



Josiah Simon is excited and honored to join the German Program at CSULB as a new faculty member! After receiving his Ph.D. in 2014 from the University of Oregon with a dissertation entitled “Franz Rosenzweig’s *Hegel and the State: Biography, History and Tragedy*,” Professor Simon was a full-time lecturer at Schreiner University, just outside of San Antonio, Texas, for one year, where he served as program coordinator for the Texas Language Consortium.

Professor Simon’s research has largely focused on the early writings of the German Jewish philosopher Franz Rosenzweig (1886-1929). This past year, he published a translation of an essay by Wolfdietrich Schmied-Kowarzik, co-founder of the International Rosenzweig Society, from German to English (“Brief Illuminations on the Dialogue between Franz Rosenzweig and Hans Ehrenberg”) and also published a foreword, together with his father Jules Simon, to the second volume of Rosenzweig’s early writings (“Foreword,” *Franz Rosenzweigs Jugendschriften 1907-1914: Philosophie - Hegel*).

Also in 2014, Professor Simon presented at the International Rosenzweig Congress in Frankfurt, Germany (“Rosenzweig’s *Hegel und der Staat* in Translation”) and in 2015 he participated in the Biennial German Jewish Studies Workshop at Duke University for the third time since it was founded in 2009 (“A Jewish-Christian Fate: On the Response to Modern Jewish Thought in Hans Ehrenberg’s *Heimkehr des Ketzers*”). In the summer of 2015, he presented at the German Summer School in Taos, New Mexico, happily returning to his old undergraduate stomping grounds (“Biographie und Geschichte: deutsches Judentum aus amerikanischer Sicht”). He is currently working on the first full-length English translation of Franz Rosenzweig’s *Hegel und der Staat*, a biographical/political narrative on the German philosopher G.W.F. Hegel.

This year at CSULB, Professor Simon will be teaching courses on contemporary German society, German Literature, German Cinema and a graduate seminar that provides a survey of German philosophy for students of literature. Through both his teaching and scholarship, he looks forward to contributing to an already active department and eagerly awaits the challenges and joys of mentoring and inspiring his students.

## Jeffrey High, German Studies



Jeffrey High is Section Chair, Graduate Program Director, and Undergraduate Advisor for German Studies at CSULB, and Resident Director of the German Summer School of New Mexico, where he has taught since 2001. He is the author of *Schillers Rebellionskonzept und die Französische Revolution* and the editor of *Schiller's Literary Prose Works. New Translations and Critical Essays*, the co-editor with Nicholas Martin and Norbert Oellers of *Who is this Schillernow?*, and the co-editor with Sophia Clark of *Heinrich von Kleist: Artistic and Political Legacies*.

In 2014, he was the faculty supervisor for the RGRL student-organized conference “Liberation, Occupation – Inspiration Bonaparte?” In 2014-15 he delivered lectures at the German Studies Association, the Modern Language Association, the CSULB Annual Comparative Literature Conference, and at the conference of the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association. He also delivered guest lectures and workshops at Arizona, Irvine, Vanderbilt, Marbach, Tübingen, Bern, Kings College London, Oxford, and Birmingham UK. Recent publications include the volume co-edited with Sophia Clark, *Heinrich von Kleist: Artistic and Political Legacies*, and the articles, “La virtud revolucionaria: Schiller, la liberación de la religión y el *Don Carlos*,” “Utterly unique? Thomas Mann and Kleist’s Novellas” (with Curtis Maughan), “The Missions of Moses and Schiller: Monotheism and the Aesthetic Civilization of the Individual,” and “‘Gehört allzuviel Güte, Leutseligkeit und grosse Freygebigkeit im engsten Verstande zur Tugend?’: Schiller, Socrates, and Secular Jesus,” “Friedrich Schiller, Secular Virtue, and ‘The Gods of Ancient Greece,’” and “Schiller, Freude, Kleist und Rache / On the German Freedom Ode.”



Dr. Nele Hempel-Lamer guest-edited a special volume of the *Journal of Austrian Studies* on “Global Austria” and presented a paper at the 2015 Austrian Studies Association Conference on “Sound-Poems, Dream-Alphabets, and Luscious Lists: Workshopping Experimental Austrian Poetry in the U.S. College Classroom.” She also gave a guest lecture at the German Summer School in Taos on the political realities of the German-American friendship and the history of the post-WWII peace movement. Since February 2015, she has been serving on the Provost’s leadership team as Interim Associate Vice President of Undergraduate Studies. In her new role—among many other activities focused on student success—she advocates for global competencies, second language proficiency, and study abroad and encourages students to maximize their education.



During the fall semester 2015, I will be teaching two courses in German Studies at CSULB. I feel that experiencing different academic cultures and getting to know various universities, departments, researchers, teachers, and students in a number of countries and contexts is an important part of a scholar's professional biography as well as a student's learning process. That is why I am very much looking forward to working with the students at CSULB. I am sure I will benefit from my visit at The Beach and the exchange with my students, and I hope to be able to provide fresh perspectives to the Program. In an undergraduate seminar, I propose to study the long tradition of German language comics. In a graduate seminar, we will study the depiction of heroes in German literature after WW2.

Born in Berlin, I studied German and Comparative Literature at Free University Berlin and in Paris. After a two-year research position in Berlin, I am currently a Lecturer at University of Bern, Switzerland. I teach a variety of topics including Goethe, Kleist, Humboldt, Kafka, and contemporary literature. I have presented numerous papers at international conferences and published a number of articles and a book on Kleist as well as an edition of his novellas. In my Ph.D. project I analyze how rebels and rebellions are depicted in post-heroic literature and culture. Also, together with a large team in Switzerland, Germany, and the US, I am working on an edition of Alexander von Humboldt's articles and essays.

## German Studies Graduate Student roster for 2015-2016

Alicia Alderson

Philip Baker

Susan Benson

Adam Davis

Madeline Foss

Jeff Jarzomb

Brenda Lamboy

William Peightal

Viktoria Pipjorke

Prisilla Sanchez

Rebecca Stewart

Asher Stolte

Josh Todarello



Graduate Students Madeline Foss (second from left), Brenda Lamboy (second from right), and Adam Davis (far right) along with Alumni Sophia Clark (far left) and Adam Merki (middle) at the German Summer School in Taos, New Mexico. Adam Merki and Brenda Lamboy will be spending the school year in Austria through the Fulbright Program. Sophia Clark is pursuing her Doctorate at Vanderbilt University. Adam Davis and Madeline Foss will be continuing their studies and Teaching Assistantships on campus at CSULB.

