CAMPUS NEWS

German students research Holocaust studies in Washington, D.C.

URP grant sends students to Washington to further their research.

TIFFANY ADAMS Managing Editor

Meredith's Undergraduate Research Program recently awarded five members of Die Reblaus, Meredith College's German club, a research grant. Senior Holly Goss, juniors Tiffany Adams and Tara Wahl, and sophomores Ella Garland and Lauren Mascianica are the five students conducting research about the Holocaust.

Last weekend, Lutz Kube, professor of German, accompanied the students to Washington, D.C., to visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Library to research documents pertaining to their Holocaust project.

Goss and Mascianica are

researching Nazi propaganda prior to Hitler's rise to power and during the Holocaust. Mascianica is focusing on propaganda in the schools and youth, and Goss is focusing on sexual connotations in anti-Semitic propaganda.

Wahl's research focuses on medical experimentation on Jews during the Holocaust.

Adams is researching refugee programs for displaced persons following liberation. She is focusing mostly on America's involvement in the refugee crisis.

Garland's research regards contemporary Jewish life in Germany.

Kube said attending the Holocaust museum was an important part of the research project because the museum library has so many rare documents that could not be found elsewhere.

"Everybody was very moved by the powerful and very comprehensive exhibition that personalizes the experience of the Holocaust," he said. "The students also got a chance to use the impressive collections of the library of the Holocaust museum, to copy relevant materials, and to discuss their projects with the reference librarian individually."

Garland said, "I personally got a lot accomplished with my project. I was having trouble previously finding information, and the librarian at the museum guided me right to what I needed."

Garland said visiting the museum exhibit was the highlight of her trip. "It was a very comprehensive exhibit overall," she said. "The thing that I thought most interesting on display was the children's book *The Poison Mushroom*, which is blatantly anti-Semitic, and was given to children to read during Hitler's time in power."

All five of the students felt that visiting the United

States Holocaust Memorial Museum was a great asset to their research.

"I feel that the trip was a success in finding out that there are many resources available in Holocaust research," Garland said.

Kube said the trip was a success for the students gathering information. "We are grateful for this opportunity and the show of support for research in the foreign language department," he said.

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everyone produced an original work showing her creative image of a place sacred to her.

Freshman Jessica Conicelli was not only soothed by the therapeutic quality of clay, but also appreciated Hayes' support. Conicelli said, "[She] was so encouraging...I just wanted to keep working all day." The group plans to present its findings at a "German Night" sponsored by Die Reblaus in late March and again on April 24 for the day of "Celebrating Student Achievement." Some of the materials the students collect during their research will also be donated to the College for the Holocaust studies class.

As activities came to an end, Walton said, "It feels to me that we've created a sacred space right here with each other."

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The Meredith Herald is published by the College throughout the academic year. The paper is funded by the College and through independent advertising.

The opinions expressed in the editorial columns do not necessarily reflect those of the college administration, faculty, or student body. Published by Hinton Press

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