



## **JOHN MCCARTHY**

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I am Professor of German & Comparative Literature, Director of the Max Kade Center for European and German Studies, and Immediate Past Chair of the Faculty Senate at Vanderbilt University. I began my career at my alma mater, Oakland University in Rochester, MI (1969-72) as an ABD, before moving on to the University of Pennsylvania (1972-1991), and then Vanderbilt in 1991. I have held visiting professorships at Swarthmore College, the Ludwig Maximilians Universität in München, and, as the Charlotte M. Craig Distinguished Visiting Professor at Rutgers. (Unfortunately, I had to turn down offers of visiting appointments at the Katholieke Universitet in Leuven, Belgium, and at the Universität Wien, Austria, because of other obligations). Along the way, I have held administrative positions: Undergraduate Chair in German at Penn, Director of Undergraduate Comparative Literature Program at Penn, Director of Graduate Studies at Vanderbilt, Associate Director (and now Director) of European Studies at Vanderbilt. University

I teach courses on the European Enlightenment and its legacies, the *Sturm und Drang*, Goethe and science, Nietzsche and literature, eighteenth-century narrative, evil in philosophy/literature/film, and on creativity in connection with chaos and complexity theory. My research interests also extend to the history of Germanics, the institutionalization of literature, literature and law, and empirical readership studies. My favorite individual German authors are Lessing, Wieland, S. LaRoche, Kant, Leibniz, Goethe, Schiller, Büchner, Kleist, Nietzsche, Kafka, Hesse, and Grass. However, I have published on Allan Bloom, R. W. Emerson, Goldoni, and Shaftesbury, and regularly teach works by Dostoevsky, Flaubert, Gogol, Goldsmith, Ibsen, Pirandello, Richardson, and Mark Twain.