

## Sonja Rae Fritzsche

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### ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

**Associate Dean of Academic Personnel and Administration**  
College of Arts and Letters, Michigan State University

2017 - present  
Jan-Aug 2017 (50% time)

Central administrative resource for chairs and directors in areas of personnel and resources in a College with 9 Departments, 17 interdisciplinary centers and programs, 24 majors, 38 minors, 410 faculty and academic staff, 1800 undergraduate and 300 graduate students in seven campus buildings. Oversee the College reappointment, promotion and tenure processes for all faculty and academic staff. Advise the Dean on hiring and strategic planning decisions and in the areas of faculty personnel and salary policies, faculty misconduct, corrective actions, and grievances. Oversee all faculty/academic staff and chair searches, supervise processing of job descriptions and offer letters. Responsible for College faculty development initiatives.

### Significant achievements

- Organizational Development
  - Established infrastructure of College-level academic HR policies and base-line data reports and dashboard for evidence-based strategic decision making guided by values-based leadership.
  - Help to implement the [Culture of Care Initiatives](#) and the [Cultivating Your Path to Intellectual Leadership](#) Initiative with the goal of College community/communication building and strengthening of faculty and staff shared governance structures
  - Developed new promotion pathways for non-tenure stream faculty including as ex-officio with College Advisory Committee Task Force on Non-Tenure Stream Career Pathways.
  - Led Undergraduate Education in the College from AY 2017-2019 - Oversaw all matters involving curriculum, new undergraduate initiatives, interdisciplinary majors and the Center for Integrative Studies in the Arts and Humanities; academic program review and assessment; oversaw and served ex-officio on the College Curriculum Council (CCC); Facilitated the creation of and implemented the new College experiential learning requirement via the CCC. Helped to create new Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies position in the College.
  - Established the College Undergraduate Committee to provide a space for best practices discussions of teaching and learning and student success;
  - Co-Organizer of College's Arts & Humanities Extension Task Force Collaborative with MSU Extension in College of Agricultural and Natural Resources, Spring 2019 – present.
  - Contributed to hybrid centralization of College administrative support staff AY 2020-21 for efficiency and greater communication and performance, with particular focus on the HR Team reorganization.
- Faculty Development
  - Revised and expanded College New Faculty Orientation Series and collaborative workshops on research/teaching and learning and support for faculty and academic specialists at all stages of their careers.
  - Established the College New and Newish Administrators Meeting Series; Created the College Academic Administrators Onboarding Handbook.

- Established the College Faculty Leadership Fellows Program for up & coming leaders within units for both tenure stream and non-tenure stream faculty and academic staff.
- Established the College Mentoring Fellows Program for both tenure stream and non-tenure stream and academic staff.
- Diversity Initiatives in the College with initial focus on faculty searches and mentoring
  - Ex-officio and organization of the College Inclusive Practices Initiative Committee
  - Creation of and implementation of Inclusive Pedagogy Initiative with faculty committee
  - MSU Academic Advancement Network Learning Community Co-facilitator “Anti-Racist Strategies for Teaching, Learning, and Faculty Development Efforts.” AY 2020-21
- University Leadership
  - Founder and Co-chair of the University [Council of Faculty Affairs Associate Deans](#) (2018-2020), Member 2020-present.
  - Co-Organizer of the University [Education 2035](#) Initiative – multidisciplinary, cross-campus conversations on the Future of Artificial Intelligence and Teaching and Learning with Prof. Andrew Christlieb, Department of Computational Mathematics, Science and Engineering (CMSE) AY 2018-Fall 2019.
  - University Service includes –
    - AY 20-21: Member of the Provost’s Working Group on Best Practices for Risk Management Involving Faculty Activities, MSU Remote Work Initiative Task Force Co-Lead, Search Committee Member and Affirmative Action Co-Representative for the MSU Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer position, Member of Provost’s Task Force for Faculty Presence on Campus, Member of Human Resources Sub-Committee of the Campus Re-opening and University Progressive Planning Task Force COVID-19, Member of new MSU Council of Diversity Deans;
    - AY 19-20: Co-Chair of MSU Education Abroad Program Innovation & Quality Workgroup, Member of MSU Engaged Scholarship Advisory Council,
    - AY 18-19: Member of new Council of Undergraduate Associate Deans, Student Success Committee of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education Office, Co-Curricular Record Committee “My Spartan Story”, Block/Flat Rate Tuition Implementation Committee - Academics Workgroup, Student Academic Probation Appeals Committee;
    - AY 17-18: Search Committee for MSU Assistant Dean for Student Success Initiatives/ Director of the Neighborhood Student Success Collaborative

**Chairperson** – Department of Linguistics & Germanic, Slavic, Asian, & African Languages 2015-2017 Michigan State University

Oversaw department with budget of \$4.5M, 50 faculty members (32 tenure stream) with two PhD programs, three MA programs, six undergraduate majors, ten minors, and a nationally-recognized Less Commonly Taught Language (LCTL) and African Languages program. In 2016, there were 346 majors/661 minors. Primary responsibilities included budget management, personnel (searches, hiring/immigration, promotion and tenure, annual review and merit raise processes) and faculty mentoring, course scheduling (F2F, hybrid, and online), coordination with the Associate Chair, Department Advisory Committee, three Graduate Studies Directors, program coordinators, seven staff and an undergraduate advisor, Department website, social media, and newsletter, fundraising and alumni relations, campus and external networking, department conflict resolution, maintenance of department documents online.

### **Significant achievements**

- Helped raise \$800,000 for the German and Linguistics Programs and organized the first Department Alumni Reunion
- Completed overhaul and launching of the new Department website
- Organized and completed an Academic Program Review for the Dean/Provost's Office
- Created a Department Strategic Plan, Department online course strategy and LCTL business plan
- Streamlined staff procedures to improve communication and transparency
- University/College Service: Served on the College of Arts and Letters Dean's Language School Exploratory Task Force and Action Committee, Served on the MSU Confucius Institute Review Committee

**Chairperson** – Department of German, Russian and Asian Languages Spring 2014-2015

**Chairperson** – Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures Spring 2008-Fall 2008

**Co-Chairperson** – Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures Fall 2007, Fall 2009-Spring 2012  
Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL

Oversaw department of eight faculty with four undergraduate majors and six minors; as Co-Chair oversaw Chinese, German, Japanese, and Russian as well as department duties. 3/2 load as chair.

#### **Significant achievements**

- Secured external funding of over \$200,000 in two grants from the Department of Education and Hanban as co-Principal Investigator to support a pilot Mandarin Chinese program
- Organized and completed Departmental Self-Study/External Review
- Coordinated and implemented departmental assessment plans
- Conducted multiple visiting faculty searches, Overhaul of the German Studies Curriculum
- University and Department Service: Chaired the Teaching and Learning with Technology Roundtable, Acting Chair and served on the Implementation Committee for the University's Mellon Foundation Humanities Grant (\$300,000), Served on the Faculty Hearing Committee, Campus Safety Committee, School of Music Piano Faculty Search Committee, Study Abroad Committee, Internship Committee, University Speakers Committee, "Literature and Culture" Course Rubric Coordinator, May Term in Bremen Coordinator, Co-organizer of and Faculty Liaison for the new Language House, Co-Organizer of National German Undergraduate Research Conference, University Film Series

**German Studies Section Coordinator** – Illinois Wesleyan University 2005-2007, Spring 2008-2015

**Language Resource Center Coordinator** – Illinois Wesleyan University 2012-2014

**Russian and East European Studies Team Coordinator** 2002, 2003-2004, 2005-2007, 2009-2015  
International Studies Program – Illinois Wesleyan University

**Campus Fulbright Coordinator** – Illinois Wesleyan University 2003-2011

**First Year Student Advisor** – Illinois Wesleyan University 2002-2003, 2005-2008, 2009-2015

#### **FACULTY EXPERIENCE**

**Professor of German Studies** – Dept. of Linguistics & Germanic, Slavic, Asian, & African Languages, Michigan State University 2015–present

**Dozentin** – Freie Universität Berlin internationale Sommerschule (FUBiS) July/August 2015

**Professor of German & Eastern European Studies** – Dept. of German, Russian & Asian Languages, Illinois Wesleyan University (IWU), Bloomington, IL 2014-2015

**Associate Professor of German & Eastern European Studies** – Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, Illinois Wesleyan University 2007-2014

**Assistant Professor of German & Eastern European Studies** – Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, Illinois Wesleyan University 2001-2007

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. **University of Minnesota** – Germanic Studies with History as external field 2001

M.A. **University of California, Los Angeles** – Modern European History 1995

B.A. **Indiana University** – German and History 1992

## CURRENT PROJECTS

Article. Under review “Fascist drag: Playing Nazi in *Iron Sky*.” 1-29.

In Progress. Co-edited collection and Introduction with Keren Omry, Wendy Pearson, and Lisa Yaszek. *The Routledge Companion to Gender and Science Fiction*. Routledge, expected 2023.

In Progress. Article project with Melissa Elliot. “The East German Disco Film: From Solidarity Short to Music Video.” Will submit August 2021.

In Progress. “Teaching ‘From Utopia to Science Fiction: Imagining the Future in Russia and Germany’” preliminary acceptance for “Canonicity and Prestige section” in the MLA’s *Science Fiction in the Literature Classroom* (2022).

In Progress. “The Transformative Power of Play in Johanna and Günter Braun’s *Conviva Ludibundus*.”

## BOOKS

3. Co-edited collection and Introduction with Anindita Banerjee. *Science Fiction Circuits of the South and East*. World Science Fiction Series. Peter Lang Oxford, 2018.  
(Reviewed by *SFRA Review* 2020, *Science Fiction Studies* 2020).

2. Editor and Introduction, *The Liverpool Companion to World Science Fiction Film*. Liverpool Science Fiction Texts and Studies 47. Liverpool University Press, 2014. Paperback edition 2021.  
(Quoted in *New York Times*, 21 Aug 2014: C1. Reviewed by *SFRA Review* 2015, *Science Fiction Studies* 2015, *ReS Futurae* France 2015, *Zeitschrift für Fantastikforschung* Germany 2015, *Foundation* 2016).

1. *Science Fiction Literature in East Germany*. DDR Studien/East German Studies Series 15. Bern; Oxford: Peter Lang, 2006.  
(Reviewed by *Germanistik* 2007, *Utopian Studies* 2008, *Science Fiction Studies* 2008, *Futhark. Revista de investigación y cultura* 2008, *German Studies Review* 2009). Available since 2018 as an Open Educational Resource: <https://www.peterlang.com/view/title/9841>

Forthcoming. Chapter 2 “German Science Fiction Before 1949” translated and published in the Chinese academic journal *Tansuo yu Piping* (Inquiry and Criticism) Summer 2021.

### BOOK CHAPTERS and JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

17. Forthcoming spring 2022. “Transformative Listening For Chairs: Navigating Difficult Conversations To Bring About Change.” *ADE/ADFL Bulletin*. 1-20.
16. Forthcoming Invited Introduction. “German SF in Translation.” for *Out of this World: Science Fiction in Translation From the Cold War to the New Millennium*. By Rachel Cordasco. U of Illinois Press, 2021. 1-4.
15. ---, Paul Kincaid, Adam Roberts. “Whose History is it Anyway?” Roundtable on *The Cambridge History of Science Fiction* (2019). *Foundation. The International Review of Science Fiction*. 137, 49:3 (Winter 2020): 85-100.
14. “When Did You Last Read A Non-American Author?” Invited essay for the sixtieth anniversary issue. *Extrapolation* 60.2 (Fall 2019): 103.
13. “Dreaming of ‘Cosmic Culture’ in *The Silent Star*.” *Re-imagining DEFA. East German Cinema in its National and Transnational Contexts*. Ed. Sean Allan and Sebastian Heiduschke. Berghahn Books, 2016. 210-226.
  - Forthcoming reprint in *SF Media Across Russia and Eastern Europe*. Edited by Anindita Banerjee. Expected 2022.
12. “Eco-Eschbach – Sustainability in the Science Fiction of Andreas Eschbach.” In *Detectives, Dystopias, and Poplit*. Vibeke Petersen, Alison Guenther-Pal, and Bruce Campbell, eds. *Studies in Modern German Genre Fiction*. Camden, 2014. 67-87.
11. “‘Keep the Home Fires Burning’: Fairy Tale Heroes and Heroines in an East German *Heimat*.” *German Politics and Society* 30.4 (Winter 2012): 45-72.
10. “Science Fiction in Western Europe.” Invited essay. *Sense of Wonder. A Century of Science Fiction*. Ed. Leigh Grossman. Wildside Press, 2011. 355-357.
9. “‘Once Upon a Heimat’: Fairy Tale Film as East German Homeland.” Trans. Vitaliy Bezrogov. *Constructing Childhood: Literature, History, Anthropology* (in Russian) (*Konstruiruia detskoe: philologiia, istoriia, antropologiia*). M. Balina, V. Bezrogov, S. Sheridan, eds. Moscow/Tver’: Rossiiskii Gosudarstvennyi Gumanitarnyi Universitet (Russian State University for the Humanities), 2011. 311-320.
8. “A Natural and Artificial Homeland: East German Science Fiction Film Responds to Kubrick and Tarkovsky.” Special issue “Visions of Science and Technology in Film.” *Film & History* 40.2 (Fall 2010): 80-101.
  - Reprint and translation as “Homeland Earth and the Other: *2001*, *Solaris*, and *Eolomea* in Dialogue/A Pátria Terra E O Outro. *2001*, *Olaris* y *Eolomea* em diálogo.” Trans. Roberto de Sousa Causo in *Cartographies for World Science Fiction* (in Portuguese) (*Cartografias para a Ficção Científica Mundial*) ed. Alfredo Luiz Suppia. Brazil: UFJF University Press, 2017. 41-55.

7. "The Continuities of an East German Heimat: Gender and Technological Progress in *Du bist min. Ein deutsches Tagebuch*." *German Quarterly* 83.2 (Spring 2010): 172-188.
6. "Science fiction is an international genre." Invited essay for the fiftieth anniversary issue. *Extrapolation* 50.1 (Spring 2009): 15-16.
5. —, Esther Dischereit, and Jennifer Good. "Esther Dischereit, Self-Interview – Based on a Conversation with Sonja Fritzsche and Jennifer Good." *Women in German Yearbook* (now *Feminist German Studies*) 23 (2007): 1-9.
  - Reprinted. German original/translation. In Esther Dischereit. *Mama, Darf Ich das Deutschlandlied Singen*. Vienna: Mandelbaum Verlag, 2020.
4. "Utopia, Dystopia, and Ostalgia: The Pre- and Post-Unification Visions of East German Science Fiction Writer Alexander Kröger." *Utopian Studies* 17.3 (Winter 2006): 441-464.
3. "Reading Ursula Le Guin in East Germany." 47.3 *Extrapolation* (Winter 2006): 471-487.
2. "East Germany's *Werkstatt Zukunft*: Futurology and the Science Fiction Films of *defa-futurum*." *German Studies Review* 29:2 (May 2006): 367-386.
1. "Reconceptualizing East German Popular Literature via the Science Fiction Niche." *German Quarterly* 77.4 (2004): 443-461.

## AWARDS/GRANTS

### **Co-PI – Big Ten Academic Alliance Less Commonly Taught Language Partnership Grant – Phase II** 2019-2023

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Higher Education Program (\$2.5 Million). PI Christopher P. Long, Co-PIs Gordon Henry, Felix Kronenberg, Co-I Emily Uebel and Koenraad van Gorp. Foster sustainable collaboration across the Big Ten in the area of less commonly taught languages with an emphasis on Indigenous language.

### **PI – Promoting Accessible Teaching and Learning Through Faculty Accessibility Fellows Program** 2019-2021

MSU Creating Inclusive Excellence Grant, (\$32,000), Co-PIs Kate Sonka, Steven Thomas, Jeremy van Hof, Bump Halbritter, Leslie Johnson. Collaboration across College of Arts & Letters, Broad College of Business, College of Natural Sciences, and Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities

### **Big Ten Academic Alliance Academic Leadership Program Fellow – MSU** 2017-2018

### **Big Ten Academic Alliance Department Executive Officer (DEO) Fellow – MSU** 2016

### **IWU Mellon "Recentering the Humanities" Student Conference Grant** 2014, 2015, 2016, & 2017 National German Undergraduate Research Conference created and held at IWU with Adam Woodis.

### **German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Grant, National German Undergraduate Research Conference at IWU, with Adam Woodis.** 2013



- IWU Mellon “Integrating Writing and Information Literacy” Course Revision Small Grant** 2014-2015
- IWU Artistic and Scholarly Development Grants** 2002, 2004, 2007, 2009, 2014
- IWU Mellon Recentering the Humanities Research Assistant Grant** 2013
- IWU Mellon Integrating Writing & Information Literacy Course Revision Large Grant** 2012-13
- Delta Phi Alpha German Chapter Grant**, National German Undergraduate Research Conference, IWU 2012
- Co-PI – Hanban/Chinese Language Council International**, Co-PIs Teddy Amoloza, Tao Jin, Tom Lutze Funding for Chinese Language Instructor at Illinois Wesleyan University. 2011-2013
- Co-PI – Strengthening Asian Studies at IWU: Language, Curriculum, Faculty Visits and Institutional Linkages**, U. S. Department of Education Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program (UISFL), (\$161,843 grant) PI Teodora Amaloza, Co-PIs Tom Lutze, Tao Jin. 2010-2012
- IWU Writing Course Development Grants** 2009, 2011-2012
- Student Senate Nomination for Professor of the Year**, Illinois Wesleyan University 2011
- IWU Curriculum Development Grants** 2002, 2005 (with Julie Prandi), 2007, 2009, 2011
- IWU International Office Site Visit Grants** 2007, 2009, 2011
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Summer Re-invitation Grant** Humboldt Universität, Berlin 2009
- IWU Instructional Development (ID) Grants** 2007, 2008
- Co-PI – Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program Grant**, Co-PI Marina Balina Hosted Visiting Professor & Yiddish scholar Valery Dymshits, European University of St. Petersburg Fall 2006
- Arthur O. Lewis Award** – Society for Utopian Studies, Best Paper by a Younger Scholar Published as: "Utopia, Dystopia and Ostalgia: The Pre- and Post-Unification Visions of East German Science Fiction Writer Alexander Kröger." *Utopian Studies Journal* 2004
- IWU Junior Faculty Leave** (campus-wide competition) Fall 2004
- Fulbright German Studies Seminar** "Visual Culture in Germany: Film, Television and the Internet." June 2004
- IWU Humanities Occasional Grant** Spring 2003, Fall 2003
- Thyssen Travel Grant**, Symposium on German Film, Washington University, St. Louis 2002
- Co-PI, College of Liberal Arts Fees Committee Instructional Technology Grant** Spr/Summer 2001

Co-PIs Jeff High and Charlotte Melin, University of Minnesota  
Oversaw the creation of on-line workbook including audio recordings for textbook *Wende*.

**Student Travel Grant**, East German Summer Film Institute DEFA Film Library 2001

**Student Paper Award**, Science Fiction Research Association 2000  
For the paper: "Out of the Western Box: Rethinking Popular Cultural Categories from the Perspective of East German Science Fiction"

**German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Research Fellowship** 1998-1999  
Humboldt Universität, Berlin

**Graduate School Fellowship**, University of Minnesota 1995-1996

### **DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS, POPULAR PRESS, and REVIEWS**

10. Invited essay. "Diversifying knowledges - How do we re-imagine annual review and promotion and tenure criteria?" Reimagining the Discipline. German Studies, the Humanities, and the University. Cornell University. May 28, 2020. <https://futurehumanities.wixsite.com/re-imagining>

9. —, Cara Cilano, Bill Hart-Davidson, and Christopher P. Long. "Staying with the Trouble - Designing a Values-enacted Academy." *London School of Economics Social Impact Blog*, April 23, 2020. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2020/04/23/staying-with-the-trouble-designing-a-values-enacted-academy/>

8. Invited blog post. "The Necessity of a Mentoring Program for Fixed-Term Faculty and Academic Specialists." *MSU Academic Advancement Network Newsletter* January 9, 2020. <https://aan.msu.edu/2020/01/09/the-necessity-of-a-mentoring-program-for-fixed-term-faculty-and-academic-specialists/>

7. —, Bill Hart-Davidson, and Christopher P. Long. "[Values, Outcomes, & Activities of Intellectual Scholarship](#)." 2017. Licensed under [CC By 4.0](#)

6. "Science-Fiction Fandom in United Berlin." Invited essay. *World Literature Today*. The University of Oklahoma, November 2014. Web. 1 November 2014. <https://www.worldliteraturetoday.org/2014/november/science-fiction-fandom-united-berlin-sonja-fritzsche>

5. "German Science Fiction" A Virtual Introduction to Science Fiction. Invited essay. Ed. Lars Schmeink. Web. 2012. 1-11. [http://virtual-sf.com/?page\\_id=62](http://virtual-sf.com/?page_id=62)

4. "Stanislaw Lem" and "Solaris." *Facts on File Companion to the World Novel. 1900 to the Present*. Ed. Michael Sollars and Arbolina Llamas Jennings. 2 vols. New York, NY: Facts on File, 2008. 453-455.

3. "East German Science Fiction Literature/Ostdeutsche Science Fiktion Literatur." Invited Introductory Essay. *In the Dust of the Stars*. DVD. Dir. Gottfried Kollditz. University of Massachusetts-Amherst: DEFA Film Library, September 2005.

2. Digital Audio Project for First Year German, University of Minnesota, Spring/Summer 2001. In coordination with the textbook's primary author Jeff High, I supervised a graduate student and an undergraduate assistant in creating web-based listening exercises to accompany the textbook *Wende*.



1. "Auf dem Weg zur Venus. Die Entdeckung ostdeutscher Populärkultur: 'Der schweigende Stern.'" Trans. Hans Günther Dicks. *Filmforum* 19.4 (September-October 1999): 20-21.

Review of "Im Bann der Utopie. Ernst Blochs Hoffnungsphilosophie in der DDR-Literatur." By Verena Kirchner, Beiträge zur neueren Literaturgeschichte. Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag C. Winter, 2002. Reviewed for *Utopian Studies*. 28.2 (2017): 374-379.

Review of "The Politics of Magic. DEFA Fairy-Tale Films." By Qinna Shen, 2015. Reviewed for *Monatshefte* 109.1 (Spring 2017): 171-173.

Review of "Projecting Tomorrow. Science Fiction and Popular Cinema." By James Chapman and Nicholas J. Cull, 2013. Reviewed for *Science Fiction Studies* 42.2 (2015): 369-371.

Review of "East German Cinema: DEFA and Film History." By Sebastian Heiduschke. Palgrave MacMillan, 2013. Reviewed for *German Studies Review* 38.2 (2015): 449-451.

Review of "Petrified Utopia. Happiness Soviet Style." Ed. Marina Balina and Eugeny Dobrenko. Anthem Press, 2009. Reviewed for *Utopian Studies* 24.2 (2013): 371-374.

Review of "A Rosicrucian Utopia in Eighteenth-Century Russia. The Masonic Circle of N.I. Novikov." By Raffaella Faggionato. Trans. Michael Boyd and Brunello Lotti. Springer Verlag, 2005. Reviewed for *Utopian Studies* 24.2 (2013): 367-370.

Review of "Evaporating Genres. Essays on Fantastic Literature," by Gary K. Wolfe. Wesleyan University Press, 2011. In German. *Zeitschrift für Fantastikforschung (ZFF)* 2.1 (2012): 151-154.

Review of "The Black Mirror and Other Stories. An Anthology of German and Austrian Science Fiction." Ed. Hans Rottensteiner. Trans. Mike Mitchell. *Science Fiction Studies* 37.2 (July 2010): 324-328.

Review of "Nature of the Miracle Years. Conservation in West Germany, 1945-1975." By Sandra Chaney. *German Studies Review* 32.2 (May 2009): 434.

Review of "Hausväteridylle oder sozialistische Utopie? Die Familie im Recht der DDR." By Ute Schneider. *German Studies Review* 29.3 (2006): 63-64.

Review of "Die grosse Illustrierte Bibliographie der Science Fiction in der DDR." By Hans-Peter Neumann. *SFRA Review* 269 (2004): 5-6.

Review of "Der schweigende Stern." Directed by Kurt Maetzig. *German Studies Review* 27.3 (2004): 681-682.

Review of "Triumph of the Ordinary. Depictions of Daily Life in East German Cinema 1949-1989." By Joshua Feinstein. *German Quarterly* 76.4 (2003): 364-365.

Review of "Women After Communism. The East German Experience." By Helen Frink. *German Studies Review* 25.2 (October 2002): 665-666.

Review of "For Lack of Knowledge: On the Epistemology of Politics as Salvation." By Darko Suvin. *Journal of Utopian Studies* 13.1 (2002): 246-247.

Review of “Deutsche Science Fiction 1870-1914. Rekonstruktion und Analyse der Anfänge einer Gattung.” By Roland Innerhofer. *Journal of Utopian Studies* 10.1 (1999): 223-224.

### **INTERVIEWS, PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS**

Forthcoming Invited Workshop Co-Presenter with Karen Stolley. “Become an Accredited External Reviewer for ADFL.” Pre-Convention Workshop. MLA Convention. Washington, D.C. January 5, 2022.

Forthcoming presentation. “The self-help memoir: Exploring identity and ableism in writing by parents of neurodiverse children.” Poster presentation. Women in German Annual Conference. Portland, OR, November 4-7, 2021.

Forthcoming presentation. “Parental identity, wellness, and ableism in Silke Bauerfeind’s *Ein Kind mit Autismus zu begleiten, ist auch eine Reise zu sich selbst*.” German Studies Association Annual Conference. Indianapolis, IN. September 30-October 3, 2021.

Co-presenter of “Anishnaabemowin, Migration, and the BTAA LCTL Partnership Indigenous Language Project” with Gordon Henry. Panel co-organizer “The Effects of Migration on the Persistence and Revitalization of Indigenous Languages” Virtual MLA Convention. January 8, 2021.

Invited Workshop Co-Presenter with Karen Stolley. “Become an Accredited External Reviewer for ADFL.” Pre-Convention Workshop. Virtual MLA Convention. January 6, 2021.

Invited Workshop Co-Presenter with Christine Wooley. “Preparing for an External Review.” Pre-Seminar Workshop. ADFL Virtual Summer Seminar. June 18, 2020.

Roundtable speaker. “Institutional Contexts and the Shaping and Reshaping of Power.” Sponsored by the MLA Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession. MLA Convention. January 10, 2020. Seattle, WA.

Invited Workshop Co-Presenter with Karen Stolley. “Become an Accredited External Reviewer for ADFL.” Pre-Convention Workshop. MLA Convention. January 9, 2020. Seattle, WA.

“Staying with the Trouble: Cultivating a Path to Intellectual Leadership (CPIL)” with Christopher P. Long, Bill Hart-Davidson, and Cara Cilano. *Prospecting: Extraction, Speculation, and Liberation in the Accelerated Academy*. Michigan State University, November 22-23, 2019.

“Bringing Hope and Care to Institutions of Higher Education through an Intentional Intellectual Communities Model.” Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference. October 17-19, 2019. East Lansing, MI.

Invited Roundtable Speaker. “Re-Imagining the Discipline: German Studies, the Humanities, and the University,” Institute for German Cultural Studies (IGCS), Cornell University, September 13-14, 2019.

“When Nazis Become Human in the Iron Sky Universe.” Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. June 21-24, 2019. Honolulu, Hawai‘i.

Invited Roundtable Speaker. “Study Abroad and the Global Campus.” ADFL Summer Seminar West. May 23-25, 2019. Spokane, WA.

"Fascist drag: Playing Nazi in the Iron Sky Universe."

International Conference on Fantastic in the Arts (ICFA). March 15-18, 2019. Orlando, FL.

Roundtable participant on "The Dystopian Imagination in Contemporary Spanish Literature and Film."  
Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference, November 1-3, 2018, Berkeley, CA.

"The Fascists Are Here!: Revisiting Iron Sky's Nazis in 2018."

Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference, November 1-3, 2018, Berkeley, CA.

Invited Roundtable Participant on "Children's and Youth Culture: New Directions."

German Studies Association Annual Conference, September 27-30, 2018, Pittsburgh, PA.

Interview. "Faculty Mentorship at MSU." The Liberal Arts Endeavor Podcast. With Chris Long, Beronda Montgomery, and Emily Bouck. May 1, 2018. <http://www.cal.msu.edu/news/podcast-faculty-mentorship-msu>

"Redesigning Institutional Spaces, Rethinking Foreign for Vibrant Language Study." Modern Language Association Annual Convention, January 4-7, 2018. New York City, NY.

"The Transformative Power of Play in Johanna and Günter Braun's *Conviva Ludibundus*."

Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference, November 9-12, 2017, Memphis, TN.

Organizer and Moderator of Roundtable "New Careers in German Studies and How They are Shaping the Graduate Curriculum." German Studies Association Annual Conference, October 5-8, 2017, Atlanta, GA

"Cellular play: Nature's agency in Johanna and Günter Braun's *Conviva Ludibundus*."

Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference, June 28-July 1, 2017, Riverside, CA.

Co-Facilitator with Tom Fisher (Design-UMN), 2-Part Session: Bridging the "Two Cultures" of the Humanities and STEM. ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar Midwest. June 1-5, 2017. Minneapolis, MN.

"Connected Academics and German Graduate Education." Discussion leader. Big Ten Academic Alliance German Chairs/DLIs Annual Meeting, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, February 24-25, 2017.

"Recruiting New Students with 'German for Human Rights.'"

Modern Language Association Annual Convention, January 5-8, 2017. Philadelphia, PA.

"Conflicted Super Scientists in the DEFA Cold War Spy Film." GSA Seminar 2016 Nr 3 "Cold War Spy Stories"

German Studies Association Annual Conference, September 29-Oct 2, 2016. San Diego, CA.

"The Socialists Laughed Too – Comedy in Science Fiction Films of the East Bloc."

Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference, June 28-30, 2016. Liverpool, England.

"Editing Science Fiction." Editing Science Fiction Roundtable.

Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference, June 28-30, 2016. Liverpool, England.

"The Importance of Collaboration." Roundtable speaker. "Navigating New Waters: Contemporary Challenges of the Chair." Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Conference, Jan 7-10, 2016. Austin, TX.

“The Teaching College/University.” Speed Mentoring Session. Part of the Associated Departments of Foreign Language (ADFL) Job Seeker Workshops at the Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Conference, Jan 7-10, 2016. Austin, TX.

“Preseminar Workshop for New Chairs.” With Karen Stolley. ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar East. June 3-7, 2015. Arlington, VA.

Panel speaker. Plenary Session I: BA Programs in Languages and Literatures: Current Trends, Possible Actions. ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar East. June 3-7, 2015. Arlington, VA.

Invited lecture. "'Cosmic Culture' in the DEFA Science Fiction Film *The Silent Star*." Institute for German Cultural Studies. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. February 20, 2015.

“Transnational Science Fiction Comedy – Making Space for Time Travel.”  
Modern Language Association Annual Convention, January 8-10, 2015. Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Moderator and Discussant. “The Job Interview.” Part of the Associated Departments of Foreign Language (ADFL) Job Seeker Workshops at the Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Conference, Jan 8-11, 2015. Vancouver, Canada.

“World Science Fiction Film.” *Sound Ideas*. Interview with Charlie Schlenker, WGLT. January 13, 2015. Illinois State University, Bloomington, Illinois.

An Interview with Prof. Sonja Fritzsche by Cristian Tamas.” *Europa SF. The European Speculative Fiction Portal*. October 3, 2014. <http://scifiportal.eu/an-interview-with-prof-sonja-fritzsche-illinois-wesleyan-university-by-cristian-tamas/> and also in Romanian. *Fantastica* No. 3. Autumn 2014. <http://fantastica.ro/interviu-cu-doamna-prof-dr-sonja-fritzsche-universitatea-illinois-wesleyan-s-u-a>

Commentator. Panel: “Exploitative Simulations. Science Fictions in Print and Film.”  
German Studies Association, September 18-21, 2014. Kansas City, MO.

“Dreams of ‘Cosmic Culture’ in *The Silent Star*.” GSA Seminar 2014 Nr 10 “New Direction in Pop, Sub, and Lowbrow Cultural Studies”  
German Studies Association, September 18-21, 2014. Kansas City, MO.

“Preseminar Workshop on Strategic Planning: Making a Case for a Tenure Line and The External Review.” With Lisa Vollendorf. ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar West, June 19-22, 2014. Seattle, WA

“Best Practices in Online Teaching.” Led two separate discussion sessions on this topic with Stacey Donohue and Tena Helton respectively. ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar West, June 19-22, 2014. Seattle, WA.

“*The Silent Star*: A Transnational Take on Utopian Visions in East German Science Fiction Film.”  
Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference, April 16-19, 2014. Chicago, IL

“Transnational Phenomenon in East German Science Fiction Cinema.” Roundtable "Mediating Science Fiction: Across Languages, Disciplines, Platforms in Russian and Eastern European Science Fiction."  
American Association of Teachers of Slavic and Eastern European Languages (AATSEEL). January 9-12, 2014. Chicago, IL.

“The Job Interview.” and “Mock Interviews.” Panelist as part of the Association of Department of Foreign Language (ADFL) Job Seeker Workshops at the Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Conference, Jan 9-12, 2014. Chicago, IL

“The Nazis Are Coming!!! – Parody and Innovation in *Iron Sky*.”  
Eaton/Science Fiction Research Association National Conference. April 12-14, 2013. Riverside, CA.

“Learning to Share at Play”: Nonhuman Agency in Johanna and Günter Braun’s *Conviva Ludibundus*.” German Studies Association Annual Conference. October 4-7, 2012. Milwaukee, WI.

“German Science Fiction.” *Virtual Introduction to Science Fiction*. On-line Lecture Series. Ed. Lars Schmeink. University of Hamburg, German. May 2012. [www.virtual-sf.com](http://www.virtual-sf.com) Also translated by Cristian Tamas in Romanian. *Fantastica*, No. 3. Autumn 2014. <http://fantastica.ro/science-fiction-ul-german/>

"Dreaming of Homeland in SF Film from Behind the Iron Curtain."  
Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference, July 6-10, 2011, Lublin, Poland.

“Can We Unleash Utopian Yearnings in the Classroom? Reflections on Active Learning Pedagogy.”  
35th Annual Meeting of the Society for Utopian Studies. October 28-31, 2010, Milwaukee, WI.

“There’s No Place Like *Heimat*’: Fairy Tale Film as East German Homeland.”  
German Studies Association Annual Conference. October 7-10, 2010. Oakland, CA.

“Once Upon a Heimat: East German Fairy Tale Films of the Early Fifties.” Sept. 15, 2010. A week-long international workshop on “Childhood and Globalization” with Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan University, and Moscow Humanities University. Bloomington, IL. September 13-17, 2010.

“Eco-Eschbach: Visions of German Third Way Sustainability in ‘A Trillion Euros’”  
Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. June 24-27, 2010. Carefree, AZ.

"Sci-Fi Film as a Possibility for Political Critique and Subversion in East Germany"  
2008 Film and History Conference: Film & Science: Fictions, Documentaries, and Beyond. October 30-November 2, 2008. Chicago, IL

"Heimat in the DEFA 70mm Film *Du bist min. Ein deutsches Tagebuch*"  
German Studies Association Annual Conference, Oct. 2-5, 2008, St. Paul, Minnesota.

“The Thorndikes and East Germany’s 70mm Film Experiment”  
22<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Literature Conference. University of West Georgia. November 15-17, 2007. Carrollton, GA.

“Dis(co)pia: East German Youth Culture and the Disco Film”  
Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference, October 4-7, 2007 Toronto, Canada.

"The Inner Fight for Agency,"  
Coalition of Women in German Annual Conference, October 19-22, 2006, Snowbird, UT.

“Feminist Visions of the Future in the German Science Fiction of Today,”  
Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference, October 12-15, 2006. Colorado Springs, CO.

"East German Identity Through Science Fiction."

Interview with WGLT. December 4, 2006. Illinois State University, Bloomington, Illinois.

"East Germany's *Werkstatt Zukunft*: Futurology and the Film's of *defa-futurum*,"

Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference. October 27-30, 2005. Memphis, TN.

"Reinventing the Communist Science Fiction Novel in East Germany: Continuities and Discontinuities,"

German Studies Association Annual Conference, September 29-October 2, 2005. Milwaukee, WI.

"Publishing Ursula Le Guin in East Germany,"

Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference, June 23 - 26, 2005, Las Vegas, NV.

"Fantasy in Today's World."

Interview with WGLT. January 21, 2004. Illinois State University, Bloomington, Illinois.

"That Was Then, This Is Now: the Pre- and Post-Unification Visions of East German Science Fiction Writer Alexander Kröger,"

Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference, October 30 - November 2, 2003, San Diego, CA.

"Science Fiction in the Soviet Sector: Ludwig Turek's *The Golden Ball*,"

German Studies Association Annual Conference, September 18-21, 2003, New Orleans, LA.

"Web-based Listening Exercises for the Textbook *Wende*" Courseware Showcase,

Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium (CALICO) Annual Conference, March 28-30, 2002, Davis, California.

"Subversion or Diversion?: Science Fiction Fandom in East Germany,"

German Studies Association Annual Conference, October 4-7, 2001, Washington, D.C.

"Utopian Realism in the East German Science Fiction Film *Eolomea*," International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts Annual Conference, March 21-25, 2001, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

"East is East and West is West: Exploring the Limits of Western Theories of Popular Culture in the Former East,"

"The Politics of Pop: Popular Culture in German-speaking countries," Department of German, Scandinavian and Dutch, University of Minnesota, March 2-4, 2001, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

"East German Apocalypse: Hopelessness in Angela and Karlheinz Steinmüller's *Der Traummeister*,"

Modern Language Association Annual Conference, December 27-30, 2000, Washington, D.C.

"Out of the Western Box: Rethinking Popular Culture Categories from the Perspective of East German Science Fiction,"

Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference, June 26-July 2, 2000, Cleveland, Ohio.

"East German Science Fiction as Critical Space: Authors Johanna and Günter Braun,"

German Studies Association Annual Conference, October 7-10, 1999, Atlanta, Georgia.

"Negotiating Ideology-Reading Strategies in Kurt Maetzig's *First Spaceship on Venus*,"

Popular Culture Association/American Cultural Association Annual Conference, March 31 - April 3, 1999, San Diego, California.



**Invited Local Presentations/Conferences**

Panel co-organizer and member. “Imagining & Creating Anti-racist Approaches to Learning & Teaching: Results of a Learning Community.” With Amy Martin and Peter de Costa. MSU Virtual Teaching and Learning Conference, May 4, 2021.

Panel member, “Effective Hiring, Retention and Spousal Hires”, MSU Academic Advancement Network (AAN). February 26, 2021.

“Putting together review materials” and “Teaching including Designation B”, MSU Thriving as an Academic Specialist AAN. February 2, 2021.

Invited panelist. “Introduction to Microsoft Teams for Academic Leaders.” MSU Academic Advancement Network. May 14, 2020.

“Putting Together Your Designation B Application” and invited panelist on “Tips for Fixed-Term Faculty”, MSU Thriving as a Fixed-term System Faculty member, February 18, 2020.

“Putting together review materials” and “Teaching including Designation B”, MSU Thriving as an Academic Specialist AAN. February 11, 2020.

“The Education 2035 Initiative at MSU” with Andrew Christlieb, New Frontiers in Packaging Conference, School of Packaging, October 9, 2019.

Panel member, “Effective Hiring, Retention and Spousal Hires”, MSU Academic Advancement Network (AAN). October 4, 2019.

Invited Roundtable participant. “Dystopia/Utopia: Imagining the Best and Worst Places to Be.” Sharper Focus/Wider Lens. Honors College, Michigan State University, September 16, 2019.

Invited Panelist. “Women in Data Science.” R-Ladies. Women in Data Science Conference. April 12, 2019. East Lansing, MI.

“Putting Together Your Designation B Application”, MSU Thriving as a Fixed-term System Faculty member, February 20, 2019.

“Putting together review materials.”, MSU Thriving as an Academic Specialist AAN. January 28, 2019.

Sponsor, Two workshops on “Best Practices in Online Teaching Evaluation” with Kate Sonka and Ellen Moll, (AAN) Feb 7 and 13, 2019.

Panel member, “Effective Hiring, Retention and Spousal Hires”, MSU Academic Advancement Network (AAN). October 4, 2018.

College of Arts & Letters Staff Retreat on Career Development/Mentoring with Bill Hart-Davidson. Kellogg Center, June 8, 2018.

Panel member, “Mid-Career Conversation.” MSU Academic Advancement Network (AAN). March 28, 2018.

Panel member, "Supporting the Development of Academic Staff and Fixed Term Faculty." MSU Academic Advancement Network (AAN). October 30, 2017.

Panel member, "Thriving as an Academic Woman." MSU Academic Women's Forum, Sept. 19, 2017.

Panel member, "Tips for Form C and Academic Specialist Opportunities Across Campus" MSU Academic Specialist Survive and Thrive Workshop. September 14, 2017.

Panel member, "Structuring Innovative Change." Excellence and Innovation in Arts and Design Education Symposium, MSU Department of Art, Art History & Design, August 25, 2017.

Panel member, "Reflections from New Campus Administrators." MSU New Administrator Orientation, August 15, 2017.

Panel member, "Conducting Research as an Administrator." MSU New Administrator Orientation, August 9, 2017.

"Translating the Exhibit - *Atze* and *Mosaik*: History and Politics in East German Comics 1914 – 1989." MSU Comic Studies Symposium: "Drawing Lives, Writing Worlds: A Graphic Narratives Symposium." April 14, 2017.

Panel member, "Mentoring Success for Leaders." MSU Academic Advancement Network, February 28, 2017.

Panel member, "Department and School Directors, What Do These Roles Entail?" MSU Academic Advancement Network, October 27, 2016.

Academic Standards Panel Member, IWU Student Orientation, Friday of Fall Festival Week, 2008-2014.

Student Retention Panel Member, IWU Fall Faculty Conference, August 23, 2013.

"STAMP Testing and German Assessment" with Adam Woodis.  
Language Resource Center, Illinois Wesleyan University, February 19, 2013.

"Recent Innovations in Language Pedagogy with Technology."  
Language Resource Center, Illinois Wesleyan University, February 5, 2012.

"Whatever Lola Wants, Lola Gets: This Ain't Your Mother's High School German Language Class"  
Ways of Knowing Pedagogy Presentation Series, Illinois Wesleyan University, November 9, 2011.

"Using Digitized Film Clips on E-Reserve" Thorpe Center Instructional Technology Showcase. Ames Library. Illinois Wesleyan University, April 5, 2011.

"Practicing the Active Modalities Beyond the Classroom with Voxopop." Spring Workshop. Northern Illinois American Association of Teachers of German (AATG). College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL. April 10, 2010.

"Promoting Discussion with Wikis in the Upper Level German Literature Classroom"  
Writing Workshop, Illinois Wesleyan University, January 12, 2008.

"Publishing American Science Fiction in East Germany: The Case of Ursula Le Guin."  
Inaugural Talk of the International Studies Colloquium, Illinois Wesleyan University, October 6, 2005, Bloomington, Illinois.

"But is it your English?"

"Must the Whole World Speak English?," a panel in conjunction with the IWU Presidential Inauguration, Illinois Wesleyan University, April 8, 2005, Bloomington, Illinois.

"Identity in German Media Today: Reflections on a Fulbright Seminar in Germany, June 2004."  
Non-Org Talk, Illinois Wesleyan University, February 14, 2005, Bloomington, Illinois.

"*The Matrix* - Cyberpunk as Film"

Non-Org Talk, Illinois Wesleyan University, November 17, 2003, Bloomington, Illinois.

"Teaching Learning Strategies"

Gateway Instruction and First Year Advisor Orientation, Illinois Wesleyan, August 15, 2003.

Strategic Sifting through the Newest and the Not-So-New: Educational Technology for Foreign Language Teaching."

Presentation for the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures and the Department of Hispanic Studies, Illinois Wesleyan University, May 1, 2002, Bloomington, Illinois.

"Socialist Realism - an Impossible Aesthetic." Co-presenter with Marina Balina and Joy Calico,  
Non-Org Talk, Illinois Wesleyan University, January 21, 2002, Bloomington, Illinois.

"Stories from a Parallel World: East German Science Fiction."

Non-Org Talk, Illinois Wesleyan University, November 26, 2001.

## **EDITORSHIPS, PEER REVIEW, EXTERNAL REVIEW, and PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- Founding editor 2014-2019. [World Science Fiction Series](#), Peter Lang Oxford, Co-editor with Gerry Canavan since fall 2019.
- Modern Language Association – Nominating Committee 2020 & 2021 (2021 Co-Chair)
- Association of Department of Foreign Languages – ADE/ADFL Ad-Hoc Committee on External Reviews 2020 - ADE/ADFL At-Large Steering Committee 2018-2019 – ADFL Summer Seminar North Host 2018 – ADFL President 2015 – Executive Committee 2013-2016 – Drafted the ADFL Statement on Hybrid and Online Learning 2014 – ADFL Language Consultancy Reviewer: St. Mary's College of Maryland 2015, Wayne State University 2017
- Science Fiction Studies Association – Vice-President 2019-2021 – Awards Committees 2001-2004, 2011-2014
- Society for Utopian Studies – Annual Conference Host 2019 – Awards Committees 2007-2009, 2011, 2012, 2016, 2018 – Conference Program Chair 2011 – Steering Committee 2005-2007
- International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts – Awards Committee 2016, 2019
- Midwest Association for Language Learning & Technology (MWALLT) – Conference Host 2014
- Southern Illinois Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German – Vice President 2012-2015
- Editorial Advisory Board – [Extrapolation](#) – since 2008
- Editorial Advisory Board – [Zanzalá](#), Federal University of Juiz de I, Brazil – since 2011
- Book proposal referee – Berghahn Books 2017, Schweizer Nationalfonds zur Förderung des wissenschaftlichen Forschungs 2018, MIT Press 2020.
- Book manuscript referee – Wayne State University Press 2015, Camden 2019, MIT Press 2021.
- Tenure and Promotion Case External Reviewer – 2007, 2009, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021.



German – non-native fluency

French – reading knowledge

**ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Certified Department External Reviewer**

January 2020

Associations of Departments of Foreign Languages (ADFL)

**CASE Advanced Development for Deans and Leaders**

January 2019

**Certificate in Educational Technology**, Middlebury College

Summer 2000

**Graduate Student Technology Exchange**, Office of International Affairs/Abteilung für Außenangelegenheiten, Freie Universität Berlin (and part-time 1998-1999) 1997-1998

Helped to program first university alumni association database (MS Access), helped select support staff learn MS software, German to American English translations of official documents, also for President's Office, other office work.

**References Upon Request**