

Monatshefte, Volume 100: Greetings from the Profession

We salute you on your centennial,
Monatshefte,
Witness of the changing times,
Mirror of the shifting trends,
Pillar in the scholarly quicksands,
Twentieth-century survivor!
We greet you on your hundredth birthday,
Warder of the scattered Germanists,
Those entering the field, and
Those passing through,
Those ascending, and
Those descending,
Those exiting,
Those revisiting,
And revisited.
We salute you, mighty connector,
Witness, guardian, barometer,
Friendly arbitrator.
We salute you on your birthday
Young centenarian.

—GABRIELLE BERSIER, Indiana University–Purdue University
Indianapolis

As a younger scholar in the wide field of German Studies, *Monatshefte* has consistently oriented me in the direction of the smartest, most stimulating scholarship around. It uniquely combines openness to diverse approaches and periods with the most exacting intellectual standards. I am particularly indebted to its many fine contributions over the years in my period of specialization, the long eighteenth century. But I am equally delighted by how frequently its contributions have led me “astray” into exciting new territory outside my range of expertise. In short, there has been no single better site for me to engage with the most vibrant currents of our discipline.

—ELLIOTT SCHREIBER, Vassar College

The 100th issue of *Monatshefte* is a moment for both celebrating what has been accomplished and spelling out our best wishes for what might lie ahead in the future. The journal is a place for securing and transforming the study of

German and its intellectual and literary history in an increasingly interdisciplinary debate and an increasingly international world. *Monatshefte* has been a leading force in thinking through the primary points of reference for German studies—linguistic and cultural education, literary education, the development of principles of criticism—and to propose new and challenging directions in each of these. This remains an endeavor of basic importance, even if we increasingly understand that what we might have thought of as primary entities—the identity of language and culture—are in fact places of negotiation, exchange, and dynamic change in the first place. *Monatshefte* represents this intrinsically dynamic process of culture and literature in deliberate and critically illuminating ways—as an American journal devoted to German language and literature, as a journal oriented towards education and the public audience, and, finally, as a journal offering its readers the patient work of scholarship on the one hand and the boldness of intellectual adventures on the other.

The journal distinguishes itself by offering a forum of discussion that guarantees highest standards in quality and relevance and, at the same time, is of the most liberal spirit. Due to the conceptual energy and mobility of its editors, *Monatshefte* launches new incentives for rethinking the nature of the critical act itself—recent developments such the column for revisiting 20th century positions of criticism or emphasizing the relationship between literature and culture or between literature and media are among them. By doing so in the vein of openness rather than partisanship and of experiment rather than repeating established positions, *Monatshefte* reinforces what criticism is about first and foremost. The act of criticism strives to explore the farthest reaching questions within the specificity of a given object: What makes this journal focusing on a specific language and culture indispensable is that such an interrogation of the specific is the only way to understand what the ‘inter’ means in international discussions and interdisciplinary debates.

—RÜDIGER CAMPE, Yale University

Menschen und Zeitschriften altern bekanntlich auf unterschiedliche Weisen. Dem hundertjährigen Greis mit Hörgerät, Plastiklinsen, Ersatzhüfte und künstlichem Herzen kann man nicht weitere hundert Jahre Wohlergehen wünschen, ohne dass es lächerlich oder makaber klingt. Das ist bei Zeitschriften anders. Die *Monatshefte* waren von Anfang an im besten Alter und sind seit einem halben Jahrhundert eines der international führenden germanistischen Periodika. Ich kam 1968 mit einem Fulbright Stipendium an die Indiana University in Bloomington, um dort ein Jahr lang Germanistik und Komparatistik zu studieren. Vorher hatte ich mich in den “Personalien” der *Monatshefte* über die amerikanische Germanistik kundig gemacht. Dabei stellte ich fest, dass es an den Staatsuniversitäten im Mittelwesten (Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin) riesige Deutschabteilungen gab, die jeweils etwas weniger oder etwas mehr als dreißig ProfessorInnen hatten. Das Auf und Ab dieser Abteilungen

kann man gut in den *Monatsheften* studieren, und so ist die Zeitschrift eine erstrangige Quelle für die Geschichte der Germanistik. Wo anders könnte man etwas über die jährlich erfolgten Beförderungen der KollegInnen, ihre Wechsel von einer Institution zur anderen erfahren? Gerade diese “Extras” zu den immer lesenswerten und hochkarätigen wissenschaftlichen Artikeln wie eben die “Personalien,” aber auch die über viele Jahre hin veröffentlichten “Text and Documents” oder heute die “(Re)Readings” machen das Besondere der Zeitschrift aus. Gratulation also, und für die nächsten hundert Jahre dem die *Monatshefte* herausgebenden German Department an der University of Wisconsin in Madison die besten Wünsche.

—PAUL MICHAEL LÜTZELER, Washington University in St. Louis.

I will never forget now *Monatshefte* caused in me a feeling of bad conscience and disloyalty to the small profession of German. One day in the early eighties, in a conversation with my colleague at Penn, Heinz Moenkemeyer, a specialist for Enlightenment and a certified bookworm, I pointed to the helpful book reviews and articles in *Monatshefte* and mentioned the increasingly helpful information and documentation about the state of the profession. Moenkemeyer’s response was rather unexpected. He said: “Tell me, do you support this journal?” I answered: “Of course, I do!” “Do you subscribe to *Monatshefte*?” “No, I read the Department copy.” He looked at me like a German taskmaster: “Well, my friend, you shirk your responsibility as a Germanist. Why don’t you subscribe to it yourself? They need the profession to support them. They support it too.”

Since then I claim to have supported the journal once a year by renewing my subscription. *Scherz beiseite*—I wanted to say that since then I have been impressed by the fact that *Monatshefte*, in the words of its former editor, Cora Lee Kluge (Nollendorfs), “is not attached to or supported by a professional organization and its membership.” (*German Studies in the United States*, 2003, p. 358) It shares this independence with *New German Critique* while the other scholarly pillars of German in the U.S., *The German Quarterly*, *Die Unterrichtspraxis*, and *German Studies Review*, can rely on the AATG and the German Studies Association. Whom can *Monatshefte* rely on, except for the German-American work ethic of its editors?

It hasn’t just been the subscribers—I hope not. It rather has been the profession of German in the U.S. in general, to which I have to add: it has been the profession as *Monatshefte* itself has shaped it in the course of many years of supplying a high standard of scholarship and raising the professional consciousness. In other words, with its highly advanced and reliable self-reflection and documentation since the 1970s, *Monatshefte* can be credited of having contributed enormously to the awakening of the field of German as an American discipline that can stand on its own feet, though somewhat wobbly, keeping a respectable place in the American academy, helping new generations of American scholars find their voice.

With the late eighties and early nineties, it seems to me, this working relationship shifted, as the requirements for organizational structures and directives increased dramatically, moving the interdisciplinary German Studies Association into the center of professional reflection and guidance. *Monatshefte* did not lose its role as the premier journal for German literary criticism in the U.S. But it has been seen and used more specifically in this particular role—as a gatekeeper of inspiring scholarship in all aspects of German literary culture since the middle ages while others pursue more interdisciplinary, pedagogical, and theoretical venues. This way the journal adds to the diversity of the field of German, allows more bridges to German Germanistik.

And it helps understand what it means that this journal had another strong supporter that really deserves the praise as the basis for its intellectual and institutional continuity at this anniversary: the German Department at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Seen from the outside, the Department was certainly at the height of its influence on American Germanistik in the 1970s and 1980s when *Monatshefte* gained its strongest profile. And yet, the two were clearly not the same. While “Madison” helped shape a new critical discourse on Germany and German literature, the journal learned to draw consequences from the needs and pragmatics of a large German department. Thus it was able to keep its osmotic link to the profession at large, not only its critical core. My wish is that its independence, so well established in many decades, can be maintained on all levels—which also requires new subscriptions, I guess.

—FRANK TROMMLER, University of Pennsylvania

Mir sind die *Monatshefte* seit Studienzeiten ein unentbehrlicher wissenschaftlicher Begleiter. Ich habe mir damals schon angewöhnt, die neuen Hefte regelmäßig durchzuschauen. Das hat sich bis heute nicht geändert. Die *Monatshefte* vermitteln zwischen der europäischen/deutschen und der amerikanischen Germanistik. Es hat einen hohen symbolischen Wert, dass sie ihren deutschsprachigen Titel mit Untertitel (wenngleich der sinnvoll modifiziert wurde) beibehalten haben. Wichtig ist auch, dass die Artikel in beiden Sprachen abgefasst werden können und dass das Deutsche dabei nicht ins Hintertreffen zu geraten scheint. Die Zeitschrift ist methodisch und theoretisch offen; aber sie gibt dabei nicht leichtfertig und gar modisch auf, dass Literaturwissenschaft doch die Wissenschaft von der Literatur zu sein hat. Auch der Rezensionsteil wird mit der Sorgfalt gemacht, die nötig ist, wenn ein solcher Teil überhaupt Sinn haben soll. Ich kann es eigentlich kurz machen: Die Zeitschrift zählt für mich zu den acht bis zehn germanistischen Zeitschriften, die ich nenne, wenn ich nach den wichtigsten gefragt werde.

—WOLFGANG BRAUNGART, Universität Bielefeld

I had no idea that *Monatshefte* was such a grand old lady! Everyone knows the journal has been the flagship of American Germanistik practically since its beginning. Though it began as an effort by Germans to keep in touch with and contribute to things German in a geographical area with heavy German representation (the mid-West in general, not just Wisconsin), it very quickly addressed itself to a national scholarly audience and, most important, was not satisfied with simply replicating the German journals of the day. It has been open to American thinking and English-language scholarship practically from the beginning and has been a prime venue for younger scholars to present and establish themselves in the profession. Not the least of *Monatshefte's* valuable and enduring (long since historically important) service has been its ongoing collection of data about the profession in America: the "Personalia," the compilations of completed dissertations, the periodic surveys, and, in recent years, the directories it has produced in cooperation with DAAD. The *Monatshefte* has been a magnificent undertaking and deserves its hundred kudos! (I should add the Wisconsin Department as a whole to the congratulations.)

—THOMAS P. SAINÉ, University of California, Irvine

The longest appearing major journal devoted to the study of German in the United States, *Monatshefte* has been an invaluable research and informational tool to Germanisten at all levels. Published by the University of Wisconsin Press independent of a professional organization such as AATG, GSA, or MALCA, *Monatshefte* is dependent upon reader subscriptions. The journal's success is proof of its excellence. Indeed, since its inception in 1899, *Monatshefte* has contributed to and shaped the concerns and debates of German Studies as the field evolved in the North American context. In keeping with the developments of the larger profession, *Monatshefte* transformed itself from a pedagogical journal for German-American teachers into an academic quarterly on literature and culture. Yet, as a recent special volume *Teaching German in Twentieth-Century America* (1996) with contributions by notable teacher/scholars in German Studies reveals, teaching has remained central to the mission of *Monatshefte* and its authors and readers. While *Monatshefte* presents original research on particular themes, authors, and topics from year to year, the collected volumes can be read as a survey of German Studies in the US. They illuminate the exponential intellectual expansion of the field through the advent of exiled scholars from Nazi Germany and Austria, they show a more careful approach to literary criticism during the McCarthy era, a renewed vitality inspired by theoretical impulses emanating from 1960s Germany, and further reorientations through feminist, postcolonial, and post-Wende debates. Yet, *Monatshefte* has never become trendy or ceased paying attention to particular periods of German literature,

rather the journal has retained its wide scope, its intellectual integrity, and the spirit of inclusiveness that have ensured its success for a century.

—DAGMAR C. G. LORENZ, University of Illinois at Chicago

A century of intellectual exchange transcending the boundaries of nations and cultures in a 'continual and fearless' endeavour has given shape to *Monatshefte*. They are an excellent resource and deserve well their illustrious position as the hallmark of American Germanistik. Auf weitere hundert Jahre!

—GERHARD KURZ, Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen

In the long and complex history of German studies in the United States the journal *Monatshefte* has played a truly important role. Its hundred volumes are testimony for the professional continuity and strength of our discipline. For any one with a sense of history and tradition the journal has a very special status in our professional memory as the voice of German Studies in the United States. For a century, *Monatshefte* has been an important bridge between German literature and culture and the American academy. Therefore our profession owes a great deal to a journal that has consistently favored dialog and supported substantial discussion. We could not do without *Monatshefte*.

—PETER UWE HÖHENDAHL, Cornell University

That academic journals can last for a century is certainly not unheard of, but there is something very distinctive about *Monatshefte*, namely its historical situation in the complex history of German-American cultural and political exchange, rooted in the great waves of immigration and settlement in the upper Midwest. But it is not so much this long and important story that captures my particular sense of *Monatshefte*, for my relation with the journal goes back only decades. In that span, however, I have found the journal a trustworthy locus not only for extensive and apt reviews of current scholarship in all the areas of German Studies, so that I can develop a confident sense of the state of the various fields by a consistent consultation of these reviews, but much more, the articles of the journal have spoken directly to my own research concerns. Not only has the journal published recently a special issue on Johann Gottfried Herder, a main concern of my own work, it has also published several remarkable papers on the emergence of life science in the epoch of German Idealism and Romanticism, the topic of my current study, and something that one might expect to find only in more specialized journals. In short, *Monatshefte* speaks to a very wide sense of what German Studies has become, and I welcome its breadth as much as its depth of coverage.

—JOHN A. ZAMMITO, Rice University

The hundredth volume of *Monatshefte* is an extraordinary milestone, even though the journal itself has already passed its centenary. First published in 1899, it occupies a crucial position in the study of German culture in the United States, addressing a broader range of constituencies than do competing publications. It brings German Studies into a public sphere beyond academic specialization. Indeed in our current era of transformation in university life, in which ever greater attention is being paid to teaching, *Monatshefte* can be proud of its consistent ability to integrate scholarship and pedagogy. Perhaps longevity alone is no virtue, but one can only admire the perseverance and dedication that animates the journal, with its roots in the nineteenth century and now flourishing in the twenty-first. How rare this is in American scholarly life. *Monatshefte* is a success story in the history of literary and cultural scholarship in the United States, and may it remain a success story in the future.

—RUSSELL A. BERMAN, Stanford University

I know of no other journal that is as inviting to authors as *Monatshefte*. *Monatshefte* does not confront its authors with a ready-made position or philosophy to which one needs to succumb. Rather, *Monatshefte* provides a platform from which positions can be found, established, heard. It is a site where debate is not a routine or form, but something that occurs in often unexpected ways. And some of these debates become true queries. Take the famous “(Re)Reading” Series that asks scholars to write about the classics of our field. Many of these reviews are little adventures in themselves in which the reviewers almost seem to get lost in the richness of these old though not outdated books. Take two of the reviews together and you seem to have two pieces of a treasure map and you start to wonder which map, if any, is the right one and leads you to the box of jewels. For me, the “(Re)Reading” Series encapsulates what *Monatshefte* in general does: it gives you pieces of maps without forcing you to follow the main trail. There are always side trails, there are always other thoughts to be had. Thus, in a wonderful way, *Monatshefte* escapes from dogmatism on the one hand and from fashion-driven predictability on the other. My toast goes to the next 100 volumes.

—FRITZ BREITHAAPT, Indiana University

To congratulate *Monatshefte* for its hundredth volume is for me a matter of both inclination and duty. The inclination is the natural one of joining in the celebration of the long life of one of the most important journals in our field. The duty is to acknowledge its importance to my welfare. *Monatshefte* published my first paper, when I was still a graduate student forty-eight years ago. Graduate student publication was less common than it has become today, and I have reason to think that it was advantageous to my progress. At the same time *Monatshefte* bears some responsibility for helping to launch an

exceptionally callow youth on an academic career. Over the years I have published three more, I hope, better papers in the journal, along with twenty-four book reviews.

The early days of *Monatshefte* have been treated by the reformers in our field quite severely, charging it with propagating German nationalism and the superiority of German literature and culture over our own and others. These concerns are deserving of attention in the history of our field, though I think that the attacks on our traditions mounted in recent times can sometimes be overwrought. However that may be, *Monatshefte* has matured into a leading and indispensable organ of the best work in the field.

Its value is enhanced by its annual personalia information, which I have frequently had occasion to consult not only in the current issues, but in older ones well back in the past. The lists of doctoral dissertations have been particularly valuable to me; I have eagerly consulted them for prospects for my *North American Studies in Nineteenth-Century German Literature*, soon to be concluded with forty-two volumes. A splendid initiative was the publication at intervals of the *Directory of German Studies*; my copies get well worn with use. I certainly hope it will be possible to publish future volumes. These resources are created by the selfless service of colleagues with little or no reward or even acknowledgment.

Monatshefte is the only journal in our field not associated with a “learned society” to which I now subscribe. I am confident that its next hundred years will be equally distinguished.

—JEFFREY L. SAMMONS, Yale University

I write on the occasion of *Monatshefte*'s 100th volume to congratulate the editors, staff, and authors who have contributed to this important journal over the years. *Monatshefte* belongs to a tiny handful of journals that have shaped our profession at every stage of its development; it is in fact hard to imagine North American *Germanistik* without it. Many happy returns!

—MICHAEL JENNINGS, Princeton University

Lange bevor in der Bundesrepublik die Kür von Elite-Universitäten auf der Tagesordnung stand, erwarb die University of Wisconsin–Madison unter den staatlichen Universitäten Amerikas den respektablen zweiten Platz und erzielte insgesamt auf nationaler Ebene in vielen Bereichen—gewiss auch in dem der Germanistik—einen Platz unter den Top Ten. Dafür sprechen allein schon die Namen der am Department für Deutsche Literatur tätigen amerikanischen Germanisten Jost Hermand (der Madison einem Ruf nach Harvard vorgezogen hat), Reinhold Grimm, Klaus L. Berghahn, Hans Adler oder Marc Silberman. Zu ihrem weltweiten Renommee trug neben den Veröffentlichungen entscheidend ihre Zeitschrift *Monatshefte* bei. Die mutige linksliberale Offenheit der Herausgeber und Beiträger stellt in den Vereinigten Staaten angesichts des

beträchtlichen Einflusses evangelikaler Fundamentalisten eine unverzichtbare säkulare Stimme und Mittlerin europäischer Kultur dar. Gerade in Zeiten, in denen die deutsche Sprache in den USA an Boden verliert, erscheint eine für die deutsche Kultur und für aktuelle Fragen des interkulturellen Austauschs aufgeschlossene Zeitschrift notwendiger denn je.

Zu ihrem 100. Band meine respektvolle Gratulation mit den besten Wünschen *ad multos annos!*

—MANFRED BEETZ, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg

Since I was a natural science major as an undergraduate, I never had heard of *Monatshefte* until I enrolled at the University of Wisconsin in 1973. At first as an MA candidate in Comparative Literature, but more intensely as a graduate student in the German Department, I, along with other students, gradually came to know well the office on the 8th floor of Van Hise Hall that housed the journal, and we came to appreciate the way in which it contributed to the life of the department and the profession.

For over a hundred years and now going into its centennial volume, *Monatshefte* has been an excellent and accurate barometer for the business of *Germanistik*. Indeed, one can trace the evolution of the discipline from the modification in the subtitle over the years.

It is an honor for me to have my first publication in *Monatshefte* (a short book review), and I wish the journal well as on its milestone achievement of volume 100.

—ROBER HOLUB, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Throughout its long and illustrious publication history, *Monatshefte* has been an invaluable forum of ideas for scholars of German Literature and German Studies. It has published first-rate articles by established scholars as well as cutting edge research by junior colleagues. While *Monatshefte* has always welcomed new approaches to criticism, it has resisted mere trendiness. Its rigorous standards of peer review have insured a consistently high quality of contributions. I am very much looking forward to seeing its centenary issue.

—AZADE SEYHAN, Bryn Mawr College

It is difficult to celebrate, let alone quantify journals, but the bound copies of *Monatshefte* take up roughly 26 linear feet of shelf space—*eine stolze Zahl*.

Volume I (December 1899–November 1900) of the *Pädagogische Monatshefte* drew me into the spirit of *Aufbruch* of the journal's *Gründerzeit*, especially as I read the assertions of Max Griebisch in his introductory "Was wir wollen." And: I met familiar names from Cincinnati—a laudatory poem "Goethe" by Cincinnati's Heinrich Fick, the man who single handedly collected that era's German-American imprints, thus establishing the core of what is the rich German Americana Collection of the University of Cincinnati. In

each number of that first year, Cincinnati's German teachers, along with those of other cities and nations (to include Cuba!), reported on their pedagogical efforts, a pattern of documentation that continued for many years in the pages of *Monatshefte*.

With volume XX (1928), of course, the name changed to *Monatshefte für deutschen Unterricht*, a shift marking the resumption of publication after years as a *Jahrbuch* (from 1920 to 1926).

Since then, of course, *Monatshefte* has set the standard—all 26 feet of it!—and like his predecessors Hans Adler deserves *herzlichen Dank* for maintaining this legacy of published scholarship.

I count myself honored by having my work and a few reviews published in *Monatshefte*. As a member of the editorial board of *The German Quarterly* and as the current managing editor of the *Lessing Yearbook*, I know full well what it means to “put out” a journal of the sustained quality of *Monatshefte*. It is certainly not the linear feet that are the *Maßstab* of quality, it is the endless hours put in to orchestrating the process of publication from raw manuscript to the printed pages. So maybe time, rather than 26 linear feet, should be the measure: one hundred years, multiplied, however, by hours and hours of selfless service to the profession.

Immer weiter so!

—RICHARD E. SCHADE, University of Cincinnati

Monatshefte, an eminently reputable, distinguished journal that has withstood the test of time and, for a conflict-laden century, has been offering—apart from eminently useful information of a professional nature—a wealth of easily accessible scholarly contributions on German literature and culture in the broadest sense. There can be no doubt that *Monatshefte* must be counted among the preeminent publications in our field of *Germanistik*/German Studies; as a cursory look at the table of contents of almost any recent issue reveals, the influence and reputation of *Monatshefte* extend far beyond the United States via attracting contributions from afar. As, perhaps, neither a punctiliously regular nor a particularly diligent reader of *Monatshefte* for more than forty years, I nevertheless would not want to miss having recourse to such a trove of collective and collected knowledge—testimony to the diligence and expertise of the various editors throughout the decades. Congratulations are in order to all those who have contributed to making *Monatshefte* a success story; may the journal continue to flourish for the next hundred years!

—SIEGFRIED MEWS, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

It is difficult now, after all that has happened, to imagine the spirit of optimism of the time in which *Monatshefte* was conceived. Persons no less than the American President Theodore Roosevelt and the German Kaiser Wilhelm II were publicly committed to fostering intellectual connections between the

academic communities in their respective countries. German had become the international language of science and technology and, as the very title of our journal suggests, learning it was regarded as vital to participating in the modern world. Even though the linguistic roles have been reversed in the meantime, *Monatshefte* stands as testimony to the long history of cultural relations between the United States and Germany. May it continue to do so for another hundred years and more.

—ROBERT E. NORTON, University of Notre Dame

In Lieu of Balloons and a Cake

One hundred years ago, the leading Germanist in America, Kuno Francke, Professor of German at Harvard, was a paid agent of the Imperial German government. Philology—from linguistics to the study of literature—was German as were fields as diverse as radical theology and the newly invented academic arena of the social sciences from economics to sociology. German was a de facto requirement of all medical and science programs in the United States—even though (because?) the medical schools were third-rate and about to be radically reformed after the Humboldtian model in 1908 by a second-generation German Jew, Abraham Flexner. German-trained scientists held many of the professorships in these fields at American universities. German was not a reading requirement that showed that you could translate a page in an hour with a dictionary—it was a question of existence: no German, no scholarship; no German, no training. A mere hundred years ago . . . German was really important in American scholarship.

And *Monatshefte* came on the scene. Not at Harvard where Imperial German culture held sway or at Johns Hopkins, that first real attempt to recreate the Humboldtian ideal of the university in North America, but at the University of Wisconsin, on Frederick Jackson Turner's (just vanished) frontier. Among scholars whose students were not merely heritage speakers but often the children of radicals whose presence in the Mid-West was the result of great historical shifts as well as economic desire. *Monatshefte* spoke to them as part of their culture as well as their political heritage. A mere hundred years ago . . . German was really important in American life.

Scholars read *Monatshefte*. They read it in Berlin (before its name was changed to Kitchener) and in Berlin (before it became associated with the new Weimar). It was an organ of scholarship but tied to the teaching of German as part of a cultural legacy understood in the United States (even after 1918) as central to that of the “educated citizen.” German newspapers flourished; German preachers still gathered audiences, but the central space for this education was the university, the great public land grant universities, which remade America in the twentieth century into the land of the melting pot as well as the salad bowl, an America of multiculturalism and hybridity, of cultural pluralism and English-first and only. But these debates about an American identity took

place in that great engine of social change, the university, a university shaped by the impetus coming from the German ideal of education. A notion which reached from the cradle (or at least the Kindergarten) to the—well you know. A mere hundred years ago . . . German was really important in shaping how we thought about American identity.

A hundred years ago German scholarship was a central aspect of American and global culture. All through it *Monatshefte* was and is a presence. A hundred years young: Happy birthday, *Monatshefte*.

—SANDER GILMAN, Emory University