

GDR BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER FOR LITERATURE AND CULTURE IN THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Vol. II, No. 3

October, 1976

GDR BULLETIN

Published four times a year. Correspondence should be addressed to: Patricia Herminhouse, editor, Dept. of Germanic Languages and Literatures, Box 1104, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

or to

Archives - Hannelore Spence
Correspondence Secretary - Marilyn Helt
Book Reviews - Mark Rectanus, Russ Berman
Marilyn Helt.

Research in Progress - Reinhart Jost
Notes in Brief - Reinhart Jost
Conferences - Kay LaBahn
Travel and Exchange - Kay LaBahn
Bibliography - Phil Brewster, Tineke Ritmeester

All of the above can be contacted through the Washington University address given for Patricia Herminhouse.

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

THERE'VE BEEN SOME CHANGES MADE...

The slight delay in the appearance of this issue of the Bulletin has a happy explanation: After a year and a half of editing the Bulletin in more or less solo fashion, I was glad to learn that those who had previously assisted in its production, as well as others, were in-

terested in taking a more active part in the editorial process. The result, after considerable discussion of how we could best attain a collective and cooperative modus operandi, was the formation of an editorial board. Members of this board are responsible for individual sections of the Bulletin, as noted in each section, and readers are requested to send news, requests or suggestions specifically intended for one of these sections to its respective editor(s). General items, inquiries and announcements may still be addressed to the general editor or the corresponding secretary. The editorial board has also organized an informal study group to keep abreast of current developments and issues in the GDR.

One of the more gratifying aspects of my visit to the GDR this summer (see TRAVEL AND EXCHANGE) is the assurance of an increased and improved supply of new GDR publications for review. The review editors are presently attempting to develop a roster of qualified reviewers, including graduate students working on GDR topics. Unsolicited reviews are also welcome, but it will continue to be the policy of the Bulletin to include only reviews of recent publications. Thus we hope that potential reviewers will be quite specific about the areas of interest which they would be able to review within the usual three-month deadline imposed by our "up-to-date" policy. Those interested in reviewing are requested to send the form at the back of this issue to the review editors.

Even with its broadened editorial base, the Bulletin will continue to depend on reader input if it is to remain a useful and viable tool of the profession. Although I have been aware that we missed items of interest in the past because no one bothered to send them in, my summer's

experience in the GDR revealed an entirely new function of the Bulletin beyond our attempts to keep one another informed: The Bulletin documented for scholars, editors, and persons involved in the cultural sector in the GDR the extent and depth of interest in GDR topics among teachers and scholars in this country. In view of the fact that there is still no cultural treaty providing for scholarly contact between the U.S. and the GDR, it seems significant that the Bulletin is in a position to keep both sides involved in negotiating the details of this document aware of the interests and needs of members of our profession.

p.b.h.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

INTERNATIONALER DEUTSCHLEHRERVERBAND

The IDV is holding its 5th conference in Dresden, August 1-5, 1977. This year's theme concerns "Modern Language Teaching--Teacher Education and Continuing Education." Numerous work groups and individual sections will supplement the five day program; and tours of the Sächsische Schweiz, Freiberg, Meißen and Dresden are also included. Those interested should contact:

Dr. sc. W. Reinhart
 Technische Universität Dresden
 Institut für Angewandte Sprachwissenschaft
 DDR - 8027 Dresden
 Mommsenstraße 13

by April 30, 1977. Those wishing to conduct a 15 minute individual section should send a presentation outline by March 30, 1977. It has been suggested that a collective of American teachers prepare a contribution for the IDV on "Teaching GDR Literature." The Bulletin is willing to serve as a clearinghouse to put interested persons in touch with one another. It is possible that some partial stipends will be available for participants. A limited number of conference programs are available through the GDR Bulletin.

MLA 1976 - NEW YORK

Seminar 148: GDR Prose Fiction: Critical Approaches and Model Analyses. This special session of the MLA 1976 is scheduled for Monday, December 27, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Morgan A. Hilton. Three main speakers will give oral summaries of their papers, to which three respondents will add their commentary and/or critique. As the title indicates, this seminar is concerned with the crucial issue of approaches to GDR literature, specifically, prose fiction. Three different views will be presented:

1. "Contemporary GDR Prose Writers and Their Society: Perspectives from Within" (Richard Zipser, Oberlin College/ Resp.: Kenneth Hughes, Clark University).
2. "Literature as Process. A Model Analysis of Plenzdorf's Novel Die neuen Leiden des jungen W." (Juergen Hoegl, Univer. of Ill., Urbana/ Frank Hirschbach, Univer. of Minn.).
3. "Erinnerung als geschichtsbildende Kraft" (Wulf Koepke, Texas A&M/ Theodor Langenbruch, Georgia Inst. of Technology).

Requests for copies of complete papers from prospective seminar participants are welcome and should be sent a.s.a.p. to Dr. Th. Langenbruch, Dept. of Modern Langs., Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Ga. 30332. You may expect to receive your copie before the end of November. Please enclose one dollar to cover costs of reproduction,

NOTE ON THE 1976 GDR SEMINAR WORLD FELLOWSHIP

The second annual GDR conference of the World Fellowship had as its general theme: "Images of Revolution in the Culture of the German Democratic Republic." The conference met from June 24 to July 1 in the summer location of World Fellowship near Conway, New Hampshire. Papers were given in the morning followed by a presentation or film in the evening. An informal presentation was given by Nancy Condee and Duncan Smith who had just returned from Rostock where the latter was a guest professor at the Wilhelm Pieck Universität. The central topic soon shifted to the issue of feminism and its progress or lack of progress in that country. A multi-media presenta-