe Conference in Chicago not far behind, we are all looking forward to many stimulating panels as well as the chance to reconnect with colleagues in person. And while you are there, take the opportunity to thank Karin Schutjer for her many years of exemplary service. After one of the longest tenures on the executive board in the history of the Goethe Society, Karin is stepping down as editor of the book series to take on the co-editorship of the *German Quarterly*. As we welcome John Lyon to the board, we wish Karin all the best.

Burkhard Henke  
Davidson College

### *FROM THE PRESIDENT*

Dear Goethe Society members,

At the University of Chicago, where I am based, our new academic year just started this week (it arrives later than at other institutions). It is so energizing to be back in the human give and take of the classroom and released from the Zoom grid. I hope this return has also been going well where you are. My strong sense is that students are overwhelmingly enthusiastic and engaged, and even communicating through masks is less of a pedagogical barrier than feared. The library is open again, and while electronic resources have made our research and teaching possible, it is marvelous to be reunited with the physical collections. Academic buildings present visible reminders of what we have missed for eighteen months. Opposite my classroom hangs a time capsule noticeboard filled with flyers advertising academic events that happened in the first week of March 2020, or that did not happen at all. Our experience of time has shifted and been upended over the pandemic. No such blank space or pause characterized the GSNA, however. It is truly gratifying to reflect on the intellectual community that has been sustained in our GSNA

membership over these months, and that we are now going to be enjoying, at least in some limited way, in person again.

For those of us going to the GSA in Indianapolis this week, either virtually or in person, there is an array of GSNA sponsored sessions to choose from: a roundtable on the first installments of the *Goethe-Lexicon of Philosophical Concepts* available here, [goethe-lexicon.pitt.edu/GL/section/view/entries](http://goethe-lexicon.pitt.edu/GL/section/view/entries); a session on the early Anthropocene; two panels on the Schlegel brothers; and no fewer than three sessions addressing Goethe's sexism. Thank you to all the organizers for such an interesting and timely line-up.

On November 4-6, we will come together in Chicago for the Atkins Conference, on the web at [www.goethesociety.org/2021-conference-program](http://www.goethesociety.org/2021-conference-program). The irony is not lost on me that I have been planning a conference on *Goethe's Things* that is becoming daily a bit more virtual than thingly. Fortunately, we will be able to make a hybrid form of conference work for us thanks to the excellent a/v provisions at the Rubenstein Forum, and I am grateful to all of the participants for their patience and commitment in spite of changing travel rules and other difficulties. On November 7, we are hosting the second set of dissertation workshops in two years, organized by Vice President Heather Sullivan (again!)—what a tribute to the exciting new work being done by graduate student members of the GSNA! As I previously announced, our two keynote speakers on *Goethe's Things* will be Prof. Ernst Osterkamp (Humboldt Universität), on “Die Dinge und die Gelegenheiten. Die Bedeutung materieller Gegenstände für Goethes Lyrik,” and Prof. Carlos

Spoerhase (Universität Bielefeld), whose title is “‘Äußere Form.’ On Goethe's Format Theory.” Let me once again express my thanks to the GSNA board, and in particular Vance Byrd and Eleanor Ter Horst of the Program Committee, for their support and hard work in bringing this to fruition. Last but not least, our gratitude is also due to the Nominating Committee—Mary Helen Dupree, Matt Erlin, and Jan-Oliver Jost-Fritz—that deliberated over the summer and presented such an excellent slate of candidates to the membership for our Executive Board elections.

Catriona MacLeod  
University of Chicago

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## *EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS*

Current GSNA members are invited to cast their ballots by Friday, October 15, for four elected positions on the Executive Board: Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and two Directors-at-Large. Each position carries a three-year term; upon completion of her term, the Vice President becomes President.

Members should have received an individual email message on September 27 with a link to a Survey Monkey site where they can cast an anonymous ballot. Please note that the e-mail will be from [mark@munnwoods.com](mailto:mark@munnwoods.com) via SurveyMonkey.

Below please find bios and personal statements of each candidate. The Executive Board sincerely thanks each

nominee for running, and also wishes to thank the members of the Nominating Committee (Mary Helen Dupree, Matthew Erlin, and Jan Jost-Fritz) for their help in assembling such an outstanding roster of candidates. Should you have any questions about the positions or the election process, please contact Elliott Schreiber, Executive Secretary, at [elschreiber@vassar.edu](mailto:elschreiber@vassar.edu).

### Candidates for Vice President

**Jocelyn Holland** is currently Professor of Comparative Literature at the California Institute of Technology, after serving for many years as Associate Professor of German at UC Santa Barbara. She earned her Ph.D. in German Studies from Johns Hopkins University in 2003. Her research investigates the intersections between literature, philosophy, and science with an emphasis on the Goethe era around 1800 (which in some circles is referred to as Early German Romanticism). This has led to both single-authored publications and larger collaborations with friends in the Goethe Society on a number of different topics, such as the role of the Archimedean point in modernity (with Edgar Landgraf), the concept of equilibrium around 1800 (with Gabriel Trop), and, most recently, the anomaly (with Joel Lande).

“I have enjoyed witnessing firsthand the evolution of the Goethe Society over the past years and seeing how it strives to preserve a sense of identity while responding in creative ways to particular changes and challenges in the academic landscape. I always look forward to the conferences and the environments they generate, where ideas can be shared, challenged, and debated during the day

(and often well into the evening), and where you can reconnect with old friends and get to know a new generation of scholars.

It would be a privilege to serve as vice president and work together with other members of the board to construct a shared vision for the Goethe Society of the future. With regard to my own perspective: I find that it is, in fact, quite difficult to articulate a point of view that is entirely individual, because that would require that one jettison the numerous good ideas that have been articulated in recent years, many of which are based on common sense: the desire to promote a sense of inclusion that casts as broad a net as possible with regard to the backgrounds of individual members; the need to collaborate with members in other likeminded organizations such as the GSA, ACLA, NASSR, and others; and pragmatic approaches to establishing research collaborations. One can also look to successes that are already underway, such as Clark Münzer’s *Goethe-Lexicon of Philosophical Concepts*, which has already established itself as a valuable resource.

My personal preference would be to encourage research endeavors that, with somewhat less focus on the individual, choose to situate Goethe within broader narratives connected to the history of ideas or the history of concepts drawn from philosophy, science, and literature. To facilitate this kind of thinking, I would also like to see the Goethe website become more of a destination for scholars looking to join working groups on particular research topics proposed by junior or senior scholars. The website could be so much more: a place for sharing personal anecdotes, for inviting

visitors, and for facilitating mentoring, among numerous other possibilities. In general, I believe that the Goethe Society can thrive if we maintain a healthy balance between the sense of community and closeness we already feel and the need to be looking and reaching outward to embrace change.”

**Heidi Schlipphacke** is Associate Professor of Germanic Studies at the University of Illinois, Chicago. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Washington in 1999 after completing her B.A. in Philosophy at St. John’s College. Her scholarship is focused on the German and European Enlightenment as well as on post-1945 aesthetics in literature and film, on Critical Theory, and on gender and sexuality. She is interested in thinking across these periods in ways that invite new insights into the past and the present. Her first book, *Nostalgia After Nazism: History, Home and Affect in German and Austrian Literature and Film*, appeared in 2010 with Bucknell University Press. Her monograph, *The Aesthetics of Kinship: Form and Family in the Long Eighteenth Century*, is forthcoming in the GSNA “New Directions in the Age of Goethe” series with Bucknell University Press. The co-edited volume *Sissi’s World: The Empress Elisabeth in Memory and Myth* appeared in 2017 with Bloomsbury. In the same year, she co-edited a special issue of the *Lessing Yearbook* on the topic “Lessing, the European Enlightenment, and the First Sexual Revolution.” In 2014 she edited a special issue of the *Journal of Austrian Studies* on “Habsburg Nostalgia,” and this year she edited a special section on “Movement” (forthcoming in the *Goethe Yearbook* 29) that includes four expanded papers originally presented on the late 18<sup>th</sup>- and

early 19<sup>th</sup>-century German MLA forum panels and an Introduction titled “Movement and the Modern.” She has published essays in journals such as *The Lessing Yearbook*, *Screen*, *Camera Obscura*, *The Journal of English and German Philology*, *The Germanic Review*, and *The German Quarterly*, among others. She is the recipient in recent years of a senior scholar research grant from the Fulbright foundation and a year-long fellowship from the UIC Institute for the Humanities. She serves on the editorial boards of the *Goethe Yearbook*, the *Lessing Yearbook*, the *Journal of Austrian Studies*, and the Bloomsbury book series, “New Directions in German Studies.” She likewise serves on the governing board of the Lessing Society and on the executive board of the Austrian Studies Association. In the past, she held the elected positions of Vice President and President of the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association.

“I have been a member of the Goethe Society for the past two decades, and it truly has become the scholarly organization in which I feel the most at home in the profession. The collegiality, creativity and intellectual openness of its members are unsurpassed. In recent years I have had the honor and pleasure of holding the position of Director at Large for the organization (serving on the essay prize committee and helping organize the 2017 Atkins conference) and of being a member of the dissertation workshop team. The dissertation workshop reflects, I believe, the passionate engagement of scholars in the Goethe Society with both the *Goethezeit* and with early career scholars. I am eager to participate in this year’s dissertation workshop and to learn more about the exciting research being

produced by graduate student scholars working on the period.

Our discipline and the academic profession at large are currently experiencing a sea change moment spurred by movements for social justice. This moment is, to my mind, long overdue, and it poses both challenges and opportunities for our organization. How can and should we approach the pressing questions that arise out of the urgent contemporary discussions about social justice? What are the ethical and pedagogical missions of research and teaching that focus on the long 18<sup>th</sup> century? I believe that our scholarly organization is superbly positioned to model and support the fusion of social justice goals with a close and meaningful engagement with literature, aesthetics and philosophy. We are scholars of literature, and it is our job to explore how heterodox thinkers such as Goethe shape literary and poetic form in ways that invite nuanced and unexpected insights into social and political systems. After all, aesthetics and politics are not antimonies, just as beauty and social justice are not. In recent years, GSNA officers and the editors of the *Goethe Yearbook* have created a variety of forums for intellectual encounters with the *Goethezeit* that bridge the presumed divide between aesthetics and engagement. Were I elected to the position of GSNA Vice President, I would be eager to continue this work together with my colleagues in the organization, thinking past and beyond real or imagined barriers between social justice and aesthetics.

To my mind, the GSNA is an ideal place for this work precisely because of its focus not on the present but on the 18<sup>th</sup>-

and early-19<sup>th</sup> centuries – that is, on an historical moment that we frequently associate with the birth of the modern and that reveals to us both the promise of modern thought and aesthetics and the blind spots endemic to them. The scholarship supported by the GSNA--through the Atkins Conference, the *Goethe Yearbook*, the “New Directions in the Age of Goethe” book series with Bucknell University Press, the *Goethe Lexicon of Philosophical Concepts*, and the many reading and writing groups that have emerged since the onset of the pandemic--is in and of the present in the sense that it is produced in our 21<sup>st</sup>-century world. But, at the same time, it is decidedly not presentist. Indeed, it is precisely the temporal and historical distance that we 21<sup>st</sup>-century readers experience when engaging with works of the *Goethezeit* that enables us to see patterns, contradictions and constellations that offer new ways of thinking not only about the works that fuel our intellectual passions, but also about the present. As a consequence, I am eager to continue to foster collaboration not only with related scholarly organizations focused on the *Goethezeit*, but also with organizations focused more explicitly on social justice within the broader fields of German Studies and Literary Studies (for example, on decolonizing German Studies, on gender and sexuality, on race, on class, on disability, and on diversity, equity and inclusion). Scholars in the *Goethezeit* are conducting cutting-edge research on these topics, and we can, I believe, collaborate fruitfully with organizations that have put these contemporary concerns at the forefront of their missions. In this way, our organization can continue to help inspire scholars at all stages of their careers to approach the

*Goethezeit* from a variety of perspectives that speak both to the complexities inherent in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and to our own challenging times.”

### Candidates for Director-at-Large (2 Positions)

**Matthew H. Birkhold** is Associate Professor of German at the Ohio State University. He received his Ph.D. in German from Princeton University and J.D. from Columbia Law School. His research investigates the intersections of law and literature in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as well as the environmental humanities. His book *Characters before Copyright* (Oxford University Press, 2019) was awarded the 2019 Best Book Prize from the Waterloo Centre for German Studies and honorable mention for the 2020 Scaglione Prize for Studies in Germanic Languages and Literatures from the MLA. Together with Vance Byrd, he is the co-editor of a special issue of the *Germanic Review* on *The Studied Environment*. Birkhold received the 2013 Best Article Prize from the Coalition of Women in German for his article on Kleist and Prussian pregnancy laws. Currently, he is studying the representation of ice in eighteenth-century literature and thought. In addition to his academic work, Birkhold has written for the New York Times, the Atlantic, Foreign Affairs, Paris Review, and Washington Post.

I would be privileged to serve as a Director-at-Large for the GSNA. Ever since I participated in the Dissertation Workshop as a graduate student, I have considered the society my intellectual

home within our field, where I have forged new friendships, discovered opportunities for collaboration, and kept up on the latest scholarship. Now that I am tenured, I am eager to contribute to our community more actively, to help it grow and reach new scholars while maintaining what I consider its organizational hallmarks: scholarly rigor, intellectual curiosity, and genuine friendliness.

Thanks to my various experiences with the GSNA, I understand its institutional goals and have the skills to act as a Director-at-Large. In addition to organizing panel sessions at other conferences, I have presented at the Atkins conferences and GSNA-sponsored panels at other meetings. I have written for the various sections of *Goethe Yearbook* and would be delighted to help select leaders to guide the journal and book series. Further, as a participant in GSNA writing and reading groups, I would be happy to provide administrative support to these efforts. And, most recently, I helped to select the 2020 winner of the GSNA essay prize and I would be eager to continue in this role.

As a Director-at-Large, I would also like to organize a mentoring program to support graduate students and junior scholars, create an optional group for colleagues to share works-in-progress, and arrange public writing workshops for those interested in placing their scholarship in popular media outlets. In light of the exciting and relevant research our colleagues are conducting, I believe there is potential for our organization to become an engine for considerable public intellectual output. This would attract general readers and additional scholars to the GSNA. But this will only be

successful if our organization remains as welcoming to others as it was to me. This includes embracing the diversity that makes our field exciting and creating safe intellectual spaces where new ideas can be explored while maintaining the high scholarly standard associated with the GSNA. It would be an honor to serve our Society in this capacity.

**Bryan Klausmeyer** is Assistant Professor of German Studies at Virginia Tech. He received his Ph.D. in German Literature from the Johns Hopkins University. His research and teaching focus on the intersection of modern German literature (1750-1850); the history of science, philosophy, and aesthetics; and media theory. His current book project, *Small Forms: Micrologies of German Literature and Science around 1800*, examines the poetics and pragmatics of “smallness” in the long 18th century, with a focus on the writings of Georg Christoph Lichtenberg, Jean Paul, and Goethe. He has published articles in *Monatshefte*, *Germanic Review*, and the *Goethe Yearbook*, and is currently finishing a co-edited special issue of *MLN* (Comparative Literature) on “Scenes of Writing” (forthcoming, 2021). He is also a co-editor of the *Goethe-Lexicon of Philosophical Concepts*, and this year he will be co-organizing (with Sean Franzel) a panel on “Work Practices/Werkpraktiken” at the Atkins Conference of the GSNA in Chicago.

Since becoming a member of the GSNA in 2017, I have benefited tremendously from the generosity of its members, from its support of my scholarship, and from the unique sense of intellectual community with which it has provided

me. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that in each of these respects the GSNA has played a singular role in shaping my career path and the direction of my scholarship. I would therefore be honored and eager to return the favor, to the extent that that's possible, by serving as one of the GSNA's two Directors-at-Large. Let me start off by saying that, as a junior faculty member, I have never directed a large organization or served, say, as a department chair. However, I do have relevant experience for this position: I've co-organized numerous conferences and panel series, served as a referee and co-editor for journals, applied for major grants on behalf of organizations, and since joining the GSNA I've attended every annual business meeting. Moreover, thanks to my ongoing editorial work with the *Goethe-Lexicon of Philosophical Concepts*, I am in regular contact with many GSNA officers and members, not to mention those of other international Goethe societies.

If elected to the position of Director-at-Large, I would draw on these experiences to work with the other Director-at-Large and the executive board to promote ongoing efforts to make the GSNA into a diverse, inclusive, and interdisciplinary environment for scholars of the “Age of Goethe” at all stages of their careers. I would be especially eager in this regard to use this position to encourage younger scholars to join and participate in the life of the organization, such as by helping to plan the organization's dissertation workshops and participating in mentoring work, by continuing to push for sessions on professional development, as well as by promoting members' scholarship through the *GLPC*, which has had great success in recruiting junior scholars to its editorial team and publishing their (and

other members’) work. Finally, thanks to the connections I’ve established with the English Goethe Society and the Goethe-Gesellschaft, I would continue to cultivate these relationships on behalf of the GSNA to ensure that the organization and its various endeavors are represented internationally.

**Chunjie Zhang:** I am an associate professor of German and affiliated faculty of Comparative Literature, Cultural Studies, East Asian Studies, Critical Theory, Global Migration Center, and Religious Studies Graduate Group at the University of California, Davis. I also directed the research cluster and interdisciplinary digital project “Migration and Aesthetics” 2020-2021. After receiving my B.A. from Peking University in China and an M.A. degree from the University of Tübingen in Germany, I finished my doctoral study at Duke University in 2010.

Trained in eighteenth-century studies and *Goethezeit*, I have been keenly interested in exploring global and transcultural perspectives in the study and teaching of literature and culture. My first book *Transculturality and German Discourse in the Age of European Colonialism* (Northwestern UP, 2017) situates German literature and philosophy in the polycentric world of the eighteenth century. While the Enlightenment is commonly related to the process of nation building, my book delineates the contour of a transcultural discourse, in which I highlight the influence of non-European cultures on German thinking in a key period of global modernity between 1756 and 1835. The South Pacific travel writings by Georg Forster and Adelbert von Chamisso, dramas and Robinsonades

by August von Kotzebue and Johann Joachim Campe, Herder’s philosophy of history, and Kant’s theory of geography—all these works demonstrate important elements of a transcultural consciousness next to nationalist movements. Furthermore, I have been engaging with Goethe’s work in my articles and an edited journal issue. I wrote about Goethe’s *Wahlverwandtschaften*, his poem cycle *Chinesisch-deutsche Jahres- und Tageszeiten*, *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*, and discussed the notion of *Weltliteratur* and the making of Goethe as a representative of either national or world literature by later thinkers in different cultural and historical contexts from the nineteenth century to date. In my teaching, I also intend to foreground Goethe and the German eighteenth century and read with students excerpts from Goethe’s *Werther*, *Faust*, or his poem *Prometheus* as well as Georg Forster’s *Reise um die Welt*, Kant’s *Was ist Aufklärung?*, or Alexander von Humboldt’s travel narratives. In sum, Goethe and his age have been and will remain a constant on my research and teaching agenda.

In terms of service role, I am honored to chair the Book Prize Committee for Literary and Cultural Studies of the German Studies Association in 2021. I am also chairing the program committee of the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies in the year 2021-2022 after I served as a member in the same committee 2020-2021. I am also honored to serve on the incoming editorial board of *German Quarterly* and have been co-editing with two colleagues in Japan and Australia the book series *Asia, Europe, and Global Connections* with Routledge. Most recently, in summer 2021, I



collaborated with German colleagues at the Freie Universität Berlin to organize an international conference “Worlds of Literature: Competing Notions of the Global.” I have enjoyed working with colleagues and graduate student representatives in these committees and collaborating across disciplines and national borders. It has always been my pleasure to serve in such roles and organize meetings because I am convinced that the thriving of a discipline or a cross-disciplinary area is closely associated with fruitful and creative exchange of ideas in well-structured conversation settings. I have learned a great deal from professional conferences and meetings and am willing to give back so that others can benefit from them as well.

The Goethe Society of North America is an important learned organization with a long tradition. My scholarship and teaching align with the goals of the society. I am willing to further its commitment to the reappraisal of Goethe and his thought, scholarly lectures and symposia about Goethe and his age, the development of research facilities for the study of the eighteenth century more generally, and the global understanding of literature in a transcultural discourse. In addition to the existing strengths of the society, I could imagine that the society would benefit from connecting with other Goethe societies and Goethe scholars in the world and organize international workshops, lecture series, and conferences in North America, Europe, and Asian Pacific, either in person or maybe partially on zoom so that travel cost would not be a major issue interfering with intellectual exchange. For example, the English Goethe Society, Goethe Society of India, and Goethe

scholars in Japan, Korea, and China would be potential partners for GSNA to achieve its goals and have global outreach. The German Klassikstiftung and its libraries and archives in Weimar could certainly become an important resource and partner for GSNA and its members. It might be worthwhile to explore the possibilities of offering digital resources to GSNA members from the Klassikstiftung or organizing research workshops in Weimar for GSNA members with access to Goethe museum and Goethe Schiller archive in Weimar. This way, we can foster intellectual exchange and learn to see each other’s perspectives globally, together.

I could also imagine that it is equally important for the society to nurture next generations of Goethe researchers. Since the society has well-maintained ties to professional organizations such as the GSA and ASECS to have guaranteed sessions in their annual meetings, it could be an idea to offer workshops and seminars geared toward graduate students and led by Goethe scholars. It could be in the format of a masterclass or in the format of a creative writing or performing session. ASECS has developed such pre-conference events either to perform scenes from eighteen-century dramas or workshop some ideas by graduate students. Since Goethe is beyond German studies and well translated, I could imagine that a performance of his dramas or a reading of his poems would attract attention and further the interest in studying and teaching Goethe within and beyond German studies.

Last but not least, I am extremely honored and humbled by the nomination for a director-at-large of the GSNA. I will try my very best, shall I be elected.

## Candidates for Secretary-Treasurer

**William H. Carter** is Associate Professor of German Studies in the Department of World Languages and Cultures at Iowa State University. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His research interests begin in the *Goethezeit* and include: the *Faust* tradition; intersections of literature, philosophy, and economic thought from the eighteenth century to the present; Austrian studies; film; and finance and society. He has published articles in the *Goethe Yearbook*, *Herder Jahrbuch/Yearbook*, *Colloquia Germanica*, *Monatshefte*, *German Studies Review*, and *The German Quarterly*. He has co-edited special issues of *Finance and Society* and the *Journal of Financial Counseling and Planning*, both on the topic “Ethics of Debt,” and founded the research exchange portal “Critical Engagements with Economic Thought” ([economicthought.ceah.iastate.edu](http://economicthought.ceah.iastate.edu)). He served for a number of years as the president of the Iowa Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German.

“I joined the Goethe Society in 2005. Throughout my professional career, Goethe Society members have welcomed me and provided me with extraordinary intellectual stimulation, steadfast encouragement, and genuine friendship. During my term as Secretary-Treasurer, I upgraded our PayPal account, so members do not have extra fees when paying dues online, and I created Lifetime and Lifetime Patron membership options. We also changed our investment account to make sure our money is being actively managed. Finally, we have begun to discuss an

endowment for the GSNA. I hope that I can continue to serve the Goethe Society, which has supported me in so many ways.”

**Daniel DiMassa** is Assistant Professor of German at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, in Worcester, Massachusetts, where he likewise directs the [Berlin Project Center](#). He earned his PhD in German from the University of Pennsylvania in 2014. His research resides at the intersections of literature, religion, and aesthetics, especially in the early nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. His book, *Dante in Deutschland: An Itinerary of Romantic Myth* (2022), is forthcoming in the GSNA’s series, *New Studies in the Age of Goethe*.

“The Goethe Society of North America has been with me since my first semester as a graduate student; indeed, the first conference I attended was the inaugural Atkins Conference. Catriona MacLeod, Simon Richter, Gunnar Hindrichs, Leif Weatherby, Ulrich Gaier, and I piled into a van and took I-76 from Philadelphia to the Cathedral of Learning in Pittsburgh. In the years since, I have profited immensely from the mentorship and friendship of the Society’s members — informally, as well as through the Gloria Flaherty dissertation workshop and the collaboration with our colleagues who edit the GSNA book series. I look forward to the prospect of serving the GSNA as Secretary-Treasurer, for which I will bring to bear my experience in project organization and administration.”

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*FROM THE EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY*

As I write, the German Studies Association Conference is less than a week away, and I'm looking forward to (virtually) attending the various GSNA-sponsored panels, all of which were postponed last year. Jan Jost-Fritz has organized two panels on "The Schlegel Brothers and Their Romantic Constellations;" Horst Lange has organized three panels on "Dimensions of Goethe's Sexism;" and Heather Sullivan has put together a panel on "Natural/Unnatural Crises in the Early Anthropocene." Last, but certainly not least, Clark Muenzer and John H. Smith have assembled a roundtable on "The Goethe Lexicon of Philosophical Concepts: First Installments." I'd like to thank the organizers as well as the panelists for this incredibly interesting array of panels. I'd also like to thank Mary Helen Dupree for organizing two panels at the 2022 MLA Convention on "Goethe's Forms," which are co-sponsored by Forum on 18<sup>th</sup>- and Early-19<sup>th</sup>-Century German Language, Literature and Culture.

Since last Spring, Michael Saman has led a vibrant online discussion group on race and imperialism. If you are interested in joining, please contact Michael at [michaeljsaman@gmail.com](mailto:michaeljsaman@gmail.com). If you're interested in organizing an online discussion group on another topic, please feel free to reach out to me at [elschreiber@vassar.edu](mailto:elschreiber@vassar.edu).

Finally, please contact me if you might be interested in putting together a GSNA-sponsored panel at the 2022 GSA or the 2023 ASECS or MLA conventions. If you have never submitted a proposal for

GSNA sponsorship before, I would be happy to guide you through our very easy and straightforward process. One benefit of GSNA sponsorship is that your panel is guaranteed a slot at these conventions; another benefit is that we broadcast details of your panel ahead of the conference to the over 300 scholars on our mailing list..

Elliott Schreiber  
Vassar College

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*SPONSORED PANELS  
AT THE 2021 GSA*

**The Goethe Lexicon of Philosophical  
Concepts: First Installments**

Sunday, October 3, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30  
p.m. ET  
Virtual

Conveners: Clark Muenzer (University  
of Pittsburgh) and John H. Smith  
(University of California, Irvine)  
Moderator: John H. Smith

Speakers:

Clark Muenzer  
Catriona McLeod (University of  
Chicago)  
Daniel Carranza (Harvard University)  
Margaret Strair (University of  
Pennsylvania)  
Bryan Klausmeyer (Virginia Tech)

## **Natural/Unnatural Crises in the Early Anthropocene: Naturecultures**

Saturday, October 2, 8:00-10:00 a.m. ET  
Virtual

Convener: Heather Sullivan (Trinity University)

Moderator: Matthias Buschmeier (Bielefeld University)

Commentator: Jason Groves (University of Washington)

1. Rory Bradley (Colby College): “Reckoning with the Scale of Crisis: Goethe’s *Unterhaltungen deutscher Ausgewanderten*”
2. Sally Gray (Mississippi State University): “Critiquing Boundaries of the Self: Goethean Science in the Early Anthropocene”
3. Samuel Heidepriem (Tsinghua University): “What We Owe to Nature: Fichte and the Future of Property”

## **The Schlegel Brothers and Their Romantic Constellations (1): Transformations and Transitions**

Friday, October 1, 4:30-6:15 p.m. ET  
Virtual

Convener: Jan-Jost Fritz (East Tennessee State University)

Moderator: Heather Sullivan (Trinity University)

Commentator: Sara Luly (Kansas State University)

1. Xuxu Song (University of California, Irvine): “Symübersetzung: Translation in the *Athenaeum* as an Early

Romantic Aesthetic Principle and Practice”

2. Jason Yonover (Johns Hopkins University): “Caroline Michaelis-Böhmer-Schlegel-Schelling and Understanding”
3. Jan Jost-Fritz: “Revisiting ‘Die Gemälde’: Imitation, Imagination, and Gender in Schlegel’s Dialogue”
4. Kai Kauffmann (Bielefeld University): “August Wilhelm Schlegel and the Temporality of the Romantic Movement”

## **The Schlegel Brothers and Their Romantic Constellations (2): Resonances and Receptions**

Saturday, October 2, 2:15-4:00 p.m. ET  
Virtual

Convener: Jan Jost-Fritz (East Tennessee State University)

Moderator: Horst Lange (University of Central Arkansas)

Commentator: Renata Fuchs (UCLA)

1. Matthias Buschmeier (Bielefeld University): “The Death of Romanticism. A.W. Schlegel’s and Ludwig Tieck’s *Musen-Almanach 1802*”
2. Rudy Saliba (Vanderbilt University): “Where Can a Universal Poetry be Found? The Politics of Interpreting Friedrich Schlegel’s Conversion to Catholicism”
3. Lynn Zastoupil (Rhodes College): “A National Treasure: A.W. Schlegel’s Influence on H.H. Wilson’s Defense of Sanskrit”

4. Yelena Etarian (Yerevan Brusov State University): "Friedrich Schlegels romantisches Konzept einer progressiven Universalpoesie, dargestellt in den Werken von Thomas Mann und Günter Grass"

### **Dimensions of Goethe's Sexism (1)**

Friday, October 1, 4:30-6:15 p.m. ET  
Virtual

Convener: Horst Lange (University of Central Arkansas)

Moderator: Christian Weber (Florida State University)

Commentator: Horst Lange

1. Susan Gustafson (University of Rochester): "Goethe's Criticism of Male Sexism in *Stella: A Play for Lovers*"
2. Gail Hart (University of California, Irvine): "'Mein! Mein!': Goethe's Polyamory in *Stella*"
3. Margaretmary Daley (Case Western Reserve University): "'Schwerer [...] ein vollendeter Mann zu werden al sein vollendetes Weib': Hetero-Sexism in Goethe's Writing around 1800"

### **Dimensions of Goethe's Sexism (2)**

Saturday, October 2, 2:15-4:00 p.m. ET  
Virtual

Convener: Horst Lange (University of Central Arkansas)

Moderator: Jan Jost-Fritz (East Tennessee University)

Commentator: Gail Hart (University of California, Irvine)

1. Maryann Piel (University of Illinois, Chicago): "Sexism beyond the Novel: Sophie von La Roche's Influence on the Young Goethe"
2. Karin Wurst (Michigan State University): "Women and Visions of Home: Lotte and Charlotte"

### **Dimensions of Goethe's Sexism (3)**

Sunday, October 3, 8:00-10:00 a.m. ET  
In person, Mariott 4

Convener: Horst Lange (University of Central Arkansas)

Moderator: John Lyon (University of Pittsburgh)

Commentator: Peter Höyng (Emory University)

1. Eleanor ter Horst (University of South Alabama): "'Daß ich Eins und doppelt bin?': Erotic and Authorial Duplicity in Goethe's *West-Östlicher Divan*"
2. Christian Weber (Florida State University): "Goethe's Towers of Power"

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### *FROM THE EDITOR OF THE BOOKS SERIES*

There are exciting developments in store for New Studies in the Age of Goethe.

We are pleased to announce two new titles for 2022!

- *Dante in Deutschland: An Itinerary of Romantic Myth*, by Daniel Di Massa
- *The Aesthetics of Kinship: Form and Family in the Long Eighteenth Century*, by Heidi Schlipphacke

These two highly original, deeply researched, and beautifully written monographs are sure to make a strong impact on our field. Stay tuned for details and dates in future newsletters. As always, GSNA members can receive a 40% discount on our volumes [here](#) with the code BUPSOCIETY.



My other big news is that, after six years as the editor of our series, I will be stepping down at the end of 2021 to turn my attention to the co-editorship, with Hester Baer, of *German Quarterly*. I have enjoyed my tenure with the series immensely, not least because of the opportunity to work together with such talented colleagues, including our editorial board (Jane Brown, Martha Helfer, and Astrida Orle Tantillo), the

authors who have entrusted their work to us, and the highly professional staff at Bucknell University Press. Some developments during this period that I believe have placed the series in a strong position include

- the inauguration of Bucknell's publishing partnership with Rutgers, which brought us lower cover prices and a much-improved production and marketing infrastructure;
- our decision to expand our purview from monographs exclusively to edited volumes, and our strong first showing with *Play in the Age of Goethe* (ed. Landgraf and Schreiber);
- and our continued experimentation with new forms of reader outreach, including our book drawing at our annual cash bar; conference tabling; and our first book launch via Zoom.

But the series still has tremendous potential for future growth! This brings me to the announcement that the GSNA Board has chosen my successor: Professor John Lyon of the University of Pittsburgh.



I have known John since graduate school and cannot think of a more judicious, conscientious, and collaborative colleague. John will build on current strengths but also bring new energy and vision to the position moving forward. I am thrilled to be leaving the series in such capable hands.

A final personal note. The end of this year will also mark my departure from the GSNA board after a total of fourteen years. Since 2007, I have served successively (with a single year hiatus) in the roles of director-at-large, executive secretary, and book series editor. My career has been energized and shaped by you all, my scholarly community, from whom I have learned so much, and to whom I have endeavored to speak in my scholarship and give back through service. What a privilege!

Karin Schutjer  
University of Oklahoma

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### *FROM THE YEARBOOK EDITORS*

With volume 29 in production, we reflect on our second pandemic issue and look forward eagerly to the upcoming 2020 (2021) Atkins conference. The readership can look forward to essays on *Anton Reiser*; articles on gender and the cultural legacies and myths of German romanticism; an article on Goethe's morphology as antecedent to computational analysis; and a fascinating prequel to last year's essay on Goethe commemorations in Argentina. The last freestanding essay in this volume

reconsiders Goethe's *Weltliteratur* in the context of *Handelsverkehr* (trade) with China, continuing a conversation about the worldliness of eighteenth-century German literature and culture that has been vigorous and strong for some time now and gestures well beyond the uptake of individual concepts or motifs. Beyond words, texts, and eighteenth-century worlds, we are looking forward to animated conversations about "Goethe's Things," his "Gespräch mit den Dingen"—his dialogue with objects. We hope to feature many facets of the latter in volume 30, devoted to work first presented at the Atkins Goethe Conference 2020, planned for November 2021 at the University of Chicago. (Volume 30 will be the last under our editorship.) Additionally, volume 29 features two special sections. The first commemorates Hölderlin's 250th birthday, with work devoted to "Reading and Exhibiting," compiled by Meike Werner. The other special section, on movement and edited by Heidi Schlipphacke, further explores research featured at MLA 2021 and revisits many questions of sentimentalism, visuality, and narration that are at the core of canon formation and eighteenth-century thresholds of modernity. We want to extend profound thanks to the colleagues and contributors from the GSNA and beyond who have made this volume possible in impossible times.

As always, inquiries or manuscripts should be directed to both editors, Patricia Anne Simpson and Birgit Tautz at the addresses listed below. Mails sent to [editors@goethesociety.org](mailto:editors@goethesociety.org) reaches both.

Note that the *Goethe Yearbook* is a double-blind, peer-reviewed publication,

widely indexed, and published with DOIs. All manuscripts should be prepared in Microsoft Word, and in accordance with the *Yearbook's* style sheet—available on our web site—and anonymized for review. Manuscript submissions should be no longer than 8,500 words.

Patricia Anne Simpson  
University of Nebraska

Birgit Tautz  
Bowdoin College

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*IN MEMORIAM:*  
*JEFFREY L. SAMMONS*  
*(1936-2021)*

We mourn the passing of Jeffrey L. Sammons, Leavenworth Professor of German Literature Emeritus at Yale University and founding member of the Goethe Society of North America.

A memorial tribute, convened by Kirk Wetters and Willi Goetschel, will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, October 12, at 1 p.m.

<https://yale.zoom.us/j/6592966418>

Speakers include Peter Demetz, Jocelyne Kolb, F. Trommler, Meike Werner, W. Kriegleder, Joseph Kruse, Mary Paddock, Mark Gelber, Abby Gillman, and Jeffrey Grossman. The tribute is sponsored by the Yale Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures and the North American Heine Society. More information can be obtained from [keith.geriak@yale.edu](mailto:keith.geriak@yale.edu).

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*FROM THE SECRETARY-  
TREASURER*

If you have not yet paid your 2021 dues and would like a copy of *Goethe Yearbook 29* (Spring 2022), please renew your membership as soon as possible. 2022 dues reminders will be sent in early January.

When renewing please consider the discounted three-year membership options in all categories as well as Lifetime (\$500) and Lifetime Patron (\$1,500) memberships. To pay for the membership level that's right for you, we encourage you to visit our website at [www.goethesociety.org/membership](http://www.goethesociety.org/membership).

Use the drop-down menu to select a membership category, then click the Pay Now button. You do not need a PayPal account. You may use the secure PayPal Guest Checkout and enter your credit card information there.

Of course, we still accept checks, payable to "Goethe Society of North America." They can be mailed to William Carter, Department of World Languages and Cultures, Iowa State University, 3102 Pearson Hall, Ames, IA 50011.

Should you have a change of mailing or email address or a question about the status of your membership, please let me know: [wcarter@iastate.edu](mailto:wcarter@iastate.edu).

William Carter  
Iowa State University

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