This year the theme of the MiWLA conference is “Lines of Communication.” Dates of the conference are November 7 and 8. For more information see www.miwla.org.

German Sessions at MiWLA in Lansing

Staging a Swiss Fest: Communicating Culture in French and German. Thursday, 8:00 – 8:50. 103, Kathryn Schmid and Margrit Zinggeler.

More than Just Chicken: Frankenmuth as a Target Language Field Trip Destination for German Programs. Thursday, 9:00 – 9:50, 103. Jennifer Fruendt.

The MSU German Program: An AATG Center of Excellence. Thursday, 10:30 – 11:20, 103. Tom Lovik.

How German Poems Can Improve Pronunciation and Grammar, and Instill a Love for German Culture. Thursday, 1:00 – 1:50. 103. Margrit Zinggeler.


Workshop (06) Blending The World Languages Classroom: Creating Online Content that Works. Friday, 8:00 – 11:30, Banquet 7, Susan Hojnacki and Katharina Häusler Gross.

Confessions of an Online World Language Teacher. Friday, 8:00 – 8:50. 202. Janet Harris.

Grammar Without Fear/ Grammatik ohne Angst. Friday, 8:00 – 8:50, 203. Bettina Hoops.

Web 2.0 in the World Language Class. Friday, 9:00 – 9:50. 203. Kara Stutzman, Kathryn Hall, Colleen Krumholz.

Continued on page 2…
AATG - MI Swap and Share: A Trip through the Year in German classrooms. Bring your best ideas to share and see what can be done on St. Martin’s Day or Easter or Christmas or Karnival - Alaaf! Friday, 10:00 - 10:50, 202. Kathy Tosa.

AATG - MI Fall Business Meeting Friday 1:00 - 1:50, Banquet 5, Angelika Kraemer and Monica Norton.

The Lines of Communication in the Online World Language Classroom: The Dos and Don’ts Friday 1:00 - 1:50. 205. Kari Richards and Kim Bowen.


Bericht der AATG/PAD Preisträgerin Lydia Mikail

Im Sommer hatte ich die Gelegenheit, in Deutschland zu bleiben. Durch diese besondere Erfahrung, erlangte ich so viel. Es schien mir sofort, dass Deutschland ein wunderschönes Land ist. Das Wetter war perfekt, die Leute waren freundlich, das Essen war lecker, und am wichtigsten, gab es so viel zu tun.

In Bezug auf Geschichte, hatte ich die Gelegenheit viele schöne Kirchen, Museen, und Denkmäler zu besuchen. Es ist verwunderlich, aber gut zu wissen, dass Deutschland nicht versucht, seine schreckliche Geschichte hinter sich zu lassen; sondern es ist es überall zusehen, im Bemühen, die Erinnerung an diejenigen, die am Leben erlitten, zu bewahren. Dadurch, erlangte ich ein besseres Verständnis des Landes, von dem ich immer geträumt hatte.


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Spring 2013 Business Meeting Minutes

Old Business:
1. Angelika Kraemer opened the meeting.
2. Approval of fall meeting minutes.
   a. There was no discussion or concerns.
   b. Kathy Tosa moved to approve the minutes, Donna Kamerman-Hauskamp seconded. There was no opposition or abstentions.
3. Treasurer's Report
   a. Judy Cooper reported.
   b. Changes in membership structure were reviewed.
   c. Nathan Bynum moved to approve the minutes, Andrea Page seconded.
   d. Report approved, no opposition or abstentions.
4. Newsletter Report
   a. Kathy Tosa and Mitchel Place reported.
   b. Emailed out and on link, printed copies were also available.
   c. Submissions were encouraged.
5. Testing Chair Report
   a. Mitchell Place reported.
   b. Appreciation was given to teachers who helped interview
   c. We were awarded two trips this year because of the high number of students taking the test this year. The two students awarded the trips were mentioned.
   d. Further discussion on how to increase student participation took place.
6. Membership Chair Report
   a. Lee Forester reported.
   b. List of teachers in Michigan is continuing to be compiled. It is a goal of the new website to have self sign up.
   c. There were no questions or concerns.
7. Advocacy Report
   a. Monica Norton and Judy Cooper reported.
   b. Judy Cooper shared material.
   c. Advocacy will be a tab on the website.

New Business:
1. Results of National German Exam were already covered.
2. Chapter Projects 2014
   a. Melissa King-Polsinelli will take over for Kara Stutzman.
   b. Care baskets are approved again this year.

Continued on page 6…
Liebe Kolleginnen und Kollegen!

Der Herbst, der Herbst, der Herbst ist da… How did it get to be October already? I hope the new school year was off to a good start for everyone.

We held another successful AATG-MI Spring Workshop and Business Meeting in April at Wayne State University. Once again, the meeting was hosted by the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and was made possible by the Uwe K. Faulhaber Endowment for Applied German Studies. Thanks to Mark Ferguson and his colleagues for assisting with logistics and providing delicious treats. The topic this year was “How to build, grow, and maintain your German program” and we were again able to offer SB-CEUs. Over 35 workshop attendees from a wide variety of institutions were inspired by best practices that our colleagues shared. The resources will soon be available on our new website.

The spring workshop was followed by our annual AATG-MI business meeting and awards luncheon. Over 800 students in Michigan took the AATG National German Exam. The awards ceremony honored those students who received a score of 90% or higher – 78 students this year! A big thank you to all the wonderful German teachers throughout Michigan who dedicate their careers to furthering German Studies. Chapter Testing Chair Mitch Place presented medals and prizes to the students and announced the Chapter’s nominees for the AATG/PAD Study Trip Award, Luke Holmes from Plymouth Christian Academy (teacher Emily Carlson), and Lydia Mikail from Rochester High School (teacher Nancy Hanson) who traveled to Germany this summer. The 2014 Exam period will be December 2, 2013 to February 1, 2014. 2014 National German Exams can now be ordered online at http://www.aatg.org/content/order-national-german-exam.

The AATG-MI Executive Board is now accepting applications for our new mini grants. Up to 5 grants of up to $150 each will be awarded during the 2013-14 school year. Active AATG-MI members are eligible to apply. The purpose of the grants is to encourage and support members in promoting the German language (e.g., conference attendance, classroom materials or AATG National German Exams purchase, promotion of the teaching and learning of German, etc.). The application form was sent out via email and can also be requested electronically from Angelika Kraemer at kraemera@msu.edu.

We are looking forward to seeing everybody at this year’s MIWLA conference. The conference will take place November 7-8, 2013 at the Lansing Center and Radisson Hotel. Please note the later than usual date. Next year, the conference will be back to
the usual late October time. The conference theme this year is “Lines of Communication.” Our **AATG-MI Swap and Share session** will take place on Friday, November 8 from 10-10:50 am in room 202. Kathy Tosa will lead us on a trip through the year in German classrooms. Bring your best ideas to share and see what can be done on St. Martin’s Day or Easter or Christmas or Karnival – Alaaaf! Our annual **AATG-MI fall business meeting** will take place on **Friday, November 8** from 1-1:50 pm in Banquet 5. Following our business meeting, Katharina Häusler-Gross will lead us through the German Forest and illuminate **Interdisciplinary Perspectives** and Approaches to Teaching Foreign Languages. This session will also meet in Banquet 5 after the exhibit break from 2:30-3:20 pm.

During our business meeting, we will hold **elections for Vice President**. The position of AATG-MI Vice President is a two-year term starting in January 2014. Our current President-Elect is Monica Norton from Mason Public Schools. According to our bylaws, our next Vice President must be from an institute of higher education (e.g., community college, college, university). After the Vice President term, the individual will continue as AATG-MI President for another two-year term. A call for nominations was sent out following our spring meeting and we received two nominations. One nominee accepted the nomination: Katharina Häusler-Gross.

We will also launch our new **website** at our fall meeting and Mitch Place will share his experience from the AATG Chapter Testing Chairs Germany trip this summer. Mitch was one of 15 testing chairs invited by the National AATG to attend a special program in Bonn, Nürnberg, and Berlin.

We also have other AATG-MI members to celebrate: Angelika Kraemer and Katharina Häusler-Gross will both receive a **Goethe-Institut/AATG Certificate of Merit** at this year’s AATG/ACTFL conference in November. Gratulation! The certificate of merit recognizes achievement in furthering the teaching of German in the US.

This is my last letter as president of AATG-MI. It has been an honor serving you.

I look forward to seeing you all at the MIWLA conference in November!

**Bis dahin alles Gute,**
Angelika Kraemer
...minutes continued from page 3
a. It was discussed that national would like to see new ideas for the grants.
b. New submissions for chapter projects were encouraged and suggestions taken for the June 1st deadline. Several ideas were discussed. A short, written description of the proposed idea was requested by those suggesting it. Due by the end of next week, April 25, at 10 a.m.

2. Mini grants
   a. It was discussed that there would be five $150.00 mini-grants awarded to "Active Members" for use on such items as (but not limited to) professional development, substitutes, and national exams.
   b. An application form will be developed.

3. Fall Meeting at the MIWLA Conference will be on Friday, November 8 from 1 to 1:50.

   This will be followed by a session in which participants are encouraged to bring activities they do monthly.

4. Ideas for next Spring Meeting / Workshop

   Attendance at the Luncheon was encouraged to include students and administration.

5. Website and Membership

   Work is continuing, particularly on the list serves.

6. Announcements and Opportunities

   a. Participation in the Congress Bundestag Exchange was encouraged. It was reported that not many students apply for this opportunity.
   b. An upcoming vacancy at Jackson Community College was reported.

7. Other Business

   a. Discussion of US equivalency program for natives
   b. Nominations for a new Vice-President are needed for January 1, 2014
    i. Katharina Häusler-Gross was nominated by Kathy Tosa.
    ii. Katharina accepts.
    iii. voting will be at fall meeting.
   c. Emails regarding the cancelation of Michigan State University's World Language Day should be directed to joyclear@msu.edu.

Meeting adjourned by Kathy Tosa, seconded by Nathan Bynum and Katharina Häusler-Gross.
...Bericht, cont. From page 2

Eine Woche in Berlin machte auch so viel Spaß. Wir hatten immer etwas zu tun – von 9 Uhr bis Mitternacht. Wir machten viele Spaziergänge, wanderten, sahen viele historische Orte und gingen zweimal ins Theater, wo wir Cabaret und die Culti Multi Show schauten. Wir gingen auch zum Sony Center, und besuchten einige Holocaust Denkmäler, ein großes Aquarium, den Tiergarten, viele Museen, alte Burgen, die Berliner Mauer, das Brandenburger Tor und den Bundestag.


Inzwischen machte ich so viele neue Freunde. Weil wir so viel zusammen erlebten, gibt es kein Zweifel, dass wir immer Freunde sein werden.

In Bezug auf meine Sprachfähigkeit, kann ich nicht genug betonen, wie viel besser sie jetzt ist. Die ganze Reise, war ich motiviert nur Deutsch zu sprechen.
AATG-MI

Important Information for
AATG-MI Members!

Mitchell Place and Katherine Tosa, Co-editors