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75 Years of the Junior Year in Munich

Mark Ferguson

Wayne State University

2006 is not only the Year of Study Abroad as designated by the US Senate; it also marks the 75th anniversary of a distinguished tradition of study abroad in Germany that reaches back to 1931. The history of Wayne State University's Junior Year in Munich (JYM) dates back to a tradition first developed in the early 1920s when, as an effort to promote international peace and understanding in the aftermath of World War I, a new form of international education was conceived for American undergraduates: the Junior Year Abroad.

Shortly after the First World War, Prof. Raymond W. Kirkbride (1892–1929), a young instructor in the Modern Languages Department at the University of Delaware and a World War I veteran, successfully promoted an idea that would soon become known as the Delaware Foreign Study Plan, or Junior Year Abroad. (Hullihen, Dougherty, *The Foreign Study Plan*, Munroe.) Unlike previous study abroad opportunities which were limited to the exchange of individual graduate students, the Delaware Plan was unique in that it was designed as a foreign study plan for supervised groups of undergraduates. In 1923 the Junior Year Abroad tradition began with the establishment of an intercollegiate program for undergraduate students at the Sorbonne in Paris. As described later: "The University of Delaware organized in 1923 a plan whereby students in the Junior class might pursue a carefully developed group of studies at the Sorbonne in lieu of those pursued in the Junior year at home and receive equal credit for the work done abroad." (Institute, 14th Report, 23)

The Delaware Plan would have a great impact on the expansion of study abroad for American undergraduate students in the years following the First World War, and it soon caught the attention of the Institute of International Education (IIE) in New

York. Founded 1919, IIE had started to organize student, faculty, and teacher exchanges in Europe in the early 1920s. Because of its experience with administering fellowships, IIE was asked to form a committee to help administer the University of Delaware's Junior Year Abroad in Paris.

In 1927, as the prospect for additional so-called "junior year plans" in France began to emerge, IIE subsequently organized a Committee on the Junior Year Abroad composed of modern language departments and leading colleges with the goal of promoting intercollegiate cooperation in the development of future junior year plans in other countries. By 1931 an extension of a "junior year plan" to Germany was agreed upon by IIE and the *Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst* (DAAD), and a special committee for the "American Junior Year" was established at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München.¹ This pre-war JYM program is variously referred to in IIE and *German Quarterly* publications as the German Junior Year Group, the Junior-Year-Plan, the Munich Junior Year, or the Junior Year in Munich. Designed along the lines of the Delaware Plan, IIE agreed to accept applications and administer scholarships, while the program itself was supervised in Munich by Professor Camillo von Klenze (1865–1943). By the end of the year IIE was able to report:

This year has seen the initiation of another movement for the promotion of international friendship through student interchange under the auspices of the Institute in the establishment of the Junior Year in Munich along the lines similar to those already in existence for the Delaware Plan in France. In co-operation with the Institute, the *Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst* and the University of Munich have worked out a plan whereby American students may spend their Ju-

¹ Hereafter referred to as LMU Munich.

nior Year in Germany, receive credit for it and return to their “home” university for their senior year. Courses will be offered in the German language and in various phases of German culture and civilization. In addition, each student will have the privilege of electing a course. Students will be lodged with German families thus giving them the opportunity to become acquainted with German life at first hand. Special arrangements will be made for their attendance at theaters, operas, and museums of art. (Institute, 12th Report, 24)

Camillo von Klenze (A.B. Harvard, Ph.D. Marburg) may rightly be considered the founder of the Junior Year in Munich as it existed in the pre-war years. A native of Switzerland and great-nephew of the court architect to the Bavarian king Ludwig I, Leo von Klenze (1784-1864), he taught at Brown University from 1906 to 1916, where he also served as Head of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures. In 1916 he left Brown University for the College of the City of New York. Upon retirement, Prof. von Klenze was appointed Honorary Professor of American Culture at the LMU Munich, where he and his wife Henrietta (Ph.D. Chicago), spent 1930 preparing for the opening of the Junior Year in Munich with the academic year 1931-32. Depending on the success of this experimental year, the Delaware Foreign Study Committee was prepared to incorporate the Junior Year in Munich as an extension of its Foreign Study Plan the following year. (Diez, “Munich”; Diez, “Delaware Plan”)

It is certainly worth recalling that success was a word probably not heard all that often in 1931. The nation was still suffering from the stock market crash of October 1929, and by 1931 the Great Depression had firmly set in. Nevertheless, fifteen students participated in JYM during the program’s inaugural year, representing Bryn Mawr, Carleton, Lehigh, Mount Holyoke, St. Lawrence, Smith, Vassar, and Wellesley colleges. (Institute, 12th Report, 25). After Prof. and Mrs. von Klenze successfully guided the program through its initial year, the University of Delaware assumed sponsorship of JYM beginning with the 1932-33 academic year as planned. Dr. Samuel A. Nock served as Director of the Delaware Foreign Study Section to Germany and supervised JYM for the next two years, during which time a total of 40 students participated in the program. With the ascent of the Hitler regime in 1933, the University of Delaware decided to stop sending students to Germany as of academic year 1934-35.

Lacking the sponsorship of a university in the US, the *Deutsche Akademische Auslandsstelle* at the LMU Munich assumed supervision of the 1934-35 Junior Year in Munich program, and in 1935 “secured the services of an American, Dr. E. E. Miller, as administrator, thereby relating the work more closely to that required in an American college than was possible under the *Aussenstelle* alone.” (Institute, 16th Report, 14) Dr. Edmund E. Miller (1900-1953) received his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1933 and had taught at the University of Delaware before accepting the position as Director of the Junior Year in Munich. It soon became clear, however, that the JYM program was threatened with collapse under these conditions. According to one account: “This experiment proved totally unfeasible: the *Auslandsstelle* claimed possession and full control of the students’ funds while the University tried to manage the academic work without regard to our American system and the transfer of credit for courses to their home colleges, all of which culminated in an attempt to eliminate the American director.” (Institute, 16th Report, 14)

Miller then undertook a bold effort to safeguard the program and its students by creating an intercollegiate Executive Council with sole legal authority to operate and supervise all aspects of the Junior Year in Munich, as well as a National Advisory Committee to counsel the soon to be formed legal entity. In December 1936 nearly a hundred representatives of US German departments, colleges and universities gathered in Richmond, VA, to approve the incorporation of the Junior Year in Munich as a non-profit educational entity in the State of Delaware under the name German Junior Year, Inc. Prof. Camillo von Klenze was elected president of the Executive Council, whose members included President W.A. Neilson (Smith College), Dr. Stephan P. Duggan (Director of the Institute of International Education), Dr. Wilbur K. Thomas (Director of the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation), Prof. Grace M. Bacon (Mount Holyoke College), Prof. G.S. Dickinson (Vassar College), and Prof. Max Diez (Bryn Mawr College), who also served as vice-president and secretary. (Diez, “Munich” 452; Diez, “Zurich” 154). By the following year, it seemed that the program was well on the road to recovery:

The Junior Year in Munich, which suffered a severe setback when it was discontinued by the University of Delaware in 1933, is recovering with surprising vigor. There are thirty-four Juniors in

Munich this year, representing some twenty-five colleges and universities, and, in spite of wars and rumors of wars, all signs point to an increased registration for 1937–38. This success is largely due to the efforts of Dr. Edmund E. Miller, formerly of the German Department of the University of Delaware, who in 1935–36 courageously set out with Mrs. Miller to conduct a Junior Year in Munich on his own responsibility, with the help of the German staff and administration in Munich but without the support of any American organization. That, in view of the present political and economic conditions in Europe, may have seemed a daring venture, but interest in international education is keen and is growing apace, and the German Junior Year has evidently come to stay. (Diez, "Munich" 452)

In retrospect, that prediction was obviously premature and the future of JYM was by no means guaranteed. The Executive Council of the German Junior Year, Inc. was already considering moving the program to Vienna for the 1938–39 academic year, but those plans were rejected when the *Anschluss* occurred. Although a Junior Year in Munich program was announced for the 1939–40 academic year, with the invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939, the extension to Germany of the "movement now known as the 'Junior Year Abroad'" to which IIE proudly referred in 1935 (Institute, 16th Report 13), was suspended for the duration of the war. It was not until early 1945, with the war's end in sight, that IIE began setting the groundwork for re-establishing Junior Year Abroad programs in post-war Europe:

Responding to an invitation issued by the Institute, a group of fifty persons interested in the revival of Junior Year Foreign Study plans met for a luncheon conference on Saturday, March 10, 1945, at the Town Hall Club in New York City. The Director of the Institute of International Education presided at this conference, made an introductory statement, and was followed in brief talks by President Emeritus William A. Neilson, of Smith College, Professor Edwin C. Byam and Professor George E. Brinton, of the University of Delaware, Dr. Edmund Miller, of the German Junior Year, Inc., and President Herbert Davis, of Smith College. During the discussion that followed, emphasis was laid upon the desirability of coordinating the activities of Junior Year Groups, and the advantage of a joint office, which might take charge of common academic and business concerns. The Chairman was requested to appoint a committee to draw up a plan embodying proposals in a Memorandum for the organization of a general Junior

Year Committee or Council presented by the Committee on Foreign Study of the University of Delaware. The Assistant Director of the Institute was appointed Chairman of the General Junior Year Committee. A meeting of the Committee has been called for October, 1945, after which it is planned to have a second conference to consider the concrete plan which is expected the Committee will report (Institute, Report Assistant Director, 30–31).

The Committee met as planned in New York on October 20, 1945, to organize a Council of the Junior Year Abroad. In attendance were representatives of the junior year operating groups, participating institutions and former program directors. An "Outline for the Inauguration of a Junior Year Abroad Group" was drafted which addressed programmatic and logistical matters, including the selection of faculty members to plan courses and deal with housing, the appointment of a director to deal with the budget, publicity, visas, the engagement of a professor or assistant to supervise students abroad, and the establishment of standards for admittance. Talking points were prepared for use in promoting the Junior Year Abroad concept at colleges and universities since the view still prevailed that, unless a group structure existed to provide the necessary group supervision of undergraduates overseas, study abroad should be restricted to individual graduate students (History of the Council on the Junior Year Abroad).

Since it was impossible to re-establish a Junior Year Group for Germany so soon after the war, efforts focused on Switzerland as the only country that could host junior year groups in the immediate post-war years. In 1946 the Executive Council of the German Junior Year Inc. sponsored the creation of the American Council of College Study in Switzerland (with Prof. Alfred Senn of Pennsylvania University as president and Mrs. Anna R. Zolinger of Brooklyn College as vice-president), to oversee the opening of a new program: the Junior Year in Zurich (1946–51). The Director of the Junior Year in Zurich was none other than Dr. Edmund E. Miller, now a Professor of Foreign Languages at the University of Maryland. From Zurich, Miller began to revive his ultimate goal of re-opening the Junior Year in Munich. The groundwork for the re-opening of the Junior Year in Munich began in 1948. Leading the efforts were the former JYM director Dr. Edmund E. Miller and a former JYM student from 1935–36, Dr. John Ebelke.

John F. Ebelke (1916–1960) received his A.B. from Brown University in 1937, an M.A. from University of Kansas in 1939, and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1946. He had first been hired by Wayne State University (WSU)² as a substitute instructor in January 1944 while completing his doctoral studies, and was appointed Assistant Professor of German with the Department of Romance and Germanic Languages and Literatures in 1948. That same year, Dr. Edmund E. Miller (who had also become Director of the American Council of College Study in Switzerland), invited his former student Dr. Ebelke to return to Europe as Supervisor of Studies of a second program in Switzerland, the Junior Year in Basel, which was scheduled to open in 1948.

After being granted a leave of absence from WSU, Dr. Ebelke left for Switzerland in summer 1948 to open the Junior Year in Basel. Within a few months, Dr. Miller already had requested that Dr. Ebelke stay on a second year with the additional responsibility as Acting Resident Dean of the University of Maryland's Graduate Study Abroad program in Basel. It was during his two-year stay in Basel from 1948-50 that Dr. Ebelke began to collaborate with Dr. Miller to re-open the Junior Year in Munich program. In the spring of 1949 Dr. Ebelke visited Munich to assist Dr. Miller who recently had publicized the re-opening of the Junior Year in Munich under supervision of the German Junior Year, Inc. in September 1950 (Intercollegiate Junior Year). For reasons unknown, this apparently was not possible. In any event, by 1951 both junior year programs in Switzerland had closed, Dr. Ebelke had returned to Detroit, and Dr. Miller had moved on to become Acting Director of the University of Maryland's Armed Forces Abroad European Program at the University of Heidelberg.

In April 1951 Dr. Ebelke presented a "German Junior Year Abroad Proposal" to the WSU Council of Deans, proposing that the College of Liberal Arts sponsor a junior year abroad program. Pending approval by WSU, as well as both the US Department of State and the Institute of International Education, he envisioned that the program could already begin in fall 1952. In a "Statement on German Junior Year Abroad Program" to the Faculty Council and Council of Deans (Nov. 14, 1951), Dr. Ebelke outlined the need for a junior year in Germany program:

American universities have in the past been reluctant to permit their undergraduate students to study abroad individually, for there is a strong feeling that the student will derive fuller benefits for foreign study after he has obtained his degree. Almost all grants for such study, as, for instance, the State Department awards, are made to graduate students only. The "Junior Year Abroad" programs, however, have been an outstanding exception, since they provide the necessary supervision, from the American university's point of view, for undergraduates. Under this program students receive full academic credit for work done while they are members of an approved group. In contrast to the fleeting and perhaps somewhat romanticized impressions derived from the many short-term European summer seminars and study and work groups, qualified students in the Junior Year enjoy a full academic year abroad, living in the homes of their foreign hosts and studying at a major university as part of their regular student body, an experience which can and usually does exert tremendous influence on the student's development and attitude.... At present, there is no Junior Year program in the German area of Europe (Ebelke "Statement").

Dr. Ebelke's proposal received enthusiastic support from Dr. Victor A. Rapport, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and Dr. Clarence B. Hilberry, Dean of Administration of the University since 1945 (later WSU President 1953–1956). By the time the Modern Language Association met in Detroit for its annual meeting in December 1951, Dr. Ebelke was able to announce that the Junior Year in Munich was to re-open "in the near future" under WSU sponsorship (Birkmaier).

1952 must also have been a dreadfully busy year. After having convinced the faculty at WSU to entertain the idea of sponsoring a Junior Year program in Munich, and after having secured the blessing of the university's upper administration to move forward, Dr. Ebelke still needed to find the financial backing which the university required before the project actually could be implemented. Adding to an already complex situation, Dr. Ebelke was not alone in exploring a new post-war, junior year abroad program in Munich; the University of Kansas, Colgate University, and Smith College were also entertaining the idea of opening a program in Munich as well. As the enormity of these challenges became clearer, Dr. Ebelke reported to

² Wayne University became Wayne State University by the Michigan Public Acts of 1956.

Dean Rappport of the College of Liberal Arts in early 1952 that it would simply be impossible to launch the program in fall as he had hoped, and instead set fall 1953 as the target date for re-opening the Junior Year in Munich.

During the months of February and March, Dr. Ebelke worked with the encouragement of Detroit businessman Kurt R. Keydel (1904–90) to solicit financial support from individuals and German-American organizations in Detroit in order to set up a guarantee arrangement which would cover any deficits incurred in the first years of the JYM program. The Keydel family was well known in Detroit's German-American community; brothers Oscar and Kurt had saved the German-language *Detroit Abend-Post* (est. 1864) from financial ruin in 1938 and both were active in the community. As vice-president of the German-American Club, Inc., Kurt Keydel (who later served as a member of the WSU Board of Governors from 1969-80) would provide a valuable link to the financial underwriters Dr. Ebelke needed to re-open the Junior Year in Munich.

The German-American Club, Inc., was founded in 1950 to help with initial fundraising for a new common hall which would accommodate the many activities of the German-American community in Detroit. Later that year it changed its name to the German-American Cultural Center, Inc. (GACC) so that it could better serve as an umbrella organization for more than twenty German-American clubs and societies in Detroit. Kurt Keydel was instrumental in helping Dr. Ebelke connect to the newly founded GACC. By March 1952 Dr. Ebelke could report that he had found a group of people in Detroit who were willing to underwrite the re-opening of JYM to the extent of \$10,000 over a period of five years. The twenty-one Original Underwriters and Guarantors were so enthused about JYM that they entertained the idea of establishing a separate independent foundation to provide scholarships for studying and training in Western Germany.

Beginning in April 1952 Dr. Ebelke also began receiving the endorsements he needed for the re-opening of the Junior Year in Munich, including letters of support from U.S. Sen. Karl E. Mundt, Reed Harris (Acting Administrator, Department of State, United States International Information Administration), Luther H. Evans (Librarian of Congress), Charles E. Odegaard (Executive Director, American Council of Learned Societies), George N. Shuster (Chairman, IIE Board of Trustees), and Donald Shank (IIE Executive Vice-President), who invited WSU to join IIE's Council on the Junior

Year Abroad in the capacity of an Operating Group. But it was former JYM director Dr. Edmund E. Miller (by 1952 Director of the University of Maryland European Programs), who again proved to be a most valuable link between the pre-war and post-war JYM programs. Just as Dr. Miller had turned to Dr. Ebelke to open the Junior Year in Basel in 1948, it was now the former JYM student who called upon his former JYM director for assistance in re-opening the Junior Year in Munich. He provided Dr. Ebelke with the valuable logistical support necessary to re-open the Junior Year in Munich by extending his option on the rental of two conference rooms at Amalienstraße 54 (an option which was to expire in June 1952) and made them, along with the German Junior Year, Inc. library, available to the new Junior Year in Munich program. But more importantly, it was in fact Dr. Miller who opened the door for Dr. Ebelke to begin discussions with the LMU Munich regarding the re-opening of the Junior Year in Munich. In early spring he had already written to the LMU Munich to introduce Dr. Ebelke and report on WSU's desire to re-open the Junior Year in Munich. Dr. Ebelke followed up with a letter in May, and by June Prof. Dr. Michael Schmaus, Rector of the LMU Munich, responded favorably and expressed his interest in re-opening the Junior Year in Munich: "Ich würde mich sehr freuen, wenn die alte Tradition des "Junior Year in Munich" wieder aufgenommen werden könnte.... Herrn Kollegen E. Miller stehe ich jederzeit für eine Besprechung zur Verfügung. Ich bitte, ihn zu einem Besuch in München herzlich einzuladen" (Schmaus).

Whether Dr. Miller was able to accept the invitation to visit Munich again is unclear. But by late 1952 the future of Dr. Miller's important contributions and interventions on behalf of Dr. Ebelke and in support of re-opening the JYM program must have been in doubt. The chairman of the Executive Council of the German Junior Year, Inc. (Prof. John Whyte of Brooklyn College) had passed away that year, Dr. Miller suffered a serious heart attack in September, and the organization's charter was scheduled to expire January 1, 1953. Nevertheless, preparations continued to re-open the JYM program. Arrangements were finalized with the GACC for underwriting JYM's startup costs and in November 1952 Dr. Ebelke was appointed JYM Director. He quickly went about forming a new Advisory Council for the program, and by December the first JYM brochures were in the mail.

With the arrival of 1953, Dr. Ebelke also was now busy exploring sources of possible scholarship

assistance for JYM students. In spring he contacted the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation (est. 1930) in Philadelphia which had made available as much as \$10,000 in scholarships per year in the mid-1930s to the German Junior Year Group. The Foundation first met his inquiry with scepticism, fearful that the program would not make it financially past the first year in the event other programs were opened in Munich as well. After admitting that their scepticism derived from the fact that they felt Detroit was simply “terra incognita” (they went so far as to research how many subscribers to the Foundation’s *American-German Review* there were in Michigan and in Detroit in particular), their willingness to entertain the idea of making scholarship support available was secured when the Foundation received the first *Grüss Gott* newsletter put together by the 1953–54 student group and could share in the enthusiasm of its participants.

By the time the first JYM group since 1939 set sail for Europe on the Queen Elizabeth in September 1953, initial enrollments of eighteen had dropped to twelve. Sadly, Dr. Edmund Miller was not able to witness the fulfillment of his hard work, for he passed away before the Junior Year in Munich officially re-opened.³ (Miller) Nevertheless, the arrival of a small yet enthusiastic group of students was welcomed by Prof. Dr. Dr. J.N. Köstler, Rector of the LMU Munich, and marked the return of the Junior Year in Munich tradition to the LMU Munich:

After an interruption of almost fifteen years of an old tradition at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, the Winter Semester 1953-54 again saw twelve American Juniors come to Munich under the auspices of a JUNIOR YEAR IN MUNICH. The University of Munich welcomes the initiative of Wayne University in Detroit, for whom it was possible, after long and arduous preparations, to bring this group of students to Munich for a year’s study. As current President of the University of Munich I heartily welcome our young American fellow-students and hope that they will be able to take rich gains back home with them from their year in of study in Munich. This JUNIOR YEAR in Munich which, it is hoped, will again become a permanent part of our University, surely will contribute to a deeper understanding between our two nations. (Köstler)

Dr. Ebelke and his wife Marianne accompa-

nied the first JYM group to Munich under WSU sponsorship where they remained in their capacities as resident director and student counselor for the 1953–54 year. Reporting back to the National Advisory Council in December 1953 from the JYM office in Amalienstrasse 54, Dr. Ebelke provided a glimpse of Munich during the period of post-war reconstruction:

The classrooms of the University are still crowded, but our students have obtained seats in all courses in which they are interested, including laboratory work. We have been received in a very friendly way by the University authorities and faculty and enjoy their active help and support. – The main University buildings have been largely repaired and the situation improves steadily almost by the hour, although it may still be a year or two until a completely normal operation is again possible. [...] Since Munich was severely damaged by the war it may interest you to hear something about its reconstruction. There are still many scars everywhere, of course, but reconstruction work in the last two-three years has been little short of fantastic. Almost all of the Ludwigstrasse has been rebuilt. Everywhere new apartment houses stand or new buildings are going up. Many ruins have been leveled for parking or used car lots; others seem to disappear almost overnight as building goes on with construction crews and cranes working through the darkness with floodlights. Some of the worst ruins still may stand for years, to be sure, before anything has been done and the towers of the Frauenkirche stand clad in new copper. [...] There is absolutely no shortage of food in Germany. In Munich even the problem of living quarters has eased to such an extent that we are able to place all our students in really comfortable and decent rooms, usually in private families, although this required some effort. To be sure, prices are high for Germany but wages have also risen considerably and all the shops seem crowded most of the time. (Ebelke “Letter”)

With the inaugural year of the JYM program a clear success, Dr. Ebelke was gearing up for the program’s second year. Scholarship funds were now available through the German-American Cultural Center and the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation, and in late September 1954 the second JYM group of twenty-six students set sail from New York with the Queen Mary for their eight-day voyage to Europe. Dr. Bernhard V. Valentini, formerly of Princeton University and New York University,

³ “Edmund E. Miller” (obituary), *The German Quarterly* 26.3 (May 1953): 215.

was hired as resident director for the years 1954–56, followed by Dr. Eitel Wolf Dobert (1906–1994) of the University of Maryland, who served as resident director from 1956–58.

Enrollments jumped to forty by 1956 and reached sixty-six for the 1958–59 academic year when Dr. Conrad P. Homberger (a former Munich lawyer and now professor at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn) assumed the position of JYM resident director. In light of such dramatic enrollments, not only had the need for new office space in Munich become acute (in summer 1958 a new main office had been found at Akademiestrasse 19, while the old rooms at Amalienstrasse 54 were retained for tutorials), but discussions emerged regarding the need to open a second site in Germany, Austria or Switzerland. This became all the more clear when sixty-six of the ninety-four (94!) JYM students disembarked in Bremerhaven (along with their 160 pieces of luggage), for the 1959–60 program.

After exploring a number of possibilities, including Frankfurt and Cologne, Dr. Ebelke and Dr. Carl Colditz (Ph.D. University of Chicago, at WSU since 1934), set their eyes on the Black Forest city of Freiburg im Breisgau. They envisioned that the existing program in Munich could accommodate sixty students, and a new program in Freiburg forty. The first meetings between Dr. Colditz (JYM resident director in 1959–60) and the rector of the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg began in September 1959, and by the end of the year Wayne State University was able to announce that it would open its Junior Year in Freiburg program beginning 1960–61.⁴

Dr. Colditz had witnessed the immense amount of work involved in re-opening the Junior Year in Munich, and launching the new Junior Year program in Freiburg was going to require no less an effort. While still in Munich as resident director, Dr. Colditz therefore requested and received a sabbatical leave from WSU to move to Freiburg at the end of the 1959–60 academic year in order to direct the

new program in its first year; Dr. Robert Miller was hired as the JYM assistant resident director for 1960–61.

Yet in the midst of all the flurry of planning and overall enthusiasm for opening a second Junior Year in Germany program, the Junior Year in Munich was dealt a tragic blow. Dr. John Ebelke – who had worked so tirelessly and with so much devotion towards re-establishing the tradition of the Junior Year in Munich in 1953, and within whose correspondence he began to humbly, yet proudly rejoice that “we finally made it,” died suddenly in May, 1960. His wife, Marianne Ebelke, provided necessary continuity as Executive Secretary of the two Junior Year in Germany programs until her death in 1974.

The Junior Year in Munich continued to grow and flourish during the decade of the 1960s, during which time Prof. Harold A. Basilius (1905–1977) directed the program from Detroit. Dr. Marianne Riegler, who joined JYM as an instructor in 1955 and was awarded a Fulbright Exchange Professorship to WSU in 1960, was appointed JYM resident director upon her return to Germany in 1961.⁵ As JYM’s 10th anniversary approached in 1963, Prof. Dr. Julius Speer, Rector of the LMU Munich, assured WSU President Dr. Clarence Hilberry that the introduction of *numerus clausus* in certain fields of study would not impact the Junior Year in Munich, adding:

Das JUNIOR YEAR ist bereits zu einer festen Einrichtung der Universität geworden und ich hoffe, und wünsche mit Ihnen, dass auch in Zukunft das JUNIOR YEAR unseren jungen amerikanischen Kommilitonen und Komilitoninnen ein erfolgreiches, schönes Münchner Studienjahr bieten wird” (Speer).

Although the JYM program was certainly well-established by 1963, efforts would soon be underway to establish a more secure and lasting partnership between WSU and the LMU Munich. Leading the initiative was Prof. Dr. Ludwig Kotter,

⁴ The Junior Year in Freiburg program was sponsored exclusively by Wayne State University from 1960–64. In 1964 the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Michigan joined the program as co-sponsors, and Michigan State University in 1968. Wayne State University remained the lead administrator of the consortium throughout its operation until the program closed in 1996. During its thirty-six years, more than 2,000 students participated in the Junior Year in Freiburg program.

⁵ Over the course of the next thirty-four years, 2,569 students would participate in the JYM program under Dr. Riegler’s guidance and supervision from 1961–1995. In recognition of her unparalleled contribution to the mission of transatlantic goodwill, friendship and understanding embodied in the tradition of the Junior Year in Munich, Dr. Riegler was awarded the honor of *Ehrenbürgerin* of the LMU Munich, and an honorary doctorate from WSU.

Rector of the LMU Munich, who in preparation for a Nov. 1966 visit to Munich by WSU President Dr. William R. Keast, outlined the foundation for a more permanent relation between JYM and the LMU Munich:

Die Universität München begrüsst die Durchführung des Junior Year in Munich der Wayne State University als einer ständigen Einrichtung zur Förderung des gegenseitigen Kennen- und Verstehenlernens amerikanischer und deutscher Studenten." (Kotter "Letter to Riegler") As further expressed in the letter to Marianne Riegler, the purpose of Dr. Keast's visit to Munich (to be followed by a visit to Detroit by Prof. Dr. Kotter in April, 1967), was nothing less than "die formale Voraussetzungen zu schaffen, dass das Junior Year der Wayne State University als ein integrierter Teil der Universität München angesehen wird (Kotter "Letter to Riegler").

Decades before the Bologna Process and today's campaign for international student mobility, Prof. Dr. Kotter demonstrated that he was a true visionary and ahead of his time when it came to international education. Not only would he be responsible for creating an unprecedented form of academically and institutionally integrated study abroad for US undergraduates through the Junior Year in Munich, he also envisioned a day when doctoral students from both universities might earn a combined degree by spending alternate years in Munich and Detroit doing their postgraduate work.⁶ Thanks to Prof. Dr. Kotter's initiative, in June 1967 the Academic Senate of the LMU Munich conferred upon the Junior Year in Munich privileged status as an affiliated institute at the LMU Munich, henceforth to be recognized as an integral part of the LMU Munich through the designation "Junior Year in Munich *an der Universität München*." (Kotter, "Letter to Basilius") In recognition of the desire for expanded partnership between both universities, a Munich Graduate Exchange Fellowship program was introduced the same year which continues to this day.

By 1970, enrollments in JYM had reached an all-time high of 102 students and housing again became an issue of concern. Since the late 1950s the *Studentenwerk München* had plans of building a

large housing complex to accommodate the growing number of students in Munich. They found the necessary initial financial support from the Max Kade Foundation and construction for the *Studentenstadt* Freimann began in 1961. In exchange for its support in procuring additional funding from the Max Kade Foundation for the third phase of construction at the *Studentenstadt* Freimann in 1972, the Junior Year in Munich was now guaranteed housing opportunities for its students alongside their German counterparts. In addition, the Max Kade Foundation began a tradition, which exists to this day, of providing the Junior Year in Munich with grant fellowship assistance for students in financial need so that they can participate in the JYM program.

Directing the JYM program from Detroit in 1970–75 was Prof. Diether Haenicke, a former JYM tutor who later became president of Western Michigan University. Under his guidance the program achieved an additional distinction. In November 1974 the Academic Senate of the LMU Munich endorsed a proposal to make the Junior Year in Munich *an der Universität München* an official course of study at the university. The proposal was forwarded to the Ministry of Education and Culture of the State of Bavaria, and in January 1975 the Ministry awarded the Junior Year in Munich prestigious and unprecedented academic status as an officially sanctioned *Teilstudiengang* at the LMU Munich, thereby ensuring that JYM students would have wide access to university coursework. The subsequent generation of JYM students benefited from the guidance of Prof. Marvin Schindler (1932–2003), who received one of Germany's highest civilian honors, *Das Verdienstkreuz 1. Klasse*, for directing Wayne State's Junior Year in Germany programs in Munich and Freiburg from 1975 to 1994. Under Prof. Donald Haase's directorship the following year JYM's current resident director, Dr. Hans-Peter Söder (Ph.D. Cornell University), was appointed. Directing the JYM program from Detroit since 1996 is Dr. Mark Ferguson (Ph.D. University of Wisconsin-Madison and alumnus of the Junior Year in Freiburg 1976–77).

Ever since the Junior Year in Munich was first envisioned more than 75 years ago, JYM students

⁶ See Harry Salsinger, "Joint Course Eyed for WSU, Munich" *Detroit News* (26 April, 1967) and "Rektor der Münchner Universität für Ausdehnung des WSU-Bildungsprogramms" *Detroit Abend-*

Post (30 April, 1967). News clippings from the Keast Collection, Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University Archives, Detroit.

have been living and studying overseas while world events unfolded around them. It is a credit to the courage and open-mindedness of the more than 3,500 students from 500 US colleges and universities who participated in JYM since 1953 that even when Cold War tensions threatened world peace, when Soviet tanks were at Germany's doorsteps, or when America was at war, the Junior Year in Munich continued to operate without interruption. As much as the groups of JYM students may have changed throughout the years, the need for the Junior Year in Munich remains the same as originally envisioned seventy-five years ago: the world can still benefit from increased mutual understanding, tolerance, compassion, and peace. Equally, as much as the Junior Year in Munich can be proud of its unique history, the academic rigor of its programs, and the accomplishments of its alumni (including the internationally known author Jonathan Franzen), the JYM experience always has been about more than just courses and grades. The Junior Year in Munich has provided students a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for personal growth, exploration, and reflection—all within a foreign environment which they first had to learn to negotiate successfully, and all experienced and expressed in a language not their own.

JYM has kept pace with the changing institutional needs and academic interests of today's generation of study abroad students. Today the program operates both full-year and one-semester programs, internship programs, an honors program within JYM, a Job Board for JYM alumni, as well as a Munich Summer Fellows Program program for talented college freshmen students of German. At the same time, JYM insists upon continuing the tradition of academically integrated study abroad—a program model that offers maximum opportunity for the academic, cultural, and social immersion of students studying abroad in Germany as German university students. The Munich office has once again relocated since it moved to Leopoldstraße 23 in 1967, and since 1998 can be found at Richard Wagner Straße 27, adjacent to the Königsplatz and nestled within Munich's Museum Mile. JYM can also be found on the web at «www.jym.wayne.edu».

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