**WIGS**

1. **Committee membership.** Our committee membership and structure has changed: we have recently said farewell to **Sarah Pogoda** (Treasurer), **Chantal Sullivan-Thomsett** (Postgraduate Rep), **Cyd Sturgess** (ECR Rep) and **Mary Frank** (Freelance/Part-Time Rep), who have stood down after several years’ service. In their place, we have welcomed to the committee **Ina Linge** (Treasurer), **Molly Harrabin** (Postgraduate Rep), and **Corinne Painter** and **Hilary Potter** (sharing the renamed role of Early Career Academic Rep). In addition, we have appointed **Iman Nick** to the newly created role of Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity Rep (see details below).
2. **EDI matters.** The [WIGS committee statement on #BlackLivesMatter](https://womeningermanstudies.wordpress.com/2020/06/09/statement-by-wigs-committee-on-black-lives-matter/) in June 2020 generated much discussion about how we can begin to make the organisation, and German Studies itself, more diverse and inclusive. We have therefore created a new EDI committee role and established a subcommittee, chaired by Iman Nick, to identify key action points for the organisation. We are conscious that we are still in the early stages of our EDI work and are keen to work together with both the AGS and Expanding German Studies to share ideas and good practice. We would very much welcome suggestions and input – please just drop Iman Nick (mavi.yaz@web.de) or myself a line.
3. **Conferences and workshops.**
* The 2020 Annual Conference was hosted online by the University of Warwick, with a keynote talk by Rosemarie Peña, president of The Black German Heritage and Research Association (BGHRA), and an early career workshop on ‘Finding your Academic Voice’.
* The [2021 Open Conference](https://womeningermanstudies.wordpress.com/2021/07/13/crossing-thresholds-women-in-german-studies-open-conference/) was hosted online by the University of Aberdeen and addressed the theme ‘Crossing Thresholds’.Highlights included an author reading by Hanna Sukare, a keynote lecture by Iman Nick (President of the Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics), an early career workshop on wellbeing, and a series of themed panels on Diversity and Inclusivity in German Studies.
* On 8th September 2021 we are holding a Teaching Development Day for all interested colleagues in German Studies and beyond. The event will take place online and further details can be found [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-teaching-development-day-tickets-165888443801).
* Due to the success of our recent online events, we are considering incorporating an online element into all of our future conferences. We would be interested to hear from the AGS on whether you are also considering this and, if so, how you plan to arrange it.
1. **Book and essay competitions.**

The winner of the 2020 WIGS Book Prize, sponsored by Peter Lang, was Doriane Zerka (KCL / Cambridge) with her manuscript entitled *Imagining Iberia in Medieval German Literature*. The winner of the 2020 WIGS Essay Prize was Katherine Calvert (Sheffield) with her essay entitled ‘Making the Case against Paragraph 218: Narrative and Discursive Strategies in Else Kienle’s *Frauen: Aus dem Tagebuch einer Ärztin*’. The deadline for the [2021 Book and Essay Prize competitions](https://womeningermanstudies.wordpress.com/2021/04/22/wigs-book-prize-and-wigs-postgraduate-essay-prize-competitions-2021/) is 15th September 2021 – please encourage PGR and early career colleagues to apply!

1. **Grants and applications.** We have [funding available](https://womeningermanstudies.wordpress.com/funding/) for postgraduate, early career, part-time and retired members and would strongly encourage people to apply for this. Normally this funding is intended to cover research-related travel expenses, conference attendance or attendance at WIGS events. However, due to the pandemic, we have expanded the remit to include other research-related and emergency hardship funding on a case-by-case basis. We are also currently trialling a new small grant that offers support towards publication costs.
2. **Advocacy and other national activity**. WIGS has joined with other Languages organisations such as UCML and AGS to lend support to colleagues threatened by the closure of languages departments and to highlight the consequences of Brexit for students taking up assistantships in Europe in the next academic year. In May 2021 WIGS put out a [statement on LGBTQ+ membership](https://womeningermanstudies.wordpress.com/2021/05/04/wigs-statement-on-lgbtq-membership/) to clarify our support for all our members and our hope of making our organisation a more welcoming space for transgender women and non-binary individuals.

Catherine Smale, Secretary

catherine.smale@kcl.ac.uk

**UCML**

Members can read the latest news here:

<https://university-council-modern-languages.org/category/news/>

On visa regulations for DAAD schemes, see:

<https://university-council-modern-languages.org/2020/12/10/letter-to-german-ambassador-expresses-concern-about-visa-regulations-for-daad-schemes/>

**German Screen Studies Network**

[**http://germanscreenstudies.eu**](http://germanscreenstudies.eu)

Events:

November 2020

* Dr Katya Krylova hosted an online student-led event, **Coffee with Kafka: Film Discussion of Haneke's *The Castle***, as part of the University of Aberdeen’s Sense of German Culture Week.
* Together with Goethe Institut and Birkbeck Institute for the Moving Image (BIMI) Professor Erica Carter led a reading group focusing on the novel ***Transit* by Anna Seghers**. The reading group was originally scheduled as a prelude to a screening of *Escape to Marseille* by Ingemo Engström and Gerhard Theuring during the Essay Film Festival in April 2020, which had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

## Professor Erica Carter also took part in a the panel discussion, National Cinema in the Netflix Era, as part of the San Francisco BERLIN AND BEYOND free virtual film festival. The special panel marks the release of [The German Cinema Book (2nd Edition)](https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/the-german-cinema-book-9781844575305/), published by the British Film Institute in April 2020. Erica was joined by the other editors of *The German Cinema Book*, Deniz Göktürk (UC Berkeley), Claudia Sandberg (Melbourne), moderator, Jaimey Fisher (UC Davis) and film critic J. Hoberman.

December 2020

* KCL’s*Centre for Transnational German Relations* hosted **Black Women Confronting the Transnational Far-Right – Mo Asumang's DIE ARIER / THE ARYANS (2015)**. Celebrated Afro-German film-maker and journalist Mo Asumang joined Professor Erica Carter for a Q&A following a screening of her documentary. The event was introduced by Dr Lizzie Stewartand *supported by the DAAD-funded projects ‘Violence Elsewhere: Imagining Violence Outside Germany Since 1945’ and ‘Circulating Cinema: The Moving Image Archive as Anglo-German Contact Zone’ (German Screen Studies Network). Hosted by the*

## Professor Erica Carter was involved in the mini-season, Hussein Shariffe (1934 – 2005): Exile and homecoming between London, Cairo and Khartoum, a series of film screenings and panel discussions about the Sudanese filmmaker and artist. A recording of the panel discussions can be found on the [GSSN Virtual](http://germanscreenstudies.eu/gssn-virtual/panel-recording-hussein-shariffe-1934-2005-exile-and-homecoming-between-london-cairo-and-khartoum/) pages.

January 2021

* As part of the Delphine Seyrig: Actress, Director and Activist film season, Ciné Lumière, Institut français screened Ulrike Ottinger’s *Johanna d’Arc of Mongolia* in partnership with the Goethe-Institut London. The director joined Professor Erica Carter for a conversation, which can be found on the [GSSN Virtual](http://germanscreenstudies.eu/gssn-virtual/erica-carter-conversation-ulrike-ottinger/) pages.

May 2021

* Dr Elizabeth Ward was joined by Professor Bill Niven and Professor David Clarke at the online event, **Tangled Pasts: Negotiating Politics of the Past and Present in Postwar German Film**, hosted by the IMLR, to discuss her new book, *East German Film and the Holocaust* (2021, Berghahn Books).

This year the GSSN moved to St Andrews, where its activities will be coordinated by Dr Dora Osborne, Dr Paul Flaig and Professor Sean Allan and Dr Katya Krylova (Unvieristy of Aberdeen). The network also has a new Steering Committee and Advisory Board (see below). We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the network so far, especially Professor Erica Carter and Dr Martin Brady and look forward to this new chapter!

**GSSN Steering Committee**

Professor Sean Allan (Professor of German Studies, Head of School of Modern Languages, University of St Andrews)

Dr Paul Flaig (Lecturer in Film Studies, University of St Andrews)

Molly Harabin (PhD Candidate, University of Warwick, Warwick Weimar Film Network Coordinator )

Maren Hobein (Project Coordinator for Film, Goethe Institut London)

Dr Nick Hodgin (Senior Lecturer in German Studies, Cardiff University)

Dr Katya Krylova (Lecturer in German and Film, University of Aberdeen)

Dr Leila Mukhida (Lecturer in Modern German Studies, Deputy Director DAAD Cambridge Research Hub for German Studies, University of Cambridge)

Dr Dora Osborne (Senior Lecturer in German, University of St Andrews)

Dr Annie Ring (Associate Professor in German, University College London)

Dr Elizabeth Ward (Visiting Fellow, Institute of Modern Languages Research, School of Advanced Study University of London)

**GSSN Advisory Board**

Professor Erica Carter (Professor of German and Film Studies, GSSN Co-Founder, King’s College London)

Professor Michael Cowan (Professor of Film Studies, University of Iowa)

Professor Andrew J. Webber (Professor of Modern German and Comparative Culture, University of Cambridge)

Dora Osborne

**Forum for Germanic Language Studies (FGLS)**

**News and updates, August 2021**

**FGLS Conference**

Although FGLS conferences are normally organised bi-annually, an exceptional PGR/ECR event took place on 12-13 January 2021 hosted by the University of Sheffield. Over 50 participants, based mainly in Europe and North America, were in attendance. The keynote address, delivered by Prof. Grit Liebscher (University of Waterloo), provided a timely analysis of *Instructions-giving in the (pre-)COVID German linguistic landscape*, which included interesting examples from various cities in Germany. Individual papers explored a wide range of topics in formal linguistics (e.g. syntax, morphology) and sociolinguistics (e.g. discourse analysis, language and group membership). Participants enjoyed the range of historical and contemporary studies. The full programme may be found on this [website](https://sites.google.com/view/fgls1994/events/past-events/past-programmes).

**Upcoming Events**

The next FGLS conference is scheduled to take place on 6-7 January 2022, organised by Melani Schroeter (University of Reading). We are delighted that Prof. Joachim Scharloth (Waseda University, Tokyo) has accepted our invitation to be the keynote speaker. The event is scheduled to take place digitally and abstracts are invited until 15 October. Further information may be found on this [website](https://sites.google.com/view/fgls1994/events/call-for-papers).

**Congratulations**

Sarah Muller (Sheffield) was awarded the PhD for her innovative research on *The Lived Experience of Language (Education Policy): Multimodal Accounts by Primary School Students* *in Luxembourg* following a successful viva in January with an outcome of no corrections.

Nicola McLelland (Nottingham) received the prestigious DAAD Jacob- und Wilhelm-Grimm-Preis on 28 July, which was accompanied by a lively laudatio offered by former FGLS president, Nils Langer (Europa-Universität Flensburg).

**With warm wishes for a successful AGS conference,**

Kristine, Geraldine and Anna

**IMLR Report September 2021: Focus on activities related to German Studies**

Since January this year, the new IMLR Director has been in post. Charles Burdett, Professor of Italian and distinguished researcher in the area of transnationalism, has already made a strong impact with his energetic drive to bring together voices lobbying for and strengthening the disciplinary field of Modern Languages.

As part of this drive, **AMLUK**, the Alliance of Modern Languages, Area Studies and Linguistics Subject Associations UK, which became a Special Interest Group of UCML in 2020, has been developed further and collaboration across the various subject associations across ML (and crucially also with Linguistics and Area Studies) has intensified. The first AMLUK annual symposium (with a focus on Pedagogies) was hosted by the IMLR in March 2021.

As in 2020, we have continued to offer a varied **array of online resources and a full programme of events**. The formats of online seminars, panel discussions and conferences have been adapted and developed to ensure accessibility and reach.

All IMLR online activities and resources are now available in one specific easily-accessible area on our website <https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/about-us/online-resources>. (Also see our blog [‘Living Languages’](https://modernlanguagesresearch.blogs.sas.ac.uk/) which highlights innovative and cutting-edge developments in the research community.)

Many of our online events, including lectures, postgraduate training sessions, reading groups, author readings and seminars, have been recorded and made available on our website. Please see [Event Recordings | The Institute of Modern Languages Research (sas.ac.uk)](https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/events/event-recordings).

**A few highlights from the past 12 months:**

The most recent **DAAD/IMLR German Language Competition** (the seventh in so many years) was launched in October 2020, and winning entries were celebrated in the spring of 2021. Entitled ‘Das Wort der Zukunft’, it asked for creative input into the ever-expanding German-language dictionary. Teaching materials were made available to prepare students for the task. A booklet of postcards with the winning words – illustrated by designer Max Weber – was produced to celebrate the creativity and variety of entries; copies are available from the DAAD and the IMLR. A very big *THANK YOU* to the colleagues at the DAAD for all their work involved with this competition!

**The following highlights are ‘clickable’, linking to event recordings:**

[Transnationalising the Word: A Decolonising Approach to the Teaching and Learning of Modern Languages](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/transnationalising-word-decolonising-approach)

[AMLUK Symposium on Pedagogies in Modern Languages, Area Studies and Linguistics](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/amluk-symposium-pedagogies-modern-languages-area)

Theorizing Crisis Imaginaries. A Joint Research Workshop, UCD Humanities Institute and IMLR

[The AHRC and Future Developments](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/ahrc-and-future-developments) (Speaker: Christopher Smith, Executive Chair of the AHRC)

[Open for Discussion- Covid-19, International Perspectives and Transnational Collaboration](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/open-discussion-covid-19-international)

[The 2021 Bithell Memorial Lecture: Deutsches Historisches Museum – Between Historical Judgement and Identity Politics](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/2021-bithell-memorial-lecture-deutsches)

[2021 Sylvia Naish Lecture: Science and Media Machines. Harun Farocki's 'NICHTlöschbares Feuer' and the 1968 'Technologie-Kampagne'](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/2021-sylvia-naish-lecture-science-and-media) (Speaker: Laura Lux)

[Marlen Haushofer in Context: Keynote Lecture 1: Wer hat Angst vor Marlen Haushofer? Humor, Sarkasmus, Grausamkeit in der österreichischen Literatur nach 1945](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/marlen-haushofer-context-keynote-lecture-1-wer)

[Alptraum(a). Alps, Summits and Borderlands in German-speaking Culture: Panel 1: Shaping Alpine Discourse](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/alptrauma-alps-summits-and-borderlands-german)

[Capturing the Zeitgeist. Tracking Words in German and English Dictionaries.](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/capturing-zeitgeist-tracking-words-german-and)

[The Second and Third Generation. Experiences of the Descendants of Refugees from National Socialism. 3. Literature](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/second-and-third-generation-experiences)

[Encounters: Dörte Hansen and Anne Stokes in Conversation](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/encounters-d%C3%B6rte-hansen-and-anne-stokes)

[Encounters: Mascha Dabić and Leigh Bailey in Conversation](https://www.sas.ac.uk/videos-and-podcasts/culture-language-and-literature/encounters-mascha-dabi%C4%87-and-leigh-bailey)

**Institute Publications (recent and upcoming):**

Tom Zille, *Christian Felix Weiße, the Translator: Cultural Transfer and Literary Entrepreneurship in the Enlightenment* (imlr books, June 2021)

Frank Krause and Katharina Herold (eds), *Smell and Social Life. Aspects of English, French and German Literature (1880-1939)* (London German Studies XVII, autumn 2021)

Nicole Robertson,*Arthur Schnitzler in Great Britain: An Examination of Power and Translation* (Bithell Series of Dissertations, January 2022)

For a full overview of available publications see <https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/publications>.

**REMINDER of OPPORTUNITIES**

**For your students:**

* **IMLR Research Training is a service offered to students nationwide.** The IMLR has always offered a rich research training programme, previously delivered via face-to-face training days on Saturdays through the academic year. The shift to online provision due to the pandemic has, however, been an opportunity to re-evaluate the programme content and modes of delivery in response to Modern Languages researchers’ current and future needs. **We have increased and diversified our programme over the past year, now featuring courses such as**
* Working with and Interviewing Writers, Artists and Filmmakers
* Ethnography and Modern Languages Research
* The Environmental Humanities and Modern Languages Research
* Disability Studies and Modern Languages Research
* Digital Culture and Modern Languages Research
* Decolonial Approaches to Modern Languages Research
* Participatory Languages Research in Schools
* Modern Languages and Careers in and beyond Academia
* Researching Multilingually (organised by the Researching Multilingually Network and funded by the London Arts and Humanities Partnership)

For a full programme of postgraduate training on offer in 2021/22, visit [Research Training | School of Advanced Study (sas.ac.uk)](https://www.sas.ac.uk/current-students/student-services/research-training)

* **Studentships** for graduate study (PhD):
One studentship in German Studies (fees only); one fully funded PhD studentship in Exile Studies
* We are always interested in receiving recommendations for the publication of PhD theses in the **Bithell Series of Dissertations**: <https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/publications/bithell-series-dissertations>
* In the autumn, a call for proposals for the **2022 Sylvia Naish Lecture Competition** will be issued. Further details at: <https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/graduate-study/awards-and-prizes>

**For academics:**

Opportunities for publishing:

Consider publishing your next monograph or conference volume in one of our series:

**imlr books** <https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/publications/imlr-books>; or

**London German Studies** (jointly with Iudicium, Munich) <https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/publications/publications-institute-germanic-studies>

Conference support:

* We will gladly host and help you organise your event online or (from January 2021) in Senate House, University of London. Opportunities of funding are available if your event includes an element of public engagement (e.g. an author reading). Please get in touch with jane.lewin@sas.ac.uk or godela.weiss-sussex@sas.ac.uk.
* If you are looking for financial support to hosting an event at your own institution, you can apply for an IMLR Regional Conference grant: the next competition opens in early 2021. <https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/events/regional-conference-grant-scheme>

**Upcoming event highlights (autumn term 2021)**

14 October 2021, 5- 6pm [The Second World War in the Contemporary Graphic Novel: A Conversation with Nora Krug | The Institute of Modern Languages Research (sas.ac.uk)](https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/events/event/24560)

**Claire Gorrara** in conversation with **Nora Krug** ; org. Centre for Cultural Memory

22 October and 19 November, 3-4pm [Queer Homemaking I | The Institute of Modern Languages Research (sas.ac.uk)](https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/events/event/24071) Reading group/Seminar, org. **Francesco Albé** and **Stephanie Ng**, for the Centre for the Study of Contemporary Women’s Writing

4 November 2021, 6pm Miller Memorial Lecture:Love, Lies, Justice: A Viennese Ratline**.**Speaker: **Philippe Sands**, QC

17 November 2021, 6-7pm [Pandemic Recovery: Emotion, Language and Health in Schools | The Institute of Modern Languages Research (sas.ac.uk)](https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/events/event/24626) Panel discussion on multilingualism in the classroom, led by **Joe Ford** and **Neela Doležalová (part of Being Human Festival)**

18 November 2021, 5.45-7.30pm [Isolation Reading in 1944: Richard Strauss, the Complete Works of Goethe and 'Metamorphosen' | The Institute of Modern Languages Research (sas.ac.uk)](https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/events/event/24625) Lecture by **Mark Austin**, org.: English Goethe Society

1 – 2 December 2021 [Innocence and Experience: Childhood and the 1930s Refugees | The Institute of Modern Languages Research (sas.ac.uk)](https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/events/event/24623) Conference organised by the Research Centre for Austrian and German Exile Studies

For full events listing, please see [Events | The Institute of Modern Languages Research (sas.ac.uk)](https://modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/events)

Very much looking forward to seeing you ̶ virtually or in person ̶ at one of our events,

Godela Weiss-Sussex

IMLR

September 2021