

## **AGS Conference 2022: External Reports**

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

#### **FGLS Conference**

The FGLS biannual conference took place 6-7 January 2022, organised by Melani Schroeter (University of Reading). Due to the ongoing pandemic situation it was decided to organise the event virtually. Over 50 participants, based predominantly in the UK and in north-western Europe were in attendance. The keynote address, delivered by Prof. Joachim Scharloth (Waseda University, Tokyo), provided a thought-provoking lecture on the topic of *Invectivity and the German New Right: Forms and Functions of a Modality of Interaction*. As is the tradition, 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). Papers also comprised a mix of historical and contemporary linguistic studies.

The full conference programme may be found on this [website](#).

#### **Upcoming Events**

The next FGLS biannual conference is scheduled to take place in January 2024, organised by Sheila Watts (Cambridge University). We are hopeful that this next FGLS event will be able to take place in person, although hybrid options are being considered as they facilitate forms of wider participation. Further information on this event will be available in 2023.

#### **Congratulations**

Louis Cotgrove (Nottingham) was awarded the PhD for his innovative research on the topic *#GlockeAktiv: A corpus linguistic study of German youth language on YouTube* following from his successful viva. Warm congratulations to Louis on this achievement!

Recent publications by FGLS members include Martin Durrell's new edition of *Hammer's German Grammar and Usage* (Routledge) and Melani Schroeter's edited volume (with S. Pappert, C. Schlicht and S. Hermes) entitled *Diskurs als begrenzter Raum : Metadiskurs über den öffentlichen Diskurs in den neurechten Periodika Junge Freiheit und Sezession* (Buske).

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

Kristine, Geraldine and Anna

## German Studies Association of Ireland

### Committee Composition:

- Linda Shortt (Joint Chair), Maynooth University
- Joseph Twist (Joint Chair and Webmaster), University College Dublin
- Hanna Bingel-Jones (Secretary), University College Cork
- Siobhán Donovan (Joint Editor of the Yearbook), University College Dublin
- Jürgen Barkhoff (Joint Editor of the Yearbook), Trinity College Dublin
- Tina-Karen Pusse (Treasurer), National University of Ireland, Galway
- Michael Hofer-Robinson (Post-Graduate Representative), University College Cork

### Outgoing Members:

- Marieke Krajenbrink (Joint Chair), Maynooth University

Current Membership: 92

### GSAI Activities:

- Yearly conference of 2021 held at Maynooth University. The conference topic was 'Blending in an Intercultural Context'.
- 2021 issue of *Germanistik in Ireland* (vol. 16): "'The Right Blend" – Mischung, Überblendung und Identität in interkulturellen Kontexten', guest edited by Clive Earles as a Festschrift for Arndt Witte - [http://www.hartung-gorre.de/Ireland\\_16.htm](http://www.hartung-gorre.de/Ireland_16.htm)
- Postgraduate Travel Bursary awarded to Hanna Rompf (Mary I).
- 2022 conference, to be held at NUI Galway on 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> November on the topic of 'Bildungsvermittlung zwischen den Generationen im Zeichen der digitalen Revolution' – CfP Deadline 15<sup>th</sup> September.

### German Studies in Ireland:

- The total number of students of German (post-LC and beginners) has largely remained stable across Ireland and show a positive trend overall.
- The number of postgraduate students remains very low. It can be noted that most of the PhD supervision provided by colleagues takes place in cognate areas without a German component.

## German Screen Studies Network

We are delighted to have secured a third round of funding from the DAAD as part of its Promoting German Studies competition. The funding allows us to grow the network in exciting new ways following our move to St Andrews and includes a programme of activities running over the next three years under the heading 'Media, Cultures, Histories'.

We welcome Carla Steinbrecher, who has joined us as Network Coordinator for this next phase of activities.

The GSSN website has been migrated to a [St Andrews' hosted website](#). Please check here for information about events and projects, and follow us [@G S S N](#) and on Facebook!

If you have any events you would like the network to promote, or any ideas for activities or collaboration you'd like to discuss, please contact Carla [cms27@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:cms27@st-andrews.ac.uk).

GSSN events this year:

- Fokus film festival, January 2022
- Asta Nielsen "The ABCs of Asta Nielsen" at the BFI February 3, 2022
- Documenting Socialism: East German Documentary Cinema 30 May – 1 June – workshop at the University of St Andrews, featuring screenings of *Paul Robeson: "I'm a Negro, I'm an American"* (Kurt Tetzlaff, 1989, 86 mins) and *A Diary for Anne Frank?* (Hellwig, 1958, 18 mins) with new English subtitles

Coming up!

- [New German Cinema](#) season at The Garden Cinema, Covent Garden, 14 Sep – 15 Nov 2022
- Screening of *Finsterworld* (Frauke Finsterwalder, 2014) + Q&A with Christian Kracht and Frauke Finsterwalder, Byre Theatre St Andrews, 16 November 2022, 17.15
- 2023: Labour in Film – international conference at KCL

## IMLR Report to the AGS, September 2022

During 2021/22, the IMLR has continued its strong drive towards joining up voices across Modern Languages. We aim to provide a place of communication and a hub for creating a more joined-up future of the discipline. Various events have been held to this purpose across the year, including the symposium [‘Future Directions in Modern Languages’](#) (25 February 2022).

**Looking ahead**, the IMLR is championing the move beyond the traditional ML curriculum; to widen the language areas considered under the label ‘ML’; to do away with the distinction between ‘modern’ and ‘community’ languages; and to clarify that our academic field stretches beyond language itself, to focus on texts, cultures and societal relevance.

In line with this, the Institute will change its name to **Institute of Languages, Cultures and Societies (ILCS)**; the name change is to be launched in October.



The change will also impact on the imlr books series: a re-launch is planned for October. The remit of the new series will be to contribute to shaping the discipline and to support and strengthen the integrated study of languages, cultures and societies. The series will encourage cross-language research or research demonstrating the relevance of a single-language study to other languages. It will be peer reviewed and open-access; professional editing by the staff of University of London Press will be provided and there will be no cost to authors.

**Training:** over the academic year 2021/22, a whole new raft of new training courses have come on board. Please remind your students that the training programme is available nationally; it is (almost exclusively) provided online. See [Online Research Training | School of Advanced Study \(sas.ac.uk\)](#)

New additions include:

- Languages Research in Schools
- Languages and Community-Based Work and Research
- Working with and Interviewing Writers, Artists and Filmmakers
- Ethnography in Modern Languages and Cultures Research

We also continue to provide the more ‘traditional’ courses.

**Regarding German Studies more specifically**, we have provided a full programme of seminars, author readings and conversations, panel discussions and conferences. The Institute’s annual Visiting Fellows programmes, schemes of conference support in and outside London, the Postgraduate Colloquium in German Studies (including the annual Sylvia Naish Lecture) and our various publication series have also run successfully.

### Recent Publications (Germanic)

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

Philippe Sands, *East and West, The Ratline, and Beyond: On Memory and Identity* (Miller Memorial Lecture print)

**New Blog Post:**

Raphael Gross (Director of the Deutsche Historische Museum), *Between Historical Judgement and Identity Politics* (Bithell Memorial Lecture 2021)

[Between Historical Judgement and Identity Politics - Living Languages \(sas.ac.uk\)](https://sas.ac.uk)

**Selected forthcoming events, autumn term (Germanic / comparative):**

29 September 2022, 6.30pm: *Weather in Translation: Time, Place and Sound* (in collaboration with Artangel and Senate House Library, complementing the sound installation 'A Thousand Words for Waether' at Senate House Library)

**IBC:**

22 September 2022, 5.30pm: *Genius and Gender in Fin-de-Siècle Vienna* (Deborah Holmes, Salzburg/IBC Visiting Fellow) – in person at Senate House, celebrating the Ingeborg Bachmann Centre's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary

**Exile Centre:**

15 September 2022: *Emigré Voices. Conversations with Jewish Refugees from Germany and Austria* (Wiener Library/online)

16 November 2022: Till Greite (on Michael Hamburger) - online

14 December 2022: Kathryn Sederberg (on Exile Diaries) – online

**CCWW:**

6 October to 5 December 2022: seminar series 'Writing Transnational Girlhoods across Literature, Media and Society' (8 dates across the term; online)

**English Goethe Society:**

27 October 2022: *Young Slapsauces and Old Trout: Translating 'Die Leiden des jungen Werthers'* (Howard Gaskill, Edinburgh)

8 December 2022: *Randfiguren. Ernst Brandes' and Franz Josias von Hendrich's Assessments of the French Revolution as New Perspectives* (Maike Oergel, Nottingham)

## UCML

UCML continues to be involved in various national policy bodies, either through committee membership or through regular/one-off meetings. If anything serious occurs in your institution please do contact UCML; we are well-placed to help. Do contact Sarah Bowden ([sarah.bowden@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.bowden@kcl.ac.uk)) in the first instance if there are any issues at your institution or elsewhere that you think UCML should know about, or where UCML input might be helpful. Sarah took over from Allyson Fiddler as UCML Germanic and Low Countries representative in early 2022. Many thanks to Allyson for all her hard work in the past years!

Some UCML news and updates:

- Routes into Languages is now managed by UCML, which has established a RiL sub-committee chaired by Vicky Wright (UCML Vice-Chair, Language & Intercultural Education). Sky Herington has recently been appointed as national RiL Coordinator, and a new Routes website is under development. Do look at the current Routes website or email Vicky Wright ([V.M.Wright@soton.ac.uk](mailto:V.M.Wright@soton.ac.uk)) to find out more about the regional networks and how you can get involved.
- Many of you may have been involved in the year abroad special interest group (SIG), led by James Illingworth, which has been an invaluable forum over the past two years. Do contact James ([illingworthj1@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:illingworthj1@cardiff.ac.uk)) if you're not involved and would like to be. Further UCML SIGs include a Head of Languages SIG and (tbc) a Widening Participation SIG.

Sarah Bowden  
17/8/22