

Vita
for
Roger P. Minert

March 2004

EDUCATION

--Ph.D. in Foreign Language Education, Ohio State University (June, 1991); dissertation: "The Influence of Student-Identified Factors on Enrollment in Foreign Language Courses in Public High Schools in the United States" (Elizabeth B. Bernhardt). Secondary emphasis: German language history.

--M.A. in German, Ohio State University (August 1987); thesis: "*Liedermacher* Reinhard Mey: His Songs, Their Themes, and Their Reception" (Heimtraudt F. Taylor & Gisela M. Vitt).

--B.A. in German, Brigham Young University (April 1977).

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

--Associate Professor, Dept. of Church History and Doctrine, College of Religious Education, Brigham Young University (part-time since January 2002, full-time since August 2003): responsible for all courses associated with Germanic and Slavic family history research).

-- Self-employment: business title since 1991: *German Research & Translation*; services include genealogical research, interpreting, technical translation, and onsite linguistic support and research. Incorporated since 1995 (State of Utah). DBA as *GRT Publications* since 1999.

FAMILY HISTORY EMPLOYMENT

--Part-time/temporary reference consultant, Floor B1, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah (April to November 1993). Volunteer three hours per week since November 1993.

PAST ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Teaching Experience

--Visiting Instructor: Dept. of Church History and Doctrine, Brigham Young University, teaching 266 (Introduction to German Family History Research) in Fall 2002 and Winter 2003, and 261 (Introduction to Family History) in Fall 2002.

--Visiting Instructor: Dept. of History, Brigham Young University, teaching 400 (German

Paleography) in Winter 2002, and 409R (German Family History Research) in Winter 2002 and Winter 2003.

--Instructor in German, Dept. of Modern Foreign Languages, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio (Fall 1988, Fall 1989, Spring 1990).

--Guest Faculty Member, American Institute of Musical Studies, Graz, Austria (Summer 1988, Summer 1990).

--Graduate Teaching Associate, Dept. of German, Ohio State University (1985-87 and 1990); courses taught include Intermediate German I and II and Translation for Graduate Students.

--Instructor in German language, history, and literature for grades 9-12, Box Elder High School, Brigham City, Utah (1977-82).

--Instructor in German language and culture, Missionary Training Center, Provo, Utah (1973-1977); duties included FSI Oral Proficiency Test in German and English.

--Undergraduate Teaching Associate, Dept. of Germanic and Slavic Languages, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah (1975-76).

Supervisory Experience

--Assistant Coordinator for Graduate Teaching Associates, Dept. of German, Ohio State University (1987-88 and 1990-1991); duties included training, observation, and evaluation of graduate teaching assistants.

--University Supervisor of secondary student teachers in foreign languages and social studies, Educational Studies Dept., College of Education, Ohio State University (Autumn 1988, Winter & Spring 1989, Winter 1990).

Other Linguistic Employment

--Translator/interpreter for U.S. firms establishing operations in the former German Democratic Republic; translating/interpreting--general purpose (1991-:).

--Translator of business and technical documents (principally German-English, English-German) and specialist for foreign contracts, Morton-Thiokol, Inc., Brigham City, Utah (1982-85).

--Tour Guide for American students in Europe; tours groups were escorted through Austria, German--Federal Republic and Democratic Republic--and Switzerland (1975).

--Tour Guide in Herrenchiemsee Palace, Federal Republic of Germany; employee of the State of Bavaria (1974).

SIGNIFICANT ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

- Member, Congress-Bundestag Scholarship Selection Committee, Central Ohio Area, 1992.
- Director of German Day, Ohio State University (1986-91).
- Moderator of the Culture Bowl competition at the Brigham Young University German Language Fair (1980-85).
- Founder and director of genealogical research program for Brigham City Region of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; recruited and trained a staff of 200 researchers for old European documents (1979-85).
- Director of community German Christmas Concert, Brigham City, Utah (1977-82).
- Founder and director of REST (Residential European Study Tours), providing German host homes for high school students for terms of six weeks to six months (1977-81).
- Director of annual German festival for school and community, Brigham City, Utah (1976-81).
- Director of private auto tours of Europe (1979-:).
- Director of four week-long total immersion summer German language camps, held in the mountains of Idaho (1978-80).

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Graduate Student Service Award, Dept. of German, Ohio State University (1987, 1988, 1991).
- Graduate Student Alumni Research Award, Ohio State University Graduate School (1990).
- Finalist, Graduate Student Teaching Award, Dept. of German, Ohio State University (1986 and 1987).
- My students won five consecutive team championships in academic competition at the Brigham Young University German Language Fair (1978-82).
- Zertifikat Deutsch als Fremdsprache*, Goethe Institut (rating: *sehr gut*, 119.5 of 120 pts.) (1980).

- Finalist, Utah Foreign Language Teacher of the Year (1980).
- FSI Oral Proficiency Test: perfect score of 5.0 (1976).
- First non-German to conduct tours in German in the Palace of Herrenchiemsee, Bavaria, West Germany (1974).
- Dean's List, College of Humanities, Brigham Young University (Autumn 1973).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- ICAPGEN, Salt Lake City (2000-)
- Member, Palatines to America (1992-:).
- Member, Modern Language Association (1990-93).
- Member, Ohio Foreign Language Association (1989-92).
- Member, American Association of Teachers of German (1977-:).
- Teaching certification: Basic Professional for secondary schools in Utah (1977-87).
- Member, Utah Foreign Language Association (1977-82).
- Member, [Utah] State Approval On-Site Visitation Team for Weber State College (1980).

PRESENTATIONS

- Guest lecturer, Genealogical Society of Sarasota, FL, 28 February 2004. (Four presentations).
- Guest lecturer, Sacramento German Genealogy Society, Sacramento, CA, 28 October 2003. "Asking for Help, Then Getting Your Money's Worth from Professional Researchers."
- Guest lecturer, Sacramento German Genealogy Society, Sacramento, CA, 22 July 2003. "Status in German-language Countries of Europe: 1500-1800."
- Guest lecturer, Sacramento German Genealogy Society, Sacramento, CA, 5 April 2003. (Four presentations).
- Guest lecturer, Genealogical Institute, Salt Lake City, UT, 9 January 2003. "Beginning and Advanced German Paleography."

- Guest lecturer, Sacramento German Genealogy Society, Sacramento, CA, 22 October 2002. "Courtship and Marriage in German-language Countries of Europe: 1500-1900."
- Guest lecturer, *Deutscher Genealogentag*, Bremen, Germany, 21 September 2002: The Immigrant Ancestor Database Project."
- Guest lecturer, Sacramento German Genealogy Society, Sacramento, CA, 23 July 2002. "The Keeping of Vital Records in Germany: The Who, What, When, Where, Why and How of Church and Civil Records."
- Guest lecturer, Hanover LDS Genealogy Conference, Hanover, Germany, 8 June 200s (three presentations).
- Guest lecturer, Religious Education Dept., Brigham Young University, 5 April 2002: "German Family History Research: What's New and What's Needed."
- Guest lecturer, Sacramento German Genealogy Society, Sacramento, CA, 26 March 2002. "A Day in the Life of the Farmer and the Craftsman/Tradesman in Germany: A Look at the Conditions Under Which They Lived, Worked, Played and Worshiped."
- Guest lecturer, Sacramento German Genealogy Society, Sacramento, CA, 22 January 2002. "German History and the Effects of the Feudal System on Family History Research."
- Guest lecturer, German Interest Group of Janesville, WI (four lectures). Whitewater, WI, 14 July 2001.
- Guest lecturer, national conference of the Palatines to America Society (four lectures). Denver, CO, 22-23 June 2001.
- Guest lecturer, conference of the St. Louis Genealogical Society (four lectures). St. Louis, MO, 16 June 2001.
- Guest lecturer, conference of the Sacramento Genealogy Society (four lectures). Sacramento, CA, 7 April 2001.
- Guest lecturer, conference of the PA Chapter of Palatines to America (four lectures). New Holland, PA, 21 October 2000.
- Guest lecturer, conference of the Immigrant Genealogical Society (four lectures). Burbank, CA, 14 October 1999.
- Guest lecturer, conference of the Iowa Genealogical Society -- German Interest Group (four lectures). Des Moines, IA, 17 June 2000.
- Guest lecturer, conference of the Sacramento German Genealogy Society (four

lectures). Sacramento, CA, 26 October 1999.

--Guest lecturer, national conference of the Palatines to America Society (three lectures). Columbus, OH, 3-5 June 1999.

--Guest lecturer, conference of the Ohio Chapter, Palatines to America (2 lectures). Columbus, OH, 8 November 1997.

--Guest lecturer, conference of the San Diego German Genealogical Society (2 lectures). San Diego, CA, 5 April 1997.

--Guest lecturer, Genealogical Week at BYU, Brigham Young University, August 1995, August 1996, August 1997.

--Guest lecturer, conference of the Minnesota German Genealogical Society (5 lectures). Minneapolis, MN, April 1995.

--"Conducting Family History Research in Europe". Salt Lake City, UT, 15 November 1994.

--"Beginning Genealogical Research in the German-Language Realm." Dayton, Ohio, 18 July 1992; Columbus Metropolitan Library, 19 Oct 1992, Columbus Swiss Club/Helvetia Verein, 22 Nov 1992.

--"German Name Geography for Genealogists." Germania Singing Society, Columbus, Ohio, 14 March 1992.

--"Factors Influencing Foreign Language Enrollment in the United States: The Status of students in Georgia." Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia, 31 May 1991.

--"Factors Influencing Foreign Language Enrollment in the United States: Preliminary Findings of a National Survey." University of Texas, Austin, Texas, 18 January 1991.

--"The Language Bowl in Theory and Practice." Ohio Foreign Language Association (OFLA) Convention, Cleveland, Ohio, 10 March 1990.

--"Popular Music as a Vehicle to the Study of Contemporary Culture of German-Speaking Countries." OFLA Convention, Dayton, Ohio, 17 March 1989.

--"Musik im Deutschunterricht am Beispiel von Reinhard Mey." Deutscher Workshop, Ohio Northern University, 9 June 1987.

--"Deutschmark, Schilling oder Schweizer Franc?" The Daily Economics of the Foreign Language Camp." Utah Foreign Language Association Convention, 8 October 1979.

SYMPOSIA

--"Training, Coordinating, and Supervising Graduate Teaching Assistants: A Round Table Discussion of Rewards and Problems" (panelist). American Association of University Supervisors and Coordinators, Columbus, Ohio, 12 October 1990.

--"Upheaval in Eastern Europe" (one of four speakers); Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, 29 November 1989.

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION

--Accredited Genealogist (Germany), Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1992, 1997, 2002.

--Accredited Genealogist (Austria), Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1993, 1998.

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

--*Switzerland Place Name Indexes*. With Jennifer Anderson. Provo, UT: GRT Publications, 2004. Compact Disk.

--*Pomerania Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2003. 104 pages, soft.

--*Rhineland Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2003. 146 pages, soft.

--*Kingdom of Saxony Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2003. 86 pages, soft.

--*Province of Saxony Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2003. 92 pages, soft.

--*Braunschweig, Oldenburg, and Thuringia Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2002. 126 pages, soft.

--*Hanover Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2002. 124 pages,

soft.

--*Schleswig-Holstein Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2002. 128 pages, soft. Includes Bremen, Hamburg, and Lübeck.

--*Westphalia Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2002. 136 pages, soft. Includes Hohenzollern, Lippe, Schaumburg-Lippe, and Waldeck.

--*Researching in Germany: A Handbook for Your Visit to the Homeland of Your Ancestors* with Shirley J. Riemer. Sacramento: Lorelei Press, 2001. 264 pages, soft.

--*Deciphering Handwriting in German Documents: Analyzing German, Latin, and French in Vital Records Written in Germany*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2001. 192 pages, soft.

--*Gerhard Henrich Meinert: His Ancestors and His Descendants*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2000. 270 pages, soft.

--*Württemberg Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2000. 124 pages, soft.

--*Mecklenburg Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2000. 68 pages, soft.

--*Hessen-Nassau Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2000. 92 pages, soft.

--*Palatine Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2000. 62 pages, soft.

--*The Rauth Family: From Bavaria to Galicia to the United States*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2000. 113 pages, hard.

--*Palatine Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2000. 62 pages, soft.

--*Spelling Variations in German Names: Solving Family History Problems Through Applications of German and English Phonetics*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, [March 2000]. 96 pages, soft.

- Hesse Place Name Indexes: Identifying Place Names Using Alphabetical and Reverse Alphabetical Indexes*. Woods Cross, UT: GRT Publications, 2000. 62 pages, soft.
- Culture Notes: Austria, Germany, Switzerland* with Marcus Welnitz. Provo: Language Training Mission, 1976. 99 pages, paper.

Articles

- "The Search for a Defunct Ditch." *Der Blumenbaum*, 21:3 (January 2004), pp. 122-23.
- "Archive Games." *Der Blumenbaum*, 20:2 (October 2002), 66-67.
- "A Guide to Terminology Related to the German Feudal System." *Der Blumenbaum*, 20:1 (July 2002), 29.
- "Surname Changes in Northwestern Germany." *German Genealogical Digest*, 15:4 (Spring 2000), 6-17.
- "Communicating with Agencies and Individuals in Europe." *The Palatine Immigrant*, 25:1 (1999), 49-55.
- "Deciphering German Handwriting in German Documents." *German Genealogical Digest*, 15:2 (Summer 1999), 48-52.
- "Deciphering French Handwriting in German Documents." *German Genealogical Digest*, 14:3 (Fall 1998), 70-87.
- "Mail Order Genealogy--Revisited." *The Palatine Immigrant*, 21:3 (1998), 164-168.
- "Deciphering Latin Handwriting in German Documents." *German Genealogical Digest*, 14:2 (Summer 1998), 38-52.
- "Recommendations for Conducting Onsite Research." *Der Blumenbaum*, 15:3 (1998), 132.
- "Deciphering Handwriting in German Documents." *German Genealogical Digest*, 14:1 (Spring 1998), 6-15.
- "The *Ahnenpaß*: An Approach to Family History under National Socialism." *German Genealogical Digest*, 13:4 (Winter 1997), 102-113.
- "Travel to Research Sites in Europe & Recommendations for Conducting Onsite Research." *German Genealogical Digest*, 13:1 (Spring 1997), 16-23.
- "Ask the Experts." *German Genealogical Digest*, 12:1 (Spring, 1996), 27-28; 12:2 (Summer 1996), 61-63; 12:3 (Fall 1996), 92-95; 12:4 (Winter 1996), 124-127; 13:1

(Spring 1997), 28-30; 13:2 (Summer 1997), 61-62; 13:3 (Fall 1997) 88-90; 13:4, (Winter 1997) 124-125; 14:1 (Spring 1998), 25-27; 14:2, (Summer 1998), 53-55; 14:4 (Winter 1998), 124-126; 15:1 (Spring 1999), 26-29; 15:3 (Fall 1999), 93-95.

--"Once There Was a Town." *German Genealogical Digest*, 12:1 (Spring 1996), 22-26.

--"Conducting Family History Research in German-Speaking Areas of Europe." *The Palatine Immigrant*, 20:3 (1995), 124-134.

--"Mail Order Genealogy: Do You Get What You Pay For?" *The Palatine Immigrant*, 19:4 (1994), 164-168.

--"Factors Influencing Enrollment in Public High School German Courses: Results of a National Survey." *Unterrichtspraxis*, 25:2 (1992), 173-183.

--"The Role of the Old High German Sound Shift in German Genealogical Research." *The Palatine Immigrant*, 17:1 (1992).

--"Bitte, wenn ich bitten darf!" *Schatzkammer*, 17:2 (1991), 35-41.

--"The Language Bowl: Theory and Practice." *Foreign Language Annals*, 24:3 (1991), 179-191.

--"The Membership of the *Helvetia Unterstützungsverein*, Columbus, Ohio, 1891." *Swiss-American Historical Society Review*, 26:3 (1990), 27-31.

--"UP-Quiz," in *Die Unterrichtspraxis*, 22:1 (1989), 86-88; see note in same issue, p. 1; also 22:2 (1989), 198-200; 23:1 (1990), 82-85; 23:2 (1990), 173-75; 24:1 (1991), 61-63; 24:2 (1991), 226-228, 25:1 (1992), 89-91; 25:2 (1992), 172, 224-225; 26:1 (1993), 103-104; 26:2 (1993), 255-258; 27:1 (1994), 131-132; (27:2), 93-94; 28:1 (1995), 84-87; 28:2 (1995), 198-200.

--"Gaining a Firm Foothold on the Map: Another Approach to the Study of German Geography." *Die Unterrichtspraxis*, 21:2 (1987): 56-61.

--Narrator (German and English) for audio cassette tape recording for Taylor, Heimy and Werner Haas, *German: A Self-Teaching Guide* (New York: Wiley, 1986).

--Edited "State Initiatives and Activities in Foreign Languages and International Studies." *Modern Language Journal* 70 (1986): 236-41.

--"Foreign Languages." *Report to the Utah State Board of Education on the Teacher Education Programs at Weber State College* (Salt Lake City, 1980).

Reviews

--Book review: *So Loch Doch: Gedichte und Lieder aus Österreich (nicht nur) für Deutschlernende*. Ed. Jürgen Koppensteiner (Vienna: Österreichischer Bundesverlag, 1987). *Modern Language Journal* 72:4, p. 476-77 (1988).

--Book review: *Mein Gespräch, meine Lieder: Liedermacher im Deutschunterricht*. Ed. Sabine Wenkums (Berlin: Langenscheidt, 1986). *Modern Language Journal* 72:3, p. 242 (1988).

Publications Currently in Preparation

-- The End of the Gothic Handwriting Alphabet in Germany: Causes and Effects of the Decree of 15 September 1941.

-- Church and Civil Ordinances Regarding the Keeping of Vital Records in Germany.

--"Towns No Longer Extant in the Federal Republic of Germany." Documentation of towns that have disappeared since 1871.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

--Associate Editor of the *German Genealogical Digest* (quarterly journal published in Salt Lake City, UT) December 1997 to September 2000.

TRANSLATION EXPERIENCE

--English > German conference interpreting for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (since March 2002)

--German > English and English > German in such fields as chemistry, engineering, philosophy, business and contract law, marketing and sales, theology, tourism, genealogy, music, computer science, and manufacturing. Total: more than 2.1 million words.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

--More than 26,000 hours of research in church and civil records in the German, Dutch, Danish, Latin, French, Czech, and Italian languages, including more than 145 days of research in Europe.

--Paleography: transcription and translation of manuscripts in various Germanic dialects dating back to 1500; archival consultant for the Columbus Swiss Club and the Columbus Alpenrösli Verein.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

--German textbook consultant/reviewer for Heinle and Heinle Publishers, Boston (Petra

Hausberger).

--Editorial board for the *Pal-Am Immigrant*, the quarterly journal of the Palatines to America Society of Columbus, Ohio, since 2001.

FOREIGN RESIDENCE

--Graz, Austria: faculty of American Institute of Musical Studies (July- August 1988, July-August 1990).

--Salzburg, Austria: tour guide (June-December 1975).

--Herrenchiemsee, West Germany: tour guide (April-August 1974).

--Frankfurt, Fulda, Wiesbaden, Neuwied, Koblenz, Darmstadt, and Ludwigshafen, West Germany: missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (June 1971-May 1973).

--Twelve months of miscellaneous travel in German-speaking countries since 1979 (most recently: February-March 2003 in Germany and Austria).

LDS CHURCH SERVICE (in chronological order since 1977)

--Sunday school instructor, young men president, stake athletic director, regional name extraction director, young men secretary, ward financial clerk, executive secretary, counselor to elders quorum president, high council, Sunday school instructor, high priest group assistant, high priest group instructor, ward clerk, stake clerk.

OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE

--Docent at "This is the Place Heritage Park" (schoolmaster since 1996 and language coach/first person interpretation trainer since 2002)

--Assistant track and field coach at Woods Cross High School (1995-2003).

--Certified National Official #19329, USA Track and Field (since 1999).

BIOGRAPHICAL

--Born 8 March 1952 in Lincoln, Nebraska; residence in Nebraska, California, Utah, Ohio, and Europe (above).

--Spouse: married in 1974 to Jeanne Gardner (B.A. in German, Brigham Young University, 1975; residence in Austria 1971-1972 and The Netherlands 1964-65).

--Daughters: Melanie (28), Julie (25), Stephanie (23), and Cassie (20).

WEBSITE

www.rogerpminert.com