
German
Studies
Association

GSA

Newsletter

Volume XLIII
Number 2
Winter 2018-19

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Letter from the President

All good things must come to an end....

... and that includes my term as President of the German Studies Association. Since beginning my terms as Vice-President in 2016, the GSA has experienced a period of change that is ongoing, indeed accelerating. Some of this change involves programmatic innovations, such as Arts Night that, thanks to the initiatives undertaken by Irene Kacandes and her committee, has become an integral and exciting part of the conference experience. The Arts Night committee in the future will be chaired by the immediate Past President, assisted by three presidentially-appointed committee members. The GSA has also been awarded a grant by the Goethe-Institut in the framework of the *Deutschlandjahr* program “Wunderbar Together” to organize a Speakers Bureau. Janet Ward, the incoming Vice-President, will coordinate this new enterprise.

The organization of the GSA, too, in terms of its appointed and elected officers, has also experienced several modifications. The Executive Council and the Board approved several changes that were then put before the membership at large and passed with large majorities. We have split the position of Secretary-Treasurer—a post held by Jerry Fetz for so many years and performed with great diligence and admirable success—into two separate positions, that of an appointed Treasurer and an elected Secretary. The new treasurer is Thomas Haakenson of the California College of the Arts. As President, I appointed a committee to define the new job of Treasurer, advertise the position, and vet the candidates. The committee, chaired by James Brophy (History, University of Delaware), then recommended two candidates to the Executive Council and the Board who approved the selection of Thomas Haakenson; he will take office officially in January 2019.

The second innovation is the establishment of a new elected position: that of Secretary. The membership elected Margaret Menninger, Associate Professor of History at Texas State University, to fill this new post. Margaret, like Tom, will assume her duties in January 2019. Both become non-voting members of the Board and voting members of the Executive Council. The Executive Council and the Board also approved the addition of a graduate student member of the Board. Christy Wahl, ABD in Art History, University of Wisconsin-Madison was elected and will join the Board as a full voting member at the next GSA in Portland.

The Executive Council and the Board have also initiated the process of selecting a new Executive Director when David Barclay (our excellent, indefatigable, and deeply appreciated ED since 2006) retires at the end of 2020. The new ED will then take office in January 2021. The GSA has had in its forty-three-year history only two Executive Directors: our founder, Gerald Kleinfeld (first of WAGS, Western Association for German Studies, in 1976), and, of course, David. A selection committee will be appointed by the President to solicit applications for the position and to evaluate the applicants.

Christy’s election also reminds me of another important, if by no means new, program of the GSA. For decades now, the German Studies Association, in coordination with the Freie

Universität Berlin, has supported and fostered the Berlin Program for advanced graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. With Professor Paul Nolte, FU, I had the great pleasure of helping run the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies seminar during summer semester 2018. It was an exhilarating experience working with those who will shape the future of German studies. That pleasure was measurably increased by the presence of two “extra” postdoctoral fellows, a situation made possible by an generous grant from the Max Kade Foundation. That grant has been renewed for next year and the two Kade postdoctoral fellows have been selected. The Berlin Program sponsors a Summer Workshop, the GSA Distinguished Lecture. The Lecturer this year was Glenn Penny, University of Iowa. (Pamela Potter, University of Wisconsin-Madison, will be the next Distinguished Lecturer), and an Alumni Panel at the GSA’s annual conference. For more information, see https://www.fu-berlin.de/en/sites/bprogram/fellows/info/Profil_Screen_RGB_2017.pdf. The Berlin Program has proven to be a “nursery” for major scholars and active members of the GSA. Many alumni regularly attend the GSA’s annual conference and have organized panels each year. And, of course, the incoming President of the GSA, Johannes von Moltke (University of Michigan), was an early alumnus of the program that is so well-served by the resident Academic Coordinator, Karin Goihl, who is positively indefatigable in her efforts to support the program and its individual members.

Other programs and initiatives of the GSA are also prospering; for example, interest in the seminars remains high and participation at the conference vigorous. The Networks are equally strong and growing. Several new Networks have been created and there is no dearth of scholars at all levels willing and (exceedingly) able to sustain the interdisciplinary mission of the Networks. We now have an active Facebook page. Janet Ward is the administrator for it and uploads at least one post every day, so take a look! So far we have 162 people who follow the page regularly, but the posts reach many more, in the last four weeks, 1,900 people. The posts included our calls for papers and seminars as well as our response to the atrocity at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Still, the horizon is not entirely rosy for us and, for that matter, for the humanities and for universities far more broadly. Just in case no one has noticed, the humanities are not doing as well as we should be or might. Our classes are shrinking, the number of PhDs produced in our fields is diminishing, and the number of jobs vanishing even more rapidly. It is hard to be optimistic about the future of our junior colleagues, but one is much heartened by their participation in the GSA. The number of younger scholars, first-time presenters, and students seems on the increase at the GSA. We are building a new generation of scholars in German studies and we, who are farther along in our careers and have more advanced positions, should be adamant in defending the humanities. We should be willing to go to the mat to save jobs, to fight the increasing sense that the humanities don’t really matter, and that, in particular, the teaching of German at universities can be reduced to language instruction, while literature, film, and culture fall by the wayside. The recent paring back of major departments of German and Germanic languages to the teaching of basic language skills is exceedingly demoralizing. The GSA has as a unit, and I personally, have protested this vigorously in several instances and that vigorous defense must persist. Universities are, of course, often suffering financial

difficulties and the humanities enrollments are often dwindling. The latter is partly due to structural reorientations that eliminate the humanities, and language study broadly conceived from core curricula or distribution requirements. What is now being lost cannot be easily recovered; these decisions will have major detrimental repercussions for decades and seem a poorly conceived response to what maybe solely momentary financial embarrassments. (STEM, by the way, is hardly solely to blame here.)

Another somewhat dark spot on the horizon is the financial status of the GSA. We are fine; no one has run off with the piggy bank or even robbed it. Still, our conferences and our various innovations have not come cheaply. Moreover, hotel costs are rising as are all costs involved with the conference itself, from meals to podium lights. We may need to think very seriously about a revision of our dues structure and our registration fees, keeping in mind, of course, the need not to create or increase financial burdens on early career scholars, retired scholars, unemployed or underemployed scholars, and students. We also need to redouble our efforts at fund-raising, both in terms of soliciting donations from our members and in seeking donors far more broadly and aggressively.

I would like to end on a personal note. I tried to remember when I first attended the GSA, but it is lost in the dim recesses of my memory; it was certainly sometime in the 1980s, probably early to mid-1980s. I have certainly not been present at every meeting since then, but I have been present at a large number. In those early years, my field—early modern Germany—was, to put it mildly, poorly represented. Since then, the presence of early modernists (including GermanistInnen) and medievalists (YMAGINA has been very active) has increased and now the GSA's chronological and disciplinary range has expanded enormously and has tremendously fructified the "GSA experience." It is a very satisfying development. I am, of course, not going away and have the official role of Immediate Past President before me. I look forward to continuing to work with my many fine colleagues for quite a long time in the future. In that regard I would like to thank my fellow elected officers for their support and their unfailingly good advice: Irene Kacandes, Johannes von Moltke, and Janet Ward as well as Past Past President Sue Marchand and the long-time editor of the *German Studies Review*, Sabine Hake. And I cannot end without thanking David Barclay and Jerry Fetz for being such generous mentors and good friends. Although our scholarly interests diverge, it has been a happy and fruitful collaboration.

With best wishes to all,

Mary Lindemann
University of Miami

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear members and friends of the German Studies Association,

Let me begin by apologizing for the somewhat delayed appearance of this newsletter. Beginning with our conference in Pittsburgh, this autumn has been exceptionally busy, with meetings of the Friends of the German Historical Institute and the American Council of Learned Societies, a number of meetings in Berlin and Bonn, and, a few days ago, the annual winter meeting of the GSA Executive Council, which I hosted close to my home in Florida. (And, yes, hotel rates in Florida are astoundingly low just before Christmas!) Johannes von Moltke assumed his new role as GSA President, while we welcomed our new Vice President, Janet Ward, and our Secretary-Elect and Treasurer-Elect, Margaret Menninger and Tom Haakenson respectively. Margaret and Tom are “shadowing” our current Secretary-Treasurer, Jerry Fetz, who will be retiring from these jobs at the end of 2019 after more than four decades of extraordinary service to WAGS and the GSA. (Happily, Jerry won’t be disappearing! He’ll continue to be active with our fundraising efforts.) We were also joined at the meeting by Sabine Hake, our veteran (and prize-winning!) *GSR* editor, and Mary Lindemann in her new role as Immediate Past President (and President-Elect of the American Historical Association). As we’ll have occasion to report later after consultations with our Board and, we hope, its approval, we’re going to make some exciting new recommendations about new initiatives within the GSA, especially in the areas of digital humanities and social media throughout the year *and* at the Portland conference. We’re also considering innovative conference formats. So please stay tuned!

The Pittsburgh conference itself was attended by 1340 members, down from 1375 in Atlanta but still comfortably within our recent attendance range. Our seminars continue to thrive, as do our Interdisciplinary Networks. Our Arts Night, headlined by the Bühne für Menschenrechte and by DJ Ipek from Berlin, was a great success thanks to the efforts of Irene Kacandes, Ela Gezen, and David Imhoof. For the first time ever, we hosted a New Members’ Breakfast with support from the Goethe-Institut; it will become a permanent feature at our conference, and (we hope) further evidence of our real commitment to *Nachwuchsförderung*. Expect more initiatives of this sort!

Finally, we were worried that, because of aspects of US foreign policy beyond our control, we might see a drop-off in non-North American attendance, but this was not the case.

Our conference could, of course, never take place without the assistance of a number of individuals, most of whom work behind the scenes. First we have to thank the 2018 Program Committee, ably directed, as so often, by Ben Marschke. Without the Program Committee the GSA would simply cease to exist. And of course we are all indebted to our indefatigable operations director and help desk manager, Elizabeth Fulton, who knows virtually every detail of the conference’s workings. Many thanks too to Craig Hendrick of ConferenceDirect, Charles Fulton, Sally Scheuermann, and Daniel Huffman. And we are grateful to all the affiliated and related organizations that contribute to the conference in so many ways, including the Austrian Cultural Forum New York (ACFNY), the Central European History Society (CEHS), the Deutscher

Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD), the Goethe-Institut, the German Center for Research and Innovation, the German Historical Institute Washington (and now Berkeley as well), the Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach, the embassies of the German-speaking countries, and so many more. Also, as you'll see in this newsletter, the GSA is interested in more extensive collaboration with larger organizations like the AATG, the AHA, and the MLA.

Only a few days after we left Pittsburgh, that city – which so many of us in the GSA have come to regard with great fondness – was the scene of a horrific atrocity at the Tree of Life synagogue. The GSA issued a public statement on the atrocity; and, given our ethical and moral responsibility as an organization and as citizens, I would also encourage our members to read and participate in the discussion of these and related recent events. GSA members like Chris Browning and Jeffrey Herf have published powerful essays in recent weeks, while the New Fascism Syllabus, designed by our members Jennifer Evans and Elizabeth Heineman and discussed at one of our conference luncheons, has acquired a new immediacy and urgency.

On a happier note, it should be emphasized that the GSA is far more than a conference and a journal, critical though they are to what we do. We have increasingly become active year-round. Most of you know that the German Auswärtiges Amt, the Goethe-Institut, and the Bundesverband der deutschen Industrie are sponsoring a *Deutschlandjahr* in the United States in 2018-19, under the hashtag #WunderbarTogether. As noted in greater detail elsewhere in this newsletter, the GSA's contribution to *Deutschlandjahr* has been the establishment of a GSA Speakers' Bureau through which GSA members are speaking to audiences around the country on topics germane to the German-American relationship.

And of course the GSA continues to be an active co-sponsor, along with the Freie Universität Berlin, of the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies, so effectively managed by Karin Goihl. Thanks to generous stipends from the Max Kade Foundation, we've been able to finance two additional postdocs for the Berlin Program for the past two years. The Berlin Program itself sponsors an annual summer workshop as well as an annual lecture drawn from the GSA membership.

We also continue to be active advocates for German Studies in particular and the humanities in general, especially in the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and the National Humanities Alliance (NHA). In 2019 the ACLS will observe its centennial; we have been members since 1992, and take part actively in its meetings and programs. I am a member of its Council of Executive Officers and have served on that group's Board. The GSA sends a delegation each March to the annual conference of the NHA in Washington, D.C., where we also advocate.

Of course, it would be foolish if I were to come across here as what in German is called a *Sunnyboy*. In November I spoke to the "Internationaler Club La Redoute" in Bonn on the subject of German-American relations during the Trump era, and, among other things, I pointed to recent Pew data to suggest that the short- and medium-term outlook is *düster* and not likely to improve. (I also noted that Americans of German origin are heavily represented in the states

that were crucial to Donald Trump's electoral victory.) As far as the GSA is concerned, Mary Lindemann notes in her "Letter from the President" that, after years of solid growth, our membership is beginning to decline, a reflection perhaps of what is happening to German Studies programs across various disciplines. (My own home institution, where I taught for 43 years, no longer offers German and Central European history, though German language courses have so far survived.) Mary also quite rightly points to the problem of expenses. To do what we need and want to do for our members, especially in the areas of technology and social media, we simply have to spend more money. As we discussed in the recent meeting of our Executive Council, hotel costs are also rising, and have been doing so since about 2013. Please rest assured that we work intensively behind the scenes to keep hotel costs down and our conference and our membership affordable.

Accordingly, as we near the end of 2018, we hope that you'll think of us, and, if you are able, make a contribution in *any* amount to the GSA. Those contributions will help in countless ways. Just go to <https://thegsa.org/members/contribute> and click the box of your choice!

Finally, speaking of hotels, we hope to see as many of you as possible at the Hilton Portland Downtown in October of next year. This will be our first conference in the Pacific Northwest since 1996. I suspect that most of our members are bibliophiles, so you'll be pleased to note that our hotel is only a few blocks from the legendary Powell's bookstore! Portland and the Portland area are full of other attractions as well. I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend what promises to be an exciting and innovative conference!

All best wishes for the holiday season and for a peaceful and productive 2019,
David

David E. Barclay
Executive Director
German Studies Association

Election Results Announced

We are delighted to announce the results of the 2018 German Studies Association election.

Vice-President: Janet Ward, Department of History, University of Oklahoma

Secretary: Margaret Menninger, Department of History, Texas State University

Board Member (German Language, Literature, and Culture): Priscilla Layne, Department of German and Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Board Member (History): Ben Marschke, Department of History, Humboldt State University

Board Member (Interdisciplinary): Damani Partridge, Departments of Anthropology and Afroamerican and African Studies, University of Michigan

Board Member (Graduate Student Representative): Christy Wahl, Department of Art History, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The newly elected members will officially assume office on 1 January 2019.

Herzliche Glückwünsche!

We invite all the members of the Association to join us in thanking those of our colleagues who stood for election and volunteered to donate their time and energy to furthering the many goals and projects of the German Studies Association. We are deeply grateful to them.

Planning for the Forty-Third Conference of the GSA

Portland, Oregon, 3-6 October 2019

The forty-third annual conference of the GSA will take place from 3 to 6 October 2019 at the **Hilton Portland Downtown, 921 SW 6th Ave, Portland, OR 97204 USA.**

The **Call for Seminar Proposals** follows below. After five years, our seminars have proved to be a rousing success. Please note that the deadline for submission of seminar topics (announced on the GSA website) was 9 November 2018, and will have passed by the time you read this. Applications for participation in seminars will open on **5 JANUARY 2019**. Again, see below for details.

The “traditional” **Call for Papers** also follows below. Please note that the deadline for submitting “traditional” paper, session, or roundtable proposals for ALL submissions will be **15 FEBRUARY 2019**.

Detailed conference submission guidelines can be found below. Submissions for “traditional” papers, sessions, or roundtables will be accepted online (www.thegsa.org) after 5 January 2019. (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 BUT NO MORE THAN four 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 “traditional” 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

The 43rd German Studies Association Conference in Portland, OR from October 3-6, 2019 will continue to host a series of seminars in addition to conference sessions and roundtables.

Seminars meet for all three days of the conference. They 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 a total of 10 to 20 participants, including the conveners themselves. (In special cases there may be four conveners.) Conveners are expected to make every effort to aim for broad diversity and include scholars from different disciplines and at different career stages, including graduate students. Seminars may enable extended discussion of a recent academic publication; the exploration of a promising new research topic; engagement with pre-circulated papers; an opportunity to debate the work of scholars with different approaches; the coming together of scholars seeking to develop an anthology; or the in-depth discussion of a political or public policy issue, novel, film, poem, musical piece, painting, or other artwork.

In order to facilitate extended discussion, seminar conveners and participants are required to participate in all three seminar meetings. Please note that both seminar conveners and seminar applicants who have been accepted for seminar participation will not be allowed to submit a paper in a regular panel session. However, they may take on one additional role in the conference as moderator or commentator on another session independent of their enrollment in a seminar, or they may participate in and/or organize a roundtable.

Although we accept proposals from conveners who have directed a seminar during the past two consecutive years, we give preference to newcomers and thus encourage the rotation of seminar conveners in similarly-themed seminars. We further recommend that conveners contact the coordinators of the Interdisciplinary Network Committee, Professors Pamela Potter (pmpotter@wisc.edu) and Winson Chu (wchu@uwm.edu), to establish an official GSA Network on their topic.

The application process has two steps. Initially, we invite you to submit a preliminary proposal that includes the following items:

- Title of proposed seminar
- Names, ranks, and institutional affiliations of conveners
- A 150-word description of the seminar's subject (which will eventually be used in

- the call for participants, the printed program, and the online program/mobile app)
- A 50-word description of the seminar's format (which will appear in the call for participants, etc.)
 - These items are due by November 9, 2018. Please submit your application online at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/gsa>. Your username and password are the same as those you use to log in to your GSA profile at <https://thegsa.org/members/profile>. Please note that you must be a current member of the GSA to submit a proposal. If your password needs to be reset, please contact Ms. Ursula Gray (UG@press.jhu.edu) at Johns Hopkins University Press. If technical questions or problems arise with the submission interface itself, please contact Elizabeth Fulton (techsupport@thegsa.org).

Following the submission of preliminary proposals, the GSA Seminar Committee will provide suggestions and assistance for the final submission, which is due by December 7, 2018, to the same website. The Committee will then review seminar proposals and post a list of approved seminars and their topics on the GSA website by January 5, 2019. A call for auditors will be issued later in the year, once the final conference program has been published.

The GSA Seminar Committee consists of:

Margaret Eleanor Menninger (Texas State University) | mm48@txstate.edu (Chair)

Maria Mitchell (Franklin & Marshall College) | maria.mitchell@fandm.edu

Joe Perry (Georgia State University) | jbperry@gsu.edu

Inga Pollmann (University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill) | ipoll@email.unc.edu

Please direct inquiries to all four of us. Thank you for your support of the GSA's seminar program!

Call for Papers and Panels

The GSA will hold its 43rd Annual Conference from 3 to 6 October 2019 at the Hilton Portland Downtown in Portland, Oregon (USA).

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, for interdisciplinary presentations, and for series of panels are strongly encouraged (though we discourage thematic series of more than four panels). Individual paper proposals are also welcome. The call for seminar proposals has been distributed separately.

Please see the conference page for information about the submission process for "traditional" papers, sessions, and roundtables, which will open on 5 January 2019. The deadline for proposals is 15 February 2019. Please note that all proposed presenters must be members of the German Studies Association.

In order to avoid complications later, the Program Committee would like to reiterate two extremely important guidelines here:

1. No individual at the GSA conference may give more than one paper or appear on the program in more than two separate roles. Participating in a seminar counts as delivering a paper.
2. If a paper proposal requires high quality sound equipment, that justification must be made in detail at the time of submission.

For more information, please refer to our detailed list of submission guidelines, or contact members of the 2019 Program Committee. For details, see <https://thegsa.org/conference/program-committee-2019> and <https://thegsa.org/conference/submission-guidelines>

The 2019 Program Committee consists of:

Program Director: Joanne Miyang Cho (History, William Paterson University)
Pre-1800 (all fields): Dan Riches (History, University of Alabama)
19th Century (all fields): Martha Helfer (German, Rutgers University)
20th/21st Century History: Andrew Donson (History, University of Massachusetts)
Jonathan Zatlin (History, Boston University)
20th/21st Century Germanistik: Qinna Shen (German, Bryn Mawr College)
Kristin Kopp (German, University of Missouri)
Contemporary Politics, Economics, and Society:
Eric Langenbacher (Government, Georgetown University)
Sarah Wiliarty (Government, Wesleyan University)

Interdisciplinary / Diachronic: Benita Blessing (German/History, Oregon State University)
Ela Gezen (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Single Papers: Katherine Aaslestad (History, West Virginia University)
Sean Franzel (German, University of Missouri)

Ilka Rasch (German, Furman University)

Seminars: Margaret Menninger (History, Texas State University)
Maria Mitchell (History, Franklin & Marshall College)
Joe Perry (History, Georgia State University)

Inga Pollmann (German, University of North Carolina)

Guidelines for Submitting 2019 Proposals

Submission of Proposals for Individual Papers or Entire Panels

- All papers and panels must be submitted via the GSA website.
- All prospective participants, including moderators and commentators, must be paid members of the German Studies Association for the current year.
- All papers and panel titles must conform to the style guidelines of either *The Chicago Manual of Style* or *Historische Zeitschrift*.
- Papers in both English and German are welcome.
- The submission deadline is **Friday, 15 February 2019**, at midnight Eastern Standard Time.
- Organizers of entire sessions should submit a 300-500 word session description, with 350-600 word abstracts for each paper in the session.
- Individual paper submitters should submit a 350-600 word abstract.
- Please indicate, using the drop-down menu, the field/area/chronological period to which you wish your session or paper to be assigned.
- For assistance with the online submission process or with dues payment, first contact Elizabeth Fulton at the [GSA Help Desk](#).

Rules for Presenters

- No individual may undertake more than one "presenter role," defined as giving a paper or participating in a seminar. Participating in a roundtable is not considered a presenter role.
- No individual may undertake more than two roles altogether, including a presenter role. Thus, an individual may give a paper and offer commentary on a separate panel. No individual may present two papers, nor may any individual participate in a seminar and present a paper.
- No individual may submit two or more papers or apply to two or more seminars.
- Individuals **may** both present a paper (or participate in a

- seminar) **and** participate in one roundtable.
- An individual who has been accepted to a seminar **may not** withdraw in order to submit a paper.

Composition of Panels

- A complete panel must comprise a moderator, a commentator and no fewer than three and no more than four papers. Incomplete panels may be submitted, but their acceptance and/or eventual composition then becomes the purview of the Program Committee.
- Graduate students may not serve as commentators, and there may not be more than two graduate student papers on any panel.
- There may not be more than two individuals on any panel from the same institution.
- Co-authored papers are permitted, but each presentation is limited to two co-presenters. A co-presentation counts as one presentation role for each speaker, for scheduling purposes.
- Proposals for panel series must be limited to no more than four related panels.

Projection and Sound

- All breakout rooms will be equipped with LCD projectors that have VGA cables. Please be sure to bring an appropriate adapter for your laptop.
- Laptops will not be provided.
- The standard projectors **do not** have sound support. Please see below if your presentation will require sound.
- Presenters requiring separate **sound** equipment must request it during the submission process. Assignment of panels to rooms specially equipped for sound is at the discretion of the Program Director or the Executive Director.

Scheduling Changes

- The Program Director and the Executive Director reserve the right to move papers from one session to another at their discretion.
- New papers **may not** be substituted in cases of participant withdrawal. Only papers received by the original submission deadline and fully vetted by the Program Committee will be considered.
- Withdrawn participants **may not** present via Skype, nor may they have their contributions read *in absentia*.
- When participant withdrawals result in a panel with two papers, or a

roundtable with two participants (excluding moderator), such sessions may be cancelled at the discretion of the Program Director and the Executive Director if no other alternative can be found.

- Single papers that are not initially accepted will be put on a waitlist in case of future openings. Authors are free to decline this option. Final decisions will be sent by Friday, June 1st, 2019.

Withdrawal from the Conference

- **All individuals withdrawing from the conference must inform the GSA.** Please contact Elizabeth Fulton at helpdesk@thegsa.org to confirm your absence.
- Anyone who cancels after **Friday, 1 June 2019**, for any reason other than medical or family emergency will not be permitted to submit another proposal for two years.
- Lack of travel funding is **not** a valid reason for withdrawal. All non-North Americans are eligible for our [travel grants](#), and there is no deadline for application.
- Individuals withdrawing from the conference after acceptance of their papers and/or panels will not have their fee for membership in the GSA refunded.
- Registration fees for cancellations will be refunded, but will incur a cancellation penalty of 50% of the fee. Exceptions may be made for illness or other serious and unforeseen circumstances. No refunds are available for cancellations after 1 September. For more information, contact Elizabeth Fulton at helpdesk@thegsa.org.

[German History Society in the UK and Ireland: Call for Proposals](#)

King's College London, Tuesday 3 September- Thursday 5 September 2019

The German History Society in the UK and Ireland, which publishes the journal *German History*, is inviting proposals for its twelfth Annual Conference. The 2019 conference will be hosted by King's College London. The keynote speakers will be Felicitas Schmieder (Hagen), Rebekka von Mallinckrodt (Bremen) and Johannes Paulmann (Mainz).

The Society invites historians of Germany from all parts of the world to submit panel proposals on their research topics in German history broadly conceived, including the history of German-speaking people within and beyond Europe, from the medieval period to the present day. Panels will last for 90 minutes and should have three speakers and a chair. Each paper should be no longer than 20 minutes.

Proposals for round table format panels, and for panels that address specific methodological problems, problems of source criticism, or problems of public history and education in the field of German history, are also welcome. These, too, should involve three speakers and a chair, and should last 90 minutes, with each paper 20 minutes in duration.

Proposals for individual papers will also be accepted, with the proviso that the conference organisers will seek to group individual papers into groups of three for the purposes of creating panels. Individual papers should last no longer than 20 minutes.

Deadline for submission of proposals: FRIDAY 15 MARCH 2019. The Society will select proposals and inform applicants by the end of April 2019.

Postgraduate students are explicitly encouraged to participate in panels or to submit their own panel proposals or individual papers. The annual conference is intended to offer a friendly, constructive environment in which to present work completed and work in progress to a specialist audience. There will be a conference dinner open to all members.

Please note that panellists/individual presenters will have to bear the costs of the dinner, travel and accommodation themselves. Some bursaries will be available for postgraduate students; those presenting papers will receive preference for funding. Information on applying for postgraduate bursaries is available on the German History Society website: <http://www.germanhistorysociety.org/postgraduates/>

There will be a modest conference fee of £25 (waged) and £8 (unwaged) for delegates who are not members of the German History Society. The conference is free for members of the German History Society. For details on how to join the German History Society (which also offers additional benefits, including the right to apply for our various grant schemes, and free subscription to the society's journal, German History), see <http://www.germanhistorysociety.org/membership>

Panel proposals: please send one copy of the panel proposal, including title of panel, name of chair, names of speakers and their institutional affiliation (if applicable), overall description of panel, and brief abstracts of the three papers. The entire proposal should be no longer than two pages overall.

Round table proposals/proposals for panels on specific methodological problems, problems of source criticism or problems of public history/education: Rather than three abstracts, these should provide a longer overall description, plus name of chair and

names of speakers and their institutional affiliation. Again they should be no longer than two pages overall.

Individual proposals: These should include title of paper, institutional affiliation of the speaker and an abstract. They should be no longer than one page.

All proposals should be sent in electronic format to the Secretary of the German History Society, Paul Moore, at the following address: secretary@germanhistorysociety.org

2018 Prize Winners Announced

The German Studies Association is pleased to announce the following prizes, which were awarded at the Forty-Second Conference in Pittsburgh on 28 September 2018.

DAAD Book Prize for Best Book in History and Social Sciences published in 2017

The winner is **Jesse Spohnholz** (Washington State University), *The Convent of Wesel: The Event that Never Was and the Invention of Tradition* (Cambridge University Press, 2017).

Here is the prize committee's *laudatio*:

Leopold von Ranke von Ranke famously called on historians to explore how things actually were, “wie es eigentlich gewesen ist.” In his well-argued, probing study, Jesse Spohnholz guides the reader through what would have been Ranke’s nightmare: the history of an event that never existed. At one level, this is a deft bit of detective work, drawing on archival material scattered across what was then the northwestern corner of the Holy Roman Empire, leading Spohnholz to the striking conclusion that the purported Convent of Wesel, long regarded as a founding event in the history of the Dutch Reformed Church and Republic, never took place. Along the way, he adroitly calls attention to the highly ambiguous, porous nature both of the German-Dutch borderlands and of the religious identities constructed there in the latter half of the sixteenth century. But this is not just a detective story; Spohnholz also scrutinizes how a history of this non-event was constructed and maintained well into the twentieth century. The result is a remarkable series of reflections — about archival structures and the authority historians grant archives, historical narratives, and memory cultures in both German Europe and the Netherlands — that raise profound questions about historical method and the public appropriation of historical “truth.” Finally, by focusing on the long-term evolution of the historiography on the “Convent of Wesel,” Spohnholz achieves that rare feat: a study that successfully and usefully brings the early modern and modern eras into conversation with another.

Prize committee: Anthony J. Steinhoff (chair, Université du Québec à Montréal), Carina Johnson (Pitzer College), Michael L. Meng (Clemson University).

DAAD Book Prize for Best Book in Germanistik and Cultural Studies published in 2016 or 2017

The winner is **B. Venkat Mani** (University of Wisconsin–Madison), *Recoding World Literature: Libraries, Print Culture, and Germany's Pact with Books* (Fordham University Press, 2016).

Here is the prize committee's *laudatio*:

B. Venkat Mani's *Recoding World Literature* is a fantastic exploration of his term "bibliomigrancy." His treatment of the physical and virtual circulation and consumption of world literature masterfully uses a variety of approaches and examples from world literatures—while remaining anchored in the German tradition—to institutional history, history of publishing, and Weltliteratur. Mani's book is entirely original, makes excellent use of a well-researched archive, and employs a strong voice. It is truly outstanding: vast in scope and insight and covers broad intellectual ground. *Recoding World Literature* seems both of the present and historically sweeping. It's the kind of book that will re-frame a lot of conversations. Venkat Mani leads the pack owing to his integration of German literature and culture within the world paradigm and his treatment of the mobility of texts across media and geography. It is a smart and forward-looking book. He engages new media and electronic texts within the print context and makes it relevant for us all. It is an ideal GSA prize winning book because it is ambitious, very well written, and nuanced in its research.

Prize committee: Mara Wade (University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, chair), Marco Abel (University of Nebraska–Lincoln), Vance Byrd (Grinnell College).

DAAD Article Prize for Best Article in History and Social Sciences Published in the *German Studies Review* in 2016 or 2017:

The winner is **Kerstin Steitz** (Old Dominion University) for her article "Juristische und Epische Verfremdung. Fritz Bauers Kritik am Frankfurter Auschwitz-Prozess (1963–1965) und Peter Weiss' dramatische Prozessbearbeitung Die Ermittlung. Oratorium in 11 Gesängen (1965)," *German Studies Review* 40, no. 1 (2017): 79-101.

Here is the prize committee's *laudatio*:

This lucidly argued and well-researched article weaves together many aspects of the Frankfurt Auschwitz Trial (1963-1965) in a convincing, beautiful, and indeed poetic way. It does so by contextualizing and analyzing the work of state prosecutor Fritz Bauer, on the one hand, and the trial's artistic representation in the work of Peter Weiss, on the other hand. Crucial for Steitz is the fact that Bauer actively supported Weiss's work and found it to be complimentary to the

inherently limited legal system in 1960s West Germany. Steitz's rich and detailed analysis ranges from historical questions to legal questions to questions about cultural production, including of genre and form. As such, the article exemplifies the very best kind of GSR article: it addressed *Dichtung und Wahrheit* and breaks open the complex relationship between works of art, the legal system, politics, and much more.

Prize committee: Yair Mintzker (Princeton University), Harry M. Liebersohn (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Laurie Marhoefer (University of Washington), May Mergenthaler (Ohio State University).

GSA Prize for the Best Essay in German Studies by a Graduate Student

The winner is **Matthias Müller** (Cornell University) for his essay, "Rifts in Space-Time: Franz Carl Weiskopf in the Soviet Union." The essay will be published in a future issue of the *German Studies Review*.

Here is the prize committee's *laudatio*:

This year the members of the committee were pleased to receive many strong essay submissions, but we all agreed that this essay stood out for a number of reasons.

Müller's essay is commendable for his ability to present a sophisticated and complex argument about genre in a work that is well-organized and polished as well as accessible and thought-provoking for scholars across multiple disciplines. Müller provides readers with a clear roadmap of his paper and his essay evinces extensive reading and a solid command of primary and secondary sources.

Müller argues that Franz Carl Weiskopf's writing about his travels in the newly-formed Soviet Union blurs the distinction between literature and history, evoking a notion of montage through the transgression of genre conventions of travel writing. Müller carefully shows how Weiskopf brings together the concepts of experience and expectation in an era of high anticipation and excitement for the new socialist project. Weiskopf was not simply narrating his experiences, but connecting a teleological interpretation of the past and the hopes for the future of the Soviet experiment. Müller's essay demonstrates skillful close reading and interpretation through its comparison and contrast of Weiskopf's positions on a number of key issues in travel writing: fact vs. fiction; subjectivity vs. objectivity; space vs. time with those of his contemporaries.

Importantly, Müller situates Weiskopf's work and approach to travel writing in the context of the period (1920s-1930s) and makes a persuasive case for continued cross-disciplinary scholarly interest in Weiskopf's ambitious project some 90 years later.

Prize committee: Margaret Lewis (University of Tennessee–Martin, chair), Holly Yanacek (James Madison University), Peter Yoder (Independent Scholar).

Heartiest congratulations to all our prize winners!

2019 Prize Competitions Announced

In 2019 the GSA will again make a number of awards. We hope that as many members as possible will make nominations and submissions.

In 2019 the **DAAD/GSA Book Prize for the Best Book in Germanistik or Cultural Studies** will be awarded to the best book in those fields published in 2018. Inquiries, nominations, and submissions should be sent to the committee chair, Professor Johannes Türk (Indiana University, joturk@indiana.edu), by **20 February 2019**. The other members of the committee are Professors Matt Erlin (Washington University at St. Louis) and Fatima Naqvi (Rutgers University).

In 2019 the **DAAD/GSA Book Prize for the Best Book in History or Social Sciences** will be awarded to the best book in those fields published in 2018. Inquiries, nominations, and submissions should be sent to the committee chair, Professor Kathleen Canning (Rice University, kcanning@rice.edu), by **20 February 2019**. The other members of the committee are Professors Tanya Kevorkian (Millersville University) and Eli Rubin (Western Michigan University).

The **DAAD/GSA Article Prize** will be awarded in 2019 for the best article in Germanistik or cultural studies that appeared in the *German Studies Review* in 2017 or 2018. Inquiries, nominations, and submissions should be sent to the committee chair, Professor Imke Meyer (University of Illinois at Chicago, ixmeyer@uic.edu), by **20 February 2019**. The other members of the committee are Professors Elke Siegel (Cornell University) and Nathan Stoltzfus (Florida State University).

The **Sybil Halpern Milton Book Prize** is awarded every other year, and will be awarded in 2019 for the best book in Holocaust Studies published in 2017 or 2018. Inquiries, nominations, and submissions should be sent to the committee chair, Professor Leslie Morris (German, University of Minnesota, morri074@umn.edu), by **20 February 2019**. The other members of the committee are Professors Darcy Buerkle (History, Smith College) and Gavriel D. Rosenfeld (History, Fairfield University).

The prize for the **Best Essay in German Studies by a Graduate Student** will again be awarded in 2019. The deadline for nominations and submissions is **15 March 2019**. Papers should be 6,000-9,000 words in length. The winner will be published in the *German Studies Review*. Nominations and submissions should be sent to the committee chair, Professor Sara Hall (University of Illinois at Chicago, sahall@uic.edu). The other members of the committee are Professors Steve Lazer (Arizona State University) and Peter McIsaac (University of Michigan).

Call for Information about Dissertations in German Studies

The German Studies Association is continuing its tradition of posting information in the spring newsletter about dissertations completed in any area of German (that means: Austrian, German, Swiss, German diasporic) Studies (any discipline or interdisciplinary). If you received your Ph.D. in 2017 or 2018, you may be listed in the Spring 2019 newsletter (no repeats, however!). If you have supervised a dissertation that was completed in 2017 or 2018 that has not already been listed, please encourage the author to submit a description following the guidelines below.

Send an email to Janet A. Ward (janet.ward@ou.edu) any time before **17 March 2019**.

Please type "GSA dissertation list" in the subject line

Be sure to include (in this order, please):

1. Name (Last, first)
2. Title of Dissertation
3. Institution and department in which it was defended
4. Name of dissertation director(s)
5. Month and Year of Defense (or degree if no defense)
6. Abstract of the dissertation of 200 or fewer words in either English or German. (150 words is desired length, 200 words an absolute limit. Longer abstracts will be shortened)

Please forward this notice to any institutions or individuals for whom you believe it is relevant.

Yours,
Janet A. Ward
GSA Vice President

Modern Language Association (MLA) Announces Prizes to GSA Members

The German Studies Association is pleased to announce that the Modern Language Association (MLA) has awarded prestigious prizes to three members of the GSA: Professors Sabine Hake, B. Venkat Mani, and Patrizia C. McBride. Here is an excerpt from the MLA's press release of 5 December 2018:

The Modern Language Association of America today announced it is awarding its thirteenth Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Studies in Germanic Languages and Literatures to Sabine Hake, of the University of Texas, Austin, for her book *The Proletarian Dream: Socialism, Culture, and Emotion in Germany, 1863–1933*, published by De Gruyter, and to B. Venkat Mani, of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, for his book *Recoding World Literature: Libraries, Print Culture, and Germany's Pact with Books*, published by Fordham University Press. Patrizia C. McBride, of Cornell University, will receive an honorable mention for her book *The Chatter of the Visible: Montage and Narrative in Weimar Germany*, published by the University of Michigan Press. The prize is awarded biennially for an outstanding scholarly work on the linguistics or literatures of the Germanic languages, including Danish, Dutch, German, Icelandic, Norwegian, Swedish, and Yiddish. The prize is one of eighteen awards that will be presented on 5 January 2019, during the association's annual convention, to be held in Chicago. The members of the selection committee were John B. Lyon (Univ. of Pittsburgh); Helmut Müller-Sievers (Univ. of Colorado, Boulder), chair; and Yasemin Yildiz (Univ. of Illinois, Urbana). The committee's citation for Hake's book reads: In *The Proletarian Dream: Socialism, Culture, and Emotion in Germany, 1863–1933*, Sabine Hake presents archival materials that illustrate the imaginary and emotional dimensions of German proletariat culture from the mid–nineteenth century through the end of the Weimar Republic. Her research, embedded in a sophisticated framework that theorizes the history and philosophy of emotions, offers views on a cultural movement that have hitherto been obscured by the interpretative power of ideology. *The Proletarian Dream*, beautifully written and beautifully produced, is the first part of a two-volume book that promises to change nothing less than our understanding of German popular culture. Sabine Hake is a professor and Texas Chair of German Literature and Culture at the University of Texas, Austin. She received her MA and her PhD from the University of Hannover, Germany, and was previously affiliated with the University of Pittsburgh and Bryn Mawr College. Hake is the author of *Screen Nazis: Cinema, History, and Democracy*; *Topographies of Class: Modern Architecture and Mass Utopia in Weimar Berlin*; and *German National Cinema*, among other publications, and she is coeditor of *Turkish German Cinema in the New Millennium: Sites, Sounds, and Screens*. She is the general editor of *German*

Studies Review and her articles have appeared in numerous peer-reviewed journals and anthologies. *The Proletarian Dream* is the first of a two-volume study on the representation of the working class in German culture and politics. Hake is currently working on the second volume, entitled *The Worker's States, 1933–1989*.

The committee's citation for Mani's book reads:

B. Venkat Mani's *Recoding World Literature: Libraries, Print Culture, and Germany's Pact with Books* is impressive in scope, ambition, and execution. Proceeding from Goethe's concept of Weltliteratur and continuing to the digital age, and covering literatures from India to Turkey to German lands, the book aims to reframe our understanding of world literature by focusing on the material circulation of books. Writing in clear, accessible prose, Mani focuses on bibliomigrancy—the routes of translation, publication, and circulation of books—to highlight the crucial role that libraries play in collecting and disseminating world literature and to demonstrate that world literature is not a neutral concept but is grounded in historical, sociocultural, and political reality. B. Venkat Mani is professor of German and director of the Center for South Asia at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He received a BA and an MA from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and an MA and a PhD from Stanford University. Mani is the author of *Cosmopolitical Claims: Turkish-German Literatures from Nadolny to Pamuk*, which received an honorable mention in the competition for the Laura Shannon Prize in Contemporary European Studies. He is the editor of several special issues of journals and associate editor of the forthcoming Wiley-Blackwell Companion to World Literature. His research has been funded by fellowships and grants from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the Andrew Mellon Foundation, and the German Academic Exchange Services, among others. *Recoding World Literature: Libraries, Print Culture, and Germany's Pact with Books* is also the recipient of the 2018 DAAD/GSA Best Book Prize in Germanistik or cultural studies.

The committee's citation for McBride's book reads:

Patrizia McBride's elegant and compellingly written *The Chatter of the Visible: Montage and Narrative in Weimar Germany* revisits montage, the key aesthetic form of the early twentieth century, and offers an illuminating new reading that promises to recast our understanding of the aesthetic and perceptual shifts of the era. Crossing Dada, constructivism, and new objectivity, McBride's account reveals the overlooked narrative dimension and force of montage aesthetics and offers alternative modes of envisioning cohesion and world making in a new

media environment. Arguing with great clarity and impressive command of the material, McBride presents convincing and nuanced acts of close reading without losing track of the big picture as she effortlessly takes the reader along. Patrizia C. McBride is a professor of German studies and the director of the Institute for German Cultural Studies at Cornell University. Her research interests include modernism and avant-garde studies, the intersection of literary theory, philosophy, and political theory, and visual and media studies. She is the author of *The Void of Ethics: Robert Musil and the Experience of Modernity* and the coeditor of *Legacies of Modernism: Art and Politics in Northern Europe, 1890–1950*. Recent publications include articles on Berlin Dada, Walter Benjamin, Else Lasker Schöler, Kurt Schwitters, Irmgard Keun, and Hannah Höch.

#WunderbarTogether: Deutschlandjahr and the GSA Speakers' Bureau

In late 2017 the German Auswärtiges Amt, in collaboration with the Bundesverband der deutschen Industrie, announced a special *Deutschlandjahr* in the United States to begin on 3 October 2018 and continue through the end of 2019. Administered by the Goethe-Institut in Washington, DC, and using the hashtag slogan #WunderbarTogether, the *Deutschlandjahr* organizers invited submissions for projects that would call attention to the close relationship between Germany and the United States. Over a thousand projects are being funded, involving over two hundred partners. The GSA received funding to create a special Speakers' Bureau. During the *Deutschlandjahr* celebrations, GSA members will be addressing a variety of groups in a variety of settings in many different locations around the country. Once our funding had been secured, Executive Director David E. Barclay signed a contract with the Goethe-Institut in Washington, DC, and President Mary Lindemann appointed an Organizing Committee chaired by Vice President Janet A. Ward (University of Oklahoma). Other committee members include Thomas Lekan (University of South Carolina), B. Venkat Mani (University of Wisconsin-Madison), and Susanne Veas-Gulani (Case Western Reserve University).

The #WunderbarTogether / GSA public speakers' initiative got underway in November and December with these events:

Margaret Menninger, "November 1918 – The View from Berlin," November 27, Chappell Hill Historical Society, Chappell Hill, Texas

Irene Kacandes, "On the Run: Refugees, Migrants, Immigrants. Then and Now," December 5, Kimball Public Library, Randolph, Vermont

Stephen Brockmann, "Germany and the Holocaust," December 18, Institute for Learning in Retirement, Bergen Community College, Paramus, New Jersey

Richard Steigmann-Gall, "The History of Fascism," December 20, Akron-Summit County Public Library, Akron, Ohio

Plus, the following GSA public speakers will also present in the spring (and more events/speakers are still TBA):

David E. Barclay, Florida (TBA at German-American Club / Academy of Senior Professionals at Eckerd College (ASPEC); topic – "The Berlin Airlift after Seventy Years: Germany and the US *Wunderbar Together?*")

Jerry Fetz, Montana (TBA; topic – "German-Americans in Montana and the Northwest")

Tiffany Florvil, New Mexico (TBA: topic – “Germany and Global Civil Rights Activism”; or “Germany and Native Americans”)

Thomas Lekan, South Carolina (February 22 at the Georgetown Public Library, Georgetown: topic – “Serengeti Shall Not Die: A Strange German Quest to Save the World’s Most Famous National Park”)

Rick McCormick, Minnesota (TBA; topic - German film screening and discussion)

Susanne Vees-Gulani, Ohio (TBA; topic - WWII bombing and rebuilding of Dresden)

Sai Bhatawadekar, Hawaii (TBA; topic – “My Philo-Selfie, Or: How German Studies Shapes My South Asian Avatar”)

All related promotional materials (e.g., photos, newspaper articles, films of the lectures) are being posted to the GSA’s Facebook page and are shared with the Goethe-Institut.

GSA Archives Committee Report 2018¹

Rainer Hering, Landesarchiv Schleswig-Holstein

Gliederung:

- 1.) Historisches Archiv der Stadt Köln
- 2.) Internationaler Suchdienst (ITS) Bad Arolsen
- 3.) Bundesarchiv
- 4.) Hessisches Landesarchiv
- 5.) Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach
- 6.) Landesarchiv Schleswig-Holstein
- 7.) GSA Archives Committee

1.) Bericht des Historischen Archivs der Stadt Köln

Der 9. Jahrestag des Einsturzes des Kölner Stadtarchivs am 3. März 2018 wurde in diesem Jahr neben dem Gedenken an die Katastrophe und ihre Opfer von zwei positiven Ereignissen flankiert: Am 2. März 2018 konnte das Richtfest des Neubaus am Eifelwall, in dem zukünftig das Historische Archiv der Stadt Köln sowie das Rheinische Bildarchiv untergebracht werden sollen, im Beisein der Kölner Oberbürgermeisterin Henriette Reker gefeiert werden. Auf einer Bruttogrundfläche von rund 22.500 Quadratmetern soll hier bis 2020 das modernste Kommunalarchiv Europas entstehen. Die dann zur Verfügung stehende Nutzfläche umfasst ca. 14.500 Quadratmeter. Das Gebäude enthält neun Klimazonen und bietet im sechsgeschossigen Magazinbaukörper („Schatzhaus“) Platz für 50 Kilometer kartoniertes Archivgut. Hinzu kommen weitere Nutzflächen für Urkunden und Großformate sowie AV-Medien. Die geschätzten Baukosten betragen rund 84 Millionen Euro inklusive Risikoreserve. Eine funktionsfähige Übergabe des Neubaus an die Nutzer ist für 2020 geplant.

Eine weitere erfreuliche Entwicklung am Rande des Jahrestages war die Gründung des Notfallbundes Kölner Archive und Bibliotheken am 3. März 2018. Die 21 Verbundpartner in privater, städtischer, staatlicher und kirchlicher Trägerschaft besiegelten bei einem Festakt in der Piazzetta des Historischen Rathauses ihre Zusammenarbeit im Havariefall und verständigten sich auf gegenseitige Unterstützung zur Sicherung Kölner Kulturgutes in Notfallsituationen. Zu den Maßnahmen des Notfallverbundes zählen unter anderem die Bereitstellung von Material, so genannte Notfall-Boxen, zur Kulturgutsicherung sowie die regelmäßige Durchführung von Notfallübungen.

Nachdem die Staatsanwaltschaft Anklage gegen fünf Mitarbeiter der am Stadtbahnbau beteiligten Bauunternehmen und zwei Mitarbeiter der Kölner Verkehrsbetriebe erhoben hatte, wurde im Januar 2018 beim Landgericht Köln das strafrechtliche Verfahren zur Untersuchung der Ursache und der Verantwortlichkeiten beim Kölner Archiveinsturz aufgenommen. Das Verfahren findet unter hohem Zeitdruck statt; ergeht bis März 2019 kein Urteil, gelten das

¹ The Archives Committee consists of Jennifer Rodgers, Malgorzata Swider, Gerhard Weinberg, Meike Werner, and Rainer Hering (chair).

Ereignis und damit verbundene mögliche Straftaten als verjährt. Für die Stadt Köln und das Archiv relevant bleibt jedoch weiterhin der Ausgang des zivilrechtlichen Verfahrens zur Klärung der Schadenshöhe und der Schadensersatzpflicht des Verursachers. Seit März 2018 liegt ein Gutachten des vom Gericht bestellten Sachverständigen Professor Dr. Hartmut Weber zum Schaden im Zusammenhang mit dem Einsturz des Historischen Archivs vor: Diesem zufolge belaufen sich die gerichtsgutachterlich ermittelten Kosten für die Restaurierung und die Wiederherstellung des Archivguts auf 627 Millionen Euro. Dieser Betrag schließt mögliche Minderwerte oder die finanzielle Bewertung des endgültig zerstörten oder verloren gegangenen Archivguts nicht mit ein.

Nach dem Einsturz des Historischen Archivs im Jahr 2009 fand das geborgene Archivgut großzügig und kostenlos Aufnahme in insgesamt bis zu zwanzig Archiven von Schleswig im Norden bis Freiburg im Süden. Im ersten Halbjahr 2017 konnten erneut zwei provisorisch genutzte, der Stadt Köln von anderen Archivträgern zur Verfügung gestellte Magazinflächen geräumt werden. Aus Schleswig konnten etwa 3000 Archivkartons und Sonderobjekte, die beim Landesarchiv Schleswig-Holstein gelagert worden waren, abtransportiert werden. Ebenfalls geräumt werden konnten belegte Magazinflächen im Archiv des LVR- Archivberatungs- und Fortbildungszentrums in Pulheim-Brauweiler in der Nähe von Köln. In der zweiten Jahreshälfte 2017 konnten schließlich auch vom Archiv des Erzbistums Köln bereitgestellte Magazinflächen, mit Ausnahme weiterhin dort gelagerter Urkunden, aufgegeben werden. Das Archivgut ist damit nach wie vor auf mehrere Standorte verteilt, aber zum ersten Mal seit dem Einsturz auf Kölner Stadtgebiet vereint bzw. in den (zum Teil außerhalb Kölns gelegenen) Standorten des Archivs konzentriert. Aktuelle Standorte des Stadtarchivs sind das Restaurierungs- und Digitalisierungszentrum in Köln-Porz, Räumlichkeiten des ehemaligen Landesarchivs Nordrhein-Westfalen in Düsseldorf und des Sächsischen Staatsarchivs in Wermisdorf in Sachsen. Die Verwaltung des Historischen Archivs hat ihren Sitz momentan am Heumarkt in der Kölner Innenstadt.

Seit dem Einsturz des Historischen Archivs der Stadt Köln wurden große Fortschritte beim Wiederaufbau erzielt. Im zweiten Quartal 2018 liegt die Zahl der erfassten sogenannten „Bergungseinheiten“ bei 1.125.692. Bis Mitte des Jahres 2018 konnten bereits etwa 14 Prozent des Archivgutes gereinigt werden. Dies sind über 220.000 Bergungseinheiten, von denen 97 Prozent als Original und/oder als Digitalisat grundsätzlich wieder benutzbar sind.

Die Idee für das einzigartige Projekt, die durch den Archiveinsturz zum Teil stark fragmentierten Archivalien virtuell wieder zusammen zu setzen, entstand bereits kurz nach dem Archiveinsturz 2009. Die Suche nach Unterstützung bei der Lösung dieser Aufgaben führte die Vertreter des Historischen Archivs an das Fraunhofer-Institut für Produktionsanlagen und Konstruktionstechnik (Fraunhofer IPK) nach Berlin, denn dort existierte bereits Know-how auf dem Gebiet der virtuellen Rekonstruktion zerrissener Papierdokumente. Gemeinsam mit der MusterFabrik Berlin (MFB), die als einziges Unternehmen über die notwendigen Fraunhofer-Lizenzen für die Weiterentwicklung der entsprechenden Software verfügt, brachte die Projektgruppe im Oktober 2012 das Forschungs- und Entwicklungsprojekt „Digitale Rekonstruktion Kölner Fragmente“ auf den Weg. Zum Abschluss des Forschungs- und

Entwicklungsprojektes in 2017 konnte die MFB erfolgreich die Funktionsfähigkeit des entwickelten Rekonstruktions-Assistenzsystems zur digitalen und physischen Wiederherstellung des beschädigten Archivgutes nachweisen.

Weitere Projektergebnisse sind die Entwicklung eines Weichpartikelstrahl-Arbeitsplatzes (WPS) zur technisch unterstützten Reinigung der Fragmente. Hier werden die Fragmente unter einer Reinen Werkbank mit einem Hochdruckluftstrahl unter Beigabe von Cellulosepulver (beispielsweise Arbocel) schnell, schonend und effizient gereinigt. Darüber hinaus hat die MFB eine den Anforderungen der digitalen Rekonstruktion entsprechende Digitalisierungseinheit für die gleichzeitige, beidseitige, geometrie- und farbtreue Digitalisierung von Einzelblattschriftgut und insbesondere Papierfragmenten entwickelt. Im Sommer 2017 konnte mit der Unterzeichnung des „Vertrages zur Erstellung eines Gesamtsystems zur Digitalen Rekonstruktion Kölner Fragmente“ der Auftrag für das Folgeprojekt an die MusterFabrik Berlin erteilt werden. Der Weg hin in einen Wirk- und Mengenbetrieb für die Bearbeitung und Rekonstruktion der angenommenen zwei Millionen Kölner Fragmente soll über insgesamt drei Projektphasen erfolgen.

Neben den aufwändigen Wiederaufbauarbeiten ist das Historische Archiv aber auch seit längerem wieder ein Archiv mit regulärem Dienstbetrieb, das regelmäßig Unterlagen der städtischen Verwaltung sowie Nachlässe bedeutender Persönlichkeiten übernimmt, eine steigende Anzahl von Archivbenutzern aus dem In- und Ausland betreut und eine aktive Öffentlichkeitsarbeit betreibt. Pro Jahr werden mittlerweile wieder zwischen 1.500 und 1.800 Nutzeranfragen beantwortet; hinzukommen Anfragen aus dem Bereich Melde- und Personenstandswesen.

Besonders bedeutend für die Öffentlichkeitsarbeit sind die vom Historischen Archiv veranstalteten Ausstellungen. Seit 2017 konnten erneut mehrere Ausstellungen, begleitet von einem umfangreichen Rahmenprogramm, realisiert werden. Inhaltlich ging es dabei, anlässlich des Reformationsjahres, zum einen um das Thema religiöse Toleranz. Zum anderen widmete sich das Archiv der 200-jährigen Geschichte der Wahner Heide, einem ehemaligen Schieß-, später Truppenübungsplatz, und in einer weiteren Ausstellung der Person des Gelehrten und Kunstsammlers Ferdinand Franz Wallraf. In der aktuellen Ausstellung wird die Geschichte und Zukunft der Kölner Häfen beleuchtet.

Seit 2009 übernimmt das Historische Archiv gemäß Personenstandsreformgesetz die Erstregister von Geburten-, Heirats- und Sterbeurkunden vom Standesamt Köln, die nach Abschluss der Sperr- und Fortführungsfristen an das zuständige Archiv abzugeben sind. Zusätzlich wurden 2012 die dazugehörigen Sammelakten vom Landesarchiv Nordrhein-Westfalen/Personenstandsarchiv-Rheinland übernommen. Seit der Abgabe der Einwohnermeldekarteien vom Amt für Einwohnerwesen an das Archiv im Jahr 2015 im Zuge der Novellierung des Bundesmeldegesetzes erteilt das Stadtarchiv auch alle Meldebescheinigungen und Meldeauskünfte bis einschließlich 1985.

Die Zahl der Anfragen im Bereich der biographischen Recherchen ist damit mittlerweile auf 3000 pro Jahr angestiegen. Bei diesen Anfragen geht es häufig um Familienforschung; daneben ist es vor allem die Klärung von Fragen zu Renten, Staatsangehörigkeit, Verfolgten des NS-Regimes und Erbangelegenheiten, die sich Benutzer des Kölner Stadtarchivs erhoffen. Auch wenn die 2009 übernommenen Personenstandserstschriften vom Einsturz betroffen sind, kann Benutzern aus diesen immer häufiger Auskunft erteilt werden, da die Restaurierung dieser Bände bereits erfolgt ist.

Unter den Recherchen sind immer wieder auch aufsehenerregende Fälle, die in der regionalen und überregionalen Presse oder im Fernsehen Erwähnung finden wie z. B. eine Flaschenpost, die nach 40 Jahren einer Kölnerin zurückgegeben werden konnte, eine dank der Recherchen wiederaufgefundene Tochter, über die in der RTL-Sendung „Vermisst“ berichtet oder die Geschichte des im Garten einer Privatperson aufgefundenen Grabsteins von Elli Winterberg, die vom Deutschlandfunk aufgegriffen wurde. An diesem Beispiel konnten die Arbeitsweise und Methodik einer Archivrecherche der breiteren Öffentlichkeit bekannt gemacht werden.

Zum 1. Januar 2018 wurde im Historischen Archiv der Stadt Köln die elektronische Akte eingeführt. Die Mitarbeiterinnen und Mitarbeiter arbeiten somit im täglichen Dienstbetrieb vollständig digital. Briefeingänge per Post werden zentral eingescannt und anschließend in den elektronischen Geschäftsgang gegeben. Der Einführung der E-Akte ging eine zweijährige Vorbereitungsphase voran, zu der die Analyse der internen Geschäftsprozesse, die Überarbeitung des Aktenplans sowie umfangreiche Mitarbeiterschulungen und Abstimmungen mit städtischen Partnern gehörten. Das Historische Archiv hat im Zuge dieses Projektes zahlreiche Erfahrungen auf dem Gebiet des E-Government gesammelt und dabei seine Kompetenzen erweitert. Gemäß den archivgesetzlichen Regelungen und der städtischen Archivsatzung gehört die Beratung der städtischen Dienststellen bei der Verwaltung ihrer Papier- und elektronischen Akten zu den Kernaufgaben des Archivs. Dieser Aufgabe wird das Kölner Stadtarchiv künftig noch kompetenter nachkommen können als bisher.²

2.) Der Internationale Suchdienst in Bad Arolsen (ITS) untersteht den elf Staaten des Internationalen Ausschusses für den Internationalen Suchdienst (Belgien, Frankreich, Deutschland, Griechenland, Israel, Italien, Luxemburg, Niederlande, Polen, Großbritannien, USA). Grundlage sind die Bonner Verträge von 1955 und das Änderungsprotokoll von 2006. Im Auftrag des Ausschusses wurde der ITS jahrzehntelang vom Internationalen Komitee vom Roten Kreuz (IKRK) geleitet und verwaltet. Am 9. Dezember 2011 unterzeichneten die elf Mitgliedsstaaten zwei neue Abkommen über die Aufgaben und die Administration des ITS. Das Internationale Komitee des Roten Kreuzes zog sich Ende 2012 aus der Leitung des ITS zurück. Neuer institutioneller Partner ist das Bundesarchiv, finanziert wird die Einrichtung aus dem Haushalt des Bundesinnenministeriums.³ Über die Suche von Personen und das Klären von persönlichen Schicksalen hinaus wird die Erschließung der Unterlagen eine stärkere Rolle spielen. Der ITS wird sich weiter von einem

² Sachstandsbericht von Dr. Julia Krämer-Riedel vom Historischen Archiv der Stadt Köln vom 15.08.2018.

³ Vgl. International Tracing Service (ITS): Jahresbericht 2015. Neue Zugänge zum Archiv des ITS. Bad Arolsen 2016.

Suchdienst hin zu einem Zentrum für Dokumentation, Information und Forschung entwickeln. Damit soll dauerhaft die Zukunft dieser Einrichtung am Standort Bad Arolsen gesichert werden. Das Archiv des Internationalen Suchdienstes in Arolsen (ITS) ist mit 30 Millionen Dokumenten das weltweit größte Archiv über zivile Opfer des „Dritten Reiches“ und enthält 26.000 laufende Meter Unterlagen über Konzentrationslager, Inhaftierungen und Zwangsarbeit, die über 17,5 Millionen Menschen Auskunft geben. Die Originaldokumente und die Zentrale Namenkartei des International Tracing Service wurden 2013 in das UNESCO-Register „Memory of the World“ aufgenommen.

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) – 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).

Besonders hervorzuheben ist die Onlinestellung des Gesamtinventars im Januar 2017. Es bietet einen Überblick über die Archivbestände des ITS, zu denen rund 30 Millionen Dokumente über die nationalsozialistische Verfolgung und Zwangsarbeit sowie das Schicksal der Überlebenden zählen.

Durch das Gesamtinventar werden Themenrecherchen und die Vorbereitung eines Archivbesuchs für Forscherinnen und Forscher erheblich leichter. Das Inventar bietet grundlegende Angaben zu den einzelnen Teilbeständen. Dazu zählen zum Beispiel der Titel, der Umfang, die Signatur und eine kurze inhaltliche Beschreibung. Die durchsuchbare Inventarstruktur wird als navigierbarer Baum angezeigt. Daneben kann nach Stichworten recherchiert werden. Das Gesamtinventar steht in deutscher und englischer Sprache zur Verfügung.

Die Erschließung der umfangreichen Bestände ist jedoch nicht abgeschlossen. Der ITS hat sich aus Gründen der Transparenz bewusst entschlossen, auch vorläufig oder oberflächlich erschlossene Bestände im Gesamtinventar anzuzeigen. Die bereits bestehenden Angaben zu den Teilbeständen werden schrittweise um detaillierte Bestandsbeschreibungen ergänzt, um einen tieferen Zugang zu den Dokumenten zu ermöglichen. Das Gesamtinventar auf der Website bildet den aktuellen Stand der Erschließung ab, da die Daten direkt aus dem digitalen ITS-Archiv abgerufen werden.

Link zum Gesamtinventar:

<https://www.its-arolsen.org/archiv/bestandsueberblick/gesamtinventar/>

Die erhaltenen Überreste der Kartei der Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland umfassen 32.264 Meldekarten, insbesondere zu jüdischen Schülern, Emigranten und Verstorbenen. Auf den Karten finden sich neben Namen auch Informationen wie Geburtsdaten, Berufe sowie

Adressen aus der Zeit vor den Massendeportationen der jüdischen Bevölkerung ab 1941. Hermann Göring hatte 1939 die Gründung der Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland angeordnet. Alle Menschen, die nach den Nürnberger Gesetzen als Juden galten, mussten sich melden. Diese Kartei diente der Gestapo dazu, die Deportationen zu organisieren. Zwischen 1947 und 1950 gelangten 32.264 Karten aus dieser Kartei ins Archiv des ITS. Darunter befindet sich zum Beispiel die „Berliner Schülerkartei“, die vom Leben der jüdischen Kinder während der Verfolgung zeugt und biografische Angaben zu den Kindern und ihren Eltern sowie Informationen zu den besuchten Schulen enthält. Diese Karten können Interessierte in aller Welt nun einsehen.

Zum anderen hat der ITS zusätzlich 15.000 Dokumente über die Todesmärsche online gestellt, von denen ein erster Teilbestand bereits 2015 auf dem Internet-Portal publiziert wurde. In den späten 1940er Jahren hat der ITS an der Rekonstruktion der Todesmärsche gearbeitet und Augenzeugenberichte sowie Lagepläne von Grabstellen zusammengetragen. 1950 wurde eine sogenannte „Identification Unit“ gegründet, mit dem Ziel, den vielfach unbekanntem Toten ihre Namen zurückzugeben. Die Dokumente über die versuchte und in zahlreichen Fällen auch gelungene Identifikation der NS-Opfer ergänzen nun den Bestand über die Todesmärsche im Online-Archiv des ITS. Im Online-Portal sind die Todesmärsche mit georeferenzierten Dokumenten auf einer Landkarte veranschaulicht. Wenn Nutzer auf Ortsnamen klicken, sehen sie die damit in Verbindung stehenden Dokumente, zum Beispiel die Antworten auf Fragebögen, die an Kommunen geschickt worden waren oder jetzt neu die Unterlagen über das Identifikations-Programm.

Die Zahl der Anfragen an das Archiv ist im Jahr 2017 weiter gestiegen: 16.786 Antragsteller wendeten sich an den ITS, 2016 lag die Zahl bei 15.635. Rund 16 Prozent der Anfragen kamen 2017 von Forschern, Wissenschaftlern und Pädagogen.

Ca. 2.000 Mal traten Überlebende der NS-Verfolgung 2017 in Kontakt mit dem ITS. Ein Grund dafür sind Renten für bisher ausgeklammerte Opfergruppen. Durch eine Änderung in der polnischen Gesetzgebung erhalten jüdische NS-Verfolgte Renten, die zur Zeit der Verfolgung in Polen waren, seitdem aber außerhalb des Landes leben. Hinzu kommt die Reform der Ghettorenten, die nach einer Schätzung der Deutschen Bundesregierung für circa 40.000 noch lebende Ghetto-Arbeiter bedeutsam ist. Um die Renten zu erhalten, benötigen die Überlebenden vom ITS Bescheinigungen über Verfolgung und Inhaftierung. „Die Anfragen der hochbetagten Überlebenden haben beim ITS derzeit absoluten Vorrang“, erklärt ITS-Direktorin Floriane Hohenberg. „Wir tun alles, damit sie schnellstmöglich ihre Ansprüche geltend machen können. Mit dem polnischen Amt für Kriegsveteranen und Opfer von Unterdrückung gibt es eine enge Zusammenarbeit. Der ITS stellt die Unterlagen für eine zügige Abwicklung direkt auf Polnisch zur Verfügung.“

Leicht gesunken ist die Zahl der Personen, zu denen die Antragsteller Informationen gesucht haben. Bezogen sich die Anfragen 2016 noch auf 24.456 Personen, sank die Zahl 2017 auf 23.513.

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

3.) Bundesarchiv

3.1 Akten des DDR-Schulbuchverlages nutzbar

Die Unterlagen des im Oktober 1945 gegründeten Verlages Volk und Wissen mit einem Umfang von knapp 700 laufenden Metern wurden im Januar 1991 völlig ungeordnet an das

Bundesarchiv übergeben. Um einen Zugang zu den Verlagsakten zu ermöglichen, mussten die Unterlagen zunächst bewertet, geordnet und verzeichnet werden. Nach der Bearbeitung weist der Bestand DR 200 Volk und Wissen Verlag nun einen Umfang von 352 laufenden Metern auf. Im Ergebnis der datenbankgestützten Erschließung entstanden Findbücher für folgende Überlieferungsteile: Hauptdirektor und Stellvertreter, Pädagogischer Direktor, Ökonomischer Direktor und Produktions-Direktor.

Der Bestand enthält wertvolle Quellen über die Entstehung und Entwicklung von Schulbüchern in der Sowjetischen Besatzungszone Deutschlands und der DDR von 1945 bis 1990 sowie über den Einfluss des sowjetischen Schulwesens auf die ostdeutsche Reformpädagogik. Für die Erforschung und Charakterisierung der Bildungspolitik in der DDR stellen die Lehrbücher als schulpolitische Instrumente für die einheitlich geführte Bildung und Erziehung im Unterricht eine wichtige Grundlage dar, spiegeln sie doch die zentral vorgegebene Bildungskonzeption der SED wieder.

Bei der archivischen Bearbeitung konnten sich die Auszubildenden mit dem Inhalt der Akten auseinandersetzen und anhand der überlieferten Dokumente erkennen, wie der Bildungs- und Erziehungsauftrag der SED in den Lehrbüchern der DDR umgesetzt wurde. Dabei war der enge Bezug zwischen sozialistischer Bildung und Erziehung zu erkennen, wobei die Fächer Deutsch, Staatsbürgerkunde, Geschichte und Geographie den meisten Anlass zu bildungspolitischen Auseinandersetzungen gaben. Wie eng der Unterricht mit den volkswirtschaftlichen Zielen verknüpft war, zeigte auch die Einführung des polytechnischen Unterrichts.

Alle Erschließungsdaten des Bestandes DR 200 Volk und Wissen Verlag sind online einsehbar. Interessierten Benutzern stehen im Bundesarchiv 10.476 Akten und 125 Fotomappen zur Verfügung. Ausgewählte Dokumente des Verlages sind in einer Online-Galerie zusammengestellt.

3.2 Projekt Weimarer Unterlagen online

Im Verlauf dieses Projekts digitalisiert das Bundesarchiv eine Auswahl unterschiedlichster Quellen zur Geschichte der Weimarer Republik und macht sie ab Ende März 2018 sukzessive in einem Internetportal zugänglich. Über einen Zeitraum von vier Jahren sollen etwa vier Millionen Digitalisate von Dokumenten, Fotos, Plakaten, Tonaufnahmen und vor allem von frühen Dokumentarfilmen entstehen.

Im Schriftgutbereich werden aus zahlreichen Beständen ganze Aktengruppen digitalisiert, so z.B. aus dem Bestand R 43 I Reichskanzlei, R 904 Waffenstillstandskommission, NY 4035 Nachlass Waldemar Papst, RM 20 Marinekommandoamt der Reichsmarine und Kriegsmarine und R 201 Vollzugsrat der Arbeiter- und Soldatenräte Groß-Berlin.

Der Bestand R 705 Informationsstelle der Reichsregierung ist vollständig für die Digitalisierung im Jahr 2017 vorgesehen. Er umfasst 75 Akteneinheiten und enthält ausschließlich Unterlagen aus den Jahren 1918 und 1919.

Die Informationsstelle wurde am 10. November 1918 beim Rat der Volksbeauftragten, ab Februar 1919 bei der Reichsregierung eingerichtet. Ihre Aufgabe war die Sichtung und Sammlung aller Nachrichten aus dem gesamten Deutschen Reich und deren Weiterleitung an die Reichsregierung bzw. die zuständigen Fachressorts. Bereits am 31. März 1919 erfolgte die Auflösung der Informationsstelle.

3.3 Eines der wichtigsten Urteile der deutschen Nachkriegsgeschichte kann jetzt im Bundesarchiv Koblenz vollständig eingesehen werden. Mit dem "Lüth-Urteil" schrieb das Bundesverfassungsgericht vor 60 Jahren Rechtsgeschichte. Es ging um die Frage der Grenzen der Meinungsfreiheit: Erich Lüth hatte zum Boykott eines Films von Veit Harlan aufgerufen und war daraufhin auf Unterlassung verklagt worden. Für die richterlichen Voten und die Handakten galt eine 60jährige Schutzfrist, die nun abgelaufen ist.

4.) Hessisches Landesarchiv

Im Oktober 2016 übernahm das Hessische Hauptstaatsarchiv 800 Meter Unterlagen der Stiftung I. G. Farbenindustrie. Als seinerzeit weltgrößtes Chemieunternehmen und dominierender Marktführer verfügte die I. G. Farbenindustrie in der ersten Hälfte des 20. Jahrhunderts über zahlreiche internationale wirtschaftliche Verbindungen, war in den 1930er und 1940er Jahren für das nationalsozialistische Deutschland von zentraler Bedeutung für die Aufrüstung und Kriegswirtschaft und profitierte wesentlich von dem massenhaften Einsatz von Zwangsarbeitern, u.a. des Konzentrationslagers Auschwitz.

Mit der Auflösung der Stiftung gingen die Unterlagen in das Eigentum des Landes Hessen über. Die Unterlagen dokumentieren vor allem die jahrzehntelange Abwicklung des erst 2012 aus dem Handelsregister gelöschten Industriekonzerns und seiner Firmenteile (z. B. Ammoniakwerk Merseburg) sowie den Umgang mit den Ansprüchen ehemaliger Zwangsarbeiter (z. B. Wollheimprozess), geben aber auch Aufschlüsse über die Entwicklung vor 1945.

In einem bis Dezember 2020 laufenden Projekt werden die Unterlagen derzeit bearbeitet und damit der Öffentlichkeit zur Verfügung gestellt.

Aktuell sind schon mehr als 9000 Akten erschlossen und über das online verfügbare Archivinformationssystem Arcinsys (<https://arcinsys.hessen.de>) in der dortigen Abt. 2092 (Stiftung I.G. Farbenindustrie) recherchierbar. Alle erschlossenen Unterlagen können im Lesesaal des Hessischen Hauptstaatsarchivs eingesehen und ausgewertet werden (vorbehaltlich der z. T. noch bestehenden Schutzfristen). Interessierte Forscher sind eingeladen, die Überlieferung der Stiftung I. G. Farbenindustrie zu nutzen und in ihre Untersuchungen einzubeziehen.

Zum Ende der Projektlaufzeit ist eine öffentliche Veranstaltung geplant, die sich mit der I.G. Farbenindustrie und ihrer wechselvollen Geschichte befassen soll. Ein Call for Papers ist für Sommer 2019 vorgesehen. Besonderes Interesse besteht an Beiträgen, in denen die jüngst verzeichneten Unterlagen ausgewertet werden.

5.) Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach

Literaturarchive bieten nicht nur für die Germanistik, sondern gerade auch für die Geschichtswissenschaft wichtige Quellen. Herausragend ist das 1955 gegründete Deutsche Literaturarchiv in Marbach am Neckar. Finanziert wird es von der Bundesregierung und dem Land Baden-Württemberg sowie von den Städten Stuttgart, Ludwigsburg und Marbach sowie dem Landkreis Ludwigsburg. Mit rund 1.200 Nach- und [Vorlässen](#) von namhaften Schriftstellern, Schriftstellerinnen und Gelehrten gehört die Marbacher Handschriftensammlung international zu den führenden Sammlungen ihrer Art. Sie erwirbt, erschließt und archiviert Manuskripte, Briefe und Lebensdokumente vom 18. Jahrhundert bis in

die Gegenwart. Der Zugang zu den Sammlungen steht allen offen, die Quellen für ihre Arbeit brauchen. Darüber hinaus finden sich hier auch *Redaktionsarchive literarischer Zeitschriften*, wie Merkur, Neue Deutsche Hefte, Text + Kritik, Texte und Zeichen, Die Wandlung, und Verlagsarchive, wie z.B. Cotta, Insel, Luchterhand, MÄRZ, R. Piper, S. Fischer und Suhrkamp. Die Bestände sind bis 1998 in Zettelkatalogen und Bestandslisten nachgewiesen, seit 1999 in der Datenbank.

Im Rahmen eines großen Projektes wurde die Erschließung des Siegfried Unseld Archivs mit ca. 10.000 Archivkästen fortgesetzt. Es umfasst die nahezu vollständige Überlieferung der Verlage Suhrkamp und Insel bis 2012. Die Unterlagen des Insel Verlages reichen bis um die Jahrhundertwende zurück. Dazu gehören vor allem Korrespondenzen, Aktennotizen Gutachten, Planungslisten, Berichte und Manuskripte zu den veröffentlichten Werken. Auch Peter Suhrkamps in das Archiv integrierter literarischer Nachlass umfasst Korrespondenzen, die bereits zwischen 1932 und 1949 einsetzen und somit das Archiv des S. Fischer Verlages in Marbach ergänzen.

Neu übernommen wurden im vergangenen Jahr u.a. folgende Bestände:

- Nachlass Karlheinz Barck
 - Teilnachlass Charlotte Beradt (Verlagskorrespondenzen und biographische Materialien)
 - Nachlass Bernard von Brentano
 - Nachlass C.W. Ceram (Kurt W. Marek, erster Cheflektor bei Rowohlt)
 - Nachlass Ernst Glaeser
 - Nachlass Werner Hamacher
 - Hermann Hesse: Sammlung Familie Bodemar (Briefe und Karten an Fanny Schiler (Cousine von Hermann Hesse), 1916-1962); Gedichte; Fotografien u.a.)
 - Vorlass Michael Krüger
 - Vorlass Sibylle Lewitscharoff
 - Martin Mosebach: Manuskripte von ihm aus der Sammlung Peter Schermuly (1927-2007)
 - Vorlass Hannelore und Heinz Schlaffer
 - Nachlass Siegfried Scheibe
 - Vorlass Albrecht Schöne
 - Suhrkamp-Fotoarchiv (umfangreicher Bestand, mit Beilagen)
 - Autographensammlung Hans Altenhein (Briefe von Richard Alewyn, Irmtraud Morgner, Helen Wolff, Gabriele Wohmann, Hermann Kant, Helga M. Novak u.a.)
 - Autographensammlung Hohenberger (u. a. Briefe von Franz Kafka, Albert Einstein und Thomas Mann)
 - Mörike-Sammlung Klaus Berge (Handschriften von Mörike, aber auch Bücher und Bildmaterialien)
 - Entwurf einer Rede von Samuel Fischer auf Gerhart Hauptmann (1932)
 - Briefe von Moritz Heimann und Oskar Loerke an Samuel Fischer
 - Aufzeichnungen von Fritz Heidegger über seinen Bruder Martin
- Nähere Ausführungen zu einigen Beständen sollen weitere Anregungen für die Benutzung des Archivs geben:

Der Schriftsteller und Verleger *Michael Krüger* (*1943) gehört zu den einflussreichsten Persönlichkeiten des Literaturbetriebs der Nachkriegszeit.

Seit 1968 arbeitete er als Verlagslektor im Münchner Carl Hanser Verlag, der vor allem durch Krüger in den folgenden Jahrzehnten zum führenden deutschen Literaturverlag wurde. 1986 wurde Krüger literarischer Leiter des Verlags, von 1995 bis 2013 wirkte er als dessen Geschäftsführer. Ferner gehörte Krüger 1973 mit Martin Gregor-Dellin, Paul Wühr, Tankred Dorst u.a. zu den Gründungsmitgliedern der ersten genossenschaftlich organisierten Autorenbuchhandlung. Seit Juli 2013 ist Krüger Präsident der Bayerischen Akademie der Schönen Künste.

In seiner Zeit als Verleger war Krüger ein wichtiger Förderer vieler weltweit gelesener Autoren. Dies spiegelt sich allein schon in der Sammlung seiner Ansichtskarten wider, die 2016/17 im Marbacher Literaturmuseum der Moderne zu sehen waren (zur Ausstellung erschien das Marbacher Magazin, Nr. 157: Unverhofftes Wiedersehen. Karten lesen). Das Spektrum seiner Korrespondenzen, die den wichtigsten Teil des Bestands ausmachen, ist außerordentlich weit. Unter ihnen finden sich viele mit Nobelpreisträgern, deren Werke Krüger zum Teil auch veröffentlichte.

Sein Archiv enthält oft umfangreiche und sehr inhaltsreiche Brieffolgen von Ilse Aichinger, Rudolf Augstein, Hans Blumenberg, Karl Heinz Bohrer, Alfred Brendel, Elias Canetti, Tankred Dorst, Umberto Eco, Inge Feltrinelli, Erich Fried, Wilhelm Genazino, Allen Ginsberg, Durs Grünbein, Lars Gustafsson, Jürgen Habermas, Peter Handke, Seamus Heaney, Zbigniew Herbert, Elfriede Jelinek, Hermann Lenz, Herbert Marcuse, Peter von Matt, Herta Müller, Cees Nooteboom, Marcel Reich-Ranicki, Wolfgang Rihm, Henning Ritter, Peter Rühmkorf, W. G. Sebald, George Steiner, Botho Strauß, Tomas Tranströmer, Martin Walser, Peter Weiss, Urs Widmer, Robert Wilson, Ror Wolf u.v.a.

Hinzu kommen Manuskripte zu Krügers Romanen, Erzählungen und Gedichten (Der Mann im Turm, Die Cellospielerin, Die Turiner Komödie, Der Gott hinter dem Fenster u.a.), für die er u. a. mit dem Joseph-Breitbach-Preis (2010) ausgezeichnet wurde, sowie zu seinen z.T. unveröffentlichten Reden, Essays und Vorträgen (ca. 40 Leitz-Ordner).

Die *Autographensammlung Hohenberger* umfasst u.a. Schriftstücke von Albert Einstein (kurzes Schreiben an das Ministerium für Wissenschaft, Kunst und Volksbildung, Berlin, 25.4.1920), Emanuel Geibel (Aphorismus Mai 1882), Paul Hindemith (Brief an „Fräulein“ Dr. Drewes, 13.8.1930), Franz Kafka (Brief an Felix Weltsch, Oktober 1913), Thomas Mann (Brief an Paul Baginsky 17.10.1924), TMA besitzt Fotokopie, TM-Regesten Nr. 24/124 (dort als Privatbesitz angegeben), Albert Schweitzer (Ansichtskarte an Marianne Lebach, 6.10.1921) und Stefan Zweig (Brief und Handschriftenprobe an Unbekannt, 18.12.1919).

Der *Nachlass Ceram* (Kurt W. Marek [1915-1972], erster Cheflektor bei Rowohlt, Umfang 18 Kästen) enthält Manuskripte zu Sachbüchern und kleineren Prosaarbeiten, Tagebücher, Briefe von und an Ceram und Hannelore Marek (Ehefrau), Dokumente, Manuskripte Anderer, Briefe anderer, u.a. von und an (z.T. auch von und an die Ehefrau Hannelore Marek) Bahadır Alkım, Alfred Andersch, Rudolf Augstein, Reinhold Amthor, Hans Bender, Peter Bamm, Martin Beheim-Schwarzbach, Pierre Bertaux, Herta Borchert, Wolfgang Borchert, Wernher von Braun, Bernhard von Brentano, Italo Calvino, Arnim Dahl, Ernst von der Decken, Wilhelm Dieterle, Marion Gräfin Dönhoff, Friedrich Karl Doerner, Kasimir Edschmid, Axel Eggebrecht, Ida Ehre, Lotte Eisner, Hans Magnus Enzensberger, Inge Feltrinelli, Hans

Filbinger, Adolf Frisé, Heinrich Fraenkel, Arnold Gehlen, Edmund Gilligan, Ernst Glaeser, Ernesto Grassi, Hans Gustav Güterbock, Geno Hartlaub, Jack Hawley, Friedrich Heer, Werner Heisenberg, Walther Henkels, Hans Wolfgang Hiller, Albrecht Knaus, Rolf Hochhuth, William Holden, Hans Egon Holthausen, Georg von Holtzbrinck, Richard Huelsenbeck, Aldous Huxley, Rolf Italiaander, Uwe Johnson, Pascual Jordan, Ernst Jünger, Helmut Käutner, Hermann Kesten, Arthur Köstler, Manuel Komroff, Ernst Kreuder, Hardy Krüger, Heinz Küpper, Heinrich Maria Ledig-Rowohlt, Karl Ludwig Leonhardt, Wolfgang Leppmann, Gustav H. Lübke, Ludwig Marcuse, Fletcher Martin, Walter Mehring, Dieter Meichsner, Agnes Miegel, John Pike, Will Quadflieg, Henri Regnier, Marcel Reich-Ranicki, Ernst Reuter, Hans Werner Richter, Ernst Rowohlt, Hans Sahl, Ernst von Salomon, Hjalmar Schacht, Carlo Schmid, Helmut Schmidt, Manfred Schmidt (Zeichner), Ernst Schnabel, Werner Schüddekopf, Johannes Mario Simmel, Sven Simon, Paul Steiner, Jürgen Thorwald, Wolfgang Weyhrauch, Kurt Wolff, Peter von Zahn, Hans Zehrer u.a.; außerdem Briefe von und an die Verlage Claasen, Mondaderi, Rowohlt, S. Fischer, Victor Gollancz. Darüber hinaus sind Personalpapiere; Urkunden; Verlagsverträge, Manuskripte anderer vorhanden. Zum Nachlass gehören auch Bücher (Belegexemplare, Widmungsexemplare); Bilder und Objekte (Fotografien, Zeichnungen, Gemälde); Zeitungsausschnitte; Rundfunkmanuskripte; AV-Medien u.a.

Der Nachlass Bernard von Brentano (1901-1964) enthält 31 Kästen Lyrik, Einzelgedichte, Dramatisches Schauspiele "Jason und Medea", "Lebenskameraden/Alte Kameraden" u.a., Prosa, Romane und Erzählungen "Das Haus am Bodensee", "Die Malersfrau" und weitere meist unveröffentlichte Manuskripte und Romanversuche; Essaysammlung "Meister und Meisterwerke"; "Fußnoten. Literarische Marginalien und andere"; Aufsätze über Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Eduard Mörike, Michel de Montaigne, August Wilhelm Schlegel, Germaine de Staël u.a.; Rezensionen, elf Arbeitshefte 1935 bis 1964, autobiographische Aufzeichnungen, Briefe an und von Theodor Wolff u.a.; Atlantis Verlag (Besitz DLA); "Frankfurter Zeitung", Theodor W. Adorno, Atlantis-Verlag, Emil Belzner, Werner Bock, Clemens von Brentano und andere Familienmitglieder, Max von Brück, Karlheinz Deschner, Kasimir Edschmid, Alexander Moritz Frey, Richard Friedenthal, Efraim Frisch, Ernst Glaeser, Albrecht Goes, Stefan Großmann, Manfred Hausmann, Bernt von Heiseler, Karl August Horst, Heinrich Eduard Jacob, Marie Luise Kaschnitz, Kurt Kersten, Eduard Korrodi, Rudolf Krämer-Badoni, Hannes Küpper, Alfred Kurella, Heinz Liepmann, Friedrich Michael, Willi Münzenberg, Gerhart Pohl, Benno Reifenberg, Joseph Roth, Max Rychner, J. R. von Salis, Franz Josef Schöningh, Ignazio Silone, Hermann Stahl, Frank Thiess, Philipp Witkop, Kurt Ziesel, Carl Zuckmayer u.a.; Verlage Grasset, Limes, Oprecht & Helbling, Querido, Rowohlt, Schöningh, Wunderlich/Leins u.a.; Zeitschriften und Zeitungen "Forum", "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung", "Frankfurter Zeitung", "Die Neue Zeitung", "Der Tagesspiegel" u.a.; Bühnen, Rundfunkanstalten, Ministerien u.a. sowie Briefe und andere Dokumente zur Aufenthaltsgenehmigung in der Schweiz und zu Wiedergutmachungsansprüchen. Zum Nachlass gehört eine Zeitungsausschnittsammlung.

Der Vorlass Sibylle Lewitscharoff (1954-) enthält 23 Kästen, u.a. Dramatisches ---- Amerika (Stück), Das Siebte Siegel, Geschwister Ingold oder: Die Lofoten (Filmexposé von H. Zischler und S. Lewitscharoff), Herz, Leib, Seele, Hirn (Hörspiel), Im Gehäus/Vogelzug (Exposé zu einem Hörspiel), Im Schrank (Hörspiel), Lauf der Natur (Drama), Vor dem Gericht (Drama) u.a.; Prosa

Vorarbeiten - zum Teil in gestalteten Notizbüchern (Collagen) - zu 36 Gerechte, Apostoloff, Blumenberg, Consummatus, Das Pfingstwunder, Killmouisky, Montgomery, Pong; kürzere Erzählungen; Notizen zu Lektüren und Skizzen; Essayistisches; Vorträge; Reden; Rezensionen, Briefe von und an Anita Albus, Ulla Berkéwicz, Ecke Bonk, Heinz von Cramer, Marianne Frisch, Hubertus Giebe, Felicitas Hoppe, Gertrud Leutenegger, Ursula März, Thomas Medicus, Ulrich Moritz, Martin Mosebach, Andreas Nentwich, Thomas Platt, Hans Pleschinski, Marie-Luise Scherer, Christiane Schmidt, Delf Schmidt, Sissi Tax, Jan Peter Tripp, Natascha Ungeheuer, Arno Widmann, Hanns Zischler u.a.

Adresse: Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach, Schillerhöhe 8-10, 71672 Marbach am Neckar, Telefon +49 7144 848-0, Telefax +49 7144 848-299, <http://www.dla-marbach.de/startseite/index.html>.

6.) Landesarchiv Schleswig-Holstein

Der archivische Nachlassbestand des bekannten ökologischen Landwirts, Publizisten und Politikers Baldur Springmann ist jetzt im Landesarchiv Schleswig-Holstein erschlossen und steht dort ab sofort der interessierten Öffentlichkeit zur Verfügung. Das Privatarchiv war Ende 2016 dem Landesarchiv dankenswerterweise als Schenkung übergeben worden.

Baldur Springmann (1912–2003) absolvierte ein Landwirtschaftsstudium in Göttingen und besaß zunächst einen Hof in Mecklenburg. Seit den 1950er-Jahren bewirtschaftete er den Hof Springe im schleswig-holsteinischen Geschendorf in biologisch-dynamischer Wirtschaftsweise und gehörte damit zu den Pionieren der Ökologiebewegung in der Bundesrepublik. Springmann engagierte sich in der Anti-Atomkraft-Bewegung, war Gründungsmitglied der Grünen Liste Schleswig-Holstein und 1980 der Partei Die Grünen. 1982 beteiligte er sich an der Konstituierung der Ökologisch-Demokratischen Partei. In späteren Jahren stand er verstärkt mit verschiedenen Gruppierungen am rechten Rand des politischen Spektrums in Kontakt.

Das umfangreiche Privatarchiv umfasst vorwiegend Unterlagen aus den Bereichen Landwirtschaft, Umwelt- und Naturschutz, Spiritualität, Initiativen und Projekte, Partei- und Gesellschaftspolitik, eigene Publikationen und Vorträge sowie Korrespondenzen. Der Nachlass ermöglicht damit unter anderem eine differenzierte Einordnung des Lebens und Wirkens Baldur Springmanns sowie beispielsweise der Geschichte der ökologischen Bewegung.

7.) Grundsätzlich steht das Archives Committee für Fragen, Probleme und Hinweise zum Archivwesen im deutschsprachigen Bereich zur Verfügung. Auch Anregungen 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)

GSA Committees and Networks, 2018-19

Program Committee

Program Director: Joanne Miyang Cho (History, William Paterson University)

Pre-1800: Dan Riches (University of Alabama, History)

19th Century: Martha Helfer (German, Rutgers University)

20th/21st Century History: Andrew Donson (History, University of Massachusetts) and Jonathan Zatlin (History, Boston University)

20th/21st Century Germanistik: Kristin Kopp (German, University of Missouri) and Qinna Shen (German, Bryn Mawr College)

Contemporary Politics, Economics, and Society: Eric Langenbacher (Government, Georgetown University) and Sarah Wiliarty (Government, Wesleyan University)

Interdisciplinary / Diachronic: Benita Blessing (German/History, Oregon State University) and Ela Gezen (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Single Papers: Katherine Aaslestad (History, West Virginia University), Sean Franzel (German, University of Missouri), and Ilka Rasch (German, Furman University)

Seminars: Margaret Menninger (History, Texas State University), Maria Mitchell (History, Franklin & Marshall College), Joe Perry (History, Georgia State University), and Inga Pollmann (German, University of North Carolina)

Nominating Committee

Stephen Brockmann (German, Carnegie Mellon University)

Catriona McLeod (University of Pennsylvania) Sabine Hake (German, University of Texas Austin)

DAAD/GSA Article Prize)

Imke Meyer (German, University of Illinois at Chicago)

Elke Siegel (German, Cornell University) Nathan Stoltzfus (History, Florida State University)

DAAD/GSA Book Prize (History/Social Sciences)

Kathleen Canning (History, Rice University), Eli Rubin (History, Western Michigan University), Tanya Kevorkian (Millersville University)

DAAD/GSA Book Prize (Germanistik/Cultural Studies)

Johannes Türk (German, Indiana University)
Fatima Naqvi (German, Rutgers University), Matt Erlin (German, Washington University)

Graduate Student Essay Prize

Sara Hall (German, University of Illinois at Chicago)
Steve Lazer (History, Arizona State University), Peter Mclsaac (German, University of Michigan)

Sybil Halpern Milton Prize

Leslie Morris (German, University of Minnesota)
Darcy Buerkle (History, Smith College), Gavriel Rosenfeld (History, Fairfield University)

Berlin Program Fellows Selection

Annette Timm (History, University of Calgary)
Veronika Füchtner (German, Dartmouth College)

Archives Committee:

Rainer Hering (Landesarchiv Schleswig-Holstein)
Jennifer Rodgers
Malgorzata Swider (Uniwersytet Opolski)
Gerhard Weinberg (University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill)
Meike Werner (Vanderbilt University)

Executive Board:

Christina Gerhardt (German, University of Hawai'i)
Sara Hall (German, University of Illinois at Chicago)
Donna Harsch (History, Carnegie Mellon University)
Thomas Kühne (History, Clark University)
Eric Langenbacher (Georgetown University)
Imke Meyer (University of Illinois at Chicago)
Nicholas Stargardt (History, Oxford University)
Sarah Elise Wiliarty (Wesleyan University)

Terms begin January 2019:

Priscilla Layne (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
Benjamin Marschke (Humboldt State University)
Damani Partridge (University of Michigan)

Student Member, Christy Wahl (University of Wisconsin)

Interdisciplinary Networks

Co-Chairs

Winson Chu, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (2018-2020)

Pamela Potter, University of Wisconsin, Madison (2015-2018)

1. Asian German Studies

Douglas McGetchin, Florida Atlantic University (2017-2019)

Joanne Miyang Cho, William Paterson University (2017-2019)

2. Black Diaspora Studies

Andrew Zimmerman, George Washington University (2016-2018)

Sara Lennox, University of Massachusetts (2016-2018)

Tiffany Florvil, University of New Mexico (2016-2018)

Vanessa Plumly, SUNY New Paltz (2018-2020)

3. Comics Studies

Sylvia Kesper-Biermann, Universität Hamburg (2018-2020)

Lynn Kutch, Kutztown University (2018-2020)

Brett Sterling, University of Arkansas (2018-2020)

4. Digital Humanities | Website

Kurt Fendt, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2017-2019)

Shelley E. Rose, Cleveland State University (2017-2019)

Anke Finger, University of Connecticut (2017-2019)

5. Emotion Studies

Derek Hillard, Kansas State University (2014-2018)

Erika Quinn, Eureka College (2018-2020)

Holly Yanacek, James Madison University (2018-2020)

6. Environmental Studies

Sabine Mödersheim, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2015-2018)

Christina Gerhardt, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (2017-2019)

Timothy Scott Brown, Northeastern University (2018-2020)

7. Family and Kinship

Margareth Lanzinger, University of Vienna (2017-2019)

Eleanor ter Horst, University of South Alabama (2017-2019)

Sarah Vandegrift Eldridge, University of Tennessee (2017-2019)

8. GDR Studies and German Socialisms

April Eisman, Iowa State University (2018-2020)

Sonja Klocke, University of Wisconsin at Madison (2018-2020)

9. Law and Legal Cultures

Barnet Hartston, Eckerd College (2016-2018)

Todd Herzog, University of Cincinnati (2016-2019)

10. Memory Studies

Jenny Wustenberg, York University (2017-2019)

Ben Nienass, California State University at San Marcos (2017-2019)

Katja Wezel, University of Pittsburgh (2017-2019)

11. Music and Sound Studies

Kira Thurman, University of Michigan (2016-2018)

David Imhoof, Susquehanna University (2015-2018)

Amy Wlodarski, Dickinson College (2018-2020)

12. Religious Cultures

William Collins Donahue, Notre Dame (2015-2018)

C.J. Jones, Notre Dame (2017-2019)

Lisa Silverman, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2018-2020)

13. Swiss Studies

Peter Meilaender, Houghton College (2016-2019)

Hans Rindisbacher, Pomona College (2016-2019)

14. Visual Culture

Heather Mathews, Pacific Lutheran University (2015-2018)

Daniel Magilow, University of Tennessee (2017-2019)

15. War and Violence

Katherine Aaslestad, West Virginia University (2018-2020)

Kathrin Maurer, University of Southern Denmark (2018-2020)

Die Deutsche Gesellschaft e.V. und die German Studies Association

Tilman Mayer
Universität Bonn

Die Deutsche Gesellschaft e.V. wurde ursprünglich als deutsche Freundschaftsgesellschaft konzipiert! Sie sollte schon im Jahr 1983 gegründet werden, die SED verhinderte das. Sie wurde dann als erste gesamtdeutscher Verein nach dem Mauerfall am 13. Januar 1990 in der Nikolaikirche in Berlin (Ost) gegründet. Anwesend waren Vertreter aller Bundestagsparteien aus dem Westen und Vertreter der oppositionellen Gruppierungen aus dem Osten. Die Gründungsmitglieder kamen aus dem Demokratische Aufbruch, dem Neuen Forum, der DDR-Sozialdemokratie, von Demokratie Jetzt. Daneben engagierten sich Vertreter aus Kirchen, der Kultur und Gesellschaft für den Verein. Während der Gründungsveranstaltung sprachen der Regierende Bürgermeister a.D. Eberhard Diepgen, Johannes Rau damals Ministerpräsident des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen.

Die Deutsche Gesellschaft ist seit bald 30 Jahren mit vielen Initiativen und Vorschlägen bekannt geworden, so: zum Wiederaufbau der Frauenkirche in Dresden, für die Einführung der Währung der Europäischen Union oder für die Errichtung eines nationalen Freiheits- und ein Einheitsdenkmals in Berlin.

Mit über 700 Veranstaltungen jährlich gehört die Gesellschaft zu den aktivsten NGO`s in Deutschland. Von Anfang an dabei ist der jetzige Bevollmächtigte des Vorstandes der DG, Dr. Andreas H. Apelt und einer der Vorsitzenden Lothar de Maiziere, letzter Ministerpräsident der DDR. (www.deutsche-gesellschaft-ev.de)

Innerhalb der DG wurde das Forum Deutschlandforschung unter der Leitung von Tilman Mayer, Univ Bonn, gegründet, ein Forum, das die Nachfolge des GSA-Mitglieds Gesellschaft für Deutschlandforschung (GfD) angetreten hat.

Das Forum befindet sich noch im Aufbau und hat zum Ziel, wissenschaftliche Tagungen zur Zeitgeschichte zu organisieren. (tilman.mayer@uni-bonn.de)

[This report on the relationship between German Studies and the MLA will, we hope, encourage further reflection at the GSA annual conference and in this newsletter. We would welcome similar discussions regarding German Studies at the American Historical Association, the American Political Science Association, the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, the Central European History Society, the Medieval Academy, and many others, with most of which we are connected through membership in the American Council of Learned Societies.]

Imagining the Future of German Studies at the Modern Language Association's Annual Convention: A GSA Roundtable Report

Richard Langston, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Not long ago, the Modern Language Association's annual convention was the definitive academic event of the year for literary scholars. It is no mystery to many that it is now no longer what it once was. Since the dot-com bubble burst in the years 2000-2002, attendance at the convention has decreased by half. The Great Recession that began in 2007 only added insult to injury. Compared to the boom years of the 1990s when annual attendance hovered around ten thousand, participation at the 2017 convention dipped to approximately 5,000 members, a low not seen since 1982 when the American economy was in the throes of another recession. Concurrent to the MLA's recent decline, the German Studies Association's annual conference has experienced growth in recent years due, in part, to changes to its participation rules (graduate students are now involved more than ever before) and its format (seminars were introduced in 2013). In a word, these forums for scholarly exchange and debate have undergone considerable shifts in the last decade and a half. In light of these recent transformations of the American academe, it is doubtful whether the MLA convention will ever bounce back to its glory days.

The effects of these sea changes, especially on the study of German literature, are significant and their consequences on the profession have yet to be adequately registered, let alone collectively addressed. Not only is the MLA convention no longer an essential component of the job market, but its diminished draw for scholars of German literature has also made it increasingly difficult for organizers of the convention's four forums (formerly known as divisions) to fill their eight guaranteed panels. In fact, German literature's place within the MLA's marketplace of ideas has dwindled appreciably such that scholars of English and American literature have recently appointed themselves the role of custodian responsible for brokering German ideas. On the other side of the equation, the GSA's annual conference has emerged in the lean years since the Great Recession as the one affordable conference with the biggest bang for a one's buck. Yet the interdisciplinarity characteristic of the GSA is markedly different than that of the MLA; the former's emphasis on German has come at the expense of the comparative, transnational spirit of the latter's attention to literature.

Five North American scholars of literature, film and media studies representing the widest possible range of institutions and experiences as both MLA conference participants and

organizers convened at the forty-second annual GSA conference in Pittsburgh, PA, in order to initiate this sorely needed dialogue on German literature's place in both the GSA *and* the MLA:

- **Paul Michael Lützeler** (Washington University in St. Louis) began the roundtable with a historical overview that threw into relief just how much the MLA changed since 1968. In 1968 acutely hierarchical, male-dominated, and far less participatory than today, the MLA has become, on the one hand, far more equitable and democratic over the last fifty years. On the other hand, only 0.6% of the total convention program in 2018 (compared to the 7.5% of program in 1968) represented German literature. Adding insult to injury, attendance at German sessions in 2018 is a fraction of what it once was. Given the fact that both the MLA and the GSA are cost prohibitive for many colleagues, Lützeler motioned for a compromise: by visiting each conference every other year, colleagues can ensure they benefit from both conferences' strengths.
- **Claudia Breger** (Columbia University) argued that of all the benefits to be lost were German Studies to pivot away from the MLA annual convention altogether, the greatest is arguably the interdisciplinary innovation that Germanists have long found when dialoguing with scholars from different literary traditions. Developments advanced in English and Comparative Literature, for example, and shared at the MLA convention have been indispensable for curing much of German Studies' theoretical, methodological, and thematic provincialism. The trick, Breger proffered, is how to ensure the value of this cross-fertilization for the discipline. It will require us not only to remain involved at the MLA but also to model such interdisciplinary practices in our teaching, advising, research, and networking.
- Shifting from research to advocacy, **Lutz Koepnick** (Vanderbilt University) focused on the MLA's longstanding mission to promote the humanities in higher education and support workplace equity. If literary and film scholars in German Studies think they can do without the MLA because they have the GSA, they will very likely fail to address what makes humanities scholarship possible in the first place. Advocating for the humanities, especially in our current lean times, is critical for ensuring the future health of German departments and programs; the advocacy that the MLA's executives, delegates, and committees advance on an annual basis must be acknowledged and fostered as an integral part of what makes much of the GSA possible in the first place.
- **Stefanie Harris** (Texas A&M University) reflected on the technological shifts that have shadowed, if not presaged the transformation of both the MLA and the GSA. Where we now meet intellectually and how we discover, share, and produce new work has shifted substantially in the last decade. Not the clearinghouse of scholarly innovation and job candidates that it once was, the MLA convention has for many ceded its role to cost-saving Skype interviews and searchable online databases. If a significant portion of why we went to the MLA has been alleviated by technology, then it is essential to rethink what can best be accomplished in person at the MLA and how that work can be productively distinguished from but nevertheless related to why we meet at the GSA.

- **Leslie Morris** (University of Minnesota) motioned that German Studies not lose sight of the similar plight facing other similarly sized scholarly organizations that also belong to the American Council of Learned Societies. In other words, the MLA and the GSA are not the only two points on the compass to consider. In light of the changing demographics affecting many fields throughout the humanities and social sciences, Morris sees future potential in forging formal collaborations and dialogues between ACLS member societies by moving interdisciplinary panels, for example, from one organization's conference to another. By reimagining a more expansive German Studies as Morris does, the MLA could serve as an ideal forum where scholars could explore the porousness between disciplines and develop exciting, cutting-edge scholarship.

In closing, audience members and panelists alike stressed the importance of not only continuing this dialogue at future GSA conferences in expanded form but also realizing concrete actions that German Studies can take to promote synergy between its annual conference and those like the MLA's and the American Historical Association's.