

Sigrid Berka

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND, KINGSTON, R.I.

Executive Director, International Engineering Program 2010- Professor of German 2015- Associate Dir. International Engineering Program; Assoc. Prof. of German 2009-10

Manage, market, fundraise and strategically plan for this innovative five-year dual degree program through which students work simultaneously towards a B.S. in an engineering field, and a B.A. in Chinese, French, German, Italian, Spanish or in Global Area Studies Japanese track. Since 2010, the IEP has added an Italian and a Japanese branch, won two distinguished educational awards and brought in close to \$3.6 million in corporate, foundation, government and private funds and deferred giving for the IEP. Certified Intercultural Development Index (IDI) coach.

Director, German IEP

Co-Advise (with Niko Tracksdorf) ~135 German IEP majors with respect to curriculum planning, year abroad, internship placements and scholarship applications; Co-teach German 315 for GIEP/IBP/ICSP students enrolled during their six-month internship. Annually co-teach two-week faculty-led Group Study Visit/J-Term to Germany (funded by DAAD, Max Kade Foundation) for 10-35 students (since 2009). Manage exchange with TU Braunschweig/TU Darmstadt and advise ~10-15 dual master students annually.

Director, Chinese IEP

Manage exchange with Zhejiang University (ZJU) in China and with Tunghai University in Taiwan. Assist outgoing Chinese IEP/IBP students in finding internships with Chinese/Taiwanese companies. Created dual B.S./M.S. 3+x degree between ZJU/URI; Co-created MOU with Tunghai University, Taiwan, with other URI faculty.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, CAMBRIDGE, M.A. Managing Director, MIT-Germany Program, MIT International Science & Technology Initiatives (MISTI) 2007-09 Director of Placements and Industrial Relations, *MIT-Germany Program* 2003-07 Coordinator, *MIT-Germany Program* 1996-02 MIT Delegate and Chair, University Committee, *Global Engineering Excellence Initiative – Global Engineering Internship Program (GEE-GEIP)*, a consortium of seven of the world's leading technical universities sponsored by Continental AG 2007-09

BARNARD COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, NY *Assistant Professor of German Studies, German Department* 1990-96 Served as Section Head of the German Department (1994-96); taught all levels of German language and literature; First Year Seminars; Intro to Freud course at Columbia University.

SPECIAL HONORS/AWARDS

2019 *Administrative Excellence Award*, University of Rhode Island Foundation

2019 *German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Alumni Association Excellence Award for International Exchange*

2012 *Andrew Heiskell Innovation Award for Study Abroad*, awarded by the Institute for International Education; successfully nominated the IEP for this award.

2011 *NAFSA Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award*. Successfully nominated URI's International Engineering Program for this prestigious NAFSA Award for an innovative program on campus.

2009 *The Federal Republic of Germany Friendship Award* awarded by the Consul General of Germany in Boston on behalf of the Ambassador of Germany in Washington, D.C.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS/ EDITED VOLUMES/EDITORIAL WORK

Berka, S. Editor, with Editor-in-Chief Brent Jesiek, *Journal of International Engineering Education* (JIEE) (2018-2023): <https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/jiee/>

Berka, S., Rarick, D. (2010-2018). Co-Eds. *Online Journal for Global Engineering Education* (OJGEE).

Berka, S. Groll, E. (eds) Bridging the Languages with Engineering (2011-13): In Honor of John Grandin. *Online Journal for Global Engineering Education* vol. 6: iss. 1.

Fink, S., **Berka, S.** (1994). Textbook: *Spiralen, Textbook for Intermediate German*. Boston: Heinle & Heinle Publishers.

Berka, S. Guest ed. (1994). Das Werk von Botho Strauß und die ‚Bocksgesang‘-Debatte. *Weimarer Beiträge* 40.2.

Berka, S. (1991). *Mythos-Theorie und Allegorik bei Botho Strauß*. Wien: PASSAGEN Verlag.

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Mu, B., **Berka, S.**, Erickson, L., Pérez-Ibáñez, I. (2022). Individual experiences that affect students' development of intercultural competence in study abroad. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*. 89. 30-41.

Erickson, L. **Berka, S.**; Pérez-Ibáñez, I.; Tracksdorf, N.; and La Luna, M. (2021). Using Byram's Five Savoirs to Measure the Development of Intercultural Competence in the COVID-19 Era during an Engineering Sojourn Abroad. *Journal of International Engineering Education*. Vol. 3: Iss. 1, Article 3. <https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/jiee/vol3/iss1/3>

Erickson, L., **Berka, S.**, Castro, Z., Hu, X. (2020). Enhancing Study Abroad: Interventions for Greater Language Proficiency and Intercultural Development. *NECTFL Review*. 86. 9-31.

Grandin, J., **Berka, S.** (2014). Reforming American Higher Education: The University of Rhode Island International Engineering Program. *ADFL Bulletin* vol. 43.1. 23-44.

Grandin, J., **Berka, S.** (2014). The University of Rhode Island International Engineering Program: Merging Technology with the Humanities. *The Russian Language Journal* vol. 64. 25-51.

Berka, S. (2011). Retaining Engineering Students through a January Term German Immersion Study Tour. *Global Business Languages*, vol. 16.7. <http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/gbl/vol16/iss1/7>.

Berka, S. (2011). The University of Rhode Island Dual Graduate Degree Program with the Technical University of Braunschweig – Its Added Value, Synergies and Gains for Engineering Students. *Online Journal for Global Engineering Education (OJGEE)*, vol. 6. iss. 1, article 5, <http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/ojgee/vol6/iss1/>.

Berka, S., Riemer, W. (1988). 'Ich schreibe vor allem gegen, nicht für etwas.' Ein Interview mit Marlene Streeruwitz. *The German Quarterly* 71.1 (1998): 47-60.

Berka, S. (1995). The Textual and Sexual Politics of Vampirism in Elfriede Jelinek's *Krankheit oder Moderne Frauen*. *The German Quarterly* 68.4 (1995): 372-88.

Berka, S. (1994). Botho Strauß und die Debatte um den 'Bocksgesang'. Zu diesem Heft. *Weimarer Beiträge* 40.2.165-178.

Berka, S. (1993). Ein Gespräch mit Elfriede Jelinek. *Modern Austrian Literature* 26.2.127-155.

Berka, S. (1989-90). Spätzeit des Mythos in Botho Strauß' *Der Park: Terror und Poesie*. *New German Review*. Vol. 5&6. 1-14.

Berka, S. (1988). Verlustformen im Schäferroman 'Die verwüstete und verödete Schäfererei'. *Michigan Germanic Studies* XIV: 16-29.

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Berka, S., & Mu, B., & Erickson, L. O., & Perez-Ibanez, I. (2021). The Role of Study Abroad Curricular Interventions in Engineering Students' Intercultural Competence Development. ASEE Virtual Annual Conference. <https://peer.asee.org/37893>

Berka, S. and La Luna, M. (2020). Strategies for Managing an International Engineering Program during the COVID-19 Global Crisis. *Annual Conference Northeast Section (ASEE-NE)*, Bridgeport, CT, USA. 1-6, doi: 10.1109/ASEENE51624.2020.9292651.

Berka, S., Serman, E. A., Echevarria, M. M., Erickson, L. O., Scholz, S. A., Geithner, A. (2015). Integrating a portfolio of short with long-term international programs in the engineering curriculum. Presented at 2015 ASEE International Forum, Seattle, Washington.
<https://peer.asee.org/17143>.

Berka, S., v. Reinhart, W. (2014) Integrating Study, Research and Internships abroad for a year long International Engineering Program. *Proceedings of the 2014 ASEE Annual Conference*, Indianapolis, IN, June 15-18. <http://www.asee.org/public/conferences/32/papers/10741/view>.

Berka, S., Papa, E., von Reinhart, W. (2013). Is the International Engineering Program producing graduates for the Rhode Island workforce? Do the skill sets they perceive to have gained match business needs? *Proceedings of the ASEE Annual Conference International Forum*, Atlanta, GA, June 22. <http://www.asee.org/public/conferences/27/papers/8382/view>.

Berka, S. (1992). Eating Novalis. in Deely, J. and Prewitt, T. (eds.) *Semiotics 1991: Proceedings of the 16th Annual Meeting of the Semiotic Society of America* (Lanham: UP of America).

Berka, S. (1991). Maids in Germany: Genet and Strauß. Deely, J., Haworth, K., Prewitt, T. (eds.) *Semiotics 1990: Proceedings of the 15th Annual Meeting of the Semiotic Society of America*: Lanham: UP of America.

Berka, S. (1991). An International Bibliography of Works by and Selected Works about Nelson Goodman. *Journal of Aesthetic Education*, 25.1. 99-112.

BOOK CHAPTERS (invited)

Berka, S. (2023). International internships in the world of work. D. de Gennaro, & M. Marino (Eds.). *Cross-Cultural undergraduate internships: A toolkit for empowering the next generation* Bingley, UK: Emerald Publishing Limited. ISBN: 978-1-80455-357-2. PP. 67-73.

Berka, S., Wu, Y. (2022). The Chinese International Engineering Program: History, Development, and Curriculum Refinement. *Chinese for Business and Professionals at the Workplace: Reaching across Disciplines*, eds. Haidan Wang and Christine Uber Grosse, Routledge Press, 73-90.

Papa, E., **Berka S.** (2016). The Roadmap to Mainstreaming Dual Language Immersion in Rhode Island. *The Interconnected Language Curriculum: Critical Transitions and Interfaces in Articulated K-16 Contexts*, ed. by Johanna Watzinger-Tharp, University of Utah and Per Urlaub, University of Austin, Texas. ISBN-13: 9781337276450.

Berka, S., Grandin J. M. Graney, A. (2020). Building Community through Dual Degree Language Housing. *Language Learning in Foreign Language Houses* ed. by Jennifer Bown and Dan Dewey (BYU). *International Association for Language Learning Technology (IALLT)*.

Berka, S., Kniesche, T. (2004). Ein Kind wird programmiert: Stifters Granit. *Festschrift für Ursula Mahlendorf*. Kniesche, T.; Rickels, L. (eds.) Würzburg: Königshausen & Neumann. 66-75.

Berka, S. (2000). The (Non) Position of Woman in Marlene Streeruwitz' Work. *After Postmodernism: Austrian Literature and Film in Transition*. Riemer, W. ed. Riverside: Ariadne Press. 217-34.

Berka, S. (2000). Anschwellender Bocksgesang; Botho Strauß; Marlene Streeruwitz. *Encyclopedia of German Literature*. Konzett, M. (ed.) Chicago: Fitzroy & Dearborn. 918f., 913-16, 919f.

Berka, S. (1994). D(e)addyfication: Elfriede Jelinek. *Elfriede Jelinek: Framed by Language*. Ed. by Jorun Johns, J. and Katherine Arens, K. (eds). Riverside, CA: Ariadne Press. 29-254.

Berka, S., Kniesche, T. (1994). Kastanien-Nachlese: Zu einem Gedicht von Richard Exner. Mahlendorf, U. and Rickels, L. (eds.) *Poetry, Poetics, Translation: Festschrift für Richard Exner*. Würzburg: Königshausen & Neumann. 257-269.

Berka, S. (1993). Child-Woman; Masochism; Poststructuralism; Psychoanalysis; Vampirism. *The Feminist Encyclopedia of German Literature*. Eigler, F., Kord, S. (eds.). Westport, CT: Greenwood. 65-67, 309-310, 412-414, 425-427, 537-538.

Berka, S. (1993). Kindfrauen als Projektionsfiguren in Mörikes Maler Nolten und Wedekinds Monstretragödie. *Goethes Mignon und ihre Schwestern: Interpretationen und Rezeption*. Hoffmeister, G. (ed.). New York: Peter Lang. 135-164.

Berka, S. (1991). 'Vorsicht Lebensgefahr'. Die Spätfolgen der Romantik bei Botho Strauß. Erika Tunner, ed. *Romantik - eine lebenskräftige Krankheit: ihre literarischen Nachwirkungen in der Moderne: Amsterdamer Beiträge zur neueren Germanistik*. Amsterdam: Rodopi. 187-208.

NATIONAL SERVICE

Member external review team for the Georgia University of Technology Modern Languages Department (March 29-30, 2023); for the Bowling Green State University World Languages & Cultures Dept. (Aug. 16, 2023).

Member Advisory Board of the University of Cincinnati Department of Engineering Education NSF grant 2022-2023 (PI Cedrick Kwuimy).

Member of the Nominating Committee of the American Association of Engineering Education (ASEE) International Division (Spring 2021).

Chair, DAAD Alumni Association Excellence Award in International Exchange committee (2020 -23); Governance committee (2018-22); member Scholarship committee (2018-2023).

Organizer of the 9th, 1th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 23rd and 25th *Annual Colloquium on International Engineering Education* (2010-22); founder: ACIEE Steering committee.

Served as expert for Fordham University's NEH Planning "The New German Studies at Fordham: A Curriculum for the 21st Century (2018-19).

Department of Education reviewer for Foreign Languages Area Studies (FLAS) grant managed by WPI (2016-18).

External reviewer (with Arvind Raman, Purdue University) of the International Studies Program at Lafayette College (2017).

Member of the ASEE International Forum Steering Committee (2014-15).

Participant in the NSF funded University of Tulsa (PI) Delphi Study to Assess Global Competence of Engineering Students (2012-15).

NSF reviewer on grant application with global components (2009).

Consultant for Washington State University Department; Reviewer, with Dawn-Bratsch Prince, of Department of Foreign Languages & Cultures, Jan. 30-31, 2012, Pullman, WA.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

PI *National Endowment for the Humanities* Connections grant (2023-2025) \$149, 889.

Fundraiser. Annually fundraise ~250-300K from government organizations or foundations such as the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD); Max Kade Foundation, Japan Foundation, Van Meeteren Foundation or from companies and private donors.

Development of dual master MOUs with TU Darmstadt (2015); University of Cantabria (UNICAN) 2022; 2023; Université de Technologie de Compiègne (UTC) 2023 jointly with URI VP for Global Initiatives.

Member Strategic Planning committee, College of Engineering, Spring 2023

Member of the search committee, Assistant Professor of German, Fall/Spring 22-23

Member COE Diversity Committee (Fall 2022)

Member of the search committee for the Vice Provost for Global Initiatives, 2017; 2022

Chair IEP Advisory Board Marketing and Big Ideas; member fundraising committee (2021-2022)

Member of the search committee for the Dean of Engineering, Spring 2021 Member search committee for a tenure track Asst. Professor in Japanese search, Spring 2021 Member of the Global Steering Committee at URI (2015-2021).

Member Global Mobility Funds committee (Vice Provost of Global Initiatives), Fall 2018

Chair, search committees for various IEP Coordinators (2010-2017).

Chair, dual master candidates from TU Braunschweig and TU Darmstadt theses defense committees (yearly chairing several 2015-).

Member IEP Strategic Planning committee (2014-2021).

Co-PI, Partnership for the Americas Chile (2013) and Colombia (2017) grants; \$25,000 each

Co-PI, National Security Education Program (NSEP) to launch the R.I. Roadmap to Language Excellence (2012).

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA 1986-90 *Ph.D. in German Languages and Literatures*

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, ST. LOUIS 1985 *Exchange Student, DAAD short-term grant recipient*

RWTH AACHEN, AACHEN, GERMANY 1978-85 *Staatsexamen, Major in German and Physical Education, Minor in Philosophy and Education*