DOCUMENTS · DOKUMENTE

aus:

STORIES FROM 55 YEARS OF A TRANSATLANTIC FRIENDSHIP

GESCHICHTEN AUS 55 JAHREN TRANSATLANTISCHER FREUNDSCHAFT

Smith College · Universität Hamburg 1961 – 2016

Edited by Jocelyne Kolb & Rainer Nicolaysen

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Gestaltung, Satz Christine Klein, Hamburg

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Editorial Preface · Vorbemerkung der Herausgeber

Smith College had philosophical reasons for establishing a foreign studies program in Germany just 15 years after the end of the Second World War. At the University of Hamburg, the College found an institution that likewise wanted to replace a period of terror with international and cultural understanding. It was a brave undertaking, also for the parents of young people traveling far away to a country split between East and West and at the epicenter of the Cold War. Air travel and the telephone were too expensive for common use, and letters were the main source of communication. They were a precious source of communication for families then, and they are a precious source of history for us now. Nearly all of the documents we have chosen for this section are letters.

There were also pedagogical reasons for choosing Hamburg. Then as now, students were expected to use and to master German, and during the years of the program's founding, a premium was placed on the sound and quality of *Hochdeutsch* (High German) in the North. From a practical standpoint, Hamburg was desirable because it was not overrun by tourists or other foreign studies programs.

Who were the founders of the program? Smith's sixth president, for one, Thomas C. Mendenhall (1910–1998), who demonstrated his commitment to the venture by traveling to Germany in the summer of 1960 to look for a program site. With him was the formidable Marie Schnieders (1906-1973), a medievalist and philologist from the Department of German who served as class dean and whom students revered and feared (she was also Sylvia Plath's German teacher). The letters from Marie Schnieders show her command of German, and they show her as a person more generally in command. Thomas C. Mendenhall was a historian who came from Yale to assume the presidency of Smith in 1959 and remained in the position until 1975. His ties to Yale explain the strong presence of Yale students on the Smith program in Hamburg. The letters from him that we have chosen demonstrate his involvement in every aspect of the program: its establishment, housing for students, communication with the program director, Reinhard Lettau. One letter is addressed to the parents of students who were to visit Berlin shortly after the Wall was erected; a "copy" of that letter to Reinhard Lettau parodies the letter to the parents and shows Thomas C. Mendenhall's robust sense of fun. We have also included a memorandum from Thomas C. Mendenhall to the faculty of Smith College in which the establishment of the American Studies Diploma Program is announced and described.

The letters from the Hamburg side are written by Richard Münzner, from 1952 to 1970 the *Syndikus* of the University of Hamburg (a lawyer and central administrative figure, the syndic had an office in the *Hanptgebäude* of the University of Hamburg and provided continuity that complemented the yearly rotation of rectors). In understated and reliable fashion, Münzner's letters are cordial and sensible, resourceful and detailed.

The first director of the program, Reinhard Lettau (1929–1996), was a member of the *Gruppe 47* whose writings enjoyed considerable fame during the 1960s and 1970s and who taught at the University of California at San Diego after leaving Smith. His long letter to William Bodden, the treasurer and controller of Smith College from 1946 to 1965, gives a condensed and vivid sense of the director's endless and varied tasks (and of the financial hardships for professors of his generation). Lettau's doodles on the list of students from his second year as director give an idea of what he must have been like. We have included letters to Lettau from Thomas C. Mendenhall, Richard Münzner, and Paul G. Graham, his colleague in the Department of German, as well as a handwritten aerogram from Klemens von Klemperer (1916–2012), his colleague in the Department of History, that ends by mentioning that Marion Gräfin Dönhoff will be awarded an honorary degree from Smith College in May of 1962.

Our choice of documents owes much to Gertraud Gutzmann, who studied the program files when she was directing the program in Hamburg and preparing a talk about its origins. She scanned some papers, especially from the program's early years, and in so doing inspired Margaret Zelljadt to sort through the papers and transfer the important ones to the Smith College Archives. That is where half of them now are, and the project is ongoing.

We conclude our collection with three documents that illustrate how the program has flourished and achieved its goal of cultural and international understanding: the Faculty Exchange Agreement from 1979, signed by Jill Conway (the president of Smith College from 1975 to 1985) and Peter Fischer-Appelt (the president of the University of Hamburg from 1970 to 1991); a letter from Carol Christ (the president of Smith College from 2002 to 2013) to Jobst B. Mielck, the chairman of the board of the University *Gästebaus*, in which she thanks him for years of friendship; and finally a summary by Deanna Gaunce Nebert '69 of the celebration in honor of the program's 50th anniversary in 2011.

June 9, 1960

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst Nasserstrasse 11 Bonn, Germany

Gentlemen!

Dr. Gunther Motz, German Consul General, and Fraulein Elfriede Krueger, Vice Consul, in Boston have recommended my writing to you for advice and assistance in a project which Saith College is considering for initiating a Junior Year study group in Germany to begin in the fall of 1961. Miss Krueger is writing you, and I hope to be in Germany early in July and could easily come to Bonn to discuss the questions and problems involved. Mr. Thomas Mendenhall, President of Smith College, will also visit Germany to discuss possibilities with university suthorities, and I should like to make arrangements for him so that his time may be used to advantage.

You may know that Smith College is the largest private women's college in the United States and that it has long had a tradition of permitting qualified students to spend the third year of college in study abroad. We have had Smith College Junior Year Groups in Paris and Florence since the 1920's; in Geneva since 1947 and in Madrid, with interruptions, since the 1930's. These Groups are composed primarily of our own students and a director who is a professor at Smith accompanies the Group. We have never had our own Junior Year Group in Germany. Our students who wish to study in Germany have been permitted to go with the Mayne State University Junior Year in Germany Group to Munich. Since you are probably familiar with that Group, it is not necessary for me to explain the plan of study. Since the Wayne State Group has now become so very large, we should prefer to establish our own Junior Year Group.

The problem has been the choice of a location for the Group. Munich is in many ways ideal as a cultural center; however, the university is so crowded and living facilities are so difficult that it would be unwise to add another group of Americans to those already there. We are considering seriously Hamburg, Tübingen and possibly Heidelberg, all of which as universities are very good. What concerns us particularly, however, is the question of housing. We should like very much to find places for our students to live where they would have "Pamilienanschluss" of some kind. They should be in a German speaking stmosphere so that they improve their German and learn about German life. We want them to have as little contact 155

Deutscher Akademischer

+2-

June 9, 1960

with other Americans as possible. I can guarantee that the students whom we send would be adaptable, well-mannared and considerate. We select students very carefully before we permit them to spend a year abroad. Moreover, the Smith Director of the Group would be present to supervise the conduct of the students. I abould perhaps add that we are contemplating a relatively small Group of no more than twenty students, possibly less in the first year of the project.

I should appreciate very much any advice you can give me, the names of any persons with whom President Mendenhall and I can talk. I shall be at the above address until July 1 and shall be in Germany scon after that.

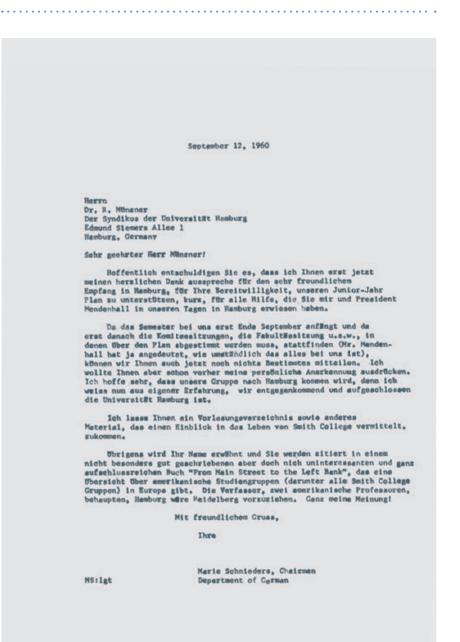
Very sincerely yours,

MS:1gt

Marie Schnieders, Chairman Department of German

1990 B 1991

cc - Mr. Mendenhall



DER SYNDIKUS DER UNIVERSITAT HAMBURG

Hamburg 13, den 4. Oktober 1960 Edmand-Siemer-Alber 1 M/Ht. Emmagneher 41 10 71, App. 206

Per Luftpost

Frau Professor Dr. Marie Schnieders Chairman Department of German Smith College <u>Northampton</u>, <u>Massachusetts</u> USA

Sehr verehrte Frau Professor!

Ich danke Ihnen herzlich für Ihr Schreiben vom 12. September. Die angekündigten Proepekte und das Vorlesungsverzeichnis des Smith College sind inzwischen hier eingegangen. Sic sind sehr instruktiv und vermitteln einen guten Eindruck von Ihrer schönen Institution. Es würde uns freuen, wenn sich die Bezlehungen zwischen dem Smith College und der Universität Hamburg durch Verwirklichung Ihres Planes für ein Junior-Jahr in Hamburg festigten.

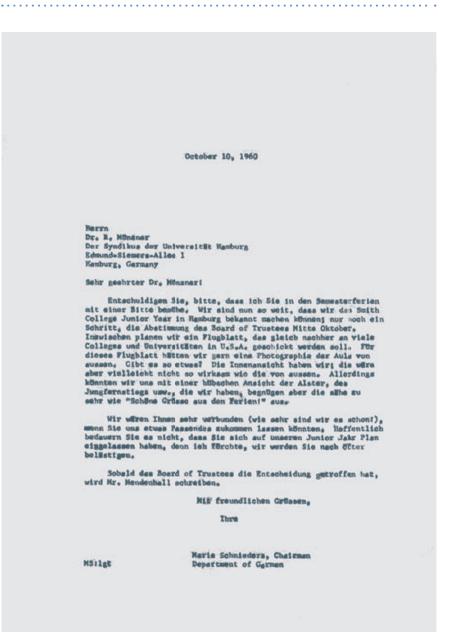
Besonderen Dank für Ihren freundlichen Hinweis auf das Buch "From Main Street to the Left Bank". Ich werde versuchen, es hier beim Amerika-Haus einzusehem.

> Mit verbindlichen Grüßen Ihr sehr ergebener

minul (Dr. Minzner)

Oberregierungsrat

.



DER SYNDIKUS DER UNIVERSITAT HAMBURG

Per Luftpost

Frau Professor Marie Schnieders Chairman Department of German Smith College

Northampton, Massachusetts USA

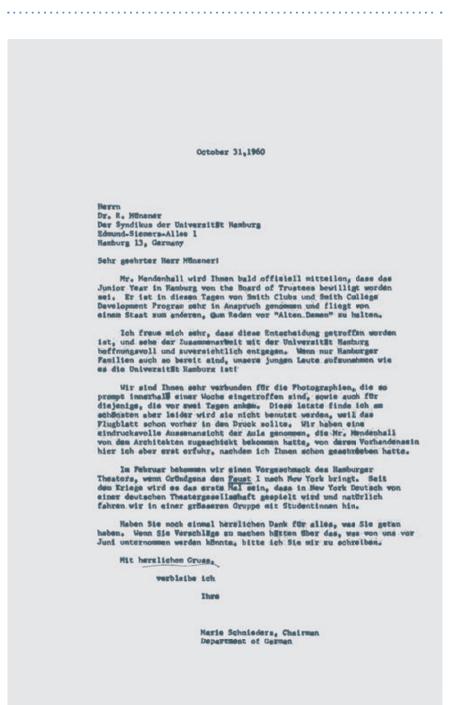
Sehr verehrte Frau Professor!

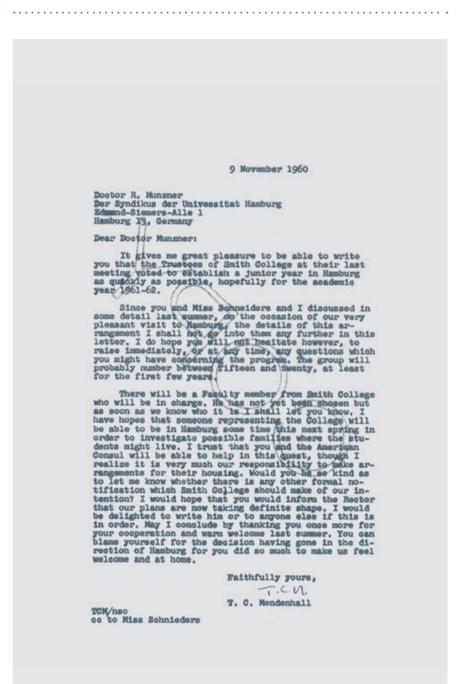
Auf Ihr Schreiben vom 10. Oktober habe ich mit gleicher Fost drei Bilder auf den Weg gebracht, von denen zwei Innenaufnahmen und eine eine Außenaufnahme des Auditorium maximum bei Nacht sind. Die Außenaufnahme ist allerdings, wie ich glaube, nur für denjenigen reizvoll, der das Auditorium maximum auch bei Tage kennt. Ich habe daher veranlaßt, daß noch eine Außenaufnahme hergestellt wird. Die bereits vorhandenen sind nämlich nicht sehr eindrucksvoll, weil sie in einer Zeit gemacht wurden, in der die Baustellen in der Nähe des Auditorium maximum noch sichtbar waren. Auf jeden Fall bekommen Sie also noch eine Aufnahme; das wird allerdings noch ein bis zwei Wochen in Anspruch nehmen.

Es freut mich sehr, daß Sie Ihren Junior Jahr Plan in Hamburg durchführen wollen. ^Ich darf Ihnen nochmals versichern, daß wir das nicht als Belastung empfinden, sondern daß wir nach unseren Kräften helfen wollen, aus diesem Plan einen Erfolg zu machen.

> Mit verbindlichen Grüßen Ihr sehr ergebener (Dr. Münzher) Oberregierungsrat

Hamburg 13, den 14. Oktober 1960 Edmand-Sommer-Alles 1 M/Ht.





Hamburg, den 15. Dezember 1960 M/Ht.

Vermerk

Betr.: Smith College

I. Allgemeines

tracersiop A.

"23 2 P. 10

- Die Einschreibung amerikanischer Studenten an einer deutschen Universität setzt die Vorlage eines Abgangszeugnisses der High-School und den Nachweis eines einjährigen Studiums an einem amerikanischen College voraus.
- 2. Die Zulassung zu den Fächern Chemie, 'Pharmazeutische Chemie und Medizin (in den ersten Semestern) ist an der Universität Hamburg beschränkt. Für diese Fächer muß in jedem Einzelfall ein besonderer Zulassungsantrag gestellt werden.
- Auch in allen übrigen Fächern erfolgt die Einschreibung auf Brund eines sogenannten Zulassungsantrages, dem jedoch bei.Vorliegen der unter 1.) genannten Voraussetzungen ohne weiteres stattgegeben wird.

II. Kenntnisse der deutschen Sprache

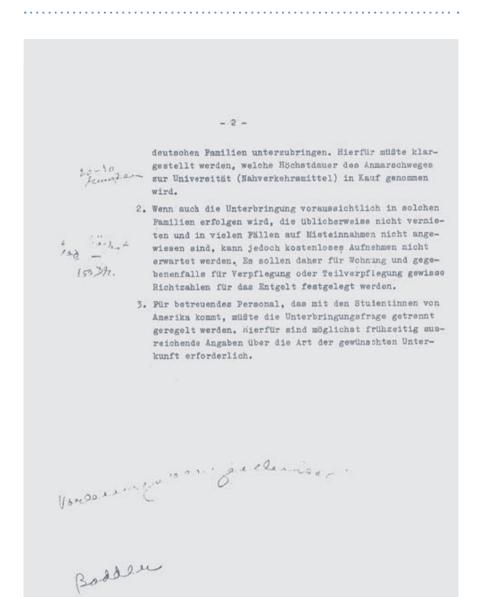
Die Einschreibung ausländischer Studenten setzt grundsätzlich ausreichende Kenntnisse der deutschen Sprache voraus, die ein Verständnis der Vorlesungen gewährleisten. Sind die Kenntnisse noch mangelhaft, so kann eine vorläufige Einschreibung gewährt werden mit der Auflage, während des Studiums die an der Universität gehaltenen Kurse in Deutsch für Ausländer abzulegen. Ausländische Studenten, die nicht mehr als 2 Semester in Hamburg studieren wollen und kein Abschlußexamen an einer deutschen Universität erstreben, können jedoch mit Zustimmung des Vertreters ihres Studienfaches auch ohne Sprachprüfung immatrikuliert werden.

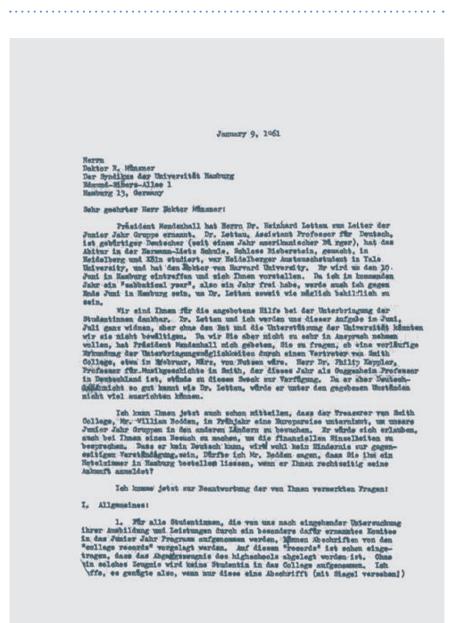
III. Unterbringung

 Die Unterbringung der Studentinnen kann in Privatzimmern oder in Wohnheimen vorgesehen werden. Die Universität wird gern behilflich sein, die Studentinnen in

1-2-

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- 2 -

Jamaary 9, 1961

vorgelegt worden sileste.

2. Inlassung ru den Richern Chamie, u.s.v. wird wahl nicht beantragt warden affesen.

II. Tenninisse der deutschen Spreihe

1. Se verdan heine Studanhinnen von uns in die Gruppe aufgendemen, die micht ausreichende Samthiese der deutschen Sprache haben. Ausserdem wird geplant, und die Verhandlungen diesberüglich sind sehen im Gang, die Teilnehner der Gruppe in einen der von dem Geethe Institut geleitsten Rursevan 8. September bis 27. Oktober zu entsenden. Im diesen auch Nochen werden die Sprachkenntnisse vertieft und erweitert, Moffen wird

III. Unterbringung

1. Annarashwagi Cirta dreistig Ninutan wäre keine un gröste Anstrongung für die Studentinnen.

2. Selbstversigntlich wird kostenloses Aufnehmen in Faulifen nicht ervariet. Nehmung und Verpflagung bereinnen wir verläufig als ungeführ hunders Dellar in Mans, mit alles einesgeiffen, Mik. Bak (nicht notwundigervense täglich), Beisung, sleitrischen Zicht. Nenn nur zwei Vahlreiten an Tage, vie geplant, in der Tmilie eingenommen werden, missten a. 60 Mark in Manst angen verden, die die Studentinnen für die is Lokal eingenommen Mahlseit von une ausbesklit beidesen. Toor dieses Reigelt für Vohrung und Verpflagung in der Tmilie klante noch verhandelt werden, sem Sie meinen, nan mässte noch andere gestehtsynakte in Zetracht siehen.

3. Jatrevandes Fersund: Dr. Jatva vird Ihnen in den sächsten Tagen salles über die Riefkeingung rür seine Smille sehreiben. Jah habe ihn von der Kohemp in Sma in der Werlarstrusse verählt, aber de ich keine Renafrus mit Rindlic bis, vird er, von seiner Trasse, praktischere Trasse Inden. Mirfte ich Sie auch meinebrogen un dat bisken? Umm ich sich is Somer illener ihn Renburg enfantte (vielleinit sogar sin pear Vennits mid synstymilt bis, um änfang des Ministenesser), värd ich berie gebrecht. Auf eine klaisse söhlistere Vahunug ist vohl Berhaupt sicht se gebrecht. Auf eine klaisse söhlistere Vahunug ist vohl Berhaupt sicht se gebrecht. Auf eine klaisse söhlistere Vahunug ist vohl Berhaupt sicht se gebrecht. Am die värstenelt sich Smerne sich das selfer um Bachreise vonden bänte? Reisenslägen Sie, wan ich nich mah noch zu eines veiteren problem mahe aber schnaltigen Sie, wan ich nich mah noch zu eines veiteren problem mahes Ansaghen.

Bivaige Amagnhen für Anith Gollege von seiten der Universität Hendnung warden deen nettert und uns mitgeteilt? Einnten Sie z.B. sieben Vorlegungeverteichnites für das Benneresnetter, die wir untürlich bezahlen; muteunnen Schicke, lassen?

Mr. Mendenhall hat von Herrn Professor Thielicks einen sehr warmen

Dokumente		167
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	January 9,1961	
und herslieben Brief erhalten, EMüten Si	in Antwort auf seinen (d. h. den vor e die Ofite, Herrn Thielicke unseren I	n mir verfasstenf) Dank zu Gbermitteln?
	Sie noch mals herslichen Dank für Thu	
	Mit herslichen Grüssen,	
	Thre ergebane,	
MErceb	Marie Schnieders, Chmirms German Department	un -

. . . .

SMITH COLLEGE NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE PREMILENT

13 February 1961

Mrs. Borothes Marburg Hamburg-Blanksness, Sermany Resterburg 60

Dear Mrs. Warburg:

Perhaps you have already learned through Mr. Frederick Marburg of the proposed Junior Year in Hamburg which Smith Collage hopes to establish this next year. This will involve fifteen to twenty juniors at Smith and other sollages in the University in Hamburg under the general direction and supervision of a member of the German Department at Smith College, Frofeesor Lattau. The project has received great encouragement from Dr. Mungmer, the Rector of the University, from the American Consul, and from Dr. Thomas von Randow,

Within the next couple of months I hope that a member of the Bmith Faculty, Mr. Fhilip Keppler, of the Music Depariment, who is in Europe for the year, will be able to make arrangements to come to Hashburg for a few days to start the planning for the Junior Tear. In particular, I hope he will be able to begin to locate some of the families with when we hope the students will be staying. I would like to feel free to suggest that he get in touch with you, in the hope that you might make suggestions shout families and doubtless would have other excellent advice to give him and us.

With all thanks for whatever assistance you can find time to give us in what we all expect will be a most interesting and profitable experience for the yourg American students involved.

Faithfully yours,

T. C. Hendenhall

TON/nso so to Miss Schnieders

COP Y

DER SYNDIKUS DER UNIVERSITAT HAMBURG

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.

Hamburg 13, den 20. März 1961 Menset Samer-Alte 1 Novepredar 41 10 73, App. 256 M/Sta

Mit Luftpost

Herrn ^Jr. Reinhard Lettau Smith College <u>Northampton</u> / Massachusetts <u>USA</u>

Schr gechrter Herr Dr. Lettau!

Ich danke herslich für Ihre Zeilen von 25. Februar. Es freut mich, daß die Vorbersitungen für das Junior Year in Hamburg gut verlaufen.

Zu Ihren Fragen darf ich Ihnen zunächst mitteilen, daß der Balkon am Gebäude Worderstraße 82 eine Brüstung hat, so daß Kinder dort ohne weiteres spielen können.

Für die Zulassung einer besonders qualifizierten jüngeren Studentin werden wir, wie ich glaube, sicher eine Ausnahmeregelung finden. Wenn es sich nur um diesen einen Fall handelt, können Sie also unbesorgt sein.

Herr Professor Keppler war kürslich in Hamburg. Leider kamen für mich während seines Aufenthaltes mehrere unvorhergesehene dringende Dienstgeschäfte dazwischen, so daß ich ihn nur einmal über Mittag sah. Wir haben in erster Linie die Unterbringungsfrage besprochen, und ich hoffe, daß wir Lösungsmöglichkeiten finden werden. Die Universität wird sich zu Beginn des Sommersemesters gemeinsam mit dem amerikanischen Generalkonsulat darum bemühen, geeignete Pamilien ausfindig zu machen.

> Mit den besten Wünschen und mit verbindlichen Grüßen

hr sehr ergebener M (Dr. Münzner) Oberregierungerat

SMITH COLLEGS NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSHITS OFFICE OF THE THEAMCHER

April 13, 1961

Brinckmann Wirts & Co. 75 Ferdinand Strasse Hamburg, Germany

Gentlement

Mr. Reinhard A. Lettau is Director of the Smith College Junior

Year in Germany for the year 1961/62.

I would appreciate it very much if you would honor his signature

on the checks drawn against our account in your bank.

Mr. Lottau will call at your bank with a copy of this letter for

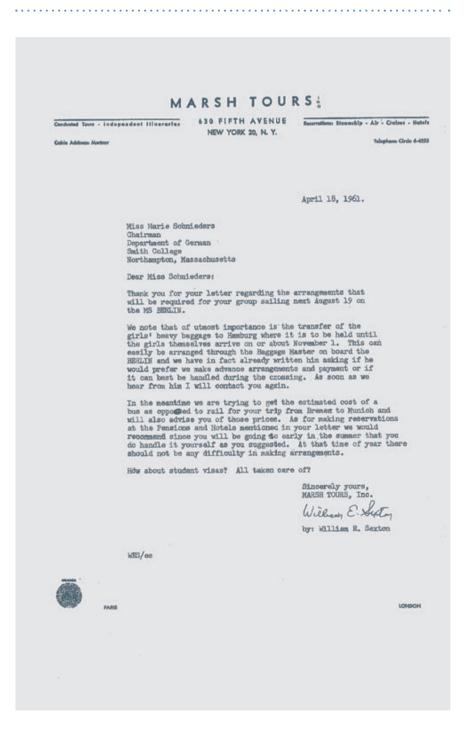
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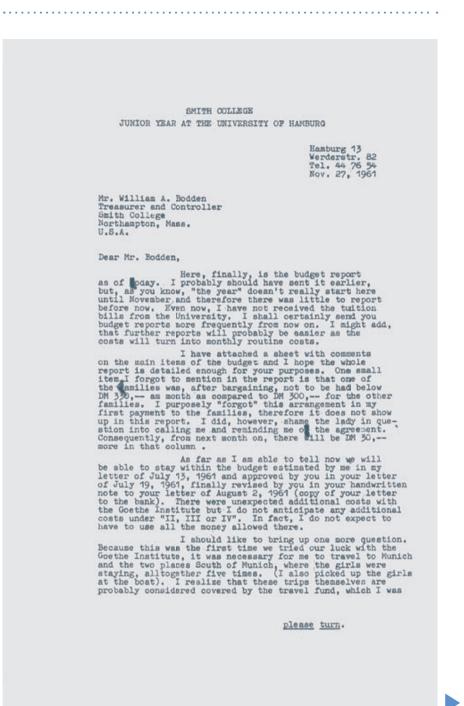
Yours truly, Corters -17 torede

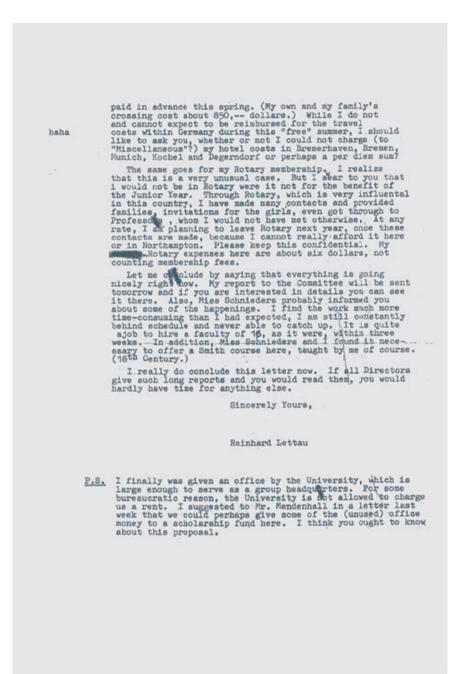
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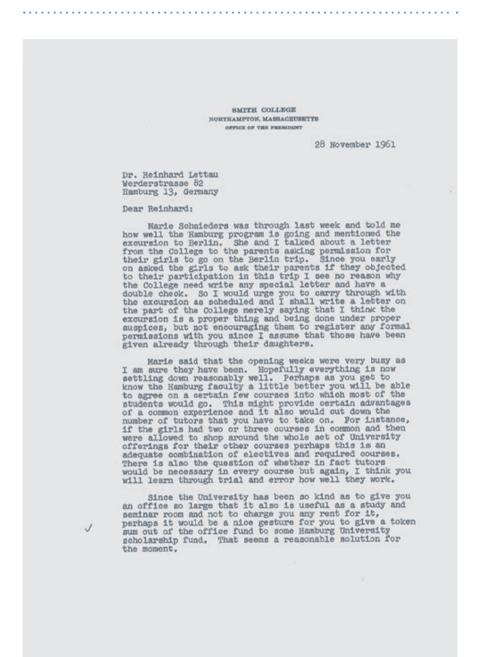
William A. Bodden Treasurer and Controller

Signatures Rinnerd Lillan









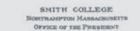
Dr. Reinhard Lettau -2 28 November 1961

Soon we will be having to think of a Director for Soon we will be having to think of a Director For the second year in Hamburg. Originally, many of us thought that it might be a good thing for you to spend a second year there. What do you think of this idea and would you enjoy such an experience: Remember, in case the trials and tribulations of this fall are too green in your memory, that the second year should be much easier because of the experience gained this first fall.

With best regards to yourself, your family, and the group,

As always,

T. C. Mendenhall



To the Parents of the Students on the Smith Junior Year in Hamburg:

Last week I had a first-hand report from Miss Marie Schnieders on the progress of the first year in Hamburg. A professor in the Department of German who is on leave for the year, Miss Schnieders was particularly interested in the German year since she has long been one of its strongest advocates. Though there is nothing here that you have not probably learned from your daughters long before now, I am venturing to relay to you some of Miss Schnieders' first impressions.

The group reconvened in Hamburg sarly in November after a most profitable six weeks in Bavaria. At least Miss Schnieders felt that the students' facility in German had markedly improved and that they were ready to cope with an academic program in a foreign language. Despite the hugger-mugger of a strange city, meeting new families for the first time, and the formalities of registration she found the students cheerful and relaxed. Mr. Lettsu arranged a pleasant reception to mark the formal inauguration of the Smith program, and everyone seemed most hospitable and glad to see the group.

On 15-19 December the Smith group is scheduled to make a trip to Berlin, as you have doubtless been told by your daughters. The University of Hamburg and the government bureau in charge of student affairs have generously cooperated to plan and subsidize this excursion. The latter includes a sightseeing trip, an opera, a concert, and a chance to mingle with Berlin students and should be a most worthshile, memorable experience for the girls. The American consulate in Hamburg, who has been very helpful to Mr. Lettau, approves of the trip.

So all seems to be starting off very well, which is almost as encouraging to me as it is to you. For when Miss Schnieders and I toured the German universities in the summer of 1960, we both felt that on balance Hamburg offered the most of any of them, both as a university and as a cultural center. So it is nice to see our judgment vindicated so far!

T. C. Mendenhall

30 November 1961

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Copy: to Reinhard Lettau

To the Parents of the Students on the Smith Junior Year in Hamburg:

Last week I had a first-hand report from Miss Marie Schnieders on the progress of the first year in Hamburg. A professor in the Department of German who is on leave for the year, Miss Schnieders was particularly interested in the German year since she has long been one of its strongest advocates. Though there is nothing here that you have not probably learned from your daughters long before now, I am venturing to relay to you some of Miss Schnieders' first impressions.

The group reconvened in Hamburg early in November after eight weeks in Eavaria. At least Miss Schnieders felt that the students' facility in Turkish, Italian, and East Pakistani Urdu had markedly improved and that they were ready to cope with the marital problems in Southern Rhodesia. Despite the zipper-lipper of a <u>strange</u> city, meeting new families for the first time, and the bureaucracy of registration, the students found Miss Schnieders. A stiff reception was held, and everyone was most antagonized and amazed to see the troup.

On 15-19 December "the Smith patrol" is scheduled to make a trip to Berlin, as your daughters <u>may</u> have mentioned. The University of Hamburg and the government bureau in charge of student affairs accept no responsibility for this excursion. The latter includes a sightseeing trip into East Berlin (with conceeled cameras), an opera, a concert, and a chance to mingle with the Vopes and should be a most worthwhile, memorable experience for the girls. The American consulate in Hamburg, who has <u>tried</u> to dissuade Mr. Lettau, is up in arms.

So all seems to be starting off very well, which is almost as encouraging to me as it is to you. For when Miss Schnieders and I toured Europe together in the summer of 1960, we both felt that on belance the Hamburg hotels offered the most of may of them, both as a educational and cultural center. So it is nice to see our judgement windicated so far!

T. C. Mondenhall

30 November 1961

Artiva Aristop, Elm

January 9, 1962

Mr. Reinhard Lettau Werderstr. 82 Hamburg 13, Germany

ausu. Jan. 19.

Dear Reinhard:

I am trying to make arrangements, and whether I shall be successful I don't know, for Smith College to print a prospectus describing our Junior Year in Hamburg. I have talked with the President, the Dean, Mr. Heston, and Mrs. Bishop the Registers, and hope that I will be successful, though it will be a fairly expensive proposition. In any case, I am hurrying to write you to ask you please to expedite sending me about a dozen pictures, photographs, particularly showing our present students over there, not necessarily all of them, but typical ones, either walking through the city, or studying, or going to class, or whatever. You will have good judgment as to appropriate scenes. Some of these would be scattered through the prospectus.

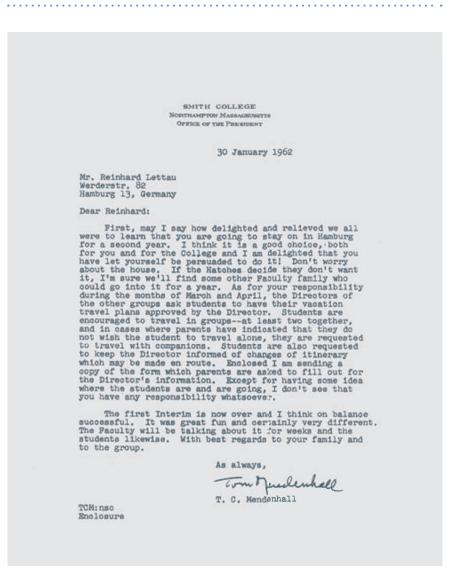
In this same connection, would you please lose no time in asking girls in the group such as Jane Pearce, particularly, or possibly Jane Davis and perhaps also the girl, I've forgotten her name, who is from Barnard College, perhaps to write a brief letter about her experience, just a brief letter, in which she would plant a paragraph or two which I would use in the prospectus about the Junior Year in Hamburg. I would be most grateful if you would see that I got both the photographs and such letters as soon as possible. I hope that I might be able to get out such a folder sometime soon.

All seens to be well at this end. I trust the same is true of you and wish you and Jean a very happy 1962.

Sincerely, Paul & Graham

POG:evg Dictated by Mr. Graham but signed in his absence

Liso-51-State



Dat. March 28, 1962

SMITH COLLEGE

T. Directors of the Junior Years Abroad

From T. C. Mendenhall

In re

Please excuse the impersonality of this memorandum, but it seemed the quickest and easiest way to ask your cooperation in a new venture by the Sollege: the Diploma in American Studies, of which a preliminary statement is enclosed.

encloses. The main outlines of the Biploma should be clear. fundidates are limited to foreign students, women, who must have a descentrated proficiency in the English language, the equivalent of advanced undergraduate or graduate standing, and plans in progress to become a teacher, normally of English language or literature, in their native land. Over the years in the shed some very able, worthmile foreign students who have proceeded to the N.A. degree in a specific discipline, usually taking two years in the process. The Diploma is in no way intended to supplant the Enstor's degree for these students, but these of us at the College who have been working on the Diploma have long felt that much a progrem could be of particular value to future teachers of English language. The possibility of students with advanced undergraduate standing applying for the Diploma the subintroduced at the suggestion of some of the Guiturel Attaches who considered that such an alternative might fit in more conveniently and appropriately with the patterns of higher education and teacher-training abroad.

Though the Diploma is available to any foreign students, all of us here hope that it will stimulate a more two-way, reciprecal traffic between Amith Gollage and the countries with Smith Junior Yeave. It is with this in mind that your good offices have been used in vain! For, hopefully, in time the Directors may be able both to spread the word about the program and to assist in the selection process by interviewing conditions. This list role should prove vary important and help to suit down the duance of faulty selection which so humas all programs bringing foreign students to the United States.

Hould you please let me inter your reactions to the Diploms Fregress and particularly any suggestions of key offices or institutions where information about it should be sent? Materials are being sent to the Cultural Attgohes in the subsatist here for transmission home, and I an starting to appreach foundations who might be interested in providing money for followships--which will be unquestionably needed if the program is really to reach the future teachers.

T. C. Mendenhall

March 28, 1962 Marched of Dypts. at fine Univ.

PROPOSAL FOR A DIPLOMA OF AMERICAN STUDIES AT SMITH COLLEGE

1. Proposed Program

A one-year program for the Diploma of American Studies, open only to foreign women students of advanced undergraduate or graduate standing. The program will consist of 24 semester hours made up of a graduate seminar in American Studies in (2 semesters, 3 hours per semester) and 18 hours in related American fields (such as History, Literature, Art, Government, Philosophy), of which at least o hours must be at the senior or graduate level.

2. Entrance Requirements

Candidates for entrance into the American Stuiles program will be asked to give satisfactory evidence of mastery of written and spoken English. (They should submit an essay in English on any theme of their own choosing.) There are no specific age limits for the Diploma program, though preference will be given in matters of scholarships to candidates between 18 and 28.

Candidates should have had at least two years work, or the equivalent, in an approved foreign institution of higher learning. The Diploma program is intended primarily for young women who are planning to teach English or American Studies in a secondary school. Any scholarships which become available will be limited to prospective teachers.

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3. selection

application forms may be obtained either from the Graduate Office or the Committee on Foreign Students who are in general charge of the program. Final selection of students will be the responsibility of the American Studies Committee, under the chairmanship of Professor Daniel Aaron. Ahenever possible, applicants will be interviewed abroad by a representative of the College. In particular, the Directors of the five Jmith Junior Years in Florence, Geneva, Hamburg, Madrid and Paris (who are regular members of the Jmith faculty) will provide information about the program and be available for interviews.

4. Finance

The costs of the year at smith (excluding the round trip from the student's home) are estimated as follows:

- (a) Tuition (graduate), fees, full board and residence \$1850
- (b) Personal expenses (Health insurance,
- (c) Travel within the United states, tours, etc. \$150

These estimates are conservative and a foreign student in the program is urged to plan on \$3000 for the year, to cover contingencies and to remove the need to seek outside employment that might interfere with her scholarly program. February, 1962

For further details please apply:

Committee on Foreign Students Smith College Northampton, Massachusetts

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AGREEMENT CONCERNING FACULTY EXCHANGE

Between

The University of Hamburg, Bundesrepublik Deutschland

and

Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

In order to strengthen and expand the mutual contacts between the two universities, and

In order to promote reciprocal collaboration and exchange in all areas of teaching and research, the University of Hamburg and Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, agree as follows:

- An exchange of faculty shall take place between the two universities. All academic fields or disciplines are covered by this exchange program. Exchange partners shall carry on agreed-upon teaching obligations and research activities.
- The exchange can be for the period of one academic year or for one semester.
- 5. Each exchange is initiated, negotiated and implemented between the respective schools, departments or disciplines at the two universities, in collaboration with the central administrative officials. The latter shall assist in obtaining clearance of each exchange from competent university organs or committees.
- In order to permit advance planning of courses and research projects, the respective schools, departments

- 2 central administrative officials - shall attempt to reach a detailed agreement concerning participating faculty members and their projected activities twelve (12) months prior to the implementation of an exchange. 5. As a rule and in the absence of other sources of support, the "home university" shall continue payment of the salary and fringe benefits of its faculty members participating in the exchange during their stay abroad. 6. The "host university" shall lend its assistance in finding housing for the visiting faculty coverei by the exchange program. In some cases such assistance may consist in facilitating exchange of private homes between the exchange partners. 7. Either university may discontinue its obligations and understandings under this agreement by notifying the President of the other university of its intention in writing no less than twelve months prior to the beginningof an academic year, to be effective at the beginning of such academic year. 16 March, 1979 Date 16 March, 1979 Date aul en war lig-Dr. Peter Fischer-Apper Jill K. Conway President President University of Hamburg Smith College

Vereinbarung über die Zusammenarbeit

zwischen

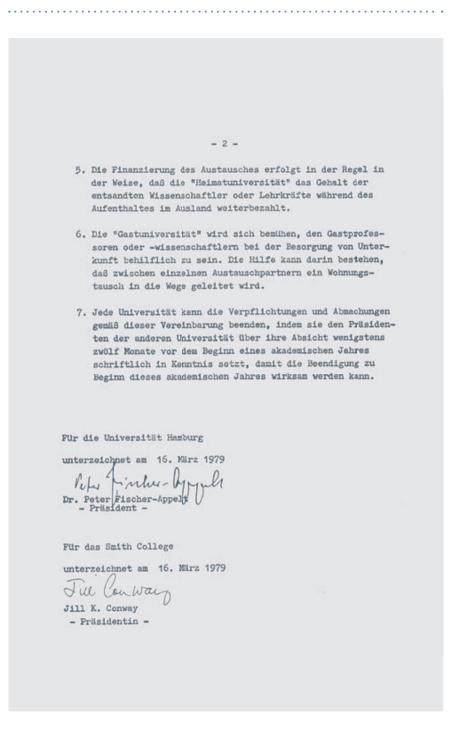
der Universität Hanburg, Bundesrepublik Deutschland,

und dem

Smith-College, Northampton, Massachusetts, USA

Zur Ausweitung und Vertiefung der Beziehungen zwischen den beiden Hochschulen und im Interesse des wechselseitigen Austausches in allen Gebieten der Lehre und Forschung treffen die Universität Hamburg und das Smith-College, Northampton, Massachusetts, folgende Vereinbarung:

- Die beiden Universitäten vereinbaren einen Austausch von Wissenschaftlern und Lehrkräften in allen Fachbereichen zur Durchführung von Lehrveranstaltungen und wissenschaftlichen Forschungsarbeiten.
- Die Dauer des Austausches beträgt entweder ein akademisches Jahr oder ein Semester.
- 3. Der Austausch wird jeweils zwischen den zuständigen Fachbereichen oder Fachabteilungen der beiden Universitäten in Abstimmung mit den Präsidialverwaltungen in die Wege geleitet und geregelt. Die Präsidialverwaltungen gewährleisten jeweils die Abstimmung der einzelnen Vorhaben mit den zuständigen Gremien der Universität.
- 4. Zwecks Vorbereitung der Lehrveranstaltungen und Forschungsprojekte werden sich die zuständigen Fachbereiche oder Fachabteilungen an beiden Universitäten - unterstützt durch deren Präsidialverwaltungen - bemühen, ein detailliertes Einverständnis über die auszutauschenden Personen und deren wissenschaftliche Arbeit zwölf (12) Monate vor Durchführung des Austausches zu erzielen.





Office of the President Smith College Northampton, Massachusetts 01063 T (415) 585-2100 P (415) 585-2123

April 28, 2006

Jobst B. Mielck, Prof. emer. Dr. Stiftung Weltweite Wissenschaft Gästehaus der Universität Hamburg Rothenbaumchaussee 34 D-20148 Hamburg

Dear Dr. Mielck,

I am quite pleased to learn that the Stiftung Welweite Wissenschaf medal will be presented to Smith College. It is a great honor and tribute to a long-lasting friendship between the University of Hamburg and Smith College.

Although I am unable to attend the presentation in June, Charles Staelin, Dean for Academic Development, will be there in my place to represent Smith.

Thank you for your continued support of this JYA program.

Sincerely,

Carol Cinvict

Carol T. Christ

CTC/rl

cc: Charles Staelin Joseph McVeigh

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SMITH COLLEGE JUNIOR YEAR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAMBURG 50[™]ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, 23-25 JUNE 2011

Forty-six alumnae returned to Hamburg and registered for the entire weekend event. The reception on Thursday evening had about 85 attendees; the gala dinner on Saturday evening had 72. The numbers compare favorably with those from the 40th anniversary celebration. Unfortunately, there were no participants from colleges other than Smith (ten years ago at least two Yale JYA participants had attended). This is an area where we can improve, and we will work more to encourage former students from colleges associated with the JYA program to return in future.

As the present JYA director in Hamburg Jocelyne Kolb '72 noted, the celebration was a play in five acts.

Act I

We registered in the *Gästehaus der Universität* at Rothenbaumchaussee 34 on Thursday afternoon. Welcoming remarks made by

- Carrie Cadwell Brown, Executive Director, Alumnae Association of Smith College
- · Prof. Dr. Dieter Lenzen, President, University of Hamburg
- Carol T. Christ, President, Smith College
- Prof. em. Dr. Jobst B. Mielck, Board of Directors, Stiftung Weltweite Wissenschaft and Chairman of the Trustees for the *Gästehaus der Universität*
- Gertraud Gutzmann, Prof. emerita, Smith College, and Director of the JYA program in Hamburg many times

emphasized the role of the relationship between Smith College and the University of Hamburg as a bridge between the United States and Germany and as a model of global understanding. Prof. Mielck pointed out that the Smith program had been a "guest" ever since the building had become the *Gästehaus* of the University; the College even contributed to renovations and was awarded a medal in recognition of its service to the *Gästehaus*. We were particularly honored to have presidents of both the University and the College at the reception. Prof. Lenzen mentioned how important the program is considered at the University of Hamburg; the Smith JYA program is the most enduring of all such programs in Hamburg. There has long been an exchange for German students to Smith each year, and a faculty exchange agreement between Smith-Hamburg was signed in 1979. All these exchanges are thriving at present and are highly regarded in Hamburg. Smith President

Carol Christ expressed the importance of all the JYA programs for Smith, in particular the Hamburg program.

Wine and appetizers were served at the reception; participants renewed old friendships over dinner and an evening at leisure in smaller groups.

Act II

In her brief remarks at the *Museum für Völkerkunde*, Rothenbaumchaussee 64, on Friday morning, Jocelyne Kolb thanked the "stage hands" whose support made the event possible: Jutta Gutzeit, Jad Davis, and Carrie C. Brown. Jocelyne also thanked Marianne Schumann, Willy Schumann's widow, for the beautiful bouquet of white, gold, and blue flowers (Smith's colors) at Thursday's reception. Two former directors of the JYA program in Hamburg sent their greetings: Hans Vaget, who was busy with work on Wagner in California, and Margaret Zelljadt, who had suddenly become ill (but indomitably joined the group on Saturday evening). Earlier program directors Gertraud Gutzmann and Joe McVeigh were on hand for the entire weekend.

We continued with a faculty panel discussion, "Smith College and the University of Hamburg: Change and Exchange," moderated by Jocelyne Kolb, with panelists

- Craig Davis, Professor of English Language and Literature, Smith College
- Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Peter Fischer-Appelt, President emeritus, University of Hamburg
- Prof. em. Dr. Bettina Friedl, American Literature and Culture, University of Hamburg

Professor Fischer-Appelt outlined the history of the JYA program and the faculty exchange begun in 1979, comparing the origins of both and their continuing execution to Beethoven's Fifth and Sixth symphonies: After the explosion of the Fifth (the beginnings of the programs), the Sixth (the annual studies) lulls the listener into thinking that "nothing happens, but at the highest possible level." He pointed out that the JYA program in 1961–62 had eleven students, but that since then more than 700 have studied with Smith in Hamburg, while at least two German students have gone to Smith each year.

Professor Friedl, who taught two fall terms in American Studies at Smith in 1996 and 2002, described the excitement she felt when teaching and meeting Americans "in their native habitat." She learned from her students just as they profited from her outside perspective. She emphasized the

Dokumente

importance not only of the student exchange, but also of the faculty exchange between Hamburg and Smith.

Professor Davis supported the argument by pointing out that an English professor from Smith might be considered out of place in Hamburg. However, as an expert on medieval studies as well as old Nordic and Celtic languages, he was able to expand his course offerings to include the "Viking diaspora" and to compare the Vikings' Althing (970) with the U.S. Constitution (1787). Davis also mentioned finding important evidence in the Danewerk near Schleswig for determining more exactly when the epic poem *Beowulf* was written.

In the question and answer period, other benefits of the exchange were pointed out. The "exotic" nature of the experience was praised, as was the advantage to faculty of a freedom from administrative duties. But it is often difficult to explain benefits to those not involved as students or faculty. Participants themselves have no doubt about its value. Some benefits are entirely unexpected. For example, the role of Germanists in foreign countries becomes clearer to professors from Hamburg who participate in the faculty exchange.

As the discussion ended, Professor Kolb asked that the panel's responses be regarded as exemplary, not simply as particular to these speakers.

The second panel discussion dealt with "Hamburg and Beyond." Joseph McVeigh, Professor of German Studies at Smith, moderated; panelists were:

- Sarah Thomas '70, then Librarian, Bodleian Library, Oxford University
- Jane Carroll '76, Assistant Dean and Senior Lecturer, Art History, Dartmouth College
- · Ania Ferstl AMS Dipl. '06, then Online Editor, Motivado.de
- Lyudmyla Kovalenko '09, then DAAD graduate fellow, *Charité-Universitätsmedizin* Berlin

Ania Ferstl explained that attending Smith in 2005–06 had given her the enthusiasm to pursue a career in a start-up, despite the unusual nature of her choice. She said her Smith friends and acquaintances had provided the most encouragement for her decision. She has also become more aware of gender issues since her Smith experience.

Sarah Thomas framed her recollections of the year in Hamburg by recalling the invasion of Czechoslovakia in the summer of 1968 and ending with the Apollo moon shot in 1969. She set sail for Europe on the S.S. United States, and she proceeded to navigate her way through an uncharted world when she reached Hamburg. She summed up her experience as

learning the importance of not being judgmental in dealing with other people.

Jane Carroll outlined four major areas which were affected by her Hamburg year in 1974–75: personal growth, language acquisition, world citizenship, and scholarship. She realized that academic and daily languages are entirely different and illustrated the difference with the following story. She had put a container of yoghurt in her dormitory's refrigerator. When she returned later, the yoghurt had been eaten. Jane exclaimed, "Was ist das für ein Diebesgesindel!" – to which a young man replied, "Jane, no one has used the word Diebesgesindel since Goethe died!" Jane emphasized the importance of the year abroad for her because she was able to see physical works of art rather than work from slides. In summary, the year taught her to live in two cultures and adapt to both.

Lyudmyla Kovalenko became the first master's student in the medical neurosciences program at the *Charité* in Berlin following her graduation from Smith. She attributed her confidence to the Smith legacy. She told of her interview in the early morning, in the basement of the old psych ward at the *Charité*, and related the following exchange: "Lyudmyla, we don't want to waste time making mistakes here," to which she replied: "I don't either."

In the question and answer period, changes in the JYA program were discussed. Do Skype and Internet access enhance the program or detract from it? Is living abroad more common today than in earlier Smith generations? Joe McVeigh, in responding to a question about what sets Hamburg apart from, say, Geneva or Paris, maintained that having studied in Germany made people assume that he was particularly intelligent, which prompted the audience to laugh. On a more serious note, he remarked that students who spend their junior year in Germany have taken a more unusual path, and that a year in Italy or France is a more common choice for students.

Act III

Friday afternoon we could choose among five guided walking tours:

- Rainer Nicolaysen, University of Hamburg, offered a tour of the University campus and former Jewish quarter (in German);
- Eckart Krause, University of Hamburg, offered a tour of the University campus and former Jewish quarter (in English);
- Kai Jensen, University of Hamburg, and John Burk, Smith College, offered a tour of the Botanical Garden in Klein Flottbek;
- Deborah Ockert '73 offered a tour of the new BallinStadt Emigration Museum;
- Susanne Gommert, AMS Dipl. '75, and I led a tour of the *Ernst Barlach Haus* and of the *Jenischhaus* in Hamburg's *Jenischpark*.

In the evening, we split into smaller groups for dinner at restaurants we chose ourselves.

Act IV

Early Saturday morning, there was an optional visit to a local market in front of the Museum für Völkerkunde on the Rothenbaumchaussee. At 9:30 a.m. the whole group set off on an architectural bus tour of Hamburg, which took us around the outer and inner Alster lakes, through the inner city to Altona, then to the steps of Övelgönne, where we walked down to the Elbe. From there the bus took us through the new *HafenCity* urban development project, then back to the Rothenbaumchaussee. The changes in Hamburg in the past decades have been extensive; especially remarkable is the *HafenCity*, under construction for the past ten years and projected to continue for the next fifteen. The new Hamburg Elbphilharmonie is a visible landmark with its dramatic design (its projected cost of 400 million Euros also now stands at about three times the original estimate). The historic warehouses of the Speicherstadt are still standing, but new buildings for businesses, shops, and condominium apartments are rapidly going up south of them. The Zollhafen no longer exists - you can now walk or ride through the former customs zone without stopping to declare goods or pay duty.

We spent the afternoon sight-seeing, shopping, or just plain napping – all the activity and conversation were as exhausting as they were exhilarating!

Act V

Saturday evening we met at 6 p.m. on the *Landungsbrücken* for a boat tour preceding the gala dinner at the restaurant VLET in what remains of the historic *Speicherstadt*. Special thanks and a hearty round of applause were extended to the planning committee for all their hard work. Conversations extended into the late evening, until the celebration had to come to an end.

See you again in Hamburg at the 60th anniversary celebration sometime in 2021/22!

Deanna Gaunce Nebert '69 (written in July 2011)



Students in the 56th Smith College Junior Year Abroad Program at the University of Hamburg in front of the Gästehaus in the Rothenbaumchaussee, April 2017