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| From the Editor |

This year marks a milestone for *Focus on German Studies*. After twenty years as a print publication, the previous edition of *Focus* marked the journal's inauguration to the digital-only format that is slowly gaining acceptance in the academic world. This twenty-second volume of our all graduate student edited journal stands as the first to make use of its new home on Open Journal Systems, a platform adopted by the University of Cincinnati's Langsam Library. I am proud to be part of such a rich academic tradition at UC and to help guide *Focus* into its new format. This all-digital publication not only offers easy access to the journal's entire history, it makes the work of the contributing graduate student scholars more easily accessible.

Focus has always been a product of the cooperative and nurturing atmosphere that the UC German Department offers. Its long life and continued success in publishing the work of young scholars from North America, Europe, and throughout the rest of the world are a testament to the teamwork and collaboration among the UC graduate students. I would personally like to thank our previous editor Emily Bauman for her taking the first steps to put *Focus* online, as well as for her guidance in publishing this volume. Thanks are also in order to my co-editor, Matthew Bauman, for coordinating the book reviews and for his continued willingness to help with any part of the publishing process. I would also like to extend my thanks to this year's Assistant Editor, Amanda Hatch for her continued support, and in particular for her generosity in always graciously taking on any and every task assigned with meticulous attention to quality. Further thanks are due to all of our copy editors without whom the continued quality and reputation of *Focus* would not be possible.

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Alex Hogue