LIEBE KOLLEGGINNEN UND KOLLEGEN,

Während das (akademische) Schuljahr sich langsam seinem Ende neigt und landesweit SchülerInnen wie StudentInnen mit Freude und Stolz, aber auch Erleichterung ihrem Schul- bzw. Studienabschluss entgegen sehen (und diesen natürlich auch gebürtig feiern), beginnt für viele von uns die wohlverdiente Sommerpause!

Bevor wir aber das (akademische) Jahr Revue passieren lassen, möchte ich allen Michigan Deutschlehrern ganz herzlich danken! Euer Enthusiasmus, Euer Ideenreichtum und Euer aufopferungsvoller Einsatz im täglichen Unterricht, sowie in der außerunterrichtlichen Arbeit tragen dazu bei, die Deutschprogramme an unseren Schulen, Colleges und Universitäten lebensnah und interessant zu gestalten und damit zu stärken! Schüler, denen das Erlernen der deutschen Sprache und Kultur in ihrer Schulzeit Freude bereitet, und die viele positive Erfahrungen und Erlebnisse damit verbinden, sind natürlich auch weitaus motivierter, ihre Deutschkenntnisse im Studium zu vertiefen, und im Alltag anzuwenden! Also, vielen herzlichen Dank!

I hope that you will find the information in our new Spring Newsletter helpful and inspiring, and I also want to encourage you to share the news and updates from your German program with all AATG-MI members! Thank you again for all the hard work you do to improve and promote the teaching of German in Michigan! I look forward to seeing you at one of the many PD workshops and conferences that will be offered again this year.

Herzliche Grüße, einen schönen Sommer und weiterhin alles Gute,

Katharina Häusler-Gross, Ph.D.
AATG-Michigan President
Professor of German Studies & Foreign Language Methodology
Aquinas College
Throughout the past academic year many AATG-MI members have been very busy presenting their research at various state, regional, and national conferences, and sharing their professional insights and expertise with language professionals across the U.S. while advocating for and promoting the study of German. Attending and presenting at conferences also provides AATG-MI members with many great opportunities to connect and collaborate with colleagues, learn about the latest innovations in Foreign Language Teaching and Learning, and find new careers! Make sure to attend one or more of the many language-related conferences and workshops that are offered in 2017-2018!

At our 2016 fall business meeting, Patricia Schneider, who has taught German at Clarkston Community Schools since 2005, was elected as the new treasurer for the chapter. Since 2014, Patricia teaches German levels 1 through 5 and IB Standard Level at Clarkston High School. Herzlich Willkommen, Patricia!

One of our longstanding AATG-MI members, Judy Cooper from Alpena High School, will bid farewell to teaching as she begins her well-deserved retirement in June 2017. On behalf of the entire AATG-MI chapter I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Judy for her many years of dedicated service as treasurer for our chapter, as well as her excellent leadership at Alpena High School! Vielen herzlichen Dank, Judy!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES SUMMER 2017

The Germanistic Society of America in cooperation with Universität Heidelberg is pleased to invite applications for the Quadrille Stipend to enroll at the summer Fortbildungskurs at Universität Heidelberg that is offered from August 3—30, 2017. The stipend is available to two teachers of German as a Foreign Language at a secondary school or college/university in the U.S.

Application deadline: May 15

Deutsche Woche at Bar Harbor, July 30 to August 5, 2017, is a week-long summer immersion program designed for German teachers at all levels of instruction, sponsored by the Maine Chapter of AATG and held at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine. Graduate credit and/or CEUs are available.

Application Deadline: July 1

Nicht um meine Sprache zu verlernen, lerne ich andere Sprachen, sondern ich gehe bloß durch fremde Gärten, um für meine Sprache Blumen zu holen. (Johann Gottfried Herder)
Thank You to all AATG-MI members who shared their knowledge and expertise by presenting a workshop or session, hosting the AATG-Michigan Exhibition Table, and representing their German Program at the University Reception at the 2016 MIWLA conference in Lansing!

Impressions from MIWLA 2016 (from left to right):
Tom Lovik (MSU), Angelika Kraemer (MSU), Katharina Häusler-Gross (Aquinas College), Adam Gacs (MSU), Katja Fullard (Goethe Institut Chicago), Susan Hojnacki (Aquinas College), Lee Forester (Hope College)
Nearly 400 high school and college students attended the inaugural German Career Day at Aquinas College that was hosted by the German Studies program on September 28, 2016. The event was sponsored by the Goethe Institut, Germany’s cultural institute that promotes the study of German abroad, and encourages international cultural exchanges for students and professionals.

Students had the opportunity to receive personal career advice from professionals working for German companies, learn about German study abroad programs, internship and job opportunities, and perform mock interviews with representatives from local German companies.

The event featured a mix of presentations, panel discussions, mini-workshops, and information booths.

Partner organizations for the event included the German American Exchange Service (DAAD), the German-American Chamber of Commerce Midwest (GACC), The Right Place, and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC).

TESTIMONIALS:
What did students like most about the German Career Day?

“They liked the quiz and the prizes of course, but also really enjoyed feeling like they connected with a piece of their future. “

“They liked the opportunity to meet with so many German employers that provide students with ideas for how to use their skills in the future. “

“I now have students seriously excited about careers with these companies and in these fields, that previously they did not know had existed. Some are thinking about internships. The Germany Quiz was also a favorite mentioned by several students. It truly opened the eyes of many of my students. I appreciate, that what I’ve been telling them in class was echoed by the panel. “

“Seeing how many German companies there are in the area. Learning about the importance of speaking German as second language.”
NEW IN 2018! GERMAN LANGUAGE CERTIFICATE FOR STEM MAJORS

Beginning in 2018 a new German Language Certificate for STEM majors (GLC-STEM) will be offered by the German Studies Program at Aquinas College. This program provides interested German students with a course of study that prepares them to acquire the special skills needed for the applied use of German in a STEM field (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math).

The GLC-STEM was developed in connection with the launch of two engineering degrees that will be offered through a new partnership between Aquinas College and Western Michigan, which allows students enrolling in fall 2017 to pursue an engineering degree while attending both Aquinas and WMU. The agreement enables Aquinas students to earn an associate degree from the private college and transition into an engineering program before earning a bachelor's degree from WMU. The program will start in Fall 2017 with two degrees—industrial and entrepreneurial engineering—as several other engineering programs are planned to be developed through this partnership.

The GLC-STEM demonstrates proficiency in German above the level of the German minor, and prepares students for international careers, internationally recognized proficiency exams (Zertifikat Deutsch als Fremdsprache and Zertifikat Deutsch für den Beruf), and internship programs in German-speaking countries.

To receive the German Language Certificate for STEM majors, students must earn 18 credits in German beyond German 102 and complete the German for STEM majors Proficiency Exam at the end of their coursework. A satisfactory performance on the exam entitles the student to receive the certificate. Students apply for the certificate through Department of World Languages.

To learn more about the new AQ-WMU Engineering Programs click here. Inquiries about the German Language Certificate for STEM Majors can be sent to grosskat@aquinas.edu.
2017 AATG-MICHIGAN SPRING IMMERSION WORKSHOP

Twenty German teachers from Michigan high schools and colleges enjoyed the fun-filled and inspiring AATG-MI 2017 Immersion Spring Workshop, DEUTSCHLAND - LAND DER IDEEN!, that was held on March 18 at Wayne State University. The workshop provided participants with innovative teaching strategies for their day-to-day work in the classroom, while presenters also shared ideas that help to sustain and strengthen German programs. The workshop was generously sponsored by the Uwe K. Faulhaber Grant for German Studies from the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures at WSU.

Presenters Katharina Häusler-Gross and Susan Hojnacki (Aquinas College) introduced ready-to-use examples that demonstrated the interdisciplinary connections between German and other academic subject areas. Katharina’s talk highlighted significant contributions and innovations of German-speaking writers, artists, historical personalities, scientists and inventors, emphasizing their importance and application in today’s German classroom.

Susan introduced Best Online Tools for learning Foreign Languages outside of the classroom that learners can utilize to enhance their language skills. Participants also explored ways to extend online course offerings for current and non-traditional students. Tech tools ranged from free and premium language learning packages, apps, MOOCS, social media, multi-player video games, and online discussion forums to special interest websites.

SEND US YOUR IDEAS FOR THE 2018 AATG-MI CHAPTER PROJECT!

The deadline to submit new proposals for the 2018 AATG-Michigan Chapter Project is approaching quickly: June 1, 2017!

Some suggestions from the 2017 AATG Spring Workshop included exploring German Heritage sites in the city of Detroit.

What are YOUR ideas?

E-Mail your suggestions for the new 2018 Chapter Project by May 24, 2017!
grosskat@aquinas.edu
GERMAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM BETWEEN GRAND LEDGE HS & GYMNASIUM LOHNE


Adam Orange und Amy Firtl
Deutschlehrer an der Grand Ledge High School

2017 NATIONAL GERMAN EXAM

This year, the National German Exam Awards Ceremony and Reception was held on Friday, May 12, 2017 at 2:00 pm in the Student Center Building at Wayne State University. Made possible by the Uwe K. Faulhaber Endowment for Applied German Studies, ein großes Dankeschön goes to Mark Ferguson from the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at WSU for hosting this important and joyful event to honor the many excellent German students in our state!

During the ceremony Michigan students (and their teachers) who scored 90% or higher on the 2017 National German Exam were recognized. This year 17 German teachers administered the test, and 32 Michigan students achieved the prestigious Goldurkunde! Those students were also eligible to apply for the AATG-PAD Study Trip to Germany, and Testing Chair Mitchell Place (GVSU) reports that we had 6 applicants for the trip.

Telephone interviews were completed in March and the name of one finalist was sent to the National Office. Thank you to all teachers for this tremendous achievement! Ein großes Dankeschön also goes to Mitchell Place (GVSU) for his excellent work as testing chair and to Lisa Hock (WSU), Kevin Neitzert and Donovan Anderson (GVSU) for helping to conduct the interviews!

Congratulations to all Michigan NGE Winners!!

2017 NGE Results for MI:

Level 1: 146
Level 2: 242
Level 3: 227
Level 4: 219
2017 AATG-MICHIGAN
SPRING BUSINESS MEETING

Wayne State University        March 18, 2017         12:30—1:30 pm

AATG-MI Officers present:
Katharina Häusler-Gross (president), Susan Hojnacki (secretary), Patricia Schneider (treasurer), Mitchell Place (testing chair)

AATG-MI Members present:
Kate Kithil, Daniela Richter, Brady Crites, Patricia Schneider, Donovan Anderson, Kevin Neitzert, Julia Li, Joanna Kohler, Mitchell Place, Dwayne Stange, Anita Suess Kaushik, Michael Griffin, Monica Norton, Michelle Brenke, Ulrike Lamb, Mark Ferguson

OLD BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes from Fall 2016 meeting
   Motion made by: Mark Ferguson, Seconded by: Lisa Hock

2. Treasurer’s Report – Patricia Schneider
   • New Treasurer, Patricia Schneider, is taking over for Judy Cooper (retirement)
   • Professional Development Grants are available through AATG-MI and AATG National: E-mail requests to Katharina Häusler-Gross and Patricia Schneider before May 31, 2017
   • Current AATG-MI account balance: $4,685.87
   • All AATG-MI funds were transferred into a new account at Comerica Bank – due to easier accessibility for treasurer and president/co-president (listed as co-signers for AATG-MI fund requests)
   • No dues for Michigan AATG Members, but AATG-MI members must be members of national AATG to request funds. Members and non-members are encouraged to make a $5 donation to AATG-MI.

   • Formerly done by Kathy Tosa (Muskegon CC) and Mitchell Place (Grand Valley State University)
   • New template and format for annual newsletter were introduced by Katharina Häusler-Gross, who will also draft, edit and electronically distribute annual newsletters (starting Fall 2016)
   • The SP 17 newsletter will be out by mid-May with information about the AATG-Spring workshop at Wayne State University
   • Members are strongly encouraged to send all chapter activities in K-16 state German programs to Katharina (self-promotion, encourage more participation in German programs state-wide).

4. Conference Reports – Katharina Häusler-Gross/Susan Hojnacki
   • AATG National has funds for participants/presenters to present papers, e-sessions, workshops at MIWLA, ACTFL, CSCFTL, MACUL, CALICO – to apply: go to aatg-mi website for deadlines and due dates
   • Saline School District will hold Conference on Comprehensible Input and TPRS (April 22, 2017)
   • NAFSA Conference: Focus on study abroad and international students coming to study in the US.
   • Forum on Education Abroad. Forumea.org
   • Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters. MASAL
5. **Testing Report** – Mitchell Place
   - 5 applicants were nominated for the NGE award (scores in the 90% or above)
   - Mitchell asked for AATG-MI member support to help select the winners (Donovan Anderson and Kevin Neitzert volunteered to help)
   - Awards ceremony for the NGE is scheduled for Friday, May 12th. Mark Ferguson will check the calendar for WSU and make arrangement for the awards ceremony.

6. **Membership** – Lee Forester
   Lee (not present) had sent an e-mail that nothing was to report.

7. **AATG-MI Website and Social Media Report** – Angelika Kraemer
   Angelika (not present) had sent an e-mail that nothing was to report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Mini Grants for 2016-2017**
   There is still money available for mini-grants this year. All AATG-MI teachers are encouraged to apply. Deadline – May 31, 2017.

2. **AATG Michigan Website**
   - Angelika updates the site regularly – all members are encouraged to visit the site regularly and find out about PD opportunities, new job postings, funds and grants, activities, workshops, conferences etc.
   - Katharina reminded all AATG-officers to check their AATG-MI gmail accounts on a regular basis (passwords were distributed to all AATG-MI officers)

3. **National German Honor Societies (DEP/DPA)**
   - Katharina reminded all members to start or promote their respective DEP (for high schools) and DPA (for colleges) chapters to promote learning German at HS and college
   - German honor societies can be started at any time during the academic year – scholarship fund deadlines can be found on their respective websites
   - Katharina noted the benefits and advantages of having a German honor society (recognition of academic achievements, collaboration with HS/Colleges, recognition from admin/school boards, college entrance applications etc.)

4. **2017 National German Exam and Awards Ceremony**
   Mitchell Place will lead/organize the planning and administration of the Awards ceremony on May 12th.

5. **Upcoming PD Opportunities in 2017** – see all information listed on the AATG-MI website!!
   - AATG webinars & AATG Professional Development Consultants
   - MiWLA 2017 Lansing, ACTFL 2017 Nashville, CSCTFL 2018 Milwaukee

   - June 1, 2017 - Deadline for proposals – send ideas to Katharina no later then May 24, 2017 to grosskat@aquinas.edu.
   - Suggestions: Detroit Institute of Art fieldtrip (incl. activities and materials)
     - Exploring Germans in Detroit
     - Visit to the Detroit Holocaust Museum
     - Ethnic German Project (Detroit)
     - City tour of German Detroit
   - Discussion about available funds from the WSU Faulhaber Grant to be used if the event takes place at Wayne State U

7. **No Announcements**
   Katharina Häusler-Gross adjourned the meeting at 1:28 pm.
AATG-MICHIGAN HIGHLIGHTS
FALL 2017

Don’t miss the band Einshoch6! On tour in the U.S. this fall! Concerts are planned in Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids and Traverse City. More details will be e-mailed over the summer. In the meantime, check out their Website and FB page.

German Elections 2017
The 2017 campaign “Germany: Making Choices” will explore the German election process, focus on Germany’s commitment to European integration and its migration policies, and look at the mutual benefits of transatlantic trade and the development of a skilled workforce. To learn more about German politics and the Bundestag vote in the fall, visit Deutsche Welle Information.

German Career Day—
Mit Deutsch Karriere Machen!

Aquinas College
Grand Rapids, MI

October 4, 2017
9:00 am—1:00 pm

Mark your calendars for the next GERMAN CAREER DAY! A bigger venue + more students + more companies = more career, job, and internship opportunities for your German students!

The "Germany Meets the US" campaign examines the influence that Germans had on US history, culture, politics and the way of life. In 2017, the “Luther Year”, the German Campus Weeks focus of course on celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation!