

Finnish Classicist gives lectures

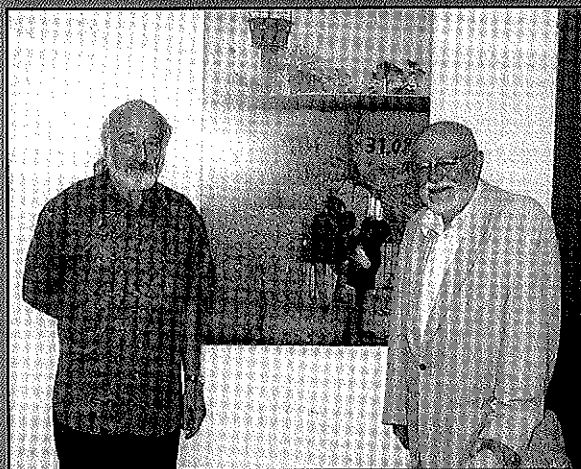
PROFESSOR SIEGFRIED JAEKEL, Professor Emeritus of the University of Turku, Finland, was hosted by the department of Europe Studies in cooperation with the departments of Classics and Philosophy in Durban on the Students' Visiting Lecturers' Trust Fund in September.

Prof Jaekel gave four lectures while he was at the University, which triggered "an interesting response from students and staff".

Prof Jaekel studied Classics, History, Philosophy and Literature at the Universities of Tübingen and Hamburg. He taught at the department of Classics and German Language and Literature at the University of Turku from 1972-95. During his tenure at Turku, Prof Jaekel held a number of fellowships at a range of universities.

His main areas of interest are in Ancient Greek tragedy and philosophy. Unlike many other classicists, Prof Jaekel is also interested in drawing parallels between literary criticism in Ancient Greece and the modern world. He insists that the multidisciplinary nature of the study of classics must be taken into account, and in this respect postmodern writers like Derrida, Bakhtin and Paul de Man interest him.

Although retired and living in Mozambique, where his wife produces a television series, Prof Jaekel wants to start a Centre for European Studies in art, dance, and music in Maputo at which students from Europe can study.



Classicist Professor Siegfried Jaekel visited the University as the guest of the departments of Classics, Philosophy and Europe Studies in September. Here he is photographed with Professor Bernard Kytzler, head of the department of Europe Studies on the Durban campus.