## History of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Toronto<sup>1</sup>

## By John K. Noyes

The University of Toronto was founded in 1827 when a Royal Charter was granted to establish King's College at York (Toronto), then the state university of the Province of Upper Canada. The college was to be established on the present grounds of the university, which was then about a mile north of the northernmost limits of the town of York.<sup>2</sup> The initial academic appointments were not made until 1842, when professors were appointed in classical literature, belles letters, rhetoric and logic; divinity; mathematics; chemistry; common and civil law; anatomy and physiology; surgery; medicine; midwifery; and pharmacy and botany. Since many of the teaching faculty had been recruited from England, the summer vacation period was fixed to allow enough time for a return visit home by steamship.<sup>3</sup> Instruction began only in the fall of 1843. The initial enrolment was 26 students, and the entry requirements were notoriously stringent. In 1849, King's College became the University of Toronto and its connection with the Church of England was terminated. The following years saw the establishment of a number of colleges: University of Trinity College was established by Bishop John Strachan of the Church of England in 1851; St. Michael's College was established by the Basilian Order in 1852, but not federated with the university until 1881. In 1853 University College was established as the first nondenominational college, assuming responsibility for all teaching in Arts in the University; and in the same year, the University became an examining and degreegranting body. The University of Victoria College was federated with the university in 1892, having been established in Cobourg as the Upper Canada Academy by charter from George IV in 1836. Meanwhile, enrolments continued to climb, with 117 degrees conferred in 1887, more than 200 in 1891, and more than 400 in 1904. The surge in enrolments in the 1960's was met with the establishment of New College (1962), Innis (1964), Woodsworth (1974) and the two satellite campuses of Scarborough (1964) and Erindale (1966).

The university was conferring master's degrees in the middle of the 19th century, and the doctorate was established in the 1890's. The first doctorate in German was awarded in 1912 to William Henry van der Smissen for his study of the shorter poems of Goethe and Schiller, published in the same year. The first woman to receive a doctorate in German at U of T was

Victoria Mueller in 1933. As Victoria Mueller-Carson, she later headed the St. Michael's College German Department for many years. Other early degrees were awarded to Harry

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> My special thanks to Douglas Joyce and Alan Latta for their assistance in writing this history of German at U of T. In particular, I am indebted to Robert Farquharson, whose manuscript "The Story of German at the University of Toronto" has been integrated, often verbatim, into my own account.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> W. Stewart Wallace, *A History of the University of Toronto* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1927), 24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Martin L. Friedland, *The University of Toronto: a History* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2002), 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> W.H. van der Smissen, Shorter *Poems of Goethe and Schiller, in Chronological Order* (New York: D. Appleton, 1912).

Steinhauer (1937) for his dissertation on paganism and Christianity in the works of Gerhart Hauptmann, and Margaret Sinden for her 1947 thesis on English Drama in late Enlightenment Germany, completed under the supervision of Barker Fairley. Sinden remained professor of German at University College until 1980. Steinhauer published a highly successful study of German drama in 1938; Sinden published on Gerhart Hauptmann.<sup>6</sup>

The teaching of German at the university goes back to the 1840's. Victoria College lists German textbooks in its prospectus of 1840; in 1850 the first professor of Modern Languages was hired at the college, Mr. Wesley P. Wright, who was also Professor of Chemistry, and earned a salary of 150 Pounds per annum.<sup>7</sup>

In 1852 the curricula at the colleges underwent a thorough modernization process. As a result the Caput recommended and the Senate nominated three candidates for a new chair of Modern Languages. Much of the impetus for this was provided by Egerton Ryerson, who, in his inaugural address as president of Victoria College on October 21, 1841 spoke of the importance of languages (alongside history, philosophy, science and mathematics) in tertiary studies. 8 As early as 1842 he expressed the wish to hire teachers of French and German. As Robert Farquharson notes, Ryerson was strongly influenced by the curricular revisions taking place at universities in the United States, but also by "his almost unlimited admiration for the Prussian educational system." In addition, "many of the men and women teaching Ontario schools were of German origin and the language was thus introduced early into the grammar schools of the province. In 1871 it became an official part of the high school curriculum. Over the years, as the Germanspeaking teachers retired, it fell to the University to supply replacements and it is therefore not surprising that almost all of the Modern Languages and Literatures graduates became teachers."10

In May 1853 the government chose and appointed James Forneri as the first professor of Modern Languages at University College. <sup>11</sup> Born in 1789 into cultivated Piedmontese family of French origin and a graduate in law of a Roman university, young Forneri twice had his budding Turin law practice interrupted, first in 1812 by conscription as a cavalry officer in Napoleon's garde d'honneur and again in 1821, when he was exiled for having taken an active part in the Carbonari movement. Three more years as a cavalry officer, fighting for the liberal forces in Spain, ended when he was taken prisoner by the French troops of the Duc d'Angoulême. After some months at Agen, he reached England in 1824 as a political refugee. Following a decade of writing (poetry, articles on politics and education, and a German grammar) and teaching in private schools, he was appointed to the chair of Modern Languages in the Belfast Royal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> H. Steinhauer, *Das Deutsche Drama* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co. Inc., 1938)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Margaret J.Sinden, *Gerhart Hauptmann: the Prose Plays* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1957)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Farquharson, "The story of German" 2. <sup>8</sup> Farquharson, "The story of German" 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Farguharson, "The story of German" 1-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Farguharson, "The story of German" 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The notes on Forneri are from the excellent web site on the history of the French department http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/french/dept-of-french/history

Academical Institution. It was from Ireland that he came to North America in 1851, first to Nova Scotia as master in the Collegiate School at Windsor. Although he was already sixty- four when he took up his post in Toronto, he taught full programmes in French, German, Italian, and Spanish for thirteen years unassisted before retiring in 1867. His wages were 206 pounds, 12 shillings a year, enough for him to afford a house on the edge of the woods, at 285 Sherbourne Street, south of Gerrard. Forneri felt that the teaching of Modern languages was essential in order to foster understanding of the world. He explained that Spanish, French, German and Italian were the languages spoken in the immense territory stretching from the Baltic Sea to the Gulf of Venice. German was indispensable to religious people in order to gain access to Luther's version of the Bible and to the theological debates of the early reformers.

The Chair of Modern Languages was abolished in 1866, and was replaced by lectureships in French, German and Italian. One of Forneri's students, William Henry van der Smissen, became the first lecturer in German in University College. This can be seen as the founding of the first separate and independent Department of German in North America. By 1877, students wishing to take any honours course except Classics or Mental and Moral Science were permitted to substitute the requisite Greek courses with French and German together.<sup>13</sup>

Van der Smissen was critical of Forneri's knowledge of German language and literature and his old-fashioned over-emphasis on translation and formal grammar at the expense of composition and conversation, and this shaped his contribution to the teaching of German. In this respect, he demonstrated a great degree of prescience in debates that continue to dominate the teaching of German in universities around the world today. In addition to translating Goethe's *Faust*, van der Smissen authored a highly successful German grammar which was prescribed in high schools in Ontario every year between 1892 and 1940. <sup>14</sup> The latter was listed as book of the week by *The Nation* in March, 1910. University College still offers the *W.H. van der Smissen Scholarship for German* to fourth-year students. When van der Smissen retired at age 70 in 1913, he was followed by George Henry Needler, an expert on Scott and Goethe and a translator of the *Nibelungenlied*.

Under the leadership of Barker Fairley, German at University College, and indeed at the University of Toronto, enjoyed a considerable boost in prestige. Fairley joined the university in 1915, beginning a long and illustrious career in the profession. In 1948, he published his landmark book *A Study of Goethe*, which confirmed his status as one of the world's leading Germanists. He had already written books on Kleist, Goethe, and

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Antonio Maglio, "The mind of a revolutionary thinker. Giacomo Forneri was the first to teach Italian and Modern Languages at Toronto university," posted at http://tandemnews.com/printer.php?storyid=1791 <sup>13</sup> Farquharson, "The story of German" 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> William Henry van der Smissen and William Henry Fraser. *High School German Grammar and Reader with Elementary Exercises in Composition and Vocabularies*. (Toronto: Copp Clark 1888). Goethe, *Faust*, done into English verse in the original metres with commentary & notes by W.H. van der Smissen. With an introduction by Sir Robert Falconer (London: J.M. Dent 1926)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Barker Fairley, A Study of Goethe (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1947)

Nietzsche.<sup>16</sup> In 1949 the world celebrated the 200th anniversary of Goethe's birth, and Fairley, now the foremost Goethe scholar working in English, was invited to several American and British universities to keynote the festivities. In that same year, after attending a left-wing conference in New York in 1949, Fairley, currently a visiting professor at Columbia, and his wife Margaret, a member of the Communist Party, were permanently banned from entering the United States. Fairley was the recipient of numerous awards, including nine honorary degrees, a fellowship in the British Academy, the Goethe Institute's Medal in Gold, and the *Großes Verdienstkreuz* of the West German Government (1984).

Hermann Boeschenstein was professor of German in University College from 1930-1972, and he succeeded Barker Fairley as chair in 1956, a position he held until 1968. Boeschenstein's books include, among others, The German Novel 1939-1944 (1949), books on Stehr and Keller, his two-volume magnum opus Deutsche Gefühlskultur (1954/1966) and German Literature of the Nineteenth Century (1969). To Boeschenstein was widely respected and has been described as an eminent wartime proponent of German humanism (Rodney Symington), a wonderful colleague and accomplished speaker (Hans Eichner), a fine Germanist and creative writer (Anthony Riley), and a modest, caring human being who was dedicated to his students (Robert Farquharson). Boeschenstein was the recipient of an honorary degree from Queens University in 1968, as well as the Jean Paul medal in 1957 and the University of Marburg's Philipp Plaque for excellence in scholarly achievement in 1959. The Hermann Boeschenstein Medal was first awarded in 1987 and is the highest honour of the Canadian Association of University Teachers of German (CAUTG). Recipients have included Rodney Symington, Robert Farquharson, Manfred Prokop, and Hans Eichner. The University of Toronto also awards the Boeschenstein scholarship in the amount of not less than \$1,000 to a student entering the M.A. or Ph.D. program in Germanic Languages and Literatures, and it carries with it membership in University College.

The final decades of the 19th century saw the firm entrenchment of German in the curriculum at Victoria and Trinity. A department of Modern Languages was established at Victoria College with the appointment of E. P. Harris in 1857. By the 1870's both French and German were required in each of the four years of the B.Sc. degree, and there was a full four-year honours program in Modern Languages and Literatures, with French and German at the forefront. In 1892, Lewes E. Horning, erstwhile professor of Classics and Modern Languages, returned from a leave of absence in Göttingen and was named Professor of German and Old English. Later, he liked to be known as Professor of Teutonic Philology, and after 1900 he was Head of the German Department at Victoria. Horning retired in 1924 and was succeeded by Augustus E. Lang, whom he had appointed as a lecturer in 1897. When Lang retired in 1932 his position was passed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Barker Fairley, *Heinrich von Kleist* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press 1916), *Goethe as revealed in his Poetry* (London: Dent 1932), *Nietzsche and the Poetic Impulse* (Manchester: Manchester University Press 1935).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Hermann Boeschenstein *The German Novel 1939-1944* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press 1949), *Deutsche Gefühlskultur* (Bern: P. Haupt 1954/1966), *German Literature of the Nineteenth Century* (London: Edward Arnold 1969).

on to John Alvin Surerus, the son of German pioneer parents. Surerus was head of German at Victoria until 1962. Surerus was a founder member and the first president of the Canadian Association of University Teachers of German; he was also Ontario's chief examiner for German. When Surerus retired as Head of German, he was followed by Karl Robert Arnold, a student of Max Weber, then (in 1966) by George Wallis Field. Field, an editor of Heine's poetry and Fontane and a renowned scholar of Hermann Hesse, was Chair of German at Victoria until 1974.

At Trinity College, German appears in the college calendar for 1883-4 as a subject of instruction, although it was a requirement for students of medicine as early as 1871. In 1892, Archibald Hope Young was appointed lecturer in Modern Languages, and in 1905 he became Professor of German. In the following year, he established the Department of German at Trinity, and he was responsible for a considerable growth in the field. Young was followed by Cecil Lewis, a graduate of Oxford, who had been a *Lektor* in Heidelberg, and had taught at Wisconsin, Brown and Harvard before coming to Toronto. Farquharson relates an anecdote about Lewis' days in Heidelberg, when Stefan George was in residence. Lewis arranged to meet the great poet, however when he discovered that the meeting could only take place with both men on opposite sides of a dividing sheet hung from the ceiling of the room, Lewis declined the invitation.<sup>19</sup> Lewis was Head of German at Trinity until 1967, when he was succeeded by Laila Scott, whom Farquharson describes as "an early feminist, proper and competent, strong willed and independent."<sup>20</sup> Scott was followed by Douglas Joyce in 1960. Joyce, who is listed as one of the University of Toronto's great teachers on its website<sup>21</sup>, is a Hormannsthal scholar. <sup>22</sup> He retired in 1988.

St. Michael's College introduced German in 1933, when Victoria Mueller- Carson was appointed. Mueller-Carson authored a book on the Silesian dramatist, poet and novelist Hermann Stehr. <sup>23</sup> She retired in 1971 and was succeeded by Eckehard Catholy, an established actor and Germanist at the Freie Universität Berlin. Catholy published books on German comedy and the Fastnachtspiel.<sup>24</sup> He retired and returned to Germany in 1984.

In the 1970's the University was moving towards amalgamation of departments, and in 1972 Chuck Genno was appointed Chair of the Combined Department of German, together with the chairs of German in the colleges: H. N. Milnes (University College), Wally Field (Victoria), Douglas Joyce (Trinity), and E. Catholy (St. Michael's). Genno was followed by Bob Farquharson in 1973. In 1974, the three constituent colleges and the University signed a Memorandum of Agreement, putting an end to separate German departments in the colleges. In the following year, German was amalgamated into a "University Department," as were also the Departments of French, English, Classics,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Farguharson, "The story of German" 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Farquharson, "The story of German" 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Farquharson, "The story of German" 7.
<sup>21</sup> <a href="http://www.utoronto.ca/ota/GreatTeaching/teachers%202.html">http://www.utoronto.ca/ota/GreatTeaching/teachers%202.html</a>, consulted 10 March 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Douglas A. Joyce, *Hugo von Hofmannsthal's Der Schwierige: A Fifty-Year Theater History* (Columbia, SC: Camden House 1993).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Victoria Mueller-Carson, *Hermann Stehr: a memoir* (Würzburg: Holzner Verlag, 1964)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Eckehard Catholy, Das Fastnachtspiel des Spätmittelalters: Gestalt und Funktion (Tübingen: Niemeyer 1961); Eckehard Catholy, Das deutsche Lustspiel (Stuttgart: Kohlhammer 1969).

Philosophy, and Religious Studies (these were the old "college departments"). In that year, Hans Eichner became the first Chair of the new University Department of German, which was given the name it still bears today, the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures. Eichner had come to the University of Toronto from Queens in 1967, and was at that time already renowned as an editor of the *Friedrich Schlegel Kritische Ausgabe* and as a Thomas Mann scholar, having published a short overview of Mann's work in the early 50's. <sup>25</sup> During his tenure in

Toronto, Eichner continued work as an editor of Schlegel and wrote important books on Schlegel and Romanticism.<sup>26</sup> He also published a novel *Kahn und Engelmann* after his retirement, describing the flight and exile of an Austrian

Jewish family in the 1930's. <sup>27</sup> Eichner was appointed University Professor in 1981, and was awarded an honorary doctorate by his university in 2003. During the 1970's and 1980's the German Department was at its peak. In the mid-70's it boasted a total of 24 professors: eleven full, ten associate and three assistant professors. The graduate and undergraduate divisions were each served by an associate chair and an academic secretary. The department chair was advised by a senior committee, and standing committees included committees on courses, literature, language and oral examination. There were 28 graduate students enrolled in the PhD program and 12 in the MA program.

The department offered specialist (9 full courses) and minor (7 full courses) programs in German Language and Literature, and a Specialist Program in German and Linguistics. German Language was taught in all four undergraduate years, and a variety of literature courses covered the most important authors, genres and epochs in German literature from the Middle Ages to the present. Courses included, for example, a first-year introduction to Modern German Literature (texts by Fontane, Hauptmann, Schnitzler, Hofmannsthal, Th. Mann, Rilke, Brecht, Frisch, Lenz and Dürrenmatt), 19th Century Literature, Film and Literature of the Weimar Republic, German Poetry and Poetics, Romanticism, The Theatre of Bertolt Brecht, etc. Some literature courses were offered in translation, such as Mann, Kafka, Hesse and Brecht. There were also courses specifically aimed to bridge the language and literature programs. These included "German Literature of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century" and "19<sup>th</sup>-Century Prose and Poetry." Two hours per week were devoted to literature and two to language practice.

In 1976, Yiddish, which had previously been taught in Anthropology and Linguistics, was offered at second-year level in the Department. In 2002, the Al and Malka Green Program in Yiddish Studies was established with a major gift from the Greens. This, together with a gift from the United Jewish Foundation of Greater Toronto, ensured the continued teaching of Yiddish at the University of Toronto. Anna Shternshis, who received her PhD from Oxford, was employed as the first instructor of Yiddish in the new program. An undergraduate minor in Yiddish was introduced into the Department, with courses in beginning, intermediate and advanced Yiddish, and in Yiddish literature and culture.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Hans Eichner, *Thomas Mann: eine Einführung in sein Werk* (Bern: Francke 1953).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Hans Eichner, *Friedrich Schlegel* (New York: Twayne 1970), *Friedrich Schlegel und die Romantik* (Berlin: E. Schmidt 1970), "Romantic" and its cognates: the European history of a word (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1972).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Hans Eichner, Kahn und Engelmann (Wien: Picus 2000).

In 1985, Heinz Wetzel, a specialist on the works of Georg Trakl, took over the chair from Hans Eichner. He was followed by Chuck Genno in 1990, then in 1995 by Gus Dierick, who had published on Expressionism and Gottfried Benn. <sup>29</sup>

By the end of the 1990's German at the University of Toronto was under pressure to meet the changing needs of language and literature departments arising from the various transformations that had been taking place in the humanities at universities in North America over the past decade. As part of this process, Jim Retallack, an authority on regionalism and the history of Saxony, was appointed chair. Under Retallack, the undergraduate curriculum was restructured on a thematic basis, including Romanticism, Madness in Literature, German Cinema, Age of Goethe, Modernity and its Discontents, etc. Retallack also began the process of faculty renewal, hiring Shternshis, as well as John Zilcosky, Willi Goetschel, John Noyes, and Stefan Soldovieri. Goetschel was also tenured under Retallack's watch.

This renewal process intensified when John Noyes, a specialist in German colonial literature who came to Toronto as a full professor from Cape Town the previous year, took the reins in 2002. Noyes hired Angelica Fenner, Michael Hager, Erol Boran (Lecturer), and Markus Stock, whose expertise in medieval German literature returned this specialty to the Department; Zilcosky, Soldovieri, and Hager were tenured. Under Noyes, the undergraduate curriculum was solidified again around literature/culture courses taught in German, ensuring that students still achieved critical literacy in German. At the same time, Noyes spearheaded a move toward interdisciplinarity, formalizing cross-appointments with Cinema Studies, Comparative Literature, and Philosophy (through Fenner, Zilcosky, and Goetschel), and appointing Associate Faculty from Slavic, Philosophy, Comparative Literature, History, and Drama (Veronika Ambros, Rebecca Comay, Thomas Lahusen, Jim Retallack, Jennifer Jenkins, and Pia Kleber, respectively).

John Zilcosky, a specialist in European Modernism, travel writing, and psychoanalysis, became chair in 2007. <sup>32</sup> Under Zilcosky, Christine Lehleiter was hired; Fenner,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Heinz Wetzel, *Klang und Bild in den Dichtungen Georg Trakls* (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck u. Ruprecht 1968); *Konkordanz zu den Dichtungen Georg Trakls* (Salzburg: O. Müller 1971).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Augustinus Petrus Dierick, *German Expressionist Prose : Theory and Practice* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press 1987); *Gottfried Benn and his critics : major interpretations, 1912-1992* (Columbia, S.C.: Camden House 1992)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> James Retallack, *Germany in the Age of Kaiser Wilhelm II* (London: Macmillan, 1996); *Saxony in German History: Culture, Society and Politics, 1830-1933* (ed.) (Ann Arbor: Univ. of Michigan Press, 2000); *Zwischen Markt und Staat: Stifter und Stiftungen im transatlantischen Vergleich*, ed. with T. Adam (Leipzig: Leipziger Universitätsverlag, 2001); *Wilhelminism and Its Legacies: German Modernities, Imperialism, and the Meanings of Reform, 1890-1930*, ed. with G. Eley (New York: Berghahn, 2003).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> John K. Noyes, *Colonial Space: Spatiality in the discourse of German South West Africa 1884-1915* (Reading: Harwood, 1992); *The Mastery of Submission: Inventions of Masochism* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press 1997); *The Paths of Multiculturalism: Travel Writings and Postcolonialism*, ed. with M. Seixo, G. Abreu and I. Moutinho (Lisbon: Edições Cosmos, 2000); *Kultur / Sprache / Macht*, ed. With G. Pakendorf and W. Pasche (Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 2000).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> John Zilcosky, *Kafka's Travels: Exoticism, Colonialism, and the Traffic of Writing* (New York: Palgrave, 2003); *Writing Travel: the Poetics and Politics of the Modern Journey* (ed.) (Toronto: University of Toronto

Shternshis, and Stock were tenured; Boran was promoted to Senior Lecturer. The graduate program grew in chronological scope and thematic breadth. The Department again began accepting PhD students in medieval literature after a hiatus of over two decades. In 2012-13, we instituted an MA Field in Yiddish Studies, the first in Canada. And the Department enhanced its international profile with the 2008 introduction of the Annual Toronto German Studies Symposium, led each year by a different colleague under rubrics such as "Jews, Turks, and Other Germans," "Autobiographical German Film," and "Where is German?"

In 2013, for the first time since Eckehard Catholy led the St. Michael's College German Department in the 1970s, a medievalist, Markus Stock, became chair.<sup>33</sup> Under Stock, Hang-Sun Kim was hired as a Teaching-Stream Assistant Professor, Zilcosky was promoted to Full Professor, and Lehleiter was tenured. Stock also created the new volunteer position of Alumni Ambassador and Executive in Residence, whose inaugural holder is Department alumna Joan Andersen, winner of the Arbor Award, the highest honour for volunteer work at the University of Toronto. As of 2016, the teaching staff at the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Toronto consists of eleven continuing faculty members, as well as a long-term revolving DAAD Visiting Professor position (presently held by Alexandra Gerstner). Faculty research and teaching interests span from the medieval era to the present, with a special concentration in German literature and culture from the eighteenth through twenty-first centuries. Specific areas of research include literary and cultural theory (especially postcolonial, psychoanalytic, narratological, and critical theory); literature and philosophy of the Enlightenment; German-Jewish culture; Yiddish studies; literature and science; gender studies; German cinema and visual culture; modernism; German colonial cultures; travel writing; and German-language pedagogy.

In addition to the rising number of undergraduates enrolled in departmental courses and programs, the Department presently has twenty-two graduate students (sixteen PhD and six MA). The doctoral students are writing dissertations on topics such as "Art's Challenge: An Analysis of the Role of Aesthetics in the Work of Hugo von Hofmannsthal," "Culture, Identity and Attitudes of Immigrant Learners in the Context of the German Integration Course," "Desire in Kafka," "Constructing Identities: Socialist Heroes in East German Cinema," "The Search for Identity in the German Enkelliteratur," "Acoustic Phenomena and Space in Late Medieval German Literature and Culture," "The Spectacle of Race and Reproduction in German Colonial Images (1884-1917)," or "Heine and the Middle Ages".

The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Toronto looks forward to a continued, vibrant interaction with the community of German and Yiddish scholars and students at universities in Ontario, Canada, and around the world.

Press, 2008); *Uncanny Encounters: Literature, Psychoanalysis, and the End of Alterity* (Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Markus Stock, Kombinationssinn. Narrative Strukturexperimente im 'Straßburger Alexander', im 'Herzog Ernst B' und im 'König Rother' (Tübingen: Niemeyer 2002); Alexander the Great in the Middle Ages: Transcultural Perspectives (ed.) (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2016).

More information on the Department and its ongoing activities is available at <a href="https://www.german.utoronto.ca">www.german.utoronto.ca</a>.