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German Filmmaker and Sociologist to Speak at IWU

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German Filmmaker and Sociologist to Speak at IWU

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Illinois Wesleyan University and Illinois State University will jointly host the visit of acclaimed German filmmaker Iris Gusner and sociologist Ursula Schroeter.

The event is sponsored by IWU's Department of Russian and Eastern European Studies, Women's Studies, and Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures as well as ISU's International Studies and German programs.

Schroeter, the vice-chairwoman of Germany's Association of Democratic Women, has written widely on women's rights during and after the reunification of Germany in 1990. She will give a lecture titled, "Socialist Patriarchy? East German Policy on Women" on Tuesday, Oct. 9 in The Ames Library Beckman Auditorium (1 Ames Plaza, Bloomington).

One of very few women to succeed as a feature film director in East Germany, Gusner's films focus on the role and emancipation of women in the German Democratic Republic. Two of Gusner's films, *All My Girls* and *If the Earth Weren't Round*, will be shown at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 8 and Tuesday, Oct. 9 respectively, in room C101 in the Center for Natural Science Learning and Research (201 Beecher St., Bloomington). Following the showing of *If the Earth Weren't Round* there will be a Q & A session with Gusner and Schroeter.

There will also be a guest lecture by Gusner titled, "Fantasy and Work: Director Iris Gusner on (East) German Cinema" on Oct. 12 at 12 p.m. in the Bone Student Center (100 N. University St., Normal) as part of ISU's International Seminar Series. Both the film series and lectures are free and open to the public.

"IWU students can learn so much from so-called 'eye witnesses' who lived through a particular time period, which these women did," said Sonja Fritzsche, associate professor of German studies. "The added benefit is that both of these women are also accomplished artists and scholars so that they approach their subject with a trained eye as well."

For additional information and a schedule of events visit www.iwu.edu/german/Events.html or contact Sonja Fritzsche at sfritzsc@iwu.edu.