German Studies Association Newsletter

Volume XXXVIII
Number 2
Winter 2013-14
German Studies Association

Newsletter

Volume XXXVIII
Number 2
Winter 2013-14

Table of Contents

Letter from the President ...................................................................................3
Letter from the Executive Director .................................................................5
David E. Barclay: GSA Speaker Denied Entry to the United States: Response of the German Studies Association.........................................................8
Reports and Announcements:
  Planning for the Next GSA Conference, Kansas City, Missouri, September 18-21, 2014 .................................................................10
  Call for Seminar Proposals, Thirty-Eighth Annual Conference...............12
  Call for Papers: Thirty-Eighth Annual Conference.................................14
Irene Kacandes, Lutz Koepnick, Suzanne Marchand: GSA Adds New Format for Intellectual Exchange:
  Report on Seminars at 2013 Conference in Denver..............................16
Marc Silberman and Janet Ward: Report on Interdisciplinary Committee..18
2013 GSA/DAAD Prize Winners Announced.............................................21
2013 Sybil Halpern Milton Book Prize Winners Announced......................22
2013 Graduate Student Prize Winner Announced......................................24
2014 Prize Competitions.............................................................................25
Contributions Still Sought for Sybil Halpern Milton Book Prize..............25
Call for Information on Completed Dissertations in German Studies, 2012-2014.........................................................................................26
Patricia Herminghouse: Report on the 2013 Meeting of the American Council of Learned Societies.......................................................27
Rainer Hering: GSA Archives Committee Report 2013............................28
Grants, Awards, and Related Announcements
The Berkeley Prize for Undergraduate Essays in German Studies........35
Post-Doctoral Fellowships in the Humanities at Universities
and Research Institutes in Germany and the U.S..............................36

Issues and Discussions in German Studies:

David Blackbourn: “Honey, I Shrunk German History”..................44
Letter from the President

‘Tis the Season…November is, of course, the month of Thanksgiving, and the GSA this year has a very great deal to be thankful for. In Denver this October we held our largest conference ever; the number of registrants reached almost 1350 people, approximately doubling our numbers from just 10 years ago! In an era in which the humanities are in various kinds of crisis, the GSA has managed not only to survive, but to thrive, and to continue to offer a model of successful interdisciplinary engagement and community. We can and should be grateful that we can count on so many loyal and committed members, new and old.

Perhaps one reason that the GSA has remained so vibrant an organization is that as we expand, we are also seeking to innovate to meet the needs and expectations of the twenty-first century. Under the leadership of its new editor, Sabine Hake, our journal, the German Studies Review, has an elegant (and prize-winning) new design, and exciting new features, such as the “conference snapshots” first published in the October 2013 (36:3) issue; as witnessed by the large number of downloads through both JSTOR and Project Muse, the GSR continues in its tradition of publishing articles of high quality across the fields in which our members work. Thanks to the tireless work of the Interdisciplinary Committee’s co-chairs, Janet Ward and Marc Silberman, our networks are generating new synergies and virtual communities. Our experimental seminars, piloted at the Denver conference, have received rave reviews from the participants, and a new series will be offered again at our Kansas City conference in 2014. We are exploring additional frameworks that might make the GSA website more dynamic and user-friendly, and a “Future of the GSA” Committee is exploring other uses for social media, and ways to knit younger and more diverse members more fully into the fabric of the organization. We are offering more travel grants than ever before to allow non-North Americans to travel to our conferences. David Luebke, the series editor of Spektrum, and his editorial board, have been hard at work in editing and acquiring manuscripts for this relatively new GSA book series. And we are trying to work with partners old and new (the DAAD, the Austrian Cultural Forum, the Berlin Program) to stage events both in the US and abroad of interest to our members. To that end, David Barclay delivered a fascinating, and very well attended, lecture (in German) on German-American relations in Berlin after 1945 at the Freie Universität this July. David’s lecture was so successful that we will hold a second annual GSA lecture in Berlin next summer, to be delivered by yours truly.

For all of these successes, and new departures, we should indeed be grateful. But of course we should also remember that real people made them happen. A very great deal of hard work has been poured into the GSA this year (as every year) by, first of all, our Executive Director, David Barclay, without whom there would be chaos, and not even much of that; and secondly, by our inordinately modest Secretary/Treasurer, Jerry Fetz, who handles all of our money and tax matters, oversees all elections, and keeps careful records of all of our Board meetings. This year our Vice President, Irene Kacandes, has gone above and beyond the (already burdensome) calls of VP duty by serving—together with Lutz Koepnick and myself—on the first and founding Seminar Committee, and arranging the travel of our banquet and keynote speakers, a
job made more complicated this year by the US government’s refusal to grant entry to Ilya Trojanow (see the Executive Director’s report on this matter in this newsletter, below). Past President Stephen Brockmann did heroic service on the Investment Committee, and on the new Fundraising Task Force (see below. Our partners at Johns Hopkins University Press, including Bill Breichner, Alta Anthony, and Brian Shea have been of extraordinary assistance not only in seeing the GSR through publication, but in helping us manage membership and conference registration through the website. Our web gurus, Terry Pochert and Charles Fulton, are simply indispensable! But the organization also runs thanks to the day in, day out, often invisible work of the Executive Board, the conference Program Committee, the Investment Committee, the Archives Committee, the Interdisciplinary Committee, and the numerous prize committees who labor diligently all spring to choose winners of our book and article prizes. In the last year I have been bowled over by the number of GSA members who not only agree to take on these big jobs, despite their tendency to be thankless ones, and to do so with extraordinary dedication and good grace. Here’s my chance to thank you, one and all! And this is also my opportunity to encourage those of you who have not yet been asked to serve to step enthusiastically up to the plate when you are called: so many before you have pushed the plough forward—now help us by lending your shoulder to the wheel!

There is now a new need for the assistance of our membership, which is a relatively easy means by which to make a difference in the organization. This summer I appointed a Fundraising Task Force, under the joint chairmanship of Jerry Fetz and Past President Stephen Brockmann; the findings of this high-level Task Force were, most importantly, that the GSA desperately needs to build its endowment, in order to support the new endeavors we are imagining, and in order to permit us to transition more fully into a professional organization. We have been a “family business” for a long time, and none of us want to lose the sense of community and camaraderie originally established by the Western Association of German Studies (WAGS), the first form of the GSA. But, especially when the sad day dawns in which David Barclay wishes to retire, we will almost surely need to hire a full-time Executive Director; the job has become one that is outstripping even David’s super-human efforts to combine it with his other obligations as a scholar and college professor. We need, in short, to raise money! And obviously, this is one way in which you can demonstrate your thankfulness, for all that the GSA has done, and will do, to keep German Studies in North American and beyond the vibrant field of study and scholarship it is today.

‘Tis the season not only to be thankful—but also to be generous. I hope you will remember to put the GSA on your holiday list, and continue to think of us, too, when fortune smiles upon you in the years to come.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Marchand
President, German Studies Association

*If you would like to make a (tax-free) donation to the GSA endowment or to the Sybil Milton Prize Fund, you are warmly encouraged to do so! You may send your contribution in the form of a check to: Gerald Fetz, GSA Secretary-Treasurer, 545 North Ave. E., Missoula, MT 59801

Or you may contribute by using the buttons on the GSA website. Many, many thanks!
Letter from the Executive Director

Dear members and friends of the German Studies Association,

With 1344 registered participants, our recently concluded 37th annual conference in Denver was the largest in our history. And, as of 31 October, we had 2161 members, also the largest number in our history. We’ve come a long way from the first annual meeting in 1977 of what was then the Western Association for German Studies, or WAGS. Fifty-six people were registered for that meeting; and some participants at that conference, like our founding Executive Director, Gerald R. Kleinfeld, are still loyal members. Without their extraordinary efforts over the course of almost forty years, we could not possibly have become what we are today: the world’s largest scholarly association devoted to the inter- and multidisciplinary study of the German-speaking world. As we get bigger, I hope that we will not lose the familiar and even familial quality that characterized WAGS in its earliest days.

Organizing and running a conference like the GSA has become a daunting task, and one that has become more complex each year. We are more indebted than ever before to the prodigious efforts of Charles Fulton, Elizabeth Fulton, Craig Hendrick, and Terry Pochert, without whose contributions to the conference we could not function. As always, we owe a special debt of gratitude to the 2013 Program Committee. Professor Jason Coy, of the College of Charleston, was extraordinarily effective as Program Director. Our deep gratitude goes as well to Professors Heather Morrison (SUNY New Paltz), Marc Lerner (University of Mississippi), Dolores Augustine (St. John’s University), Michael Meng (Clemson University), Todd Heidt (Knox College), Sara Hall (University of Illinois, Chicago), Carol Hager (Bryn Mawr College), Ray Canoy (University of Oklahoma), and Maria Makela (California College of the Arts). Special thanks, too, as I describe in greater detail below, go to Professors Irene Kacandes, Lutz Koepnick, and Suzanne Marchand.

I noted in a previous paragraph that the GSA will celebrate its fortieth anniversary in 2016, when we’ll be meeting in San Diego. I would very much welcome ideas and suggestions for appropriate ways to commemorate this important event in our academic and intellectual lives. So please do contact me with your ideas (director@thegsa.org).

And mentioning commemorations, the 38th annual conference, scheduled for Kansas City, Missouri, from 18-21 September 2014, will take place in the context of some very important commemorative activities: the centennial of the First World War, the seventy-fifth anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War in Europe, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the events of 1989. We certainly hope to get many submissions in these areas, as well as from all the other areas of interest that encompass the vibrantly interdisciplinary world of German Studies.

We certainly hope that our Kansas City conference will be better than ever before. As Professor Suzanne Marchand notes in her Letter from the President, and as one of the articles in this issue details, our new seminars were a smashing success. Many thanks to her and to Professors Irene Kacandes and Lutz Koepnick
for all their work in connection with the seminars. We certainly will continue the seminars next year and into the future.

In anticipation of the 2014 Kansas City conference, this issue includes both a Call for Seminar Papers and our “traditional” Call for Papers for the larger conference. Please note the deadlines for submission for the seminars and for “traditional” papers, sessions, and roundtables.

Though firmly and historically rooted in the American West, the GSA is a truly international organization, as shown by attendance figures from our Denver conference. Twenty-nine countries were represented this year. Here is a breakdown of pre-registered participants by country (these figures do not include those who registered at the conference itself):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan R.O.C.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As these numbers remind us, an organization like the GSA both supports and depends on international scholarly cooperation and collaboration. Thus we were all dismayed – to put it mildly – when we learned, as the conference was about to
begin, that one of our invited luncheon speakers, Ilija Trojanow, had been denied entry to the United States. This is a matter that we regard with the utmost seriousness. Please see the article in this issue in which I describe the GSA’s response to this situation.

Another of our luncheon speakers, Professor David Blackbourn of Vanderbilt University, has kindly permitted us to publish his remarks in this issue of the newsletter. They represent an extremely timely contribution to our continuing discussions about the present and future of German Studies.

As always, we are deeply grateful to each of you for your continued support of the German Studies Association. This is your association, and we appreciate all that you do for it and for the profession at large.

Best regards,

David E. Barclay
Executive Director
German Studies Association
GSA Speaker Denied Entry to the United States:  
Response of the German Studies Association  
David E. Barclay  
Executive Director, German Studies Association

Early on Tuesday morning, 1 October, 2013, as I was in Denver making final preparations for the annual GSA conference, I received an e-mail that one of our highlighted luncheon speakers, Mr. Ilija Trojanow, had been denied entry to the United States while attempting to board a plane in Brazil, where he had been attending another meeting. No reason was given for this action. Mr. Trojanow is a German citizen, and his invitation to the GSA had been made possible thanks to support from the DAAD – a German government agency – which had cosponsored his trip. The e-mail included a link to a SPIEGEL ONLINE article of 1 October in which Mr. Trojanow indicated his sense that he had been refused entry because of his public activities in Germany against the surveillance activities of the US National Security Agency.

We immediately attempted to contact Mr. Trojanow, and those who had been planning his visit to the USA, to determine what had happened. We were assured that he had an ESTA visa, and that he should have been able to enter the US without difficulty. Recognizing the gravity of the situation, and the real outrage that revelations about the NSA have caused around the world, on Tuesday we issued a statement signed by Professor Suzanne Marchand, GSA President; Professor Irene Kacandes, GSA Vice President; Professor David E. Barclay, GSA Executive Director; and Professor Gerald A. Fetz, GSA Secretary/Treasurer:

On Monday we received word that United States authorities have refused a visa to our Saturday luncheon speaker, Mr. Ilija Trojanow. According to the German press, he was in Brazil on Monday and was trying to board a plane to this country when he was informed that he could not enter the US. Mr. Trojanow and his colleagues in Germany, among them Juli Zeh, believe that his visa denial is directly related to his public opposition to the surveillance activities of the US National Security Agency (NSA) in Europe and elsewhere.

As soon as we know the details of what exactly happened, the German Studies Association will take appropriate and vigorous action in response to this situation. Certainly it will be discussed at our Board meeting on Thursday, and we'll proceed from there.

In the meantime, we have to formulate a practical response for those of you who have purchased lunch tickets for Saturday's luncheon, at which Mr. Trojanow was going to perform part of his most recent work.

In view of what has happened, we are organizing a panel of experts to lead a discussion, at the end of lunch, concerning the NSA's activities and their consequences for the German-American relationship, transnational scholarly activity, the work of scholarly associations like ours, and the like. We are trying to arrange a Skype feed so that Mr. Trojanow can join the discussion, though we are not yet sure if he will be able to. We'll also set up microphones in the ballroom so that audience members can participate in the lunchtime discussion.
We do hope that those of you who signed up for the luncheon will still attend, given the importance of the issues we will now be considering. Should you wish a refund, please bring your luncheon ticket to the CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DESK so that we can try to sell it to a member without a ticket. You can return the ticket at the time of registration, should you wish. We'll make a note of your name, and arrange for the Johns Hopkins University Press to credit your account. But, as stated, we do hope that as many of you as possible will still attend and join in a discussion of these extremely urgent and pressing matters.

For those of you in the seminar that will be discussing issues of transnationalism: We are still trying to see if Mr. Trojanow would be available on Friday morning for a Skype, and we are also trying to see if a Skype set-up can even be arranged in that room.

Thank you for your support and understanding under these difficult circumstances. We'll make the best of them, will respond appropriately, and in the meantime do all we can to make the Denver conference a success!

We also decided to discuss the matter thoroughly at the annual meeting of the GSA Executive Board on Thursday, 3 October. The Executive Board and the officers of the GSA agreed unanimously to the following statement, issued as a press release:

On Monday, September 30, the Executive Director, the President, and the officers of the German Studies Association received word that United States authorities denied entry to Mr. Ilija Trojanow, a German citizen and a writer who was to be a keynote speaker, share a performance of his latest work, and participate in a seminar on transnational literature at our annual conference in Denver, Colorado (3-6 October). The German Studies Association is an international, interdisciplinary group of historians, literary scholars, political scientists, art historians, musicologists, anthropologists, and other academics interested in all matters related to the German-speaking world, based in the United States with over 2000 members. According to the German press, Mr. Trojanow was in Brazil on Monday and was trying to board a plane to this country when he was informed that he could not enter the US. Neither he nor we have been told why he was denied admittance.

We register our deep concern about barring entry to an individual who has been officially invited to participate in the activities of a scholarly organization such as ours and demand explanation for this event.

Thanks to excellent cooperation from the conference hotel, we were able to set up a Skype link that enabled Mr. Trojanow to participate in his scheduled seminar and also to participate in a reconfigured luncheon on Saturday. The luncheon discussion, chaired by our Vice President, Professor Irene Kacandes, focused on recent revelations concerning the National Security Agency and included two political scientists from local Denver institutions as well as Mr. Trojanow. The political scientists were Professor Heather Roff (Josef Korbel School of International Relations, University of Denver) and Professor Thorsten Spehn (Department of Political Science, University of
Colorado, Denver). The discussion was vigorous and controversial, with a number of strong opinions expressed both by panelists and by audience members.

On 6 October I was interviewed by Deutschlandradio Kultur for an evaluation of the events of the previous week. For a recording of that interview, please go to the GSA website at www.thegsa.org/news/index.html#Interview

In the days that followed the conference, the officers of the GSA – as well as a number of GSA members – wrote protest letters to their local Congressional representatives, and the officers also sent two protest notes to the US Embassy in Berlin, with a request that they be forwarded to Ambassador John B. Emerson. The answers that we received were not very helpful or informative, and we are no closer than we ever were to knowing the actual reasons for the denial of entry to Mr. Trojanow. In reply to one of the e-mails that we received from the US Embassy, Vice President Irene Kacandes had this to say:

“We take interference with an arrangement made between a legitimate professional organization based in the USA and mainly composed of US citizens (us, the German Studies Association); an invited German guest (Mr. Trojanow); AND the German government (the DAAD) to be highly concerning. After all, the Germans are our loyal allies. We have yet to hear from our own government that they consider this situation to be concerning as well. We reiterate our request that some kind of public statement be made from the Embassy that we could share with our membership and other worried individuals. As you know, these events have been widely discussed in the German media and we wonder how they will affect our future ability to convince German artists and intellectuals to come speak with us.”

So far we have heard nothing more from the US Embassy about this matter. Writing on the website of The Atlantic on 28 October, the journalist James Fallows describes how he had been invited to China by a government-sponsored research institution, while at the same time his visa request was likely to be turned down by other Chinese authorities. Commenting on this weird contradiction, Fallows notes: “Similar things happen all the time in the U.S., of course, especially since 2001. A federally sponsored research organization will invite foreign scientists or researchers to a conference, but consular officers won’t let the foreigners in. In their case, and mine, I think the explanations are the same: over-reach by each government’s security organizations, and lack of coordination between them and other parts of the sprawling, bureaucratized state.”¹ Though our own situation and that of Mr. Trojanow differ slightly from this description, what Fallows says here rings true.

Reports and Announcements

Planning for the Next GSA Conference,

Kansas City, Missouri, September 18-21, 2014

The thirty-eighth annual conference of the GSA will take place September 18-21, 2014, at The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center, 1 East Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108.

This will be our first meeting ever in Kansas City, and our first in the state of Missouri in over a quarter of a century. Renowned for barbecue, steak, jazz, Harry S Truman, Hallmark Cards, the country’s first modern shopping center, and much else besides, Kansas City is a thriving, dynamic city with a vibrant cultural and artistic life. Our conference will take place close to the Liberty Memorial, dedicated in 1923 in the presence of General John J. Pershing and Marshal Ferdinand Foch. Adjacent to the Liberty Memorial is the extraordinary National World War I Museum, one of the largest collections of its kind in the world. We will be observing the centennial of the outbreak of the First World War in 2014, and we hope that our members will take advantage of the opportunity to visit the museum.

The Call for Seminar Proposals follows below. In response to our overwhelmingly successful pilot program of seminars at the October 2013 conference in Denver, we have decided to continue a similar series in 2014. For details, see the Call for Seminar Proposals below. Please note that the deadline for submission of seminar topics is December 15, 2013. They must be submitted as .pdf documents to the members of the Seminar Program Committee. Applications for participation in seminars will open on January 6, 2014. Again, see below for details.

The Atraditional Call for Papers also follows below. Please note that the deadline for submitting Atraditional paper, session, or roundtable proposals he deadline for ALL submissions will be February 17, 2014.

Submissions for Atraditional papers, sessions, or roundtables will be accepted online (www.thegsa.org) after January 5, 2014. (Again, please note the earlier deadline for seminar proposals.) Only online submissions will be accepted. Paper proposals or proposals submitted by e-mail will not be accepted. Although the GSA encourages all types of submissions, including individual papers, members and non-member participants are urged, where practicable, to submit complete session proposals, including the names of proposed moderators and commentators. The latter is extremely important if sessions are to be complete. The GSA also encourages the submission of thematic series that might include up to six related sessions, and it also vigorously supports interdisciplinary sessions, including sessions that are organized in conjunction with our interdisciplinary Networks.
Although the Program Committee will certainly not reject four-paper session proposals, submitters are reminded that four-paper sessions tend to inhibit commentary and discussion. On the whole, three-paper sessions are vastly preferable. Please note that, in a session with three papers, individual presenters should speak no more than twenty minutes. In four-paper sessions, it is expected that individual presenters will speak for no more than fifteen minutes. In each case, the commentary should not exceed ten minutes in order to enable as much audience discussion as possible.

As in the past, all submissions of Atraditional papers, sessions, and roundtables will take place online at the GSA Web site (www.thegsa.org). Please do note that all presenters, including moderators, commentators, seminar participants, and roundtable participants, must be members of the German Studies Association at the time of submission. For information on membership, please go to the GSA website (www.thegsa.org).

Call for Seminar Proposals

GERMAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION
THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In response to the success of this year’s pilot program, the GSA Conference in Kansas City in 2014 will again host a series of seminars in addition to regular conference panels and roundtables.

Seminars are meant to meet for all three days of the conference during the first morning slot to explore new avenues of academic exchange and foster extended discussion, rigorous intellectual debate, and intensified networking. Seminars are typically proposed and led by two to three conveners and they consist of either 12 to 15 or 16 to 20 participants, including a representative number of graduate students. Seminars may, for instance, enable extended discussions about an important recent academic publication; the exploration of a promising new research topic in an at once focused and interdisciplinary setting; the engagement with pre-circulated papers; the opportunity to meet and debate the work of two scholars with different approaches to a given subject; the coming together of groups of scholars seeking to develop an anthology and using the seminar as a platform to coordinate their research and writing; the in-depth discussion of a recent or not-so-recent novel, film, poem, artwork, or musical piece in order to probe new perspectives and develop fresh readings and interpretations.

Seminars proposers need not have a complete roster of potential seminar participants in mind when making a submission, but should design topics which will suit the three-day structure of the conference. In order to reach the goal of extended discussion, seminar conveners and participants are expected to participate in all three installments of the seminar. Seminar conveners are held to monitor attendance
and inform the program committee about no shows during the conference. Neither seminar conveners nor seminar participants will be allowed to give a paper in a regular panel sessions. However, they may moderate or comment on others panels independent of their enrollment in a seminar.

Please submit the following materials in one integrated PDF document by December 15, 2013 in order to propose a seminar for the 2014 conference:

1. A 500-word description of the intellectual goals of the seminar
2. A 500-word description of the proposed seminar’s structures and procedures of participation. Make sure to address:
   a. whether participants will be asked to write and read pre-circulate papers and if so of what length
   b. whether you will assign additional readings
   c. how you envision your communication with seminar participants in the months leading up to the conference
   d. how you define the role of the conveners.
3. A list of 5-10 ideal participants and their institutional affiliations
4. Mini-biographies of all conveners of no more than 250 words each
5. A statement about the desired size of the seminar (either 12 to 15 or 16 to 20)
6. A statement about whether you might be willing to allow for silent auditors and if so for how many (either 1-5 or 6-10)?

The GSA Seminar Program Committee will review seminar proposals after December 15, 2013, and it will post a list of approved seminars and their topics on the GSA web site by early January 2014. Between January 6 and January 30, 2014, association members will be invited to submit their applications for participation in specific seminars directly to the GSA Seminar Program Committee. The GSA Seminar Program Committee will inform seminar conveners and applicants on February 6, 2014 about the final makeup of the seminars. (These deadlines have been chosen to allow time for those not accepted to submit a paper proposal to the general call for papers.)

The GSA Seminar Program Committee consists of:

Lutz Koepnick, Chair (Vanderbilt University) lutz.koepnick@vanderbilt.edu
Elisabeth Herrmann (University of Alberta) elisabeth.herrmann@ualberta.ca
Emre Sencer (Knox College) esencer@knox.edu

Please direct all inquiries and proposals to all three of us.
Call for Papers

GERMAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION
THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The German Studies Association (GSA) will hold its Thirty-Eighth Annual Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, September 18-21, 2014.

The Program Committee cordially invites proposals on any aspect of German, Austrian, or Swiss studies, including (but not limited to) history, Germanistik, film, art history, political science, anthropology, musicology, religious studies, sociology, and cultural studies. Proposals for entire sessions and for interdisciplinary presentations are strongly encouraged. Individual paper proposals and offers to serve as session moderators or commentators are also welcome. Applications for seminar topics went out a few weeks ago; that deadline is December 15. Applications for participation in seminars will be opened on January 6.

Please see the GSA website for information about the submission process for traditional papers, sessions, and roundtables, which opens on January 5, 2014. ALL proposals must be submitted online; paper forms are not used. The deadline for proposals is February 17, 2014.

Please note that presenters must be members of the German Studies Association. Information on membership is available on the GSA website (www.thegsa.org).

In order to avoid complications later, the Program Committee would like to reiterate two extremely important guidelines here (the full list of guidelines is available on the GSA website):

No individual at the GSA Conference may give more than one paper or participate in more than two separate capacities.

It is the responsibility of the submitter of proposed panels to ensure that any AV requests are specific (i.e., requiring both audio and visual) and clearly justified.

For more information, visit the GSA website, where previous conference programs may be found (www.thegsa.org), or contact members of the 2014 Program Committee:

Program Director: Margaret Eleanor Menninger, Texas State University (mm48@txstate.edu)

Eighteenth-century history/culture: Daniel Riches, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, (dlriches@ua.edu)
Nineteenth-century history/culture: Anthony J. Steinhoff, Université de Quebec, Montreal, steinhoff.anthony@uqam.ca

Twentieth- and twenty-first-century history: Thomas Kohut, Williams College (Thomas.A.Kohut@williams.edu)

Twentieth- and twenty-first-century history: Heather Perry, University of North Carolina, Charlotte (hrperry@uncc.edu)

Twentieth- and twenty-first-century Germanistik: Sara Hall, University of Illinois, Chicago (sahall@uic.edu)

Twentieth- and twenty-first-century Germanistik: Todd Heidt, Knox College (theidt@knox.edu)

Political Science: Angelika von Wahl, Lafayette College (vonwahla@lafayette.edu)

Interdisciplinary/Diachronic: Drew Bergerson, University of Missouri, Kansas City, (BergersonA@umkc.edu)

Interdisciplinary/Diachronic: Maria Makela, California College of the Arts (mmakela@cca.edu)

Seminars:
Lutz Koepnick (chair), Vanderbilt University (Lutz.Koepnick@vanderbilt.edu)

Elisabeth Herrmann, University of Alberta (herrmann@ualberta.ca)
Emre Sencer, Knox College (esencer@knox.edu)
GSA Adds New Format for Intellectual Exchange:

Report on Seminars at 2013 Conference in Denver

Irene Kacandes, Dartmouth College
Lutz Koepnick, Vanderbilt University
Suzanne Marchand, Louisiana State University

As a result of a recommendation from the Task Force on GSA Conferences, the GSA Executive Board approved at its 2012 meeting an experiment with a seminar format. Sue Marchand, Lutz Koepnick, and Irene Kacandes volunteered to form an ad hoc working group on seminars and oversee the first instantiation. They solicited topics for seminars and then vetted applications for participation in those seminars. Interest in participation was high and accordingly, twelve seminars with 270 members met in the first morning slot of the three days of the 2013 conference in Denver. Topics ranged from quite literary (e.g., Why We Read (German) Fiction) to quite historical (e.g., Not So Quiet on the Eastern Front: New Directions in World War I Studies) to quite interdisciplinary (e.g., For a New Enlightenment); from fairly specific (e.g., What Was Politics in A1968@?) to very broad (e.g., Narration or Revisiting the Study of Emotions in German Studies). The size of the seminar groups varied from 12 to 30.

General principles of the seminars included precirculated writing and preparation, attendance at all three meetings, and, at least for this initial round, no auditors, so as to foster the most coherent discussion and give official participants the maximum opportunity to speak. Seminar participation was determined to count as the equivalent of giving a paper, so following GSA guidelines seminar conveners and participants were allowed to moderate or comment on a regular panel or roundtable, but not to give an actual paper. Most conveners opted for requesting precirculated papers based on an individual’s research, but some groups centered their discussion on a common set of readings about which each participant prepared a position paper. Yet other groups combined these two models.

Kacandes, Koepnick, and Marchand visited the seminars and solicited feedback afterwards from conveners and participants. The response is overwhelmingly positive, with comments like: AThis was my favorite GSA ever@; Aterrific format@; Ahelped me advance my thinking on this topic@; Agreat networking tool@; AI made some new friends.@ These were just the types of experiences the Board had in mind when approving the new format.

The working group also reports that some seminars made concrete plans for further interaction such as future conferences or panels, publication of seminar papers in special journal issues, and even writing an article together and producing an anthology. Of course there were also aspects of our experiment that were not perfectly realized. Several of the larger seminars felt they succeeded in creating good discussion but that the quality would have been even better if the group had been smaller. Room set-ups for most groups were not ideal. And in a few cases, actual participants were scheduled to be in more than one place at a time. (Note
on this last: this is a technical issue that Terry Pochert assures us has now been resolved; it shouldn’t happen again.)

The Executive Board approved a continuation of the seminar format for next year’s conference at its 2013 meeting. A seminar committee of Lutz Koepnick, Elisabeth Herrmann, and Emre Sencer will become an official part of the general conference program committee for 2014. Building on Lutz’s experience, they will work to smooth out some inconveniences of the procedures used for the first experiment. They will also make available to those selected to run next year’s seminars a list of best practices compiled from the feedback of this year’s conveners and participants. We are sanguine about the important contribution seminars will continue to make to the overall intellectual experience of attending the GSA conferences. We thank all those who participated to make them a success in 2013, and we invite all members to consider proposing a seminar topic or becoming a participant in the future. A call for topics for 2014 seminars has already gone out to the membership. And as with this year, all decisions with regard to seminars will be completed before the general deadline for papers and panels, so as to allow individuals who are not selected for seminars to still submit to present their work at the conference.

Irene Kacandes
Lutz Koepnick
Suzanne Marchand
GSA Seminar Working Group (2012-13)
Report on Interdisciplinary Committee and Networks

Marc Silberman, *University of Wisconsin -- Madison*
Janet Ward, *University of Oklahoma*

Preface: The Interdisciplinary Committee Turns Five

The standing Committee on Interdisciplinary Initiatives was formed in 2008 at the bidding of then GSA vice-president Celia Applegate with encouragement from former presidents Sara Lennox and Katherine Roper. According to the Executive Board’s March 2008 resolution, the committee aims to encourage “ongoing interdisciplinary communication and collaboration” among GSA members “both within and beyond the bounds of the conference” itself; in addition, it seeks to bring in new members from outside the disciplines of history and literature, and/or from outside the United States. The first two series of panels formed under the auspices of the Interdisciplinary Committee (IC) were scheduled at the 2009 GSA conference in Washington, DC: “Emotions” (organized by then IC chair, David Sabean) and “Walls, Borders, Boundaries” (organized by IC members Silberman and Ward with Karen Till). Based on this experience, the IC formed a series of networks (currently 12, with 3 more in preparation) that draw on the interdisciplinary expertise and contacts of seasoned GSA members, encouraging them to distribute CfPs and form panel series that cross temporal lines of research enquiry and blend the representation of disciplines within the panels themselves. Meanwhile, with the agreement of the Executive Director, the Board established a new Session Coordinator for interdisciplinary panels and themes. Now there are two Session Coordinators for interdisciplinary and diachronic topics. Since 2009 the number of networks and their sponsored panels has grown enormously, contributing in essential ways to the interdisciplinary communication and international participation in the entire organization. While not every network organizes panels for each annual conference, we do see them using diverse platforms and modes of communication to announce their CfPs and constituting complete panel series lined up ahead of the conference submission deadline. On the whole there has been an explosion in the past five years of dialogue among different disciplines at the GSA. It is not all owing to the efforts of the IC, but we are cautiously certain that the networks have sent a signal to our German Studies profession that things are changing and we need to get on board.

I. Current members of the GSA Interdisciplinary Committee:

Marc Silberman (German & Film Studies, University of Wisconsin--Madison, co-chair, 2012-2015)
Janet Ward (History, University of Oklahoma, co-chair, 2012-2015)
Celia Applegate (History and Musicology, Vanderbilt University, 2012-2015)
Silke Maria Weineck (German/Comparative Lit, University of Michigan, 2012-15)
II. Interdisciplinary Coordinator’s Report

Maria Makela (IC committee member 2011-2013) served as the Session Coordinator for 2013 interdisciplinary panels and themes. She reports the following about her experience:

“I write as a member of the Interdisciplinary Committee as well as program coordinator for the interdisciplinary panels and papers submitted for consideration to the 2013 GSA conference. This year there were 75 pre-formed panels with three or four papers each submitted in the interdisciplinary category, and 25 orphan papers not attached to pre-formed panels, for a combined total of 268 submitted papers to the interdisciplinary category. As such, this was second only in numbers to the category of 20th/21st Century Germanistik and Cultural Studies. Over half of the interdisciplinary pre-formed panels (56%) were submitted by the interdisciplinary networks: Alltag (1 panel); Environmental Studies (4 panels); Visual Culture (3 panels); Kinship and Family (11 panels); Law and Legal Cultures (4 panels); Memory Studies (4 panels); Music and Sound Studies (4 panels); Religious Cultures (3 panels); Swiss Studies (3 panels); and War and Violence (5 panels). Only 3 of the 75 pre-formed interdisciplinary panels were rejected, although this relatively low number is reflective of successful efforts to shuffle papers around so that the panels would be more truly interdisciplinary.”

III. Networks

1. Alltag
Paul Steege, Villanova University (paul.steege@villanova.edu)
Maria Stehle, University of Tennessee (mstehle@utk.edu)

2. (New network in preparation: Emotion Studies)

3. Environmental Studies
Katharina Gerstenberger, University of Utah (katharina.gerstenberger@utah.edu)
Thomas Lekan, University of South Carolina (lekan@mailbox.sc.edu)

4. Family and Kinship
Michaela Hohkamp, Leibniz Univ, Hannover
(michaela.hohkamp@hist.uni-hannover.de)
[2nd coordinator: TBA]

5. New network in preparation: German Socialisms)
6. Law and Legal Cultures
Sace Elder, Eastern Illinois University (seelder@eiu.edu)
[2nd coordinator: TBA]

7. Memory Studies
Jonathan Bach, The New School for Liberal Arts (bachj@newschool.edu)
Susanne Baackmann, University of New Mexico (theodor@unm.edu)

8. Music and Sound Studies
Joy Calico, Vanderbilt University (joy.calico@vanderbilt.edu)
David Imhoof, Susquehanna University (imhoof@susqu.edu)

9. Religious Cultures
William Donahue, Duke University (wcd2@duke.edu)
Rainer Hering, Landesarchiv Schleswig-Holstein (rainer.hering@la.landsh.de)
Jean Godsall-Myers, West Chester University (wittjgm@gmail.com)

10. (New network in preparation: Literature, Science, Technology)

11. Swiss Studies
Peter Meilaender, Houghton College (peter.meilaender@houghton.edu)
Hans Rindisbacher, Pomona College (hans.rindisbacher@pomona.edu)

12. Trans-Regionalism and Transnationalism
Thomas Adam, University of Texas – Arlington (adam@uta.edu)
Deniz Göktürk, University of California – Berkeley (dgokturk@berkeley.edu)

13. Urban Society and Culture
Jennifer Hosek, Queen’s University, Canada (jhosek@queensu.ca)
Michael Meng, Clemson University (mmeng@clemson.edu)

14. Visual Culture
Deborah Ascher Barnstone, University of Technology, Sydney (DeborahAscher.
Barnstone@uts.edu.au)
Thomas Haakenson, Minneapolis College of Art and Design (thaakenson@mcad.edu)

15. War and Violence
Stephan Jaeger, University of Manitoba (Stephan.Jaeger@umanitoba.ca)
Jörg Echternkamp, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg
(joerg.echternkamp@geschichte.uni-halle.de)
The Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst and the German Studies Association are pleased to announce this year’s prize recipients, who were recognized at the GSA’s the thirty-seventh annual banquet in Denver, Colorado, on October 4, 2013.

The DAAD and the GSA are proud to announce that Professor David Ciarlo (University of Colorado, Boulder) is the winner of this year’s DAAD Book Prize for the best book in history or social sciences published during the years 2011 and 2012. His book, Advertising Empire: Race and Visual Culture in Imperial Germany, was published by Harvard University Press in 2011. The prize committee consisted of Professors Carl Caldwell, Rice University (chair); Monica Black, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and Benjamin Marschke, Humboldt State University. The GSA wishes to thank the committee for its hard and outstanding work, and congratulates Professor Ciarlo for his excellent achievement.

Here is the text of the committee’s laudatio:

In Advertising Empire, David Ciarlo masterfully connects several different historiographies in order to get at how commercial imagery developed in Germany, how it was wrapped up in national and international colonial projects, and how it shaped German perceptions of race. By looking carefully at the images used in advertising--how and when they were patented, how they were used and borrowed--he shows the role of American images of black minstrelsy, British colonial and commercial images, and commodity expositions in eventually creating a set of images that persist to this day (such as the "Sarotti moor"). The book stands out for its methodological sophistication, creative and extensive use of evidence, and clear structure and argument. Last but certainly not least, it stands out for its clear writing: even when he is describing the most complex semiotic or cultural theories, Ciarlo does so with a light touch and careful phrasing that renders the difficult accessible to a wide audience.

The DAAD and the GSA are proud to announce that Professor Ari Joskowicz (Vanderbilt University) is the winner of this year’s DAAD Article Prize for the best article in Germanistik or cultural studies published in the German Studies Review during the years 2011 and 2012. His article, AHeinrich Heine's Transparent Masks: Denominational Politics and the Poetics of Emancipation in Nineteenth-Century Germany and France,@ appeared in the GSR, volume 34, no. 1 (February 2011). The prize committee was chaired by Professor Jennifer Kapczynski of Washington University in St. Louis; the other members were Professor William Donahue, Duke University, and Professor John Pizer, Louisiana State University. The GSA wishes to thank the committee for its hard and outstanding work, and congratulates Professor Joskowicz for his excellent achievement.
Ari Joskowicz’s article breaks new ground in its analysis of Heinrich Heine’s strategic anti-Catholicism. Making the case for Heine’s Atransparent masks, @Joskowicz argues that the author overtly employed a Aprovisional, politically instrumental Protestantism @ that, while playing to religious divisions of the day, provided him with a secure yet playful vantage from which to approach fundamental questions of emancipation. Drawing on the German and French reception of Heine’s writings as well as the author’s own words, Joskowicz shows that Heine took up the Protestant-Catholic polemic in order to write himself into the position of a discursive insider and, in the process, to challenge a German intellectual culture that commonly sought to marginalize him as a Jew. Joskowicz makes the case that Heine, writing for a German audience well aware of his status as a convert, at once mobilized denominational stereotypes and criticized their exclusionary nature. Joskowicz’s analysis not only makes an important contribution to the scholarship on a canonical author, but also raises a host of key theoretical questions pertinent to the wider fields of secularization studies, religious studies, and exile studies. In exploring Heine’s complex relationship to the denominational debates of his day, the article provides a critical re-examination of confession, demonstrating how a declaration of faith may serve less as a marker of religious conviction than as a starting point for an oppositional identity politics.

2013 Sybil Halpern Milton Prize Winners Announced

The GSA is pleased to announce that, for the first time, two books and three authors are sharing the 2013 Sybil Halpern Milton Prize, awarded every other year, and this year for the best book or books on the Holocaust published in 2011 or 2012. The co-winners of the 2013 Milton Prize are: Professor Laura Jockusch, for Collect and Record!: Jewish Holocaust Documentation in Early Postwar Europe (Oxford University Press, 2012); and Professors Jan Tomasz Gross and Irena Grudzinska Gross for Golden Harvest: Events at the Periphery of the Holocaust (Oxford University Press, 2012). This is the first time that the Milton Prize went to two works, but the Committee agreed that, in different ways, they were equally deserving of the award. The Committee was chaired by Professor Jeffrey Herf (University of Maryland, College Park), and included Professors Hilary Earl (Nipissing University) and Brad Prager (University of Missouri, Columbia). The GSA thanks the committee for its outstanding work, and congratulates Professors Jokusch, Gross, and Grudzinska Gross for their excellent achievement.

Here is the text of the committee’s laudationes:
Laura Jockusch’s *Collect and Record* draws on extensive archival work in French, German, Yiddish, Polish and English language sources to draw our attention to the heroic and tenacious efforts of Jewish survivors of the Holocaust to establish Ahistorical commissions, documentation centers and projects for the purpose of documentating and researching the recent annihilation of European Jews in postwar France, Poland, Austria and in the Displaced Persons Camps in Germany. Postwar Europeans often focused on the victimization of non-Jews by German occupiers and ignored or marginalized the fate of the Jews. The historians and researchers whom Jockusch brings to our attention in *Collect and Record* swam against this current both with passion and the innovative methods of social history. In so doing, they established a methodological and conceptual foundation and collected massive amounts of evidence on which subsequent generations of historians were able to expand on a history of the Holocaust from below, that is, from the perspective of its victims. Their work was crucial for the founding of institutions such as Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and the Centre Documentation Juive Contemporaine in Paris and the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw. *Collect and Record* is a splendid and most welcome combination of deep archival research, comparative and trans-national analysis and acute analytical engagement in the discussions both of the Holocaust itself and of its postwar history and memory. It is and will be an important work in the ongoing effort to complement the now familiar accounts about its perpetrators not only with the testimony but also with the interpretations and research findings from its victims and survivors.

In *Golden Harvest*, Jan Tomasz Gross and Irena Grudzinksa Gross begin with examination of a photograph in which Poles are pictured Aharvesting@ gold and other valuables from the ashes of the Jews murdered in Treblinka. They then draw on archival work and on the impressive work of Polish historians in recent years to illustrate that this photographed greed, indifference and hatred after the Holocaust was a fitting successor to the depths of greed, indifference and hatred of Aseveral hundred thousand Poles@ who they argue actually participated in the murder of Poland’s Jews. Their anecdotes and fine, powerful writing draw attention to the consequences of secular and religious anti-Semitism as well as to examples of theft of Jewish property, extortion of money from Jews desperate for a drink of water or protection from the Germans and to the multitude of acts of indifference and collaboration in the Polish countryside. They also comment critically on Athe unanimous silence of the Catholic clergy about the martyrdom of the Jewish nation.@ In the past, some have famously asked what the Jews could or should have done in the face of the Nazis’ assault. Jan Gross and Irena Gross ask more important, well-informed, empathetic and just questions about the many decisions and individual initiatives that were and
were not made by a multitude of individuals. That is, by non-Jews in Poland. Those actions, they argue, contributed to the Holocaust. Different actions could have saved hundreds of thousands of Jewish lives. Golden Harvest is a book that should stimulate further research about the multiple motivations and the spectrum of involvement of those who collaborated in one way or another with Nazi Germany during the Holocaust.

2013 Graduate Student Prize Winner Announced

The GSA is proud to announce that the winner of this year’s Graduate Student Paper Prize for the best paper in German Studies written in 2012-13 is awarded to Carl Gelderloos (Cornell University) for his paper ASimply Reproducing Reality B Brecht, Benjamin, and Renger-Patzsch on Photography. The prize selection committee was chaired by Professor Anthony Steinhoff, Université de Montréal. The other members were Professors Perry Myers, Albion College, and Maiken Umbach, University of Nottingham. Mr. Gelderloos’s paper will be published in a future issue of the German Studies Review. The GSA congratulates him for his excellent achievement and thanks the selection committee for its outstanding work.

Here is the text of the committee’s laudatio:

With his well-crafted and insightful essay, ASimply Reproducing Reality B Brecht, Benjamin, and Renger-Patzsch on Photography, Carl Gelderloos casts new light on contemporary debates over visual culture by reassessing some of the initial discussions on aesthetics, visual representation and technology during that iconic moment of cultural modernity, Weimar Germany. Highlighting the central place of a self-consciously modern photography in Weimar-era discourses on aesthetics and culture, Mr. Gelderloos brilliantly constructs a debate between Walter Benjamin and Bertolt Brecht, on the one hand, and a noted proponent of Neue Sachlichkeit in photography, Albert Renger-Patzsch, on the other, in order to expose the considerable reluctance of Weimar’s cultural critics to embrace photography as a form of modern art and as an acceptable medium for representing reality. A fascinating contribution to our understandings of the conceptualization of nature and technology, with important implications for scholars of film, literature and theater, Mr. Gelderloos’s essay also sharpens our awareness of the considerable gains, but also challenges, involved in bringing photography into the practice of writing history.
2014 Prize Competitions

In 2014 the GSA will again make a number of awards. We hope that as many members as possible will make nominations and submissions.

In 2013 the DAAD/GSA Book Prize will be awarded for the best book in Germanistik or culture studies that has been published in 2012 or 2013. The members of the selection committee will be announced soon in an e-mail to the members. Inquiries, nominations, and submissions should be sent to the committee members by 20 February 2014.

The DAAD Article Prize will be awarded for the best article in history or social sciences that appeared in the German Studies Review in 2012 or 2013. The members of the selection committee will be announced soon in an e-mail to the members. Inquiries, nominations, and submissions should be sent to the committee members by 20 February 2014.

The prize for the Best Essay in German Studies by a Graduate Student will again be awarded in 2014. The deadline for nominations and submissions is 20 March 2014. Papers should be 6,000-9,000 words in length. The winner will be published in the German Studies Review. The members of the selection committee will soon be announced soon in an e-mail to the members. Nominations and submissions should be sent to the committee members.

Contributions Still Sought for Sybil Halpern Milton Book Prize

Since its establishment more than a decade ago, the Milton Prize has become a touchstone for excellent scholarship in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. Yet it has depended, for its financing, on annual contributions from the late Professor Henry Friedlander, who created the prize in memory of his wife, Sybil Halpern Milton, and, for the most part, from friends of Sybil and Henry. To repeat what we said in this space last year, the time has long since come to put the funding of the Milton Prize on a sounder footing.

Accordingly, the GSA hopes to create a permanent endowment fund of $20,000 to sustain the Sybil Milton Book Prize in perpetuity. The GSA Board made a contribution of $1,000 to the Milton Prize fund, and we strongly encourage as many members as possible to go to the GSA website and click on the homepage link that will enable you to make a tax-deductible, online contribution to this very worthy cause. Or you may go directly to the contribution page by going to this URL: https://www.thegsa.org/members/contribute. GSA members should log in using their existing username and password. Alternatively, checks may be sent to
Professor Gerald A. Fetz, GSA Secretary/Treasurer, Dean Emeritus, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812.

We know that times continue to be difficult, and that there are many worthy claims on your financial resources. But we hope that you will agree that, by creating a permanent Milton Prize fund, we are paying appropriate tribute to Sybil Milton and Henry Friedlander, without whom the GSA in its modern form would simply be inconceivable.

**Call for Information on Completed Dissertations in German Studies, 2012-2014**

For several years now, the GSA has been gathering information about dissertations completed in any area (discipline/country/time period) related to German Studies and printing it in the spring newsletter. If information on your thesis or the thesis of one of your students has not yet appeared in previous lists, please send to GSA Vice President Irene Kacandes the following information (in the order listed here, thank you!):

- Last Name.  First Name.  Title of Dissertation.  University which granted Ph.D. degree.  Department or Program in which degree granted.  Advisors (names only, no titles or other information).  Month and year of defense or degree-granted date.  Abstract of 150 words. (Abstracts will be cut if they are too long; please comply so that your preferred wording is used).

The entry may be written in English or German. Only dissertations defended from January 2012-February 28, 2014 may be included, and only if they have not appeared on the list previously.

Send to Irene Kacandes by March 10, 2014 by email to: irene.kacandes@dartmouth.edu
In May 2013, I participated as GSA’s delegate in the Annual Meeting of the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), which took place this year in Baltimore. David Barclay also attended, as usual, in his function as Executive Director. Preceding the more formal agenda of the meeting, attendees have an opportunity to participate in one of two informal sessions devoted to current issues in the profession. The choice is rarely easy, particularly this year when AOpen Access: Managing Change@ offered follow-up considerations of challenges discussed in the 2011 session on ALearned Societies, Humanities Journals, and Federal Mandates.@ In view of the intervening year’s acrimonious political debates about the role of federal funding in domestic and international education, I chose the session devoted to AChanging Funding Patterns in International and Area Studies,@ where the news was, unsurprisingly, generally not good.

While there have been recurring financial constraints on critically needed federal funding of programs, such as Fulbright-Hays and Title VI, which supports 125 National Resource Centers in colleges and universities across the U.S., this year’s discussion made it clear that much more than budget balancing has been at stake as fiscal priorities are established. Beyond contesting rhetoric about the Auselessness@ of the humanities in terms of their (often underestimated!) Areturn on investment,@ humanities scholars need to recognize and challenge the ideological opposition at work in the ongoing budget cuts to programs such as NEH, the National Archives, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, to say nothing of proposals to completely eliminate NEH or the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. As one speaker pointed out, in the current struggle over reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, for example, one can recognize patterns of thinking that also underlie the transfer of wealth from poorer to richer elements of our society. Together with the National Humanities Alliance, ACLS and some of its member societies, such as the MLA, work assiduously to promote more realistic and constructive views of the role of humanities in society.

In the formal business meeting of the next day, delegates were treated to a panel of reports from three 2012 ACLS fellows, whose research exemplifies some of the emerging themes and scholarly methodologies in scholarship that are supported by 270 grants totaling $14.5 million. In addition to these domestic fellowship programs, ACLS was able to award another $740,000 to scholars based outside the U.S., primarily in East Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. In recent years, ACLS has especially sought to create new opportunities for supporting younger scholars with 70 dissertation fellowships and a smaller number of research awards for recently tenured faculty. In addition, the recently established New Faculty Fellows program offers two-year teaching appointments in higher education, and the Public Fellows
Program places recent Ph.D.s in two-year staff positions in various government and non-profit agencies. GSA members seeking support for research projects in all fields of humanistic study, broadly understood, are well advised to explore the opportunities available on the ACLS website, www.acls.org. GSA supports the work of ACLS through the dues we pay as a member society, as well as through the service of many of our members on fellowship selection panels and through direct individual donations.

In view of her many achievements in office, ACLS Board chair James J. O’Donnell announced that the Board has reappointed President Pauline Yu to a third five-year term.

After a luncheon address by James A. Leach, retiring chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the final plenary session of the conference was a lively forum on a topic that is probably the newest of the new Ahot@ topics that have been addressed at these meetings: AMOOCs, the Humanities, and Learned Societies. Perspectives were offered by faculty who had experience in offering such courses as well as by an administrator of one of the three largest distributors of online education, Howard Lurie of edX, who is responsible for “onboarding new partner institutions.

The annual Charles Homer Haskins Prize Lecture, always dedicated to the general topic of “A Life of Learning,” was delivered by Robert Alter, Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Berkeley.

GSA Archives Committee Report 2013

Rainer Hering
Landesarchiv Schleswig-Holstein

Gliederung:
1.) Historisches Archiv der Stadt Köln
2.) Internationaler Suchdienst (ITS) Bad Arolsen
3.) Tourismusarchiv
4.) Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach
5.) Österreichische Nationalbibliothek
6.) GSA Archives Committee


1 The Archives Committee consists of Astrid M. Eckert, Norman Goda, William Gray, Jennifer Rodgers, Gerhard Weinberg, Meike Werner, and Rainer Hering (chair).


Im Historischen Archiv der Stadt Köln gehen die Erschließungs- und Restaurierungsarbeiten kontinuierlich weiter. Derzeit sind 55 Prozent der erhaltenen Unterlagen erfasst worden. Insgesamt wird davon ausgegangen, dass die Arbeiten noch gut vierzig Jahre in Anspruch nehmen werden. Im Januar 2012 wurde der Lesesaal im Restaurierungs- und Digitalisierungszentrum wieder eröffnet. Zugänglich sind Teile der Bibliothek und der Fotosammlung sowie erste, schon restaurierte mittelalterliche Urkunden und Handschriften.\(^2\)


Das Archiv des Internationalen Suchdienstes in Arolsen (ITS) ist das weltweit größte Archiv über zivile Opfer des `Dritten ReichesA und enthält 26.000 laufende Meter Unterlagen über Konzentrationslager, Inhaftierungen und Zwangsarbeit, die über 17,5 Millionen Menschen Auskunft geben. Digitale Kopie der Daten befinden sich derzeit im US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington sowie in Israel (Yad Vashem in Jerusalem), Polen (Nationales Institut des Gedenkens in Warschau), Belgien (Archives Générales du Royaume), Luxemburg (Centre de Documentation et de Recherche sur la Résistance), in Frankreich (Archives Nationales) und in Großbritannien (Wiener Library in London) B darunter auch Unterlagen über die Deportation französischer Widerstandskämpfer, die Ausbeutung französischer Zwangsarbeiter sowie die Verfolgung der Juden nach der Besetzung Frankreichs durch die Deutschen. Bislang wurden etwa 88 Millionen Abbildungen und über sieben Terabyte an Daten an diese Einrichtungen überreicht, darunter Dokumente zu Konzentrationslagern, Ghettos und Gefängnissen (ca. 18 Millionen Abbildungen), die Zentrale Namenkartei des ITS (ca. 42 Millionen Abbildungen), Registrierungskarten von Displaced Persons (ca. 7 Millionen Abbildungen) sowie Unterlagen zum Thema Zwangsarbeit (ca. 13 Millionen Abbildungen), zu DP Camps und zur Emigration (4,5 Millionen Abbildungen).

Ende 2012 wurden digitale Kopien von 224.000 Korrespondenzakten des ITS mit Überlebenden und Familienangehörigen von Opfern nationalsozialistischer Verfolgung an die genannten Partnerorganisationen übergeben. Sie umfassen 9,4 Millionen Abbildungen mit ca. 1 Terrabyte Speicherbedarf. Damit sind jetzt 300.000 von 3.000.000 Korrespondenzakten, die ungefähr 60 Millionen Blatt Papier umfassen, digitalisiert worden. Sie sind von großer Bedeutung, da die Menschen, die sich an das ITS wandten, um noch lebende Familienangehörige zu suchen, Auskunft über vorhandene Dokumente erfragten oder Nachweise für Entschädigungs- oder Rentenanträge erbaten, Angaben zum Verfolgungsweg machten. Diese Angaben und die Originaldokumente des ITS bieten eine informative Grundlage für die Rekonstruktion von Einzelschicksalen. Zugleich geben sie Auskunft über die Entschädigungspolitik der Bundesrepublik Deutschland.


Das ITS wird seit der Öffnung seiner Bestände weiterhin in steigendem Maße

Nähere Informationen sind im Internet zu finden: www.its-arolsen.org

3) Historisches Archiv zum Tourismus

Das Archives Committee der German Studies Association hat sich, zusammen mit vielen anderen, für den Erhalt des Historischen Archivs zum Tourismus (HAT) durch die Freie Universität Berlin eingesetzt. Trotz weltweiter Proteste war diese einzigartige Sammlung in über tausend Umzugskartons verpackt worden, so dass die Quellen nur noch sehr eingeschränkt nutzbar waren.


Kontaktangaben:
Team: Prof. Dr. Hasso Spode (wiss. Leitung); Dr. Kristiane Klemm; PD Dr. Gerlinde Irmscher
Adresse: TU Berlin, HAT-ZTG, Hardenbergstr. 16-18 (HBS1), D-10623 Berlin (Raum 4.02 u. KG 17)
Email: hat@hist-soz.de
Telefon: +49-030-314-28329


Mit der Übernahme der Suhrkamp und Insel Verlagsarchive im Jahr 2009 sind zwei literaturwissenschaftlich und geistesgeschichtlich herausragende Überlieferungen in Marbach gesichert. Sie umfassen Manuskripte und Korrespondenzen
Habermas, Peter Handke, Niklas Luhmann, Arno Schmidt, Martin Walser und Peter Weiss (Verlagsarchiv Suhrkamp) sowie Johannes R. Becher, Max Brod, Paul Celan, Hermann Hesse, Ricarda Huch, Marie Luise Kaschnitz, Harry Graf Kessler, Dolf Sternberger (Verlagsarchiv Insel). Besonders umfangreich sind die Korrespondenzen mit Stefan Zweig (846 Briefe, 242 Karten, 36 Telegramme), Hugo von Hofmannsthal (229 Briefe, 125 Karten, 102 Telegramme) und Rainer Maria Rilke (240 Briefe, 30 Telegramme, zahlreiche Fotos). Für den Suhrkamp Verlag sind zudem die Unterlagen der Geschäftsführung, der Lektorate, der Herstellung, der Abteilung Rechte und Lizenzen, der Presse- und Vertriebsabteilung, der Werbung und der Buchhaltung überliefert.


zur Verfügung. Für die Vorbereitung und Durchführung des Umzugs sowie für die
detaillierte Erschließung des Nachlasses hat die Universität Rostock seit dem 1.
Oktober 2012 eine Uwe Johnson-Forschungsstelle eingerichtet. Der Umzug des
Archivs fand im Oktober 2012 statt.

Zwei wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiter und zwei wissenschaftliche Hilfskräfte
widmen sich in Rostock dem Vermächtnis des Schriftstellers Uwe Johnson. Ihre
zentrale Aufgabe ist es, den Nachlass des Schriftstellers inhaltlich-systematisch
tzu erfassen, um ihn der Forschung zugänglich zu machen. Ihnen steht Professor
Dr. Holger Helbig, Inhaber der Uwe Johnson-Stiftungsprofessur, zur Seite. Zum
umfangreichen Bestand gehören eine Arbeits- und eine Privatbibliothek, insgesamt
c. 8.000 Bücher, Manuskripte, insbesondere Briefe, zusammen etwa 50.000 Blatt
Papier sowie etliche Memorabilien, wie beispielsweise die +Katze Erinnerung*. Auch eine Schallplatten- sowie Zeitungsausschnittsammlungen, allen voran der
*New York Times* und des *Spiegels*, sind erhalten und sollen sukzessive erschlossen
werden.

Kontakt: Universität Rostock
Uwe Johnson-Forschungsstelle
Am Reifergraben 4
18055 Rostock
Tel.: 49(0)381 498 2543

5.) Hertha Kräftner (1928B1951) war ein herausragendes literarisches Talent der
Nachkriegszeit in Österreich, auch wenn ihr Werk durch ihren frühen Freitod un-
vollendet geblieben ist. 1928 im burgenländischen Mattersburg geboren, begann
Hertha Kräftner schon in ihrer Schulzeit mit dem Schreiben. Das zentrale Erlebnis
ihrer Jugend war der Tod ihres Vaters, der 1945 nach einer Auseinandersetzung mit
einem russischen Soldaten starb. Dieser gewaltsame Tod beeinflusste sowohl ihre
psychische Verfassung, als auch ihr literarisches Schaffen nachhaltig.

Vor kurzem übernahm die Österreichische Nationalbibliothek einen wertvollen
Bestand aus Privatbesitz, der das gesamte literarische Werk der Autorin umfasst.
Er enthält außerdem ihre Tagebücher und Briefwechsel sowie ein großes Konvolut
mit Vorlesungsmitschriften ihres Germanistik- und Anglistikstudiums.

Kontakt: Thomas Zauner
Österreichische Nationalbibliothek Josefsplatz 1, 1015 Wien Tel. +43-1-53410-270
Email: thomas.zauner @onb.ac.at

6.) Astrid M. Eckert, Mitglied des Archives Committees, hat den Waldo Gifford
Leland Award der Society of American Archivists für ihr Buch *The Struggle for
the Files: The Western Allies and the Return of German Archives after the Second
World War* erhalten.

Grundsätzlich steht das Archives Committee für Fragen, Probleme und Hinweise
zum Archivwesen im deutschsprachigen Bereich zur Verfügung. Auch Anre-
gungen und Vorschläge für Veranstaltungen auf GSA-Konferenzen werden gern entgegengenommen. Sofern Mitglieder Erfahrungen mit der Anwendung der Informationsfreiheitsgesetze in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland haben, wird um Rückmeldung gebeten.
Rainer Hering, Landesarchiv Schleswig-Holstein, Prinzenpalais, 24837 Schleswig, Germany (rainer.hering@la.landsh.de)

Grants, Awards, and Related Announcements

The Berkeley Prize for Undergraduate Essays in German Studies

The Berkeley Undergraduate Essay Prize is awarded annually by the Department of German for outstanding unpublished papers written during the previous calendar year by undergraduate students enrolled at a North American university/college. Thus the 2014 prize will consider papers written during 2013 on a broad range of topics in German studies. The winning essays carry a cash award of $500 each and will be considered for publication in the department’s electronic journal TRANSIT (http://german.berkeley.edu/transit).

Essays for submission may be written in German or in English; one submission per student. They should be double-spaced, between 3000 and 5000 words in length (including notes and references), and without the student’s name on the paper, since the Awards Committee reads the essays anonymously. A separate cover sheet with the student’s name, title of the paper, address, phone number, and e-address should accompany the submitted essay. The essay may be submitted in hard copy or electronically. The submission deadline is February 15, 2014; winners announced May 2. Send to:

Undergraduate Essay Prize
Attn: Nadia Samadi
German Department
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720-3243

e-address: germanic@berkeley.edu

[The application deadline for the announcement below has already passed, but we are publishing it for information’s sake, and on the assumption that these programs will be available next year as well.]
Post-doctoral Fellowships in the Humanities at Universities and Research Institutes in Germany and the U.S.

Call for Post-doctoral Fellowships in the Humanities at Universities and Research Institutes in Germany

1. Introduction

The post-doctoral fellowships at German universities and research institutes are provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Volkswagen Foundation in close cooperation with the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies, the Lichtenberg-Kolleg at Göttingen, the Center of Excellence and the Zukunftskolleg in Konstanz, the Dahlem Humanities Center of the Free University of Berlin, the Berliner Zentrum Moderner Orient, the German Archaeological Institute (DAI), the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, the German National Library in Frankfurt, the Herzog August Bibliothek at Wolfenbüttel, the German Literature Archive at Marbach (DLA), and the Leibniz Institute at European History at Mainz. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation will fund up to 12 American post-docs in the humanities spending a year at academic institutions in Germany.

The fellowships are granted for 9 - 12 months and aim at supporting post-doctoral studies at the above-mentioned universities and institutes as well as at universities or research institutes of the candidate’s choice. Scholars shall be given the chance to:

• pursue a research topic in the humanities in an attractive international environment,
• take advantage of rich interdisciplinary scholarly discussions and research networks,
• use the local libraries, archives, and other facilities, and to attend international conferences, symposia etc.,
• get access to a non-American university system by teaching courses to undergraduate and graduate students, depending on the needs of the relevant academic departments.

The respective target group are promising young scholars in their post-doctoral research phase based at institutions in the U.S. who want to strengthen their research capacity in a specific field of the humanities which can be expected to have a strong impact on their individual research profile and expertise. Scholars who work in an interdisciplinary field are especially encouraged to apply. The applicants should have finished their Ph. D. between one and no more than five years ago. In exceptional cases outstanding candidates can also be accepted if the Ph. D. was acquired more recently. Candidates who apply for a fellowship at an
institutions not listed above will have to provide a letter by the institution of their choice stating that it will support the candidate’s application and host the person during the respective academy year.

The grants will be awarded for 9 - 12 months (the earliest possible starting month of the fellowship is August) and cover a post-doctoral fellowship (2,100 Euro per month) plus international health insurance, visa, travel expenses (including one additional flight home), conference participation in Europe, and for rent/additional living costs (approx. 1,000 Euro per month). In addition, the Foundation will cover up to 10,000 Euro for a workshop at the beginning of the stay and a maximum of 3,000 Euro for administration costs of the hosting institute/department. Small equipment, consumables, literature, etc. can also be applied for. Please indicate in your application if you would like to apply for subsidies for children according to the information on family-related benefits of the Foundation (see www.volkswagenstiftung -> funding -> information for grant recipients) as well. Furthermore, please note that subsidies for children cannot be used for other cost budget items. If you apply for subsidies for children, the overall budget sum can be exceeded. On additional request, small amounts can also be made available for follow-up activities such as visits of researchers from the host university/institution to the U.S. institution to which the candidate returns and – at a later stage – for joint projects. Funds for these follow-up activities will have to be applied for separately.

Final sums will be granted according to the budget items included in the application provided that they comply with the guidelines.

The universities/institutes will support the fellows to arrange the necessary contacts at the university and its faculties or the institute respectively.

Up to 12 fellowships per year can be funded. Grants will be made to the German institution that hosts the respective candidate.

2. Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS)

The Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS) is the University of Freiburg’s international research college. The institute supports academically excellent and innovative research projects in all disciplines represented in Freiburg through individual or group fellowships. After a successful five year period concentrating on four academic foci (organised in four schools) FRIAS will, in October 2013, broaden its mandate to include all disciplines represented at the University of Freiburg. It
will comprise two sections, one covering humanities and social sciences, the other natural sciences, engineering and medicine.

It is the aim of FRIAS to support academic exchanges across existing boundaries: between disciplines, between different cultures and countries, between established and younger researchers. FRIAS engages, furthermore, in activities opening the research community to society and politics. Fellows will be part of this community and profit from the lively research environment of the university and its eleven faculties. FRIAS is close to both France and Switzerland and actively takes advantage of the rich intellectual resources of this truly European region, collaborating, for example, with the universities in Basel/Switzerland and Strasbourg/France.

The institute provides its fellows with modern office space and an up-to-date infrastructure. Accommodation is available through the university guest house and additional centrally located apartments. Fellows have full access to all library services from one of the leading German university libraries. Special attention is drawn to supporting fellows who plan to come to Freiburg together with their families.

Your contact person at FRIAS will be:
Dr. Carsten Dose, Managing Director, e-mail: carsten.dose[at]frias.uni-freiburg.de.

3. University of Göttingen, Lichtenberg-Kolleg

Named after one of the most important and versatile representatives of the Göttingen Enlightenment, the Lichtenberg-Kolleg is an interdisciplinary research institute with a strong focus not only on the Enlightenment(s), but also on "bridges" between the human and natural sciences and on issues of religion and modernity.

We are inviting junior scholars to join one of the research teams for the study of either: "The Nature of Man in the European and Atlantic Enlightenment(s)", "The Ethics of Living: Questions of Justice, Poverty, Life and Death in the Human and Natural Sciences" or: "Religious Toleration in the Modern World: Theory and Practice" (In cooperation with the Herzog August Library Wolfenbüttel).

In close cooperation with Göttingen colleagues a specific research team will be set up for each theme. The composition of each research group will be a mixture of Senior Fellows, Mid-Career Fellows, Junior Research Fellows (JRF) Göttingen Faculty and PhD students.

For JRF, we provide the opportunity to bring their research to a more advanced level after their doctorate and to prepare themselves for their professional future as academic teachers, researchers and administrators.

Your contact person at the Lichtenberg-Kolleg will be:
Prof. Dr. Martin van Gelderen, e-mail: Lichtenbergkolleg[at]zvw.uni-goettingen.de.
4. Konstanz University, Center of Excellence and Zukunftskolleg

Founded in 1966, the University of Konstanz is a modern and progressive institution of higher learning. Through its commitment to a "Culture of Creativity", Konstanz is one of eleven German Excellence Universities and is counted among Germany's most prestigious research and learning institutions.

The Zukunftskolleg is a pillar in the University’s strategy for supporting young academics. Here you will find excellent research conditions and an inspiring scientific environment where young post-doctoral fellows of all disciplines work freely as independent researchers and exchange their ideas with recognized experts, the senior fellows.

In the Center of Excellence “Cultural Foundations of Social Integration”, academics from the humanities and social sciences tackle a specific theme: processes of social integration and disintegration of all levels of society. Great value is placed on an international and general social perspective when articulating and validating the theses and outcomes of Center researchers.

Your contact person at the Center of Excellence will be:
Prof. Dr. Rudolf Schlögl, e-mail: Rudolf.Schloegl[at]uni-konstanz.de.

Your contact person at the Zukunftskolleg will be:
Prof. Dr. Giovanni Galizia, e-mail: Giovanni.Galizia[at]uni-konstanz.de.

5. Freie Universität Berlin, Dahlem Humanities Center

Humanities research at Freie Universität has a breadth and diversity unparalleled in Germany. The central hub of the many departments and activities is the Dahlem Humanities Center (DHC), which was founded in 2007 with a mission of detecting new trends in the humanities and creating interdisciplinary networks a) within Freie Universität, b) on a national level, and c) on an international level. Since then, DHC has been cooperating with non-university research organizations, cultural institutions, and the humanities centers at leading universities around the world and has generated important new impulses for humanities research in Berlin. A wide variety of events and program series such as the Hegel Lectures, the Dahlem Humanities Center Lectures, Concept Laboratories, Workshops as well as Junior and Senior Fellowships create the basis for a vibrant exchange of knowledge and new ideas. Since 2010, the DHC is co-funded as a pilot project by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

Your contact person at the Dahlem Humanities Center will be:
Prof. Dr. Joachim Küpper, Director, e-mail: jokup[at]zedat.fu-berlin.de.
6. Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO)

The Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) is the only German research institute devoted to an interdisciplinary and comparative study of the Middle East, Africa, Central Asia, South and Southeast Asia from a historical perspective. Current research focuses on the interaction between predominantly Muslim societies and their relations with non-Muslim neighbours. ZMO was founded in 1996 as one of six independent, non-profit research centers.

Your contact person at the ZMO will be:
Dr. habil. Tilo Grätz, e-mail: tilo.graetz[@]zmo.de.

7. Deutsches Archäologisches Institut (DAI)

The German Archaeological Institute (DAI) is the largest institution in the field of international archaeological research in Germany. The numerous projects of the DAI cover a wide range of archaeological disciplines and related subjects. Its four domestic branches at Berlin (head office; Eurasia Department; Orient Department), Frankfurt (Roman-Germanic Commission), Bonn (Commission for Archaeology of Non-European Cultures), and Munich (Commission for Ancient History and Epigraphy) are all situated in major cities with exceptional research environments and provide excellent libraries of international importance. The DAI places great value on international cooperation and interdisciplinary exchange. Research guests of the domestic branches are also welcome to communicate with projects of the DAI departments abroad (Rome, Athens, Madrid, Istanbul, Cairo).

Your contact person at the German Archaeological Institute will be:
Prof. Dr. Christof Schuler, e-mail: christof.schuler[@]dainst.de.

8. Staatliche Museen zu Berlin

The Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, constitute a Universal Museum for the preservation, research and mediation of treasures of art and culture in the entire history of humanity. Their collections embrace the areas of European and non-European art, archaeology, and ethnology. The Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, whose origins lie in the foundation of the Royal Museum through Friedrich Wilhelm III of Prussia, belong to the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz. Further members of the Stiftung are the State Library, the State Archive, the Ibero-American Institute, and the State Institute for Music Research with the Museum of Musical Instruments. Supported collectively by the German government and the federal states, the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin regard themselves as a national institution of cultural federalism in Germany.

Your contact person at the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin will be:
Dr. Bernd Ebert, e-mail: b.ebert[@]smb.spk-berlin.de
9. German National Library

The German National Library in Frankfurt and Leipzig is entrusted with the task of collecting, permanently archiving, bibliographically classifying, and making available to the general public all German and German-language publications from 1913, foreign publications about Germany, translations of German works, and the works of German-speaking emigrants published abroad between 1933 and 1945. The German National Library maintains co-operative relations on the national and international level.

Your contact person at the German National Library will be:
Dr. Elisabeth Niggemann, e-mail: e.niggemann[at]dnb.de.

10. Herzog August Bibliothek

The Herzog August Bibliothek is an international research centre specialising in the study of medieval and early modern cultural history. All research at the library is based on its rich holdings of manuscripts, rare books and graphic art. The library functions as a national repository for 17th-century German imprints and offers a broad programme of research projects, conferences, exhibitions, publications and cultural events. Its own residential fellowship programme brings researchers from all over the world to Wolfenbüttel and promotes an atmosphere of scholarly exchange.

Your contact person at the Herzog August Bibliothek will be:
Prof. Dr. Helwig Schmidt-Glintzer, e-mail: schmidt-gl[at]hab.de.

11. German Literature Archive

The German Literature Archive in Marbach (DLA) is one of the most famous literary institutions worldwide. In its libraries the Archive collects and preserves a wide range of the most valuable sources of literary and intellectual history, from 1750 up to the present day. The campus offers a unique combination of research library, archive, and museums. The manuscripts, documents and letters contained in more than 1200 literary estates provide ideal conditions for advanced research.

Your contact person at the German Literature Archive will be:
Prof. Dr. Ulrich Raulff, e-mail: forschung[at]dla-marbach.de
12. Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG)

The Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG) in Mainz, founded in 1950, is an independent research institute dedicated to researching the historical foundations of Europe. The IEG research covers European history from the 15th to the 20th century. The central topic of its research program is "Negotiating Difference in Modern Europe". Three main research units investigate the political and social as well as the religious and cultural dimensions of how otherness and inequality were established, overcome and enabled.

The Institute consists of a Department for General History and a Department of Religious History which cooperate closely in the joint research program. It employs more than three dozen academics conducting historical research.

Your contact person at the Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG) in Mainz will be: Dr. Kevin Anding, e-mail: anding[at]ieg-mainz.de.

13. Other Institutions

Proposed host institutions not listed above must be renowned universities or research institutions.

14. How to Apply and Checklist

Applications must be written in English and submitted to the Volkswagen Foundation electronically via the application system:

https://portal.volkswagenstiftung.de/vwsantrag/login.do

The printed and signed cover sheet provided there has to be sent to the Volkswagen Foundation. The deadline is October 16, 2013. The personal presentations of shortlisted candidates and the final decision of the selection committee are scheduled for February/March 2014.

The Volkswagen Foundation must be informed if the candidate has a pending application or plans to apply for a fellowship provided by another institution. The Volkswagen Foundation can award grants to academic institutions only. Applications outside of universities and well-known publicly-maintained research institutions are asked to provide details on the legal status, statutes, trustees and boards, charitable/non-profit status, budgeting and auditing of the institution to be funded. In such cases, please include an annual report of the applying institution.
Please make sure that your application includes the following documents:

• Printed and signed Cover Sheet provided via electronic application system has to be sent to the Volkswagen Foundation,

• Cover Letter (in English),

• Research Proposal (in English)
  o Outline and substantiation of the research topic to be pursued, its relation to previous research, its importance for the intended career, and the expectations with respect to the stay at the universities/institutions.
  o One topic for a course to be offered and realized at the hosting faculty (undergraduate/graduate students) including a preliminary course syllabus.

Please note that research proposals of more than 10 pages (arial, 12, 1,5 spaced, max. 17,000 characters excluding spaces) are not accepted.

• Budget (in Euro) as follows:
  o Personnel expenditure (2,100 EUR per month),
  o Travel expenses (travel from the U.S. and back, one flight home and conference participation in Europe, international health insurance, accommodation costs workshop, visa),
  o Recurring non-personnel expenses (e.g. consumables),
  o Non-recurrent expenses (e.g. literature, small equipment),
  o Budget justification (max. one page).

• Subsidies for children according to the information on family-related benefits of the Foundation, if applicable,

• English summary of proposal (max. one page each),

• Curriculum vitae (in English, max. 2 pages),

• Bibliography (self-written/involved, max. 2 pages),

• Copies of university certificates (M. A. and Ph. D.),

• One short publication of interest (max. 20 pages),

• Letter of Confirmation to grant leave of absence by the U.S. University/Institution (see form),

Letter of Confirmation to support the candidate’s application by the potential host institution only if not listed in the call (see form).
Issues and Discussions in German Studies

[In most issues of this Newsletter we try to include articles that concern the present and possible future(s) of German Studies. At the recently concluded thirty-seventh conference of the GSA in Denver, Professor David Blackbourn presented a luncheon address called “Honey, I Shrunk German History.” After teaching for many years at Harvard University, he is now Cornelius Vanderbilt Distinguished Chair of History at Vanderbilt University. The author of six books, he is now writing an international history of Germany in the world from 1500 to 1800. We are pleased to publish the text of his address in its original format.]

“Honey, I Shrunk German History”
David Blackbourn
Vanderbilt University

Historians of Germany are not historians of Germany alone. And when I look at the shifting patterns of my discipline in recent years, I find a lot that of things that are exciting. One of them is a very welcome return of large-scale history and boldly framed arguments that extend through time. That’s most obviously true of “deep history,” whose advocates urge us to erase the distinction between history and pre-history by pushing our accounts of human life on earth beyond the normal starting point with ancient civilizations, before the beginnings of agrarian society ten thousand years ago. Even this seems like a modest proposal by comparison with the well-named “Big History,” which – in a book like David Christian’s Maps of Time - starts with the Big Bang, introduces humans half-way through, and reaches the French Revolution in the last chapter. These are notable examples of what Jacques Revel called “playing with scales” and a reminder that historians can see things afresh by zooming out as well as zooming in. There are other examples. At a time when historians – and others – are in thrall to networks, interactions and entanglements, the study of empires over centuries has come to enjoy unprecedented attention. Long-range, cross-cultural environmental and commodity histories abound.

And so, if these are the worst of times to be a university or college teacher of history, given cuts in funding, the parlous job market, the increasingly corporate language (and corporate salaries) of our administrations, and much else I don’t need to remind you about, they are the best of times in a disciplinary sense, the best of times, intellectually, to follow the historical calling. That is true not least because of the apparent return of boldly framed works with temporal as well as spatial range.

Then I turn to the history I know best, and things look different. What is most striking in German history, at least as practiced in North America and the UK,
is the recent and dramatic shrinking of the subject. German history has become overwhelmingly twentieth-century German history. Before I talk about why that’s happened and what it might mean, let me offer you some evidence.

First, here is a graph of the history papers delivered at this conference at three-yearly intervals, going back to 1991:

![History Papers at GSA Conferences, 1991-2012](image)

You will see the widening gap between the twentieth century, i.e. the period since 1914, and the other two periods: the nineteenth century and everything pre-nineteenth-century. The countervailing movement you can see here, interestingly, represents the Pittsburgh meeting of 2006, when both eighteenth- and nineteenth-century historians made a very deliberate attempt to counter the growing dominance of the twentieth century. Now, the established pattern is a ratio of roughly 50-25-25 – 50 per cent of papers post-1945, another 25 per cent on the Weimar Republic and Third Reich, 25 per cent on everything before that. In other words, three-fourths of all the history papers given at the GSA now concern the last hundred years.

Secondly, here is a graph showing the books reviewed in *Central European History*, the leading journal of German and Austrian history published in the USA. *CEH* only began to review books in the early 1990s. I have taken soundings at five-year intervals, starting in 1995.

You will see that the numbers of books in nineteenth-century and twentieth-
good. Let me make something very clear at this point: I am not suggesting that the editors and review editors of the journal have done anything other than their proper job, of publishing articles and reviewing books in proportions that reflect what crosses their desks. Nor, of course, do I want to suggest that the GSA organizers have deliberately favored the twentieth century – in fact, I know that there has been concern about the trends I’m talking about.

My third example is the podcast interviews with historians about books published in the period 2005-13 in the series New Books in History, sponsored by the National History Center in Washington, DC. These covered a very wide range of titles in all periods and parts of the world – from the Peloponnesian War to superstition in medieval Europe and violence in early modern Eurasia - and included works on human evolution and long-range global environmental history. Of the 229 podcasts through August 2013, 40 (better than I in 6), concerned German or Austrian history. You can see the breakdown.

36 of the 40 books, 90 per cent, cover the period since 1914. In fact, the numbers are even more unbalanced than this suggests, because one of the two books in the “early” period is Christopher Krebs’s work on the use and misuse of Tacitus’s very *Germania*, a rather teleological book that bears the subtitle “from the Roman Empire to the Third Reich.” And one of the two “nineteenth-century” works is David Ciarlo’s wonderful book *Advertising Empire*, which deals with the years immediately before 1914.
century history were almost identical in 1995. By 2010, the post-1914 works accounted for almost 70 per cent. What is true of the book reviews has also become true of the articles in the front part of the journal. Some recent issues of *Central European History* have carried more articles on the history of the present than the journal *History of the Present* – yes, there is such a journal, and it’s actually

**German ‘New Books in History’ Podcasts, 2008-13**

My fourth example tries to capture the *Nachwuchs*. It is based on the lists of new dissertations that have appeared since 2008 in the Spring Newsletter of the GSA. This graph shows dissertations on German and Austrian history written in North America and the UK since 2005.

As you can see, we have a familiar trend. Let me add that if I had included reported dissertations completed in Germany and elsewhere in Europe, the graph would look similar but less extremed.
Other evidence I’ve looked at points in the same direction: for example the distribution of panels at the German History Society in the UK, or the well-regarded German history list of the University of North Carolina Press, where one can see a clear shift toward overwhelmingly twentieth-century titles, starting in the early to mid-1990s. In both of these cases, as in the four other examples, within this overall shift into the twentieth century the most striking aspect has been the marked shift toward the history of the years after 1945.

So that’s what’s been happening. Why?

One answer is, simply, that time has moved on. I was an undergraduate in the late 1960s. The Kaiserreich, on which – like many others then – I went on to write my dissertation had ended fifty years earlier. Today, it’s the 1960s that happened fifty years ago. Time moves on, and so does the thirty-year rule that governs access to archives. It’s also true that in 1990 one German state collapsed, creating a flood of interest in GDR history even as it suspended the usual thirty-year barrier.
Another answer, especially when it comes to young scholars, is the system of incentives. Some programs, such as the German Marshall Fund, will only fund twentieth-century research. In other cases, such as the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies, which supports PhD students working on “modern and contemporary Germany and Europe,” for years the small print said that this included “historians working on the period since the mid-nineteenth century,” and thanks to representations by the GSA (which co-sponsors the program) the wording has recently been changed to read “including historians working since the mid-eighteenth century.” But in practice, and for many years, those selected work overwhelmingly on the twentieth century. So: Follow the money. And then there is, of course, the job market. Last year, virtually all the positions in modern European history (which used to mean: since the eighteenth century) were listed as “twentieth century” or “post-1945”. What lesson does that teach PhDs who have worked on the nineteenth century? Wayne Gretzky once said: “One hundred percent of the shots you don’t take, don’t go in.” This is profoundly true. And 100 per cent of the positions you can’t apply for you, you don’t get.

Yet these two answers are not fully satisfactory. Time is always moving on, but it hasn’t always propelled a mass migration into the history of the more recent past. And the incentives that face PhD students are real enough, just like the advice they constantly receive that the twentieth century is the only game in town. But this doesn’t explain why their elders have created these incentives, or offer this advice.

I think we need to look at larger shifts in our understanding of German history. And a good place to begin is the Third Reich, that great testing-ground for historical explanations, that litmus test of what we do. There’s been a major change in my professional lifetime. Once the big question was “how did we get to 1933?” Now the question is “how was the Holocaust possible?” – 1941, not 1933, has become the “vanishing point,” to use Helmut Smith’s term. The focus has shifted to the Holocaust and what came after – Auschwitz trials and Wehrmacht exhibitions, memory and commemoration, misremembering and myth. We have moved away from arguing about the path to 1933, once a staple of debates about the course of modern German history. The continuities across the former “Stunde Null” have been emphasized – and rightly so. The continuities back to the decades before 1914 have been played down. And there is good reason for that as well. The emphasis on the conjunctural and contingent has been salutary. Big events do not always have deep, structural causes.

Or not only deep structural causes. I continue to believe that there is something that defies easy explanation, something uncanny even, about how we got from Sue Marchand’s Tante Neunzehnjahrhundert to Hitler. Now, perhaps it’s occurred to some of you that those now no longer so young Turks who criticized the Sonderweg thesis might have helped to bring us to our present pass. If so, I offer no mea culpa. The critique of the Sonderweg was about the kinds of continuity rather than continuity as such. And there are undoubtedly continuities worthy of attention across the divide of World War One -- not all of them of course point to the Third Reich, but the continuities that do include the cult of the strong leader and the politics of
mass mobilization, the growing salience of race and hygiene, the tensions of corporate capitalism, the explosive German combination of provincialism and technocratic modernism, the equally unstable compound of German sentimentality and hubris – the list goes on.

I think that the eroded sense of continuity between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries is part of an intellectual development that goes beyond German history. For my generation and for our predecessors, the nineteenth and twentieth centuries were part of a unitary modern world shaped by the transformational impact of two great events – the Industrial and French Revolutions. That was common ground across the political spectrum. But here, too, time has moved on. The classic industrial society that took shape in the nineteenth century has been disappearing for the last fifty years. And the French Revolution is, finally, over, as François Furet provocatively insisted in the late 1970s. We have drawn a line under those foundational events of what was once “the modern era”. Our era bears the ubiquitous prefix “post” – post-industrial, post-structuralist, post-modern. And so, where Thomas Nipperdey once famously said of modern German history “Am Anfang war Napoleon,” and Hans-Ulrich Wehler riposted “Am Anfang war keine Revolution,” the unspoken assumption today, the unexamined shorthand, is more often “Am Anfang war der Erste Weltkrieg”.

And I say: Not so fast! Many historians in recent years have powerfully restated the idea of an Atlantic revolution, indeed a “global crisis,” between about 1770 and 1820, in Europe, the Americas, China, Japan, and South Asia. I think they’re right. How this affected the German lands, what role Germans played as agents, would be worth knowing. But we shall never find answer to those questions if almost no one now is asking them. And we are talking in this period not only (only!) about global political upheaval. These were years of agrarian and commercial transformation. They were years of demographic transition, as population rose sharply and an increasingly instrumental view of nature changed human relations with the natural world. Fernand Braudel called it the “end of the biological old regime” in Europe. These years have also been called the “second age of discovery,” when new regimes of knowledge were formed. The world became smaller in the decades on either side of 1800, as networks of communication became more tightly meshed through travel and exchange, the movement of commodities, people and ideas. Germans placed their imprint on this world as merchants, booksellers, and scientific travelers – think of the Forsters, father and son, circumnavigating the globe with Captain Cook, or Carsten Niebuhr in Arabia, or Alexander von Humboldt in the Americas. Or think of the great Pietist networks of missionaries and couriers, trading pharmaceuticals and bibles in the New World, carrying books, copper plates and botanical specimens across the Atlantic. And these were the years, too, when the groundwork was laid for the nineteenth-century triumph of German cultural exports – philosophy and “scientific” forestry, music and new educational institutions.

I don’t want to insist on the Sattelzeit as they key to modern German history – although I think a pretty good case could actually be made. I do want to
question the assumption that all the really important questions are to be found in the twentieth century, with everything that happened between the *Völkerwanderung* and the July Crisis tolerated as a kind of pre-history that might conceivably interest specialists, a worthy enough undertaking, no doubt, worth a few panels, yet somehow apart from the main pulse of German historiography. As a student I argued strongly for the legitimacy of modern and contemporary history, at a time when that argument needed to be made. Now the argument that needs making is different. I have nothing against the twentieth century. Some of my best friends work on the twentieth century; I’ve written on it myself, and expect to again in the future. What I want to counter, let me say it again, is unexamined assumptions.

Let me give you a couple of examples. A volume of essays appeared not many years ago on citizenship “in the age of the child.” The age of the child was, of course, the twentieth century. Now, a moment’s reflection suggests that the “century of the child” might at least as plausibly be located elsewhere. I would say that the century between about 1720 and 1820 was the true “century of the child,” the period when childhood was practically invented as a distinct stage of life, when the commercialization of childhood was one important strand within a new regime of consumerism, a period also when Rousseau and Pestalozzi were writing and Fröbel established the Kindergarten, which was not the least of the institutions “Made in Germany.”

Another example: I saw a call for papers for a 2012 conference of the German History Society. The subject was “Official Statistics as a Science and Tool of Government.” What an excellent topic! The call for papers begins: “Probably more than any other the twentieth century stands for the ‘age of measurement’,” and its authors seek papers on Germany between 1930 and 1980. Well, the twentieth century was certainly a statistical age. But “more than any other”? Surely this subject could be at least as fruitfully anchored in the nineteenth century? Eighty professors already taught statistics at German universities in the years 1820-1840 and there were spirited debates over the German “historical school” of statistics. Carl Dieterici complained that “statistics is dead, an unfruitful, mostly mindless and often empty compilation, when it is limited to the naked stringing together of facts and figures.” That was in the early nineteenth century, just after Alexander von Humboldt’s great journey to the Americas, where he measured everything he encountered – the height of volcanoes, the depth of mines and the length of river systems, elevations, temperatures, flora and fauna. There is a good reason why Daniel Kehlmann’s wonderful fictional account is called *Die Vermessung der Welt*. That was what Schiller criticized in Humboldt. And Humboldt’s urge to measure was something that went beyond Germany. Humboldt was, after all, a contemporary of Lewis and Clark, and all of them were preceded by a Franco-Spanish geodesic expedition to South America in 1735.

So perhaps it would be better to say that the eighteenth century was the age of measurement – an Enlightenment project that fitted perfectly the ambition of Enlightened absolutist rulers to measure and establish detailed tables on their human and non-human subjects, to compel not only the natural world but people into a kind of geometrical conformity! And yet, when we think about the origins of sta-
tical measurement, we could push the story back to the seventeenth century and
the influential work of William Petty. Perhaps it’s the seventeenth century, after all,
that – to quote again this call for papers – “stands for the age of measurement.”

I don’t want to make this single call for papers carry too great a burden, but it
does seem to me that it typifies a problem. People find what they look for. And if
your temporal horizons don’t extend beyond 1914, then everything before that will
become a kind of Dark Ages, as the history of early medieval Europe was once so
regarded, out of ignorance and arrogance.

There are many reasons why historians should extend their gaze over a longer
past. Let me, in conclusion, suggest three of them. First, history rests on a dia-
logue with the past. We bring our concerns to the past, of course – always, rightly,
unavoidably. But we have to listen as well. We give voice, among others, to the
truly voiceless, the dead. If we confine ourselves overwhelmingly to the history
of the last hundred years, that means we are disenfranchising all of humanity born
before then.

Secondly, so many of the methodological innovations in the historical discipline
have come from scholars working in earlier periods – partly because they have
had to work so hard to find ways around the gaps in the sources. Micro-history
was created by medieval and early modern historians. So was the use of modern
technology in historical research, from the application of aerial photography in the
1920s to the present-day use of carbon dating, dendrology and DNA. And think
of the new subjects that first appeared in medieval or early modern histories. They
include the history of the commodity, of popular religiosity, of the environment.

These are subjects on which I’ve worked, so I know at first hand the value of
the longer view. When I wrote about alleged apparitions of the Virgin Mary in
Bismarck’s Germany, it was works on popular religiosity in earlier centuries that
proved most useful to think with. And the same was true when I turned, in *The
Conquest of Nature*, to the history of the environment. Some of the earliest Ger-
man historical writing on the environment came from medievalists, not least from
scholars in the field of *Landesgeschichte*. Later historians, such as Joachim Radkau
and Paul Warde, explored the emerging idea of “sustainability” (*Nachhaltigkeit*)
in the early modern period. They also questioned the fundamental and long-held
view that coal-based industrialization followed inevitably from a chronic “wood
shortage” in the eighteenth century. That turned out to be as much construct as
empirical fact. It seems unlikely that Franz-Josef Brüggemeier would have been
able to question the notion of “Waldsterben” in the late twentieth century if Joachim
Radkau had not previously interrogated the notion of “Holzknappheit” two hundred
years earlier. What could be more “relevant,” to employ the term so often used
unreflectively to justify a preoccupation with the present. Let me add something
here that I think is even more important. A firm grasp on the longer term is vital
for environmental historians of Germany – or anywhere else – if they are to avoid
the trap of seeing environmental change as a simple transformation of a pristine
natural world into a degraded mechanical world, “before” good, “after” bad – a
view that is too simple to the point of being wholly misleading.

Third, and finally, the more our work extends beyond the recent past, the more
we open ourselves to the unexpected, the seemingly inexplicable, the things (whether sexual mores, legal codes, or jokes) that seem strange to us, the evidence of life-worlds not easily assimilable to our own experience or redescribed in our terms. These are reminders that the past truly is a foreign country. Of course, that is true of the 1960s or the 1920s. But it is also true that the world of 1914 already contained the bicycle, motor vehicles, urban mass transit systems, planes, the telephone, the typewriter and the automated office, wireless telegraphy, department stores, plate glass windows, loss leaders and modern advertising, the cinema, organized professional sports, recorded music, x-rays, aspirin, chemotherapy – well, I could go on adding to the list, but you get the point: This was, one hundred years ago, in many ways a world familiar to us, not identical of course – but not, I suggest, as likely to present things that seem strange or simply incomprehensible. We recognize ourselves in 1900 in ways that we simply don’t recognize ourselves in 1800 or 1500. And if we stop examining those more distant periods, our historical imaginations will be restricted, the range of our curiosity diminished.

Now, it’s true that the temporal shrinking I’ve described has been accompanied by something much more welcome, namely the geographical expansion of what we think of as German history, in fact by the rediscovery of “space” as a key element in historical explanation. I have been writing enthusiastically since the 1990s about this “spatial turn.” German history has become (in every sense) broader and more interesting under the impact of the transnational historical approaches of recent years. Once again, though, I note that the bulk of this work has been concerned with the twentieth century. As German history has transcended the political borders that once confined it, casting off a certain inward-looking quality, I worry that we are busy replacing the provincialism of space with the provincialism of time – the most provincial of all provincialisms.

Let me come to a close. What I’ve been talking about this lunchtime has happened quite quickly and it’s something I take very seriously. It worries me; the part that touches on the advertising of teaching positions also makes me angry, because the arbitrary decision taken in one institution after another to recast positions in “modern history” as positions in “twentieth-century” or “post-1945” history is unfair as well as foolish. This is something we’re doing to ourselves, and I believe that a generation from now people will scratch their heads and wonder why. Or perhaps I just hope they will. I don’t know how many graduate students and early career stage historians there are at this luncheon. My closing words are addressed to you. I have a suggestion. Work on the twentieth century, as everyone tells you; it will make it easier to get your job. Turn that first project into a book and get tenured. Then do the opposite of what so many of your elders did, and move back in time, not forward into the twentieth century. Follow this advice, and twenty-five years from now I like to think that one of you will be standing up here giving a lecture called “Honey, I grew German history.”