Travel and Exchange

various authors
**DRESDEN ART EXHIBIT**

A loan agreement was signed on March 13, 1978 between the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden and three major American Museums for an exhibition entitled "The Splendor of Dresden: Five Centuries of Art Collecting". The exhibition will be shown at the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC May 30 - September 4, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York October 17 - January 13, 1979, and at the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco February 18 - May 26, 1979. The event will feature over 700 works of art from five centuries, making it the most comprehensive exhibition of art the GDR has yet sent abroad.

**GDR WORKSHOP**

The next session of the workshop "DDR-Literatur und DDR-Germanistik" will take place at the Karl-Arnold-Bildungsstätte in Bonn beginning September 29 - October 1, 1978. Two papers are planned to be presented on Kleist reception in the GDR and two others will discuss Christa Wolf's two most recent novels. Dirk Grathoff, Christa Thomassen, and Heinrich Mohr are anticipated to present these topics. A reading by Hans Joachim Schüdlich is also planned.

In addition to Jörg Bilke's involvement in this workshop, he has also recently organized a conference at the Ost-Akademie in Königstein from April 7 - 9 on GDR literature since Erich Honecker (1971 - 1978), which is planned to be repeated during May or June, 1978.

**VISITING LECTURERS**

Professor Fritz Bennewitz, director of the Deutsches Nationaltheater in Weimar, is currently in New York City directing a production of Goethe's Faust, Part I. Bennewitz, who is particularly well known for his Brecht and Shakespeare productions, was the director of a controversial Faust production in Weimar in 1976. He is also cooperating with the Museum of Modern Art in offering a Brecht film festival.

**TRAVEL AND EXCHANGE**

**INTERNATIONALE HOCHSCHULFERIENKURSE IN DER DDR**


Hinter Ort und Daten wird in Klammern auf Kurschwerpunkte verwiesen.

**FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES**

**MLA 78**

There will be a special session on "Anna Seghers: A Socialist Woman Writer" at the MLA Convention in New York in December. In addition to the Special Session and the following workshop, a film evening is planned, possibly with "The Seventh Cross" (1944) or "Die Toten bleiben jung" (1968) or "Reise der Agathe Schweigert" (1969). For additional information, contact Peter Beicken or Elke Frederiksen at the Department of Germanic and Slavic L&L, University of Maryland, College Park, Md., 20742.

---

authors: Travel and Exchange

**Published by New Prairie Press, 1978**
Studentenkurse:
Berlin, 30.6.-23.7.78 (Tradition und Entwicklung
sozial.Nationalliteratur der DDR); Halle, 9.7.-
30.7.78 (Literaturgeschichte und -geschichts-
schreibung am Beispiel deutscher Klassik);
Rostock 8.7.-30.7.78 (Marx.-Lenin. Literaturtheo-
rie, human. und revolutionäre Traditionslinie);
Greifswald, 3.7.-23.7.78 (Landes- und Gegenwarts-
kunde, Kulturpolitik der DDR).

Kursgebühren schließen Unterkunft, Verpflegung,
Lehrmaterial, Exkursionen und Veranstaltungen
ein. Zu dem Programangebot gehören iibotnik-
und Sprachübungen, Exkursionen in die Umgebung,
Diskussionen mit Personen des politischen, kul-
turellen und wissenschaftlichen Lebens, Schrift-
tstellerlesungen, sowie Film-, Theater- und Kon-
zertbesuche. Nicht enthalten in den Gebühren
Anmeldungen sollten bis zum 30. Mai 78 bei den
betreffenden Veranstaltern eingehen, desgleichen
die Gebührenüberweisung. Als Termin gelten erstes
und letztes Datum der jeweiligen Kurse. Für
weitere Informationen wenden Sie sich bitte an :
Embassy of the German Democratic Republi
1717 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

The following letter was contributed to the
BULLETIN:

From February to June 1977 I taught American
History and Contemporary Problems at Martin
Luther University, Halle, and bilateral classes
at Karl Marx University, Leipzig. Teaching in the
GDR is significantly different from the North
American system: A student is not admitted into
a university but into a program, each program
being independent from the next. The students
then become part of a collective. For example, the
35 students admitted every year to the English
program at Halle are divided into two seminar
collectives, which live together in the same part
of the dormitory, develop a common cultural, ath-
etic and political program and take all courses
together. Since all teachers in the GDR must
specialize in two subjects, they take a heavy
academic load: my group had 35 hours of classes
every week, including practical English and
Russian, grammar courses, English, American and
Russian literature and history, English and Ameri-
can contemporary problems, pedagogy eto. Special
advantages for entrance are given to applicants
from working class background. Furthermore, 90%
of the students were women. 90% of them also
received stipends. The department expects that
by admitting 35 students, it will have 35 teachers
At Halle so far nobody has failed English, though
a few did fail Russian. The collectivity seems
to prevent poor performance: Because one's grades
are public knowledge and the collective is judged
according to its overall academic performance, it
is the responsibility of everybody to help stu-
dents with poor performance. On the whole the
quality of the students was outstanding, espe-
cially their ability to present written and oral
reports in a second language. The students have
much contact with foreign students, especially
with those from the Third World countries.
Perhaps the most positive reflection of their
system was voiced by a student who asked me why
young people in North America go to the university
when there is no guarantee of a job. On the
negative side, issues propagandized by the GDR
such as Viet Nam, Chile etc seem to stay on the
surface. For example the students had no back-
ground knowledge of the history of Viet Nam be-
fore the U.S. intervention.

Tentatively, a GDR colleague from the English
department will visit John Abbott College in
March 1978, to explore establishing a teacher ex-
change next year.

Readers with further questions or interest in
arranging a lecture on these experiences please
contact the author: Alan Z. Weiss,
John Abbott College, P.O. Box 2000
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, P.Q. Canada

GDR Bulletin

Published three times a year. Correspond-
dence should be addressed to: Patricia
Herminghouse, editor, Dept. of Germanic
Languages and Literatures, Box 1104,
Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

or to

Book Reviews - Barton Byg, Henning Fülßber,
Marilyn Helt

Research in Progress - Reinhart Jost

Notes in brief - Reinhart Jost, Barton Byg

Conferences - Peter Jesse

Travel and Exchange - Ingrid Weigand

Visiting Lecturers - Henning Fülßber, Ingrid

Weigand

Bibliography - Leslie Adelson, Susan Hegger,
Lynne Layton

All of the above can be contacted through
Box 1104, Washington University.

Regional Contributing Editors:
Helen Fehervary, Ohio State University;
Frank Hirschbach, University of Minnesota;
H.C. Huettich, University of Southern Cali-
ifornia; Theodor Langenbruch, Georgia Inst.
of Technology; Christiane Zehl Romero, Tufts
University; Marc D. Silberman, University
of Texas-San Antonio