
German Studies Association

Newsletter

Volume XXVI

Number 2

Winter 2001

GERMAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER

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German Studies Association

NEWSLETTER

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SECTION I

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Newsletter Policy and Information

The GSA Newsletter and the GSA web site are the ordinary means of communicating with members. The web site contains all sorts of new and important ongoing information for members. Look for it under "GSA News" on the web site. Check the web site regularly for important information for your own research and teaching needs, for travel information and special bargains available to GSA members, for GSA Conference forms, and other forms, for the Conference Program as soon as it is available, for the GSA Guidelines for Curricula in German Studies, as well as for other important innovations that you will need.

Since the Newsletter comes out only twice a year, in April and December, it may not have the latest information. Do look at the web site regularly.

GSA Special Travel Information

Over the years, we have been experimenting with offering members special fares on various airlines to the Annual GSA Conference. We will continue to do this, and to make special fares available to you for the Conference, as well as offer really good opportunities for year-round travel. Last year, we tried the idea of using a special travel agent. We have decided to expand our offerings to the members in the travel area. The more we use our travel agent, the more we can hope to negotiate for better airline deals for our members.

Starting immediately, look for important travel news for GSA members on the GSA web site at www.g-s-a.org, where you will find good travel deals that you can use every month of the year. GSA is using a travel agent who will search out and negotiate for special bargain fares and opportunities designed for GSA members. These will include bargain transatlantic air fares, hotel accommodations, car rentals, and so on. They can be very helpful on vacations, too, and are very experienced in the needs of academics. We will try to keep the travel agency for a longer period, to maximize efficiency for you, and to maximize what we can offer you.

Our new GSA travel partner, to offer you special deals on travel to GSA Annual Conferences, and beyond, is a division of Carlson Wagons-Lit. Remember to call OUR Carlson Wagons-Lit office at OUR 800 number, and use their specific web site. Identify yourself as a GSA member at the start, and see what they can do for you. You will receive your tickets promptly, and they promise that they will help you and extend courteous service. Look for the info on our web site soon.

Support our travel partner, and you will get excellent service and improved benefits. They will work with you, and try to get you the best fares, including specially discounted fares negotiated for GSA only.

GSA Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Conference in Washington

The Twenty-Fifth Jubilee Conference counts as a success, even though fewer participants appeared than were expected. We had expected to have a huge turnout, much larger than ever before, bringing about 850 participants to the D.C. Conference. Instead, owing to the tragedies of September 11 and their aftermath, a number of people did not come, and the total turnout was "only" about 700. This is still the largest conference ever, and in many respects one of the best. The sessions were impressive, and attendance at them was generally high. The Headquarters Hotel was excellently laid out, and the meeting rooms and ambient space seemed just to fit our Association. So many people remarked about the excellent configuration, the location, and the attentiveness of the staff, that the Executive Committee suggested that we return at the first available time slot. This is 2004, and so I negotiated a contract, and we will be back in 2004.

There were also five receptions, and more book exhibitors than ever before. As a precaution, GSA hired a security guard. He is a former United States Marshall, and his professionalism also helped the general flow.

The banquet on Friday night was well attended, and featured Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, Ambassador Elizabeth Jones, the Speaker of the Austrian Nationalrat, the Ambassadors of Austria and Switzerland, and the Deputy Ambassador of Germany (the Ambassador was at a high-level meeting in this critical time), and the Vice President of the American Council of Learned Societies (the President was in the hospital), the Executive Director of the European Union Studies Association, and Presidents and Past Presidents of Women in German, the American Association of Teachers of German, and numerous other

organizations. Dr. Christian Bode, General Secretary of the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, and Britta Baron, Director of the New York Office, were present, as was Georg Schuette, new Director of the German Fulbright Commission and Richard Pettit of the American Commission. Representatives of the Austrian Foreign Ministry, a member of the German Bundestag, and many other dignitaries joined the members in celebrating the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the GSA. Wolfgang-Uwe Friedrich (PoliSci, Universitaet Hildesheim), Vice President of the University of Hildesheim, presented your Executive Director with a Festschrift in honor of his role in the GSA, and on the occasion of his 65th birthday. Entitled "Germany and America: Essays in Honor of Gerald R. Kleinfeld," it was published by Berghahn Books, now a premier publisher in the fields of German Studies. Two standing ovations made me feel rather embarrassed, but very grateful, and I was genuinely delighted. Thank you, all of you, for letting me serve you.

President Henry Friedlander introduced the past Presidents of the German Studies Association, beginning with David Kitterman, first President of the then Western Association for German Studies, as GSA was named in 1976. Most of the past Presidents were able to be there.

DAAD Gives GSA a Birthday Grant

Christian Bode, General Secretary of the DAAD, attended the GSA Conference and joined Britta Baron, Director of the New York Office, in hosting a reception for participants. With the crowds of people, it was hard to find a space to speak, but Bode mounted a platform and announced a gracious gift to GSA. The DAAD will provide DM30,000 over three years to offer each year two eastern European scholars funding for participation in the GSA Conference in the amount of DM5,000 each. The GSA Executive Council will explore ways of implementing the process at its January meeting. This is a good opportunity to assist GSA in its program of expanding contacts in eastern Europe. The Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies (AABS) has offered to assist GSA in the Baltic region, and GSA will explore other opportunities as well.

Conference Issues and Problems – Items for the Future

Holding a Conference in Washington, D.C., in the shadow of National Airport, which was closed, and only three weeks after the tragedy of September 11, presented very special problems. It was a difficult undertaking, and many participants, including all GSA officers and members of the Executive Committee, were nervous

about flying at that time. As other participants, many of them also had to reschedule their flights. It was a great Conference, and over 700 people came, and the hotel was great, but many people cancelled and some simply did not show, without canceling. It was a nervous, heart-wrenching time, and nobody should be criticized for not attending. We who went were happy to be there, and to have come home safely, and happy that we could have contributed not only to the Conference, but to the welfare of the people who worked in the city. When I returned to Arizona, I had a porter carry my bags at the Airport. I overheard him speaking to his supervisor – he had been laid off for three weeks and that was his first evening back. I gave him a huge tip.

For all of us, it is important to provide you all with an overview of GSA Conference economics, so that you can understand what goes on, and do not think that rules that we develop are arbitrary or dependent on whim.

We have a contract with the hotel, and there are many obligations under that contract. These did not go away on September 11. We have minima, certain levels of rooms that must be rented by a certain date, meals sold in sit-down service (luncheons and banquet – up to \$35,000 no matter who comes), and so on. Most people do not know, for example, that meals consumed in hotel cocktail bars, coffee shops, or whatever, are counted by the hotel but do not figure into our contractual engagement. The minimum of FBS (food and beverage service) is strictly contracted banquet department provided items. We have a credit card system, and there are fees for that, both for charges and refunds. These fees are re-figured by usage per month, number of chargebacks, refunds, and total charged per month. They are different for swiped cards and keyed entries. We have a staff operation that is paid whether people show up or not, and so on. These are expenses, and must be paid. The choice we have is to spread them over all persons, or just some. Many people assume that their registration and meal fees pay for them. Actually, they do not. They pay towards the total expenses of the event. For example, the meal ticket does not pay for the cost of the meal.

The web site was updated with the latest information, that National Airport was expected to remain closed. People needed to change their flight reservations.

What about cancellations? It costs GSA money not only to process a registration, but also the hotel reservation, and it costs us whether people actually go or not. The hotel could not enter our reservations as fast as we sent them because their own staff was no longer able to do that as quickly as we would like. Initially, we had more reservations than rooms at the Marriott, and had to find rooms at nearby hotels for

the others. We did, and successfully booked people into those rooms, but first we had to contact them and let them know that this would happen, offering them alternatives. However, the situation did not remain stable. Although we were also given more rooms at the Marriott than we had reserved, and filled them, cancellations came in, and the room list was fluid. We struggled to help people get into the main hotel, get them the right rooms, and deal with 65 e-mails a day plus faxes and telephone calls. We had to hire additional staff to deal with the problems.

When someone cancelled a week or more ahead of the Conference, we were able to process a refund with only a \$25 service charge, a small fee that we have done before, in previous Conferences. This barely covers our costs. Closer than a week was a real problem. We no longer had the staff, and I had already left for Washington. We had already made hotel commitments. What about the meal commitments?

Well, we charged participants \$26 for the luncheons and \$30 for the dinner. However, the actual cost of those meals was at least \$20 higher. Just consider the banquet. People received a salad, a steak dinner, and a dessert. There were beverages, including iced tea, and coffee. There was tax of 18% and a service charge that covers the tip of 18%. This is what is called "plus plus." Does anyone believe that a steak dinner would cost \$30 under those circumstances? No, of course not. It costs much, much more. Cancelling a meal that we might have to pay for would not eliminate the charge to GSA (and the other participants) for that ordered meal. Why? Could we not just cancel the meal? No, we need to pay for it whether you eat it or not. And, we need to pay the full amount, not just the \$30 you paid. GSA decided that there could be no refunds for cancellations less than one week ahead of the Conference. People who were not going to go surely knew that by then.

Most people were just great. GSA is a very human organization, and people are genuinely courteous, friendly, and helpful. This is wonderful in a scholarly association. At the Conference, and before, people went out of their way to be courteous to my secretary, and to me, and to be patient as we tried to solve whatever problem turned up. I could relate story after story of people who just re-faxed a lost reservation, carefully spelled out their names, so that we could make sure that it was right on the hotel reservation when we could not really read it on the form, or re-sent their credit card numbers when one of them was incorrectly read or written down. And, I'm fallible. I make mistakes. So, I am happy when people courteously give me a chance to recover.

How about transferring your meal tickets to someone else? Well, please do not do it the way one member did. He wrote me an e-mail after I had already left Arizona for Washington, and asked me to “do him a favor” and give an assistant professor at his university his meal ticket. Of course, I never received the e-mail. At the dinner, I was eating my salad when there was a commotion at the door. The assistant professor at his university had arrived and insisted upon being seated for dinner, but had no ticket. I was called to the “crisis,” and put down my fork to rush to the door. The young scholar told me that I had been already informed that he was to receive the dinner ticket of Prof. X. I said that I had not heard that. He then said that he was doing me a favor by participating in MY conference (emphasis his), and that I should immediately seat him or he would refuse to participate in MY conference. I asked why he had not gone to the Registration Desk during the previous day and a half and asked for the ticket. He stated that he had not had the time and again insisted on getting in. To avoid a scene, and with large numbers of people blocked at the door from getting in while this altercation was taking place, I let him in. This was just one case, and it really was unusual, and most people are kinder.

Well, we really need to avoid this in the future. Transferring of meal tickets will have to be done by the individual wishing to transfer the ticket picking it up at the Registraton Desk and personally giving it to the individual of their choice. GSA will no longer do this, and I will do no such “favours.” Good grief! Give me a break!

With a staff of one, entering all of this data and processing it is a huge task. Add changes, of any kind, and you have an enormous task. We have done it for several years this way, and it has always worked fine. This year, we had over 400 changes in the last month before the conference. Some people changed their minds more than once, others could not make up their minds, and so on. This is not to complain. We are all individuals who have our own needs and personal issues. However, it is important to understand that – while I am trying to be helpful in my office – we cannot do everything, nor everything at once. Most things were taken care of immediately. We got people into other hotels when ours was booked up. We got more rooms at our hotel. We shifted people back and forth and contacted them and told them that they were now where they wanted to be. And, we kept non-GSA people out of our block. Had we not done that, we would have had to put 100 GSA participants in other hotels. This is why we do the hotel business in the first place. Can you imagine 100 GSA people who could have been in the headquarters hotel, but they had to be in other hotels because the rooms were sold to non-GSA people?

It was a struggle. The no-shows hurt us. We dropped below our minimum at the Marriott, and there were still people at other hotels we wanted to shift and could have. But, we did not know.

OK, this is how we have to do it in the future. First, we must make the hotel reservation for you. We have got to keep control over our block. We cannot let other people in and force GSA members to be in another hotel unnecessarily. Second, GSA members must cancel their reservations directly with the hotel, and not ask us to do that for them. Also, GSA members booked into a hotel must make the changes with the hotel directly, if they are arriving later, or leaving earlier, or whatever. The hotel will enter it in their computer, and tell us. But, they cannot do that unless we have made the reservation for them. We will arrange with hotels to allow you to do this. GSA only needs to make the reservation for you, so that we can control the block. After you are reserved, you can change your arrival or departure date with the hotel directly. We will try to get them to honor this. Remember, hotel staff are people, too. They can only do what is already in their computers. I have been trying to get hotels to confirm your reservations. In a pinch, we can confirm them if you just call us. We have the hotel's own printout, and usually the confirmation number as well. But, this only works after they have entered the reservation in their computers. This system will mean that the smallest number of people will have to go to other hotels. It is very important that you reserve early.

Conference Participation Cancellation for San Diego 2002 and After Schedule of Fees

We all hope that the Washington crisis situation will never happen again, but we need to tell all members what our policy is for people who cancel their participation now, and for the future, and have them know it. I know that you want to have this in print, so that you can refer to it.

Some associations refund no conference fees at all, for any reason. Others refund them on a sliding scale depending upon elapsed time before the event. From the above, you can see that we have obligations and that cancellation of participation does not eliminate the obligations. GSA has always been member-friendly. Remember, data entering and processing and overall conference management is highly staff-intensive. This is true all the more so as the Conference gets closer, and especially right after the Conference. Staff is expensive.

Cancellation up to one week before the Conference - \$25 service charge, no meal

refunds. Cancellation less than one week before the Conference (Thursday) – no refunds.

All refunds are made AFTER the Conference. Most of them are by credit card, and we are charged a fee by our credit card company for each refund.

GSA Elections

Elected to the Executive Committee were Atina Grossmann (History, Cooper Union), Irene Kacandes (German, Dartmouth College), and Helga Welsh (Political Science, Wake Forest University)

In 2002, members will elect a Vice President in History or Political Science. The Vice President serves two years, and then succeeds to the Presidency. Presidents are alternated between German and Culture Studies or History and Political Science. In addition, two members of the Executive Committee will be elected. Members interested in proposing candidates to the Nominating Committee should write to the Chair of the Committee, Prof. Ronald Smelser, Department of History, 380 S. 1400 East, Room 211, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112-00311. It is necessary to include the address of the proposed nominee. Members are reminded, of course, that proposed nominees must already be members of the Association in good standing.

GSA and DAAD Prizes

In 2001, the DAAD and German Studies Association Book Prize was awarded in History and Political Science. The prize of \$1000 was awarded to Prof. Scott Spector, for his book on *Prague Territories: National Conflict and Cultural Innovation in Franz Kafka's Fin de Siecle* (University of California Press, 2000).

The DAAD and German Studies Association Article Prize was awarded in German and Culture Studies. The prize of \$1000 was awarded to Prof. Stephani Engelstein of the University of Missouri, Columbia, for her article in the *German Studies Review* entitled, "Out on a Limb: Military Medicine, Heinrich von Kleist, and the Disarticulated Body."

The Sybil Halpern Milton Book Prize on the Third Reich and the Holocaust was awarded to Prof. Guenther Lewy, for his book on *The Nazi Persecution of the Gypsies* (Oxford University Press).

Members wishing to nominate books for the book prizes of the Association are urged to read the full description of the prizes and their selection criteria on the GSA web site at <http://www.g-s-a.org> and to send a letter of nomination to the Chair of the Prize Committee. In addition to the letter to the Committee, it is necessary for the person nominating the book to write to the publisher of the book and propose that the publisher send a copy of the book to the Chair of the Prize Committee. Books cannot be considered unless the publisher has sent a copy.

German Studies Review

The Association journal is now edited by Prof. Diethelm Prowe, Department of History, Carleton College, Northfield, MN 55057-4025. All manuscripts for consideration should be sent to the Editor. For further information about manuscript submission, refer to the Association web page.

German Studies Association Main Office – Hours of Operation

Please note immediately the new hours of operation of the GSA Main Office. Effective immediately, we will be open M-Th, 8am to 12 noon, Mountain Standard Time. The GSA Main Office is in metropolitan Phoenix, Arizona. There is no daylight savings time here. Therefore, MST applies year-round. As an easy shorthand to remember, when the rest of the USA has daylight savings time, it is the same time in Phoenix as it is in California. When the rest of the country is on standard time, then we are an hour later than California.

Because of the high cost, we try not to return long distance telephone calls. If you call and want to leave a message, leave your e-mail address. You can also fax us, giving your e-mail address for a response. Our fax number is 480-965-8989.

GSA Membership Dues and Member Data

Members will shortly be receiving their 2002 membership renewal notices. If you have instructed us to deduct your dues annually from your credit card, please be sure that we have the latest credit card number and especially the latest expiration date. We cannot renew if the card has expired, even if you have received a new card with a new expiration date. We have to have that date to enter into the machine.

We need your e-mail address. This is absolutely essential. More and more, when we need to contact you, this is the quickest and least expensive way. When you receive

the dues notice, **PUT DOWN THE LATEST E-MAIL ADDRESS** when you send the form back.

Funding Available for Scholars from Germany and Other Locations

The GSA Endowment Fund earnings will be tapped again this year for support of a limited number of foreign scholars to the Conference from Germany and other locations. These funds are not available to European students. In most cases, it is necessary first to apply for and have been rejected for support from the relevant national agency for which you may be eligible. If you believe that you meet the criteria, it is necessary to apply to the GSA Executive Director for the support grant. This can be done by e-mail (kleinfeld@asu.edu). Decisions involve communication between the Executive Director and the Program Director, but can still be made relatively quickly..

For persons residing in Germany, air tickets will be issued by the GSA travel agency in that country. No reimbursements will be made. Therefore, it is not wise to book and pay for your ticket in advance, and then apply. One should wait for the Association decision, and follow instructions.

Persons receiving funding are required to follow carefully the instructions given. Ordinarily, support includes a non-refundable economy class ticket and one hotel overnight at the Conference Hotel. The traveler is then required to stay at the Conference Hotel for the other nights, at own costs, to pay GSA Conference Registration Fees, to join GSA, and to attend the banquet. All participants are expected to stay for the duration of the Conference.

If you decide not to come after the ticket has been issued, you are responsible to reimburse GSA for the full cost of the ticket, including cancellation costs, and any other charges that have been applied. No reimbursement will be made by GSA for Conference Registration Fee or meal tickets. This is needed to cover other GSA costs.

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Conference in San Diego, California October 3-6, 2002

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Conference of the Association will take place at the Town and Country Resort Hotel in San Diego, California. The hotel is located in the Hotel Circle region of the coastal city, on a large tract of land with palm trees and

multiple buildings. At the rear of the hotel complex is the San Diego Trolley, a municipal streetcar system that runs to downtown San Diego, the waterfront, and finally south to the Mexican border at Tijuana. The meeting rooms will be in several buildings on the complex, and additional time between sessions has been scheduled to allow for the distances. The hotel is not within easy walking distance of many restaurants, so that it is advisable to book the luncheons with the Association. The Association Dinner on Friday evening will feature the Presidential Address.

It is important to adhere to the Program Submission Guidelines. German scholars are reminded of DFG regulations that they must apply to the DFG immediately, and some indications are that such applications should be made by January 1.

Guidelines for Submitting Proposals

1. **Deadline.** The deadline for submission of proposals is February 15, 2002! In addition, scholars are advised that no requests for audiovisual materials may be submitted after February 15. Everything is due on February 15!
2. **Proposal Form.** The web site and the Winter GSA Newsletter contains a proposal form which may be used for individual paper proposals or session proposals. It may be duplicated.
3. **Multiple Proposals.** Individuals may not present more than one paper, or appear normally on more than two separate panels. Each panelist may have one function only on any given panel. Those presenting a paper on one panel may serve as moderator, commentator, or roundtable speaker on one other panel. Multiple proposals may only be submitted when each Session Coordinator who receives a proposal is informed and receives a copy of the other proposal.
4. **Interdisciplinary Proposals.** Should be submitted to one of the session coordinators for that time period.
5. **Submission Guidelines.** When submitting an entire session, it is necessary to get the permission of the other presenters, and to include all relevant information about them, including address and e-mail address. Titles of all presentations must be given in the language (English or German) in which they will be presented if accepted.
 - a. All proposals must be submitted to the appropriate Session Coordinator, not to the

Program Director.

b. Each proposal must be submitted to one Session Coordinator only, not to two or more simultaneously. The program committee will move proposals to other Session Coordinators if necessary.

c. Proposals may be submitted to the appropriate Session Coordinator electronically, by snail mail, or by Fax.

d. Complete Panel Proposals should be assembled and submitted by one organizer, and must include the following materials:

- cover sheet listing panel (panel title, all panelists with affiliations, and titles of papers) as it would appear in the conference program.
- sheet with abstract of the panel- sheets with title and abstract of each paper
- sheet listing all panelists with addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers and e-mail addresses.
- brief (1-2 pages) vitae of all panelists.

e. Individual paper Proposals must include the following materials:

- title and abstract of paper
- brief (1-2 pages) vita

6. Graduate Students. Each session may have no more than one graduate student. Graduate students may not be commentators or moderators. German or other non-North American graduate students, defined as those persons without the terminal degree, the doctorate, may not be included in a session.

7. Modification of proposals by the Association. The Conference is the Conference of the Association. Accordingly, GSA reserves the right to add a paper or papers to a proposed session and/or to delete a paper or papers from a proposed session, or to replace a moderator or commentator. Proposers may be assured that GSA does this only in the interests of the Association.

8. Affiliated Organizations. GSA has recognized certain affiliated organizations or societies, which are granted one session each at the Conference. These are also subject to modification. Certain societies may place a second session, provided that this second session is vetted through the normal process. Therefore, such organizations must prioritize their proposed sessions. Accepted sessions are listed as "Sponsored by" in the program.

9. Round Table Sessions. GSA discourages round table discussions without papers. If you plan to submit a proposal for one, it must be thoroughly justified. Submission of round tables should include as far as possible the materials required for complete

panel proposals, as outlined above. No more than a maximum of six persons can be on a round table. There are no commentators on round tables.

10. Send Papers to Commentators or There May be a Problem. If the commentator does not receive the paper from a presenter before three weeks in advance of the conference, the Commentator will not have sufficient time to review the presentation. This is a constant problem with all organizations. If you do not send in your paper before three weeks in advance, GSA reserves the right to deny you an opportunity to present at the next Conference.

11. Audiovisual Equipment. It is necessary to indicate on the proposal form what audiovisual equipment proposers may want to use in the session. Funds are very limited, and the time allocated for presentations is not ordinarily long enough for length audiovisual enhancement. Requests for such equipment must be justified. Those who would normally use slide and overhead projectors are urged to bring hand-outs should projectors not be available. Tape recorders will not be provided. Multiple version VCRs (PAL, Secam, and NTSC) will not be provided. Slide projectors are as small as laptops these days, and can be brought by presenters. Their high rental cost makes their local availability problematic.

Additional GSA Conference Policies

1. Affiliation. As indicated above, it is necessary to list the names, addresses, e-mail addresses, and affiliations of all participants in each session. This is important so that each participant can be contacted by the Association and can receive a printed copy of the Conference Program. Students must indicate that they have student status. Student participants are eligible for registration at a reduced rate. The Association does not have separate student sessions, but integrates accepted student participants into regular sessions.

No more than two presenters in any session may be affiliated with the same institution, university, or institute.

2. Withdrawal from the Conference. Persons who apply to present at the GSA Conference are expected to present at the Conference if their proposals are accepted. Withdrawal is accepted through April 1 without penalty. Withdrawal after April 1 must be justified in a letter to the Executive Director of the Association. In accordance with a decision of the Executive Committee of the Association, persons whose withdrawal is not accepted by the Executive Director may be barred from

presentation for three years.

Conference Participants must become members of the German Studies Association. The membership form is on this web site.

Should an individual withdraw from the Conference after paying registration and/or meal fees, refunds will be made as follows: withdrawal prior to ten days before the beginning of the Conference will allow a refund of the fees paid minus \$25 service fee; withdrawal within ten days of the beginning of the Conference will not permit a refund of any registration or meal fees paid. Meal tickets cannot be transferred by the Association. Should a member pick up her/his meal ticket at the Conference and give it to someone else, that is acceptable. The Association will not reassign tickets.

3. Hotel Reservation by the Association. The Association undertakes to attempt to make hotel reservations for Conference participants. Only Conference participants may take advantage of this service. Therefore, Conference Registration is a prerequisite for hotel reservation by the Association. The only way to obtain hotel rooms at the reduced Conference rate is through the Association. This prevents non-Conference participants from using our reserved hotel block. When our block has been sold, or when the deadline for making reservations has passed, the Association will make a reasonable effort to secure more rooms, but cannot guarantee this. The Association does not confirm hotel rooms. This is the responsibility of the Hotel.

Should a Conference Participant wish to cancel or change the dates of the hotel reservation, this is the responsibility of the Participant and not of the Association, and it must be done directly with the Hotel. The Association takes no responsibility for changes or cancellations of room reservations.

The Program Committee and Conference Session Selection

The Annual GSA Conference has become as large as it presently can be maintained in our conference hotels. We are unable to obtain additional meeting rooms. Why? One reason is the low overnight hotel room booking of conference participants. We have about 700 participants in the conference each year, but sell less than 500 sleeping rooms. People share rooms, find a less expensive hotel, or stay with friends. Given the tight allotment of meeting rooms, we have had to make some adjustments. Cancellations, which allow a meeting room to go unused, when some other session could have been accepted, prevent others from participating. They must be discouraged.

The Decision Process: The GSA Conference has no unified theme, requiring all proposals to address a particular topic, nor can the Association permit a disproportionate number of sessions to address a single theme, to the exclusion of others. The selection process involves not only an examination of the quality of proposals, but also a determination of balance among many factors. These include discipline, theme, and even century. For example, we cannot completely exclude sessions that focus on the period prior to 1900 or 1800 or some such date. This does not mean that lesser quality sessions will be accepted, because we have more good quality proposals than we accept. Rather, it means that we try to secure a balance. It does mean that not all good quality proposals will be accepted, but it does mean that only good quality proposals will be accepted. The competition for acceptance is very stiff, because the number of meeting rooms is very limited. Each year, many proposals cannot be accepted. The Executive Committee has determined that priority will be given to good quality proposals from individuals who have not presented as often over those who have presented more often in prior years.

Rejection: The program Committee makes its determination accordance with Association Policy and has the advice of the Executive Council through the president and the Executive Director on this matter. Accordingly, there is no appeal from a decision. The Committee works very hard in a very short time. Proposers should make their proposals as clear and as strong as possible, so that the Committee will have the proper information from which to make a decision.

European Participation: Because of the necessity of obtaining funds for transatlantic travel, European participation is dependent upon outside factors. The Association knows that the transatlantic nature of our Conference is a unique feature, and the GSA is a transatlantic dialogue. That German is a co-equal language at the Conference aids in this. GSA is the least expensive form of transatlantic conference in German Studies reaching the largest number of excellent scholars that is held anywhere! We try to maximize the number of foreign scholars, but are very dependent upon outside funding. Cancellations occur here, too, and we are also unable to accept every excellent transatlantic session. Our funding sources should understand that those transatlantic participants who ARE accepted are very special, and are genuinely deserving of funding. We understand the shortage of funds everywhere. We do our best.

DFG Funding. The DFG may require an application to the DFG dated January 1, 2002. Participants are warned that the DFG occasionally enforces this rule. In other

words, the DFG may require an application six weeks prior to the GSA deadline for submitting proposals. GSA is attempting to clarify this ruling.

Funding: The German Studies Association has limited funds available from donations and contributions, and can use these funds to aid a very small number of non-North American scholars in participation in the Conference. Scholars who seek GSA travel support ordinarily must have applied elsewhere as well, because our funds are so limited. Scholars wishing to avail themselves of GSA funds for travel must apply to the Executive Director of the Association for such support. This can be done by e-mail to Kleinfeld@asu.edu and should be done as soon as possible and with full information. Those persons who are granted funding and who subsequently cancel their participation are liable for all costs of ticket, hotel, registration, meal tickets, and may also be subject to a service charge of US\$100 for such cancellation.

Program Committee for the 2002 GSA Conference

Program Director

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20th Century History

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5801 Nicholson Lane (Apt. 1011)
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Tel (301) 713-6659, x254
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 email: norman.goda@nara.gov

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 Tel (949) 824-4363 or 824-6577
 Fax (949) 824-6416
 email: gkhart@uci.edu

18th Century History, Literature and Culture Studies

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 Email: mary.mckenzie@gcccd.net

SECTION II

OTHER CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Bradley University Berlin/Prague Seminar-2002

The annual Bradley Seminar in Berlin and Prague will be held June 16-29, 2002. The seminar is intended for professional academics in the humanities and social sciences who are interested in the cultures, societies, economics, and politics of Central Europe.

Each summer since 1981, Bradley University has sponsored this faculty development seminar for college educators from the United States and Canada. Prior to the collapse of the German Democratic Republic, the seminar included sessions in both East and West Germany. Since reunification, we have established a strong relationship with the European Academy in Berlin, a prominent think tank for educators, journalists, and politicians. In 1994 we began to hold part of the seminar at the Prague University of Economics, using the Czech Republic as a model for examining the challenges to post-communist countries in the twenty-first century. The program in both cities includes a strong historical component in addition to the primary focus on contemporary change.

The Berlin segment will convene at the European Academy in Berlin on Sunday, June 16. During the week leading German scholars, activists, and politicians will present their ideas to us and invite discussion. There will also be a guided tour of the city and short trips to points of interest. Saturday, June 22nd is a free day in Berlin, and on Sunday, June 23rd we will take a chartered bus to Prague, stopping for a four-hour stay in Dresden that includes a guide walking tour.

The Prague segment, in addition to discussions with scholars at the University of Economics, will include visits to important historical sites in and near Prague. Kutna Hora, Terezin, and the castles at Karlstein, Sternberg, and Nelazohoves have been visited in past years. The seminar concludes with breakfast on Saturday, June 29th.

All sessions are conducted in English, or with a professional translator. The cost of both segments is \$1600; or either segment may be attended separately for \$1000 in

Berlin and \$600 in Prague. This pays for housing, nearly all meals in Berlin, two meals per day and a farewell dinner in Prague, public transportation within each city, the bus ride from Berlin to Prague, and the Dresden tour, and excursions. Please note that the seminar fee does not include transportation between the USA and Europe. Note also that there is a surcharge of \$20 per night for a single room.

Please send your application by January 5, 2002 to:

John A. Williams
 Bradley University
 Department of History
 Phone: (309-677-3182)
 E-mail: johnw@bradley.edu
 Peoria, IL 61625
www.bradley.edu/academics/las/his/Berlin

Hermann Broch Web Site

As a result of this year's three international symposia on the works of Hermann Broch the Internationale Arbeitskreis Hermann Broch has been founded. The website reads: <http://artsci.wustl.edu/~iab>

PAUL MICHAEL LUTZELER

Rosa May Distinguished University Professor in the Humanities
 Graduate Director, European Studies Program
 Director, Max Kade Center for Contemporary German Literature
 Washington University, Box 1104, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899
 Tel: (314) 935-4784/4360 or 721-4721; FAX: (314)935-7255
 NEW E-MAIL: jahrbuch@artsci.wustl.edu

The Two Unifications of Germany: A Comparative Analysis

The results of the research project will be presented at an International Conference to be held at the University of Birmingham from Thursday, 19th to Saturday, 21st September 2002.

The conference will feature contributions from members of the research team, along with presentations from invited speakers. The following have so far agreed to speak:

Stephen Brockmann (Carnegie Mellon University)
 Manfred Durzak (Paderborn)
 Gert-Joachim Glaeßner (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
 Konrad Jarausch (ZZF, Potsdam)
 Dieter Langewiesche (Tübingen)
 John Osborne (Warwick)
 Rolf Parr (Dortmund)
 James Retallack (Toronto)
 Hagen Schulze (German Historical Institute, London)
 Helmut Walser Smith (Vanderbilt)

The languages of the conference will be German and English. A conference programme will be drawn by the end of the year and will appear on this page. Bookings will be taken from early 2002; a reminder will be sent out via our mailing list nearer the time.

For more details regarding the conference, contact Professor Michael Butler (until December 31, 2001). From January 1, 2002, please direct all enquiries to Dr. Elysath Griffiths (tel: 0121 414 6178)

Humboldt Research Fellowship

The Humboldt Research Fellowship Program supports highly qualified scholars of all nationalities and disciplines so that they may carry out long-term research projects in Germany. Fellowships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement i.e., the quality and feasibility of the proposed research project and the candidate's international publications. There are no quotas with respect to either country of origin or academic discipline.

The Humboldt Research Fellowship program provides for a stay of 6 to 12 months in Germany for research. Applicants design their own research projects and select hosts at German institutions. Monthly stipends range from DM 3,600 to 4,400; special allowances are available for accompanying family members, travel expenses,

and German language instruction.

Applicants must have a doctoral degree and be less than 40 years of age. Scholars in the humanities should have sufficient German proficiency to conduct the proposed research. Scholars in the sciences must provide proof that they have sufficient proficiency in English. Applications may be submitted to the Humboldt Foundation in Bonn at any time. The review process takes from 5 to 9 months.

As part of the Humboldt Research Fellowship Program **U.S. citizens** from all disciplines may also apply for the variations below. Fifteen of each fellowship are awarded annually.

1. Summer Research Fellowship for U.S. Scientists and Scholars (3 months per year in 3 consecutive years)
2. 2-year Post-Doctoral Fellowship for U.S. Scientists and Scholars (24 consecutive months)

Applications and more detailed information for the Humboldt Research Fellowship and other Humboldt programs can be found on the foundation's web site, www.humboldt-foundation.de, or may be obtained from the following address:

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

U.S. Liaison Office

1012 14th Street NW, Suite 301

Washington, DC 20005

Phone: (202) 783-1907

Fax: (202) 783-1908

E-Mail: avh@bellatlantic.net

World War II — A 60 Year Perspective

Siena College
Loudonville, NY
June 6-7, 2002

Siena College is sponsoring its seventeenth annual, international, multidisciplinary conference on, the 60th Anniversary of World War II, on-June 6-7, 2002.

Topics welcomed include, but are not limited to, Fascism and Nazism, Midway, New Guinea, Guadalcanal, North Africa, the North Atlantic, Literature, Art, Film,

Diplomatic, Political, and Military History, Popular Culture, and Women's and Jewish Studies dealing with the era.

Obviously, collaboration and collaborationist regimes, the events on the home front, conscription and dissent, will also be of significance.

Inquiries from those wishing to chair and/or comment are also invited.

For further information contact:

Thomas O. Kelly, II
 Department of History
 Siena College
 515 Loudon Road
 Loudonville, NY 12211-1462
 Phone: (518) 783-2512
 Fax: (518) 786-5052
 E-mail: lengendziewic@siena.edu

**“German History from the Margins”
 German History Society Regional Conference
 University of Southampton, UK, 13th-14th September, 2002**

The conference German History from the Margins, seeks to approach German History since the enlightenment through comparative study of its minorities. The underlying aim is to challenge not only the idea of a homogenous national master-narrative, but also the view that national minorities can be studied in isolation from one another. Thus, while studies of German-Jewish identity, of the construction of the Jew in modern German culture (the Jew as “other”) and German Jewry as historical agent as well as object, have done much to illuminate many broader aspects of modern German history, even here the exclusive focus on the relationships between “Germans” and Jews homogenizes both majority and minority cultures that were in fact far more fluid, pluralistic, and open. Historians have recently become more aware as local, regional, and national identities and cultures evolved, and as state boundaries shifted and political structures changed, the very notion of a “minority” or a “minorities problem” changed as well. The conference ‘German history from the margins’ thus seeks to offer a more open and pluralistic approach to the history of minorities in Germany since the Enlightenment. Through comparative

treatment of the position of Jews and other groups it asks whether there is a specific German minority problem. Papers are invited under the following general headings:

- Dominant cultures and minorities: How did the concept of a *Leitkultur* emerge within Germany and what place did minorities have in dominant cultures?
- Minorities and dominant cultures: How did minorities imagine the dominant culture and how far
did they enter into it?
- Minorities and each other: Did minorities compete with each other in their claims for access to economic power, for political influence or for membership of the “nation”?
- Minorities and majorities in a comparative international perspective: how does the historical treatment and experience of minorities in Germany compare to developments in other countries? How did Germans experience the status of minority outside of Germany?

The intention is that the conference deliberations will be the starting point for a subsequent edited volume.

Paper givers do not have to be a member of the German History Society to take part in the conference.

Please send paper proposals (title) and 250 word abstract to the organisers at the History Department, University of Southampton:

Dr. Neil Gregor - ng1@soton.ac.uk

Dr. Nils Roemer- n.roemer@soton.ac.uk

or Professor Mark Roseman - m.Roseman@soton.ac.uk

**In Search of the Secret Germany: Stefan George, his Circle and the
Weimar Republic
Queens' College, Cambridge
March 20-22, 2002**

The Stefan George Conference Mailing list

The purpose of this list is to publicize and to discuss a conference on Stefan George, which will take place at Queen's College, Cambridge, on March 20-22, 2002. The conference entitled "In Search of the Secret Germany: Stefan George, his Circle, and the Weimar Republic" aims to bring together specialists of Great Britain, Germany, and North America to re-examine the legacy of the George Circle in German intellectual and cultural history. Peter Hoffmann (McGill), Robert Norton (Notre Dame), and Bertram Schefold (Frankfurt), have agreed to act as keynote speakers, but we are still looking for participants from the U.K. (including PhD. Students). We are particularly (though not exclusively) interested in papers discussing the politics of the Circle during the interwar period, e.g. in relation to:

- German academe 'Wissenschaft'
- Nietzsche Nietzscheanism
- Catholicism, Judaism
- the 'voelkisch' movement
- the Conservative Revolution
- women/gender

Proposals (including a 100-word abstract of the paper and a half-page CV) should be submitted via the list or directly to

Martin A. Ruehl
Queen's College
Cambridge CB3 9ET
E-Mail: mar23@cam.ac.uk

CALL FOR PAPERS

Townscapes and Countryside in Contemporary German Writing

A colloquium to be held at the university of Kent at Canterbury, 18-20 April 2002

It is apparent that the modern German literary tradition encompasses nature poetry

and classic narratives of the metropolis more uneasily than any other in Europe. While the celebration of the pastoral is as old as literature itself, the troubled history of writing on Heimat has become a particularly German preoccupation. Exploration of the city, especially the burgeoning Prussian and Austrian capitals, helped to define our understanding of German literary modernity. Yet today, neither the cityscape nor rural life can be represented by contemporary authors without conscious echoes of the past.

Proposals for 30 minute papers on any aspect of the theme should be sent to either Osman Durrani (od1@ukc.ac.uk) or Julian Preece (jep@ukc.ac.uk) School of European Culture and Languages, University of Kent at Canterbury, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NF. Additional information at: www.ukc.ac.uk/secl/german/town/english.html

ANN: DEFA FILM LIBRARY

The University of Massachusetts and ICESTORM International, Inc. announce a new agreement under which the DEFA Film Library at UMass will begin exclusive distribution of the ICESTORM collection of videos and DVDs related to Eastern Germany for the educational video market. The new arrangement brings together all efforts devoted to educational and non-commercial outreach so that clients will have access to all formats as well as programming, teaching and research support through a single distributor at the university.

The DEFA Film Library represents the only academic research center outside of Europe for films of the former East German DEFA studios. The catalog from which the new venture will draw includes an eclectic array of genres produced behind the Berlin Wall and beyond. Among them are classic feature films, innovative productions of European fairy tales, animation films, documentaries, the "banned films" and even westerns made from the Native Americans' point of view.

Contact information:

Websites:

www.umass.edu/defa

www.icestorm-video.com

DEFA Film Library (main office)
 Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
 504 Herter Hall
 University of Massachusetts Amherst
 Amherst MA 01003
 Tel: (413) 545-6681
 Fax: (413) 577-3808
 E-mail: defa@german.umass.edu

CALL FOR PAPERS

German History from the Margins

German History Society Regional Conference, University of Southampton, UK,
 13th-14th September, 2002

This conference seeks to approach German History since the Enlightenment through comparative study of its minorities. The underlying aim is to challenge not only the idea of a homogeneous national master narrative, but also the view that national minorities can be studied in isolation from one another. Through comparative treatment of the position of Jews and other groups it asks whether there is a specific German minority problem.

Papers are invited under the following headings:

1. Dominant cultures and minorities.
2. Minorities and dominant cultures.
3. Minorities and Each other.
4. Minorities and majorities in a comparative international perspective.

The intension is that the conference deliberations will be the starting point for a subsequent edited volume. Please send paper proposals(title) and 250 word abstract to:

Dr. Neil Gregor, ngl@soton.ac.uk
 Dr. Nils Roemer, n.roemer@soton.ac.uk or
 Prof. Mark Roseman, m.Roseman@soton.ac.uk

Additional information can be found at: www.asweb.artsi.uc.edu/german/margins.html

CALL FOR PAPERS

The environment and Sustainable Development in the New Central Europe: Austria and its Neighbors, 19-21 September 2002, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

The sweeping political, economic and social changes that have taken place in Central Europe since 1989 have created a host of challenges for societies and governments in Austria and neighboring countries.

Proposals for papers will be welcome from scholars in the social sciences, humanities, environmental studies, and public policy studies.

Papers should address the economic, political, social and/or historical dimensions or issues facing Austria and her neighbors in the following general areas:

1. protection and regulation of air and water quality,
2. mineral resource use and sustainable development,
3. energy supplies and sustainable development,
4. development of transportation and communication infrastructure,
5. general policy debates in governmental bodies concerning these issues,
6. continuities and change in the representations and images of the natural environment, environmental change and economic development,
7. the impact of these issues on business strategies.

Send a title, a one page precis of the paper, and a curriculum vitae to Prof. Gary B. Cohen, Director, Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota, 314 Social Science Bldg., 267 19th Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55455. E-mail: gcohen@umn.edu Deadline is 1 March 2002. Additional information at: www.cas.umn.edu/newscall.html

**Tales Told by Women: German Women's Writings on the 18th
and 19th Centuries, May 31st-June 2, 2002
The University of Georgia**

Athens, GA

In order to keep the conference as affordable as possible, costs will be kept low, about \$150 for housing and conference fees. Athens and the University of Georgia are located about 70 miles from Atlanta. For additional information contact:

Marjanne E. Gooze
Germanic and Slavic Languages
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
Office: (706) 542-2450
E-mail: www.arches.uga.edu/~mgooze

Austrian Writers Confront the Past, 1945-2000, 12-14 April 2002

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. Cosponsored by the University of Pennsylvania and the Center for Austrian Studies at the University of Minnesota.

Current policies in Austria have rekindled worldwide interest in the ways Austrian writers have (or have not) confronted the past, especially the years between 1934-1945. This conference will present a forum for assessing the contributions of Austrian writers and intellectuals since 1945 to a critical accounting of past and present extremism.

Additional information from:
Austrian Conference Committee
Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA. 19104-6305

SUMMER INSTITUTE

Seventh Annual Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization, Northwestern University, Evanston IL, June 16-28, 2002

The Summer Institute is an intensive two-week course of study designed to broaden

and deepen the background of current and prospective Holocaust scholars. It is open to advanced graduate students and faculty at the college or university level. Admittees to the Institute, who are designated Fellows, receive awards covering room, board, and tuition during the program. Fellows will be responsible for their own travel, as well as the cost of assigned books.

Applications, consisting of a letter explaining the prospective Fellow's interest and experience in Holocaust studies, a curriculum vitae, and, in the case of graduate students, a letter of recommendation from the principal dissertation advisor, should be submitted by January 31, 2002 to: Prof. Peter Hayes, Dept. of History, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60208. Applicants will be notified by March 15, 2002.

New E-Mail List in German Studies for Conferences

All scholars in the field of German Studies are invited to subscribe to a new e-mail list hosted by the University of Missouri. You can take advantage of this resource by subscribing and by posting on the list all calls for papers for journals, conferences and conference panels. The content of postings will be limited to Calls For Papers.

To subscribe, send an e-mail message to: listproc@lists.missouri.edu with "subscribe GERMAN-CFP-L first name last name" as the body of the message (no quotes and no subject). You will then receive a welcome message explaining how to post messages and how to access archived CFP'S. Please contact the list editor, Stefani Engelstein at: engelsteins@missouri.edu with any questions. Telephone: (573)882-9450.

SECTION III

PROFESSIONAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Intermarium

Columbia University and the Polish Academy of Sciences wish to announce the new electronic journal, *Intermarium*.

Intermarium provides an electronic medium for noteworthy scholarship and provocative thinking about the history and politics of Central and Eastern Europe following World War II. The journal is meant to broaden the discourse on aspects of national histories that are undergoing change thanks to the availability of new documentation from recently opened archives. Its name, *Intermarium*, reflects East Central Europe's geographic location between the seas: Baltic, Adriatic, and Black.

The editors' purpose is to facilitate interaction between scholarly communities by making research, essays, commentaries, documents, and reviews from the region available in English. It is a project of the Institute for Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences and Columbia University's Institute on East Central Europe. The editors are: Andrzej Paczkowski, Institute for Political Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences and John S. Micgiel, Institute on East Central Europe, Columbia University. The journal's internet address is: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/sipa/REGIONAL/ECE/intermar.html>.

A New Security Agenda for U.S.-German-Russian Relations

The September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States have led to a re-evaluation of American and German relations with Russia. Indeed, these events may ultimately have a transformative effect on Russia's relations with its major western allies that rival those following the collapse of the Soviet Union. For the first time since the end of the cold war—and in sharp contrast to Russia's behavior during the Kosovo war—Russia has agreed to join America, Germany and other allied states in combating terrorism by pooling a variety of non-military resources and permitting a U.S. military presence in some former Soviet states. The catastrophic September events have, therefore, opened up new possibilities for Russia's greater integration into Euro-Atlantic structures, after a decade of ambivalence from Russia and the NATO countries about the desirability and modalities of redesigning European

security architecture to include, rather than isolate, Russia.

For the past decade, the United States and Germany—Russia's two most important Western political and economic partners—have sought to devise more effective strategies of integrating Russia into Euro-Atlantic structures; yet, for historical and geographic reasons, the political leaderships in these two western allies assigned differing levels of priority to relations with Russia. Since taking office, President Vladimir Putin has stressed repeatedly his desire for Russia to join Europe. However, Russia's continuing inability to define clearly its own goals toward Western institutions, and its enduring tendency to view relations with the West in a cold war framework, have often frustrated western attempts to devise and implement more effective strategies of integration. Moreover, the reality of contemporary Europe is that "old" security challenges—nuclear weapons, conventional wars, nuclear proliferation—now exist alongside emerging "new" security challenges—terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking, tuberculosis and HIV-AIDS epidemics, illegal immigration—in ways that confound conventional security assumptions and approaches on both sides of the former East-West divide, at the same time exposing the need for creative solutions on both bilateral and multilateral levels. As America, Germany and Russia prepare to cooperate, analysts must ask how the joint need to combat terrorism will affect the longer-term relations between Russia and its two major western partners. Even as Russia becomes an ally, fundamental structural problems will continue to beset Russia's relations with the West.

This multi-year research project, which will be carried out in two phases beginning with the convening of a small group of American and German experts drawn from academe, research institutes, and the private sector, seeks to address a set of integrated, policy-relevant questions. How can we engage more productively a Russia that remains ambivalent about its participation in structures and initiatives tied closely to NATO and the EU? What would it take for Russia to become the European power to which President Putin aspires and, perhaps more important, what would be the implications for the West? Is it possible to deal with Russia in a way that encourages its Europeanization yet at the same time disabuses it of its lingering imperial attitudes toward foreign policy? In other words, how might the alliance's campaign against terrorism impact on Russia's self-image as a European power and on its difficult quest for a viable post-communist identity? One of the key starting premises is that answers to these questions increasingly reside in the complex interdependencies that are emerging between "old" and "new" security challenges. The aim is to conceptualize these interdependencies, explore their

**PROPOSAL
FOR A PRESENTATION AT GSA CONFERENCE, 2002**

Presenter's name as it should appear in print (omit academic titles):

Title of presentation as it should appear in conference program booklet:

Presenter's institutional affiliation as it should appear in print:

**Audiovisual equipment requested (indicate if you require AV, and what kind).
Please read Guidelines FIRST:**

If presentation is to be part of session already being planned, give name/affiliation of organizer or moderator, and approximate session title:

In case not all the *other* proposals for that session arrive in time, I would like to have mine considered independently:

Yes: _____, no: _____

In case this submission arrives too late for consideration in 2002, I would like it to be transmitted *unchanged* to the 2003 Program Director:

Yes: _____, no: _____

I'm willing to be moderator:

in any case _____.

only if I am delivering a paper _____.

I'm willing to be a commentator:

in any case _____.

only if I am delivering a paper _____.

Presenter's

address: _____

Presenter's telephone numbers:

office: (____) _____

home: (____) _____

fax: (____) _____

e-mail: (____) _____

N.B. Deadline for submissions: February 15, 2002. Each participant (speaker, moderator, commentor) must submit a separate proposal. Each paper or session proposal requires an abstract (1 p.) and vita (100 words). GSA will decide date and time of session.

-----Please do not write below this line-----

Subject Area Coordinator's name:

Date:

Initial disposition by SAC:

Initial disposition by Program Director:

Date:

interaction effects, and from that offer concrete policy recommendations for dealing with these challenges on the basis of a new, positive agenda for Russia and the West.

At the broadest level of conception, this project will result in a clear sense of where relations between the West and Russia have been, where they are at the present time, and—most important—where they might be heading in the future. It represents a conscious effort to develop a positive agenda for relations with Russia, and the two countries best positioned to advance this process are the United States and Germany. The agenda will focus on how to promote closer Russian ties with both the European Union and NATO and to ensure that the greater institutionalization of these ties includes both “old” and “new” security issues. It will also examine how an eventual Russian WTO membership and closer integration into global financial structures would impact on other security issues. The challenge is to conceptualize policies that enable Russia to develop in a direction in which it moves closer to Euro-Atlantic structures while encouraging Russian officials and experts to devise their own strategies, as opposed to responding constantly to an agenda set by the West. If Russia’s integration is to succeed, the Russians must “own” their policies.

Regular updates on the work of Professor Stent’s Study Group, as well as interim reports and related publications and links, will be posted on the AICGS web-site periodically. For more information about this project, please contact Jeff Anderson, Director of Studies, AICGS.

Jeff Anderson, Director of Studies
The American Institute for Contemporary German Studies
1400 16th Street, NW Suite 240
Washington, DC 20036 USA
(+1-202)332-9312 tel.
(+1-202)265-9531 fax.
anderson@aicgs.org

SECTION IV

COMPUTERS - BYTES, BITS, AND SOFTWARE

Windows XP

Like all new versions of Windows, this revision has been much heralded by the company. Its launch would have been even more dramatic had it not been overshadowed by the tragedy of September 11, and by Microsoft's own legal problems. These problems are partly reflected in the software itself.

Microsoft was accused of using Windows XP to promote its own products, even to disguising the ease with which products of other companies could work with the latest version of Windows. Law suits charged that Microsoft placed icons for its programs on the desktop, and did not make it clear to users that these could be replaced by those of competing software products. Companies such as Real Products, Hewlett Packard, and Kodak make products that work with Windows XP. Microsoft responded to these challenges and, in some cases, made changes to the system prior to general release. Microsoft claims that products of other companies that are made to work with Windows XP will work with the system, and that they can be installed to work. It is essential that users who wish to use products from other firms than Microsoft make their own efforts to install and use them, and the companies supplying those products will likely stand ready to assist users in the installation and use process.

In addition, Microsoft came under further criticism for insisting that certain of its products be registered, and making Windows XP a kind of police officer for this. In other words, unless a product has been properly installed, and registered, it may not work with Windows XP. The system will communicate with Microsoft.

Thus, the system has some very important caveats that the new user will want to observe. Do you want to upgrade to this new operating system? The decision to do this rests, of course, with the user. However, new computers will only come with Windows XP, so all who buy them will have to become familiar with the system and use it. The only alternative is to move to Apple, and to Apple OS X, the current operating system of the Macintosh. I will also try to say some things about OS X.

First of all, you will have a choice in upgrading between the Home and the

Professional edition if you want to upgrade. The Home edition has almost all the features of the Professional one, and costs only \$98. Only users of Windows Me and Windows 98 can use the Home edition to upgrade. If you use Windows 95, you will need to wipe your hard drive clean and then install. A mess.

The Windows XP is very stable, and not subject to crashing as much as earlier editions. Among the most interesting new aspects is a different start menu. It displays frequently used applications, and has links to folders. If you don't like it, you can go back to the classic menu. It has good links to media operations, and keeps reminding you of Microsoft's media applications. As if you expected anything else. It also has a good help system. Yes, it is a nice program, but nothing really spectacular. Microsoft makes up for that by giving it a new desktop image system. Am I enthusiastic? Not particularly, but it is an improvement, even given the weak spots and Microsoft's nagging hawking of its own products. Do you have a choice? If you have a PC, no.

Digital Cameras – Should You Buy One?

Everybody seems to be talking about digital cameras. You already have a film camera. If you want to get digital images from your photographs, that is as easy as it gets. All you have to do is to take the photograph and place it on your scanner, press the button, and voila! Most scanners have a very simple program that walks you through the system. You quickly capture the photo on your screen, and the available software allows you to do whatever you want with it. You can even send it through e-mail to someone else, or whatever. That being the case, why make the investment in a digital camera? And, then you will have to learn how to use it and how to transmit its images to the computer.

As usual, there are the pros and cons. First, the photographs from a film camera have a much higher resolution. This means that they are sharper and clearer. It does not mean that digital cameras do not produce sharp and clear images, just that the photos are clearer still. Photographs are generally estimated to be about 6 million megapixels (forget what that means – it sounds like a lot of pixels, whatever they are, and they are points, and that must mean that it has a lot of that stuff and is therefore sharp). There are digital cameras out there with six million, but they cost an awful lot, like thousands of dollars, and the images are sharper than you really need them to be. OK, so how sharp are the usual run of images on digital cameras that you should be thinking of? Let's leave this for a minute and talk about some more pros and cons.

The first con is that there are fewer megapixels in the images produced by the digital camera that you will buy, and they will be modestly less sharp. Less sharp enough to notice? In some cases, yes. Score one maybe pro for a film camera.

The second consideration is film. Aha! A film camera uses film. Yes, film. OK, you buy that. A digital camera uses some other media, but it is reusable. So, you can run out of film, or you need always to buy new film. Cost factor. Now, since it uses film, that means that you take a picture. Then you take it somewhere and have it developed and printed, and then you can look at it and see if the picture has all that you wanted in it, and looks as good as you saw it on the viewfinder, and so on. By that time, the occasion has passed, and you cannot take another one. So, you might as well take two or three of the same thing, so that you are sure that one of them will look like the picture in your mind that you wanted to take. And, maybe one of the three will be just right. You don't want to take more, because it costs more money. In a digital camera, you take one, and look at it in the camera's capture screen. You see exactly what it looks like. If you do not like it, you can erase it digitally, and take another one. So, you should get what you look for. Score one maybe pro for the digital camera. On the other hand, companies are always out there trying to blur the question. Kodak has just come out with a FILM camera that enables you to see an image of the picture you are taking BEFORE you snap it. Score one for Kodak.

Film deteriorates over time, but that is not really a problem. Digital is easy to store, on CDs, but you need to look at them with a computer to see them again.

Printing. Well, you can always pay to have prints made from a film. You can print a digital image from your computer printer. It will cost more to make one, and it can look really snazzy on the special paper, even as good as a photo, but not always. And, you need the special paper. If not, it will not look the same. Or, you can send it out to get prints. That is expensive and takes time.

By now, you see what the systems are. If you are now still interested in a digital camera, because it has the features you want, then now is the time to talk about resolution and other features like zoom lenses, and so on.

For many uses, especially on the web and in your computer, one million megapixels is enough. These are the least expensive cameras. The better resolution is three million, but these cameras are much more expensive and they have another disadvantage. Pictures of three million megapixels take up a humongous amount of space on your storage media and your hard drive. Enter the two million megapixel

size. These are sharper than the one million, make good prints, and take up less space. I recommend the two million size. If you are doing this, then you need software to edit the images on your computer, whatever resolution you get. This costs money. Some of the free software is just fine. Otherwise, you can use Photoshop LE, or some other software packages out there. Your university store has some.

If you have now decided on the resolution, and on the software, the issue of features now arises. The first is image quality, which varies from camera to camera. Then, there is the kind of media for storage. The best ones to consider are Kodak's CompactFlash or Olympus SmartMedia. Sony's Memory Stick is good, too, but is not as widely used. The other two are used by more companies on their cameras. The CompactFlash is a tougher, more durable product, but both are good. When you look at the cameras, check the image quality, the amount of storage, the features of display and different modes, the memory, and how it fits in your hand. You might want to see whether it is comfortable for you to work with. The reason this is more important than with a film camera is that you will be actually using the camera like a computer. You will need to be able to choose features, select options, modes, and so on. Thus, the simplicity of use, or at least the instructions and ease of handling make for key issues.

Which camera should you buy? I have used some, but not yet bought one. The magazines I read and the people I talk to make a few suggestions, which I will pass on to you. I take no credit for them, nor blame. You should check them out yourself. For a one million megapixel camera, the Canon A10 at \$349 is a good choice. Macworld recommends it, but it is also usable with a PC. It has very good color quality, and it stores its images on a CompactFlash. If you decide to go with a two million megapixel camera, then the Kodak DX3500 is a real buy at \$299. Yes, the higher resolution is cheaper. The camera feels cheaper, too, but it seems to perform well. The Canon S110 Digital Elph has a better feel, and more features, but costs two hundred dollars more at \$499. These are three to consider. On the other hand, there are many more out there. I hope that this section has given you something to think about.

Now, how about printing from a digital camera? Well, if you want instant gratification, there are now mini-printers available that do that. These printers cost anywhere from \$199 to \$499 on the average, and the prints cost about 40-80 cents each, when you consider all of the various things that you have to buy to use the printers. That is, paper and ink. Among the most useful are the Canon and the Sony,

but the Sony has a desktop type system, that allows you to look at the picture before it prints. It is also the most expensive. You can also print through your computer on your regular printer, and crop or cut the images from the paper that comes in normal size. In fact, if you are buying a digital camera for prints, then you really need one of these printers, or else you will be wasting a lot of paper. Thus, you will have the cost of the camera, plus the cost of the printer.

Memory

This is the time to buy more memory for your computer. Owing to the slow sales of personal computers, there is an oversupply of memory chips. As a result, prices are at their lowest in some time. If your computer does not have enough memory, it has to access the hard drive more often, instead of keeping data in its memory. That slows down the functioning of the computer. It can be quite noticeable.

University Access versus DSL

Many universities provide off-campus access for faculty and students to their computer servers. On campus, this is done by Ethernet, which is a wired system that does not require dialing over telephone lines. It is very fast. When the same faculty member wants to use the account, or go on the internet, from home, this requires dialing a local telephone number to connect to the university's server. The speed of this connection depends upon three factors: the speed of your modem, the speed of the university's modem, and the speed allowed by the telephone line. Some universities have gone to webmail, which is mail over the internet. The advantages of this system are two. First, it is free. Second, webmail can be accessed from any computer anywhere, including Germany. The disadvantage is that it is often very slow.

As more and more people are using the web, the modem connections over telephone lines get slower and slower, and you can really sit there and wait and wait. What alternatives exist? First, you can subscribe to another service, like AOL or Earthlink. These allow access from remote locations, even Europe, and are faster than the university's service. However, they are limited by the telephone system. A much faster system is DSL. This system is offered by many providers, including Earthlink. Essentially, think of it as fast as the university's system is on campus. In other words, it is lightning fast. What are the costs? Well, it generally runs at about \$39.95 a month, although discounts are available. There is another plus. While you are on a DSL connection, your telephone line is free, and you can make and receive

calls. This could be a factor.

DSL speeds are up to one megabyte, which is pretty good. If you have cable from your telephone company, you may even get VDSL, which does the same thing, but gets you a discount automatically. More than one product from any one company offers a chance of a discount. I recommend DSL or VDSL service, simply to speedup your access and your work on the computer.

SECTION V

GRANTS AND STIPENDS

Franz Werfel Grants

Objective: Franz Werfel Grants are awarded by the Office for Academic Mobility (BAMO - Büro für Akademische Mobilität) of the Austrian Exchange Service (ÖAD - Österreichischer Austauschdienst) on behalf and at the expense of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Research and Culture (BMBWK- Österreichisches Bundesministerium für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Kultur) to young university teachers of German, who focus their research on topics dealing with Austrian Literature. The invitations for applications for these grants are sent out internationally.

Seven new Franz Werfel Grants are made available each year. Candidates are selected by a commission of experts. The recipients of the Franz Werfel Grant are expected to either pursue their academic research as visiting scholars at university institutes and other research departments, or to carry out specialized studies in the archives and libraries. Franz Werfel Grants are not intended to defray the entire costs of studies towards a PhD in Austria. Each grant provides funding over a maximum period of 18 months, whereby the grant is divisible. The initial award of a Franz Werfel Grant includes at least one semester and may amount to 9 months maximum. It can be prolonged by at least another 2 months. All these 18 months may be used within a time-range of three years maximum from the beginning of the grant.

The Franz Werfel Grant covers:

- n Monthly grant of ATS. 10.000,-
- n Miscellaneous subsidies for accommodation (excess: ATS. 1.000,-) according to the guidelines of the BMBWK.
- n ATS. 1.000,- monthly allowance for the purchase of books
- n One-time startup allowance of ATS. 2.500,-
- n Single initial allowance for the purchase of books at the beginning of the grant up to a maximum of ATS. 5.000,- (only against receipts, whereby the list of purchased books must be authorized by the tutor).

- n Intensive additional specialist tutoring (monthly meetings of the current Franz Werfel Grant holders between October and June).
- n Exemption from course-fees.
- n Health and accident insurance.

Eligibility: Awards are granted only to university teachers whose teaching focus is Austrian literature. Language linguistics will not be taken into consideration. Grant applicants must have already established contacts to a specialist at the Austrian academic institution, where they intend to pursue their research. The age limit is 35 years for the first award of the Franz Werfel Grant. The qualifying date is the 1 October of the academic year in which the grant begins. The deadline is March 1, 2002. Details on the application procedures can be found at <http://grantsdb.oead.ac.at>. Additional information is available at <http://www.oead.ac.at/info/publikationen>.

edu.de Undergraduate Awards

Two types of edu.de awards are available for undergraduate students in all academic fields to assist in studies and research visits to Germany. The first is a prize for stays of two to three months for independent senior thesis research, participation in a summer course at a German university, or an internship at a German institution or business. The second is a scholarship between four to ten months for a semester or year abroad in Germany.

Eligibility: The prizes and scholarships are available to full-time undergraduate students at US colleges and universities. Students must be citizens or permanent residents of the US. Foreign nationals are eligible if they have been full-time students in the US for at least one year at the time of application. Applicants must have at least sophomore standing at the time of application and must have at least junior standing at the beginning of the award period. Applicants need to receive academic credit from their home institution for their stay in Germany. German language competency is not mandatory. Deadline is March 20, 2002. Information and application forms are available at <http://www.daad.org/edude.htm>.

Deutschlandjahr Scholarships for Graduating Seniors

This scholarship provides funds for study in Germany for one academic year (October 1, 2002 to July 31, 2003) immediately following the completion of a bachelor's degree. Only students in the senior (final) year of their undergraduate

studies may apply for this scholarship. The scholarship is open to all fields except medicine. Applicants must be US or Canadian citizens enrolled full-time at accredited universities or colleges. Applicants should have a good command of German. All scholarship recipients will be required to enroll at a German public institution of higher education and complete at least two *Scheine* per semester. Under some circumstances, students can conduct research. The deadline is January 15, 2002 and information is available at <http://www.daad.org>.

Study Visit Research Grants for Faculty

This program offers support to scholars and scientists to pursue research at universities and other institutions in Germany for one to three months. Grants are awarded for specific research projects only. At least two years of teaching and/or research experience after PhD or equivalent and a research record in proposed field are required. Stipends consist of a monthly maintenance allowance. The deadline is February 1, 2002 for visits during the second half of the year and August 1, 2002 for visits during the first half of the following year. Information is at <http://www.daad.org/sv.htm>.

Learn German in Germany for Faculty

This scholarship offers support for faculty members who wish to attend intensive language courses at a Goethe Institutes. Four and eight week courses are offered from May to November. Faculty members who teach in the fields of English, German or other modern languages or literatures are not eligible. The courses are not for beginners as applicants must have a basic knowledge of German and should be able to demonstrate the need for acquiring better proficiency in German for future research or teaching. The grant includes course fees, room and partial board. The deadline is January 31, 2002. Information is at <http://www.daad.org/ssp.htm>.

NSF-DAAD Grants for the Natural, Engineering and Social Sciences

This program provides support for travel and living expenses for scholars and scientists at US universities as well as university affiliated research institutes, who wish to carry out joint research projects in the natural, engineering and social sciences with colleagues at German universities and Fachhochschulen.

The application should emphasize that the project will foster the advancement and specialization of young scientists within the framework of the proposed collaboration.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) and DAAD administer the program jointly. The deadline is June 15, 2002. Application materials are available at <http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/int>. For more information contact:

Dr. Mark A. Suskin
National Science Foundation (NSF)
4201 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22230
Tel.: (703) 292-8702
Fax: (703) 292-9177
msuskin@nsf.gov

High-Tech in Old Munich: Summer German Language and Culture Program for Engineering Students

This four-week summer program for North America engineering students at the prestigious Technische Universität München encompasses an intensive language component and lectures on entrepreneurial culture and management, current developments in mechanical and electrical engineering, computer science and the life sciences in Germany. Visits to high-tech and traditional sites in and around Munich as well as excursions to cultural and historical landmarks are integral parts of the curriculum. Participants will have the opportunity to be placed in pre- or post-program internships with German industry. The scholarship covers tuition, dormitory accommodations, partial board, a local transportation pass, and health and accident insurance for the duration of the course.

Eligibility: The program is open to second and third-year students enrolled full time in an engineering degree program at US or Canadian colleges or universities. Applicants need to have completed at least one semester of college-level German. The deadline is March 15, 2002 and information is available at <http://www.daad.org/munich.htm>.

Summer Language Courses at Goethe-Instituts in Germany

This program offers scholarships to graduate students to attend intensive eight-week summer language courses at a Goethe-Institut in Germany of their choosing. Students in the fields of English, German or any other modern languages or literatures are not eligible. Applicants must have completed three semesters of college-level German or equivalent at the time of application and should be under

33 years of age. The scholarship consists of tuition and fees, room and partial board. A small travel subsidy and health and accident insurance are also included. The deadline is January 31, 2001. Information is at <http://www.daad.org/gi.htm>.

Contemporary German Literature Grant

A summer research grant of up to \$3000 for faculty planning to work in the field of contemporary German literature at the Max Kade Center for Contemporary German Literature at Washington University in St. Louis will be awarded annually. The Center is administered by the German Department in conjunction with the Olin Library at Washington University. The deadline is March 1, 2002. For more information contact:

Dr. Paul Michael Lutzeler, Director
The Max Kade Center for Contemporary German Literature
Campus Box 1104, Washington University
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899
Tel.: (314) 935-4784 Fax: (314) 935-7255
E-mail: jahrbuch@artsci.wustl.edu

DAAD-AICGS Grant

This fellowship is available to assist doctoral candidates, recent PhDs, and junior faculty working on topics dealing with postwar Germany. The grant provides funds for summer residency at the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies (AICGS), Washington, DC. For more information contact:

AICGS
1400 16th Street, NW Suite 420
Washington, DC 20036-2217
Tel.: (202) 332-9312 Fax: (202) 265-9531
Email: [//www.aicgs.org](http://www.aicgs.org)
info@aicgs.org

SECTION VI

German Studies Today

This new section of the Newsletter will contain occasional reports about German Studies centers and institutes, developments in the profession, and discussion about issues in German Studies.

Updating German Studies in the New Century

Frank Trommler

University of Pennsylvania

A Definition and What It Means

German Studies, as pursued under the auspices of the German Studies Association, is a combination of traditional academic disciplines such as German, History, and Political Science with the purpose of integrated scholarship and instruction concerning culture, literature, history, and politics of German-speaking countries. If this definition sounds too general, it's what I want to get across at the opening of these short reflections about the present state of German Studies. Definitions are important but rarely helpful for an understanding of the realities of everyday practice. German Studies is a multifaceted enterprise and varies greatly in its conceptualization and institutionalization in American universities and colleges. I venture to say that its resilience as strategy in the recent transformations of these institutions stems from its goal-oriented flexibility, not from the succinctness of its definition. The goal? Lively up-to-date scholarship and instruction on German-speaking countries and their cultures.

The advances of German Studies in the last fifteen years have put new light on the longstanding rationale of German departments in teaching German language and literature in their cultural context as their core activity. For most of the twentieth century, Germanists did not question this rationale. It was part of the academic agenda of liberal arts education and the pursuit of scholarship in the humanities. With the new interdisciplinary reorientation of the 1980s, Germanists have engaged in the debate about German Studies even more vigorously than historians who are

under constant pressure to carve out their turf in the vastly more extensive and methodologically more diverse territory of the historical discipline. The following addresses mainly the developments in German departments, leaving those in History and Political Science to other discussants.

A Short Look at Recent History

Thanks to many actors on the stage of the academic discipline, reorienting German or Germanistik toward German Studies has been the dominant scholarly paradigm since the late 1980s. As other disciplines, above all English, revamped their curricula in order to compensate for the weakening attraction of the literary canon and build a new constituency for popular culture, German departments learned to move out of the isolation, and interconnected with History, International Relations, Sociology, Womens' Studies, Art History, and Political Science. They created new curricula for the student who is interested to study and embrace language and culture but does not feel attracted by literature. Thanks to the methodological impulses from the German Studies Association, especially its - recently updated - guidelines for German Studies and the new interest of scholars and administrators in interdisciplinary studies, the strategy worked. A sizable number of smaller German departments at colleges and universities attracted new enrollments and were saved from extinction or an amalgamation with other units. Chairs and administrators found a viable framework for their curricular revamping of the German program. They legitimately could claim modern methodology and a less insular outlook for this somewhat stodgy field.

More than a decade later, we realize that the breathtaking political upheavals which transformed Central Europe in the late 1980s and early 1990s with the soft ending of the Cold War, have been the heyday of German Studies in their original interdisciplinary conceptualization. While the traditional justification for foreign languages in the American college as conduits to the foreign culture had primarily rested on learning the language and reading literary texts, the new legitimacy rested on the flexible methodology of cultural studies, combining political, psychological and sociological with cultural and aesthetic approaches. The intellectual excitement at the conferences of the German Studies Association resulted from this blend of approaches, usually called interdisciplinarity, yet it would not have taken the profession by storm if there had not been these immense historical transformations which put much of German history in a new light.

European Instead of German Studies?

At the beginning of the twenty-first century we are in a different predicament. The

political and mental disengagement between America and Europe after the Cold War has coincided with the expansion of the mostly English-based internet culture. It has made the concept of globalization a veiled invitation for the disengagement from area knowledge and area studies. Cultural studies, now firmly based in the English departments as a monolingual answer to the emergence of a postideological diversity of foreignness and alterity, are being perceived as a vehicle for neoliberal globalization.

We don't know the whole extent to which the events of September 11, 2001, will impact on the American perception of foreign cultures, including those of Europe which used to be considered part of American identity. Terrorism has had some influence before, yet the war-like attack on New York and Washington in 2001 might affect this perception like never before. And yet it might not. There will be a clearer understanding of the closeness of the foreign on these shores of the Atlantic. Cultural otherness will be experienced in ways that differ from the friendly indifference toward Germany, Italy or France. If the course of the war against terrorism puts Europe and the United States at cross-purposes and causes Europeans to rethink their pro-American feelings, this indifference is prone to change. Such a period of national self-empowerment, however, need not be detrimental to the engagement with other languages and cultures. This time, at least, it's not the Germans who represent the adversary as it happened twice in the twentieth century.

As the debate about globalization has turned a corner with the global threat of terrorism, the debate about Europe and its transformation will become more pointed in regard to the perception of Germany and German culture. To put it in a few questions: Will German Studies have to lead to European studies soon? Have the advances of the interdisciplinary cultural parameters in the study of the foreign culture - often conducted in English - created an easy entry for such broader studies? Or will the need for a comprehensive engagement with the language remain a precondition for the academic involvement both in scholarship and instruction?

At this moment it might suffice to formulate the problem in form of questions. They help focus on the inventory of our endeavor, in particular on the importance of language as part of our teaching of German culture and society. This part of the inventory becomes visible when students, parents, businessmen and deans realize that the European Union lives through its financial and political amalgamation, not through one language and culture whose teaching could become the basis of an education, as the modern languages like French and German did in the late nineteenth century. There can be no doubt that studying the - increasingly intriguing and complicated - amalgamation of European countries is becoming more and more an academic subject in itself. There is broad interest to overcome the long-standing boredom that tends to fill the classroom when students learn about the

bureaucratic machinations through which Brussels extinguishes national and regional particularities. There is growing expertise which can be made useful and financially lucrative for careers in the areas of international business, law, politics and communications. There is even a strong potential for experts in German Studies to advance their case and build larger constituencies around their original German agenda; already in 1990 when the Kohl government selected three so-called centers of excellence at universities in order to build strongholds of German Studies, they were called centers for German *and* European studies. But again, all this has no anchor in the educational mission of the still existing liberal arts agenda of the American college. At best, it is part of the information and training mission of the college for which certain topics take off while others founder.

Of course, there are and will be Majors in European studies. While Europe is not yet an academic career option in the humanities, it is becoming such an option in the social sciences. Whether Major or Ph.D., its fortunes depend on those of the European Union as a new historical entity. More legitimately called European Union studies than European studies, the field comprises legal, political and economic issues where the comparison with institutions of the United States opens an interesting sub-field of comparative public policy. Whether the historical and cultural dimension will be able to shape the academic field remains a wide open question, despite many attempts to emphasize its ties to the discipline of History, as Peter A. Hall showed in his survey, *The State of European Studies*, for the Council for European Studies (Social Science Research Council, 1996).

There is obviously a disconnect between the academic charge for German departments to teach a humanities curriculum as part of the educational mission of the university and the expectations of services delivered by the departments in the university's information curriculum which certainly is rendered in English. This curriculum has tremendously expanded with the explosion of the internet, blurring the boundaries between the humanities and social sciences. With this explosion the state has been reached that the usefulness of the classroom experience itself is questioned. This can - and has been - understood as the ultimate threat to the foreign language departments and not these departments alone. The college experience itself is questioned for which millions of parents have saved in order to give their children their "best investment," a well-rounded education. Is it the ultimate threat? No doubt, it is a serious threat. But to the extent that the educational mission of the liberal arts curriculum still includes the study of foreign languages and cultures, it also represents the source of self-confidence in the pursuit of the liberal arts agenda. With their professional guidance to engage the students in the study, and often mastery, of the other language, literature and culture, German and other foreign language departments provide tangible instruments of reflection of the individual

and collective identity in the American context. This might not look like the great educational triumph of a century ago when modern languages replaced Greek and Latin as basic ingredients of an individual's education, but it still anchors these disciplines well within the requirements of education as a way of building identities.

In view of these developments, German Studies cannot afford to neglect the rationale on which German departments have been working within the system of higher education: the teaching of language or, in current phraseology, the production of linguistic competence. Achieving cultural competence - a buzzword in German Studies - needs linguistic competence. German Studies, thoroughly rethought in its linguistic agenda, can help achieve a cultural competence that extends beyond things German. As a special contribution to the process of building identities, this kind of cultural competence cannot fail in taking its way through the other language back to the American culture and its multicultural fabric. It goes indeed beyond European studies and its mostly socio-political agenda.

Strengthening the Language Component

Although practitioners of German Studies usually refuse to admit a slippage in language instruction and competence in the 1990s, there can be no doubt that aside from the loss of interest in foreign languages among American students in general, the engagement with language instruction decreased on the part of those who applied the paradigms of cultural studies and interdisciplinarity to the field of German. And not without justification: what happened in Germany with the fall of the Berlin Wall needed broad-based explanations that Germanists alone were unable to deliver. Language and literature did not offer sufficient clues to the understanding of the mental, political and economic transformations. As younger faculty members became excited about the possibilities of taking part in the endeavor of discussing Germany's transformations, they spoke to their colleagues and constituencies. They constructed their own - English - narratives of the events. That these "interdisciplinary" narratives often betrayed some form of dilettantism, might not go unmentioned since it led, at least in the mid-1990s, to internal criticism of the dilution of the German Studies concept.

At the same time language instruction made great leaps toward becoming its own field of expertise, mainly under the heading of Second Language Acquisition as an area of Applied Linguistics. A new professionalism took hold, not least thanks to the activities of ACTFL and - in German - AATG to which a growing constituency of younger teachers and new graduate students responded. Research on language behavior and instruction gained unprecedented status thanks to its quantitative methods; traditional pedagogical language lost its frame of reference

against the new social science-based discourse. This development was accompanied by polemics against the cultural studies-paradigm which conjured the loss of linguistic competence. In turn, attacks against the idiosyncrasies of linguistic and pedagogical specialization were frequent; the chasm between two different discourses was rarely addressed.

Since the late 1990s this chasm has become something like an occupational hazard for young job-seekers who have to present their credentials to search committees. While for several years training in cultural studies was a definite plus in the search for jobs, proven expertise in Second Language Acquisition and language pedagogy has become the most valuable asset in certain job interviews. The shift was significant enough to arouse concerns in regard to the efficiency of graduate programs. Who would get the job? Is it the Ph.D. with special expertise in German Studies or the one who can display thorough training in SLA and foreign language pedagogy? Whoever can offer expertise in both areas had an advantage yet such a situation is rarely realistic, not to speak of the demands that a reasonably comprehensive expertise in teaching literature entails.

Under these auspices the legitimacy of German Studies cannot easily be drawn anymore from forays into interdisciplinarity alone or from another Bakhtinian challenge to the high culture canon - although these things must be represented at the annual meetings of the GSA. In order to keep creating a solid clientèle for German departments, German Studies have to reconnect with the newly invigorated mission of language pedagogy and SLA in foreign language departments by bringing the content to the language courses and the language to the content courses. Only through reconnecting curricular planning with the needs of language instruction can they stem the monolingual tide and add an irreplaceable component to a still functioning or at least desired liberal arts education. As language pedagogues, in pursuit of specialization and professionalism, are in danger of claiming a field apart which can only impede the creation of a dynamic curriculum in German, exponents in cultural studies similarly have to readjust to the new curricular models.

When asked about their opinion regarding the language requirements at my university, the University of Pennsylvania, the chairs from the humanities and social sciences emphatically supported second language acquisition, less as a technical skill or genteel accomplishment and more as a key part of the preparation for advanced study. The natural science chairs were more reluctant but agreed to the statement: "We can't afford to be limited to a single culture." All undergraduate chairs insisted that knowledge of a second language cannot be isolated from the other components of a liberal arts education. They are looking for the language-plus option that places the intermediate and advanced language instruction right into content courses and the society and culture content right into language instruction.

The Internet as a Boon for German Studies

Back to the goal of lively up-to-date scholarship and instruction on German-speaking countries and their cultures. Highlighting the term "lively," it seems that the internet explosion of the past decade which has intensified the move toward English as the language of international communication can also be seen as a boon to the concept of German Studies. The internet can be put to good use despite the fact that it has the potential of eliminating the classroom teacher as the gatekeeper of knowledge transfer. Without getting into the complicated issue whether the university can hold on to its position as information and education center for future generations of students, and without debating the impact of the English-dominated internet culture on the use value of foreign languages, I should point out the benefits of the use of the internet by students of German Studies.

After a short time of adjustment, students have appropriated thousands of websites for an amazing expansion of their contacts with the foreign country. German Studies courses which require broader social and cultural information have taken on a new dynamic as students are able to advance their contribution with sophisticated insights into specialized areas, hitherto hardly accessible. At certain stages of their projects they realize the need to know better German than the language they mastered in intermediate courses. They get acculturated to the inner workings of German, Austrian and Swiss websites, complete with visuals and music. They learn to make contacts in the target country, establishing personal and official networks. Of course, the internet does not help understand literary texts. This is a matter for the classroom. And the conscious involvement of the computer requires a clear agenda of assignments that lead the student to scholarly books and articles in the library without which grades cannot be conveyed. Similarly, the temptation to draw solutions right from the computer instead from one's own head needs close supervision.

These things should not be seen as a hindrance to stimulating interest and laying the groundwork for serious engagement with the foreign language and culture. They help create a cultural and informational environment in which this engagement can grow even at the small departments in which German is mostly taught in this country. The internet helps overcome the lack of local resources and eliminate the excuse that the required breadth of German Studies courses - the interface of literary texts with political and social developments - is unattainable for the two or three Germanists that make up the department.

Updating German Studies in the twenty-first century requires the creation of new strategies for balancing the instruction of language, literature and cultural

studies. It requires a clear commitment to integrating literature and literary studies wherever possible. It requires strategies for maintaining the larger departments as fertile grounds for innovative scholarship and the training of the very best Ph.D.s. It also requires the creation of strategies to empower the many lone rangers and small faculties in German to offer an intriguing environment in which students learn to master another part of the transatlantic culture - and of themselves.

**Atop the Alps and Along the Bayous -
UNO's "Center for Austrian Culture and Commerce":
A Brief History**

**Günter Bischoff
University of New Orleans**

One may ask what a city like Innsbruck, right smack in the middle of Europe's highest mountains and as old as the Roman Empire, has in common with a city like New Orleans, right smack in one of largest and lowest river deltas in the world and only as old as the French colonists who dared to establish a city there. But it would be pretentious to claim deeper logical ties for the creation of an extraordinary contemporary collaboration between two universities developing into CenterAustria. Rather, the roots of the relationship go back, as many typically-American-generated ideas do, to the foresight and perseverance of one American's dream.

The result is a vibrant, bilateral, and innovative Center that seeks ultimately to enrich understanding between two disparate societies by fostering people exchanges and comparative academic studies. The following historical summary of the evolution (not planning!) of CenterAustria will attest to the growing desires, on both sides of the Atlantic, to achieve a more informed mutual understanding.

The University of New Orleans' (UNO) "Center for Austrian Culture and Commerce" (CenterAustria) was founded in 1997. Compared to the two "bicentennial" chairs endowed by the government of Bruno Kreisky at the University of Minnesota and at Stanford University on the occasion of the United States 200th birthday in 1976, UNO's CenterAustria, like the Canadian Center, is a relative newcomer.

Or so it seems. In fact, UNO's ties to Austria also reach back to the year 1976. In the summer of 1976 Dr. Gordon "Nick" Mueller took the **UNO International Summer School** to Innsbruck for the first time. Dr. Mueller, who is the director of CenterAustria and whose parents were German-born, likes to remind his audiences

that his personal inspiration emanated from his participation in the University of Vienna's summer school in *Strobl am Wolfgangsee* (Salzburg, Austria). After Strobl, Mueller went on to study history and receive a PhD in European diplomatic history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

UNO is a relatively young urban institution, founded in 1958 as Louisiana State University in New Orleans (LSUNO) to educate the masses of baby boomers coming of age. LSUNO also happened to be the first racially integrated university in the South and rightly takes great pride in that historical achievement. It enrolls more than 17,000 students today. During that big expansion phase of Western universities after World War II, people like Dr. Mueller (and his best personal friend of many years at UNO, Dr. Stephen E. Ambrose) had an opportunity to shape young institutions of higher learning like LSUNO. Mueller wanted to offer UNO students the same life-transforming opportunities in widening their horizons and exploring the world that he had gotten at Strobl. In 1976 he took 185 students to Innsbruck.

Out of this modest beginning a close cooperation has developed between the two universities – one in the Alps, the other on the Bayous. Observers have noted that this cooperation can serve as a **model trans-Atlantic relationship** between two institutions of higher learning. Founded in 1676, the University of Innsbruck (UI) can look back on more than 300-years of history. It also claims 4 Nobel Prize winners among its former faculty. Today some 32,000 students are enrolled in all its colleges.

The UNO International Summer School in Innsbruck has blossomed ever since 1976 and has been serving students from universities all over the South. This past summer I had the privilege to serve as academic director of the 26th UNO International Summer School. Today the University of Georgia in Athens is our principal summer school partner (in the past it was the University of Florida in Gainesville). We transported 312 students from 45 different American universities to Innsbruck, along with 26 faculty members from American and European institutions offering some 60 different courses. These count for credit in many American universities. 50 students from the University of Innsbruck were also welcomed to attend these classes. These students stay in University of Innsbruck dorms and take classes in the University of Innsbruck's lecture halls. Some 6,000 American students have been brought to Innsbruck since 1976 through the Summer School.

All subsequent UNO-UI programs have developed out of the flagship summer school.

In 1979 the UNO History Department offered a **graduate fellowship** to an American Studies student from UI. I happened to be that student. More than 20

students from UI have taken advantage of that fellowship opportunity and earned M.A. degrees at UNO and went on to earn PhD's in American History or comparative fields.

In 1982 an **Austrian Student Program (ASP)** was started to bring 40 University of Innsbruck students to UNO for a month-long "*Schnupperstudium*" during Austrian semester break. This coming February (during Mardi Gras time!) the Innsbruck students will come for the 20th time to New Orleans. Through the ASP program almost 800 Austrian students had an opportunity to experience the United States in general and one of its most unique cities in particular. The February program usually starts with a 3-day visit of museums, institutions, lectures etc. in Washington, D.C.

In 1982 the two universities organized the first **joint symposium** in New Orleans. That year the topic was "Federalism and States Rights." Since then an array of subject matters in various academic disciplines have been covered from a comparative Austrian/European – American perspective: tourism, health care economics, energy policies, industrial economics, unions, neutrality, religion and politics, education etc. These joint conferences are stronger than ever. Next year's will take place in New Orleans and will deal with the "*Westernization of Austria in the Twentieth Century.*"

In 1983 UNO and UI put their mushrooming contacts on a firmer institutional foundation by signing an official **friendship treaty**. The purpose of the treaty was to formalize and intensify bilateral contact, especially in the realm of student and faculty exchanges. For almost twenty years now, the friendship treaty has operated as an innovator of sorts in international education exchanges.

Out of this model friendship treaty between their universities, the cities of Innsbruck and New Orleans forged a **sister-cities agreement** in 1996.

The official friendship treaty brought a widening and deepening of faculty and student exchanges. Regular exchanges of faculty from all colleges was followed by growing numbers of student exchanges. In 1983 UNO founded the "**Institute for the Comparative Study of Public Policy**" to help coordinate the growing number of contacts with UI (CenterAustria is the successor to this Institute). As a counterpart to this Institute, the University of Innsbruck Senate appointed a "**UNO coordinator.**" The political scientist Anton Pelinka was the first UNO coordinator at UI to be followed by the public finance expert Erich Thöni; the

economic historian Franz Mathis has filled this post during the past years.

New exchanges followed. Since 1989 UNO has offered a second graduate fellowship for Innsbruck students. In 1990 the University of Innsbruck accepted the first UNO student on a scholarship. This past year the first UNO student graduated from the University of Innsbruck and is going on for a PhD in Art History. To date 26 UNO students have studied at UI on Austrian fellowships. The faculty exchanges have been similarly strengthened.

New summer programs were also developed for high school students and “golden agers” in Innsbruck. A large program in English has been flourishing for over 5 years in Prague. Last summer a successful program of “musical cities” (Prague, Vienna, Salzburg) was started.

To strengthen the **research agenda**, UNO initiated the annual publications *International Review of Comparative Public Policy* in 1989 (which moved with its editor to Michigan State in 1997). In 1992 Anton Pelinka and myself started *Contemporary Austrian Studies*, another annual publication which is still going strong. Volume X “Austria and the European Union” will appear next June. In the ten volumes published to date we have published nearly 200 manuscripts, most of them on the post-World War II period. *CAS* is an interdisciplinary social sciences journal – its main strengths lie in history, political science and economics. Since its inception the Austrian Foreign Ministry has supported *CAS* through the Austrian Cultural Institute (now Austrian Cultural Forum) in New York.

With the flagship faculty and student exchanges prospering and mushrooming, economies of scale (and the demand for synergies) more than anything else pushed UNO in 1997 to bundle all these activities with the founding of *CenterAustria*. The long term goals are not only to maintain the flagship people exchange programs and scholarly publication series on a firm footing. We also want to **strengthen Austrian Studies at UNO** and radiate with our activities into the Gulf South states and one day maybe even into Central America. Since the inception of CenterAustria the following new initiatives have been started:

In 2000 the Austrian Marshall Plan Anniversary Foundation endowed the *Marshall Plan Anniversary Chair in Austrian Studies* at UNO. This chair surely was a major tribute to UNO’s deep and long-standing Austrian activities. The Marshall Plan Chair will be filled annually with a distinguished Austrian

lecturer, rotating between the social and economic sciences. Academics and ambitious mid-career professionals are encouraged to apply. Designed to keep the memory of the Marshall Plan alive, this chair will anchor the strengthening of Austrian Studies at UNO for a long time to come. Eric Frey, business editor of the high-brow Vienna daily *Der Standard*, is the first full-time chairholder. His undergraduate course in “The Political Economy of U.S. – European Relations” and his graduate seminar in “The European Financial Architecture” is offered to both economics/finance and political science majors. Professor Thomas Albrich from the University of Innsbruck’s Contemporary History Department initiated the Marshall Plan Chair program with a one-semester appointment in the spring of 2001. He taught an undergraduate course on “The Jews of Central Europe” and a graduate seminar on “The Holocaust.” The chairholder also gives an annual public lecture that will be published.

Since 1999 a cooperation with the Austrian Fulbright Commission has brought a German language lecturer to UNO’s Foreign Languages Department.

The Liberal Arts College at UNO has instituted a “European Studies Minor”; Center Austria works towards strengthening Central European course content in various fields to make this Minor viable. I am teaching a course, for example, on “Twentieth Century Austria.” A “Habsburg Empire” course is regularly taught by the International Summer School in Innsbruck.

The Liberal Arts College is also in the final stages of beginning to offer in the coming academic year a new “International Studies Major.” CenterAustria will seed this new interdisciplinary studies major with course offerings and overseas study opportunities in Central Europe.

In 1998 UNO began an “Academic Year Abroad” program in Innsbruck directed by Dr. Margaret Davidson. So far about a dozen students have gone to Innsbruck annually. We hope to double this number. This AYA program is open to students from all American universities. German language training and Central European Studies in history, political science and business form the backbone of the core curriculum. Obviously, AYA also serves as the “going abroad option” of the European Studies Minor and the proposed International Studies Major.

Meanwhile, numbers in the annual student exchanges programs have exploded. Last year a record 24 students from the University of Innsbruck studied at UNO,

6 among them returning to Austria with Master's degrees (MAs and MBAs) in their pockets. This year 22 students from Innsbruck and other Austrian universities study at UNO for the year, 4 of them on UNO fellowships (in return UI is offering 4 scholarships to UNO students). It is probably safe to surmise, that no American university campus hosts a similar number of young Austrians studying and attaining degrees; to date almost 150 Austrians have come to study at UNO for a year or longer (see Graph 3). Why so many? UI students can study at UNO paying "in state tuition fees" (at 1,600 dollars per semester). This makes it affordable even to non-fee paying Austrians). Also CenterAustria is intimately involved in easing the transfer to the U.S. and UNO with help in the application process, finding housing, and providing social contacts; a growing UNO alumni community in Innsbruck also chips in with personal advice to students going to UNO. CenterAustria's office manager Mag. Gertraud Griessner from Salzburg is the heart and soul of these operations.

CenterAustria is also regularly inviting Austrian scholars lecturing in the United States to come to UNO and give papers in its **Occasional Lecture Series**, or hooking them up with other New Orleans institutions. Conversely, the University of Innsbruck invites a UNO faculty member each year to give a "**Transatlantic Lecture**" (Dr. Mueller addressed the issue of the "Entrepreneurial University" this past May).

One of the most innovative recent endeavors has been a "**Handicapped Conference**" organized since 1995 by UNO and UI biannually in Innsbruck. Experts from all over the world dealing with issues on handicapped people meet to compare notes on how to make daily life easier for handicapped people and how to improve their rights in various societies. UNO, being a young university, has constructed a campus geared to the needs of handicapped people early on and has developed a lot of expertise in this arena that it shares with Europeans and other academics and policy makers.

New **cultural exchanges** have been initiated as well. This is the second year of young artists from UNO exhibiting their art in Innsbruck and young artists from the Tirol exhibiting at the UNO Fine Arts Gallery. In the year of Louis Armstrong's 100th birthday, the musical series "**Satchmo Meets Amadeus**" started as well. Conferences on the genius of Mozart and Armstrong and their "musical cities" have been coupled with performing artists in classical Austrian and American music – first in New Orleans and this very weekend in Salzburg. The Salzburg history Professor Dr. Reinhold Wagnleitner is the driving force

behind this ingenious series.

Summarizing these activities, one notes that the strength of the University of New Orleans' Center for Austrian Culture and Commerce is its focus on student and faculty exchanges between Austria and New Orleans. Research on contemporary Austria is growing (and *CAS* is the strongest sign of that) – and a **research focus on U.S. – Austrian relations** is in the planning stages.

But clearly so far the strength of UNO's activities has been its unique partnership with the University of Innsbruck and the exchange of some 8,000 students and more than 500 faculty members from all colleges in its various programs. The University of Innsbruck/University of New Orleans model partnership has been a facilitator of bringing people together across the Atlantic (6 marriages with 6 children coming out of the partnership are *one* further indicator of this). Much valuable research many profound personal experiences have been produced from the faculty and student exchanges. Even though improved American-European relations are tangible from the dense web of these exchange programs and activities, it is not quantifiable and would be hard to test how much these numbers of people have contributed to a better understanding of Austria/Europe in the U.S. and vice versa.

Around the world, Germany and its preponderance in the center of Europe has been casting a long shadow over Austria (and over German-speaking Switzerland!). Germany and German Studies show strong presence in America and at American institutions. Obviously this is due to many historical factors. In my view one crucial factor has been the recent generosity of German foundations and the German government in supporting German and European studies in North America. The less well-endowed Austrian centers, particularly those out in the American heartland, perforce play a crucial role in building a separate image of Austria in the US by furthering Austrian Studies. Austrian Studies need not be in competition with German Studies. In times of declining interest in Europe here in America, Austrian Studies rather complement German Studies and remind Americans that Austria over the past fifty years has self-confidently asserted its national identity vis-à-vis Germany. Needless to say, the Austrian Centers are in the hub of driving the Austrian Studies agenda and strengthen Austria's presence in North America. During times of crises (Waldheim, Haider), they provide solid information to an interested American public and thus contribute to maintaining an unjaundiced Austrian image in North America.

Sources:

University of New Orleans/University of Innsbruck, eds., *Transatlantic Partnership in International Education: University of New Orleans/University of Innsbruck 1976-1992* (New Orleans, 1992) [this brochure is currently being updated; an expanded edition will be published in 2002]

Contemporary Austrian Studies (9 vols. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction 1992-) [see the Preface to the first volume on *CAS* editorial philosophy, as well as the Preface in the forthcoming tenth volume taking stock of the past ten years of work produced]

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Barbara Marschik produced the graphs for his talk and Gordon “Nick” Muller, Robert “Bobby” Dupont and Gertraud Griessner for their useful comments and corrections.

SECTION VII

ARCHIVES

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE REPORT

The Archives Committee consists of Gerhard Weinberg, Alan Steinweis, Geoffrey Giles, Jürgen Förster, and Ronald Smelser (chair). We have two new members, Agnes Peterson and Rainer Hering.

There are several issues still left from last year. We continue to be concerned about access to the Red Cross International Tracing Service at Arolsen. This is a very important repository for documentation relating to the Nazi regime of terror, with 46 million file cards relating to 16 million victims. Scholars, and even victims, have complained about access problems in recent years. During the last two years it was reported that access might be granted only after the expunging of names (Anonymisierung), both individual and firm, from the documents. Last year the chair of the Archives Committee wrote a letter of protest to Brian Flora, Minister Councilor for Consular Affairs at the United States Embassy in Berlin, who sits on the review commission which oversees the ITS. The letter elicited no response. It is now planned that the GSA President write to Mr. Flora as well as to Mr. Blumenthal, head of the Jewish Museum or to Richard Holbrooke, to register a protest, so that the matter is addressed at higher levels.

The Committee also took note last year of the delays in computerizing indexing materials for the ca. 40 000 rolls of microfilm in the National Archives, which constitute the records of the former Berlin Document Center. Part of the delay lay in the fact that they did not have files in the name index beyond A-L. In the interim the rest of the alphabetized name files have been found and the decoding is continuing, although trial runs have revealed some glitches. Two hundred fifty additional missing reels have meanwhile been sent from Germany. Work is proceeding apace, so that we can hope for completion in the next several years.

We also draw the membership's attention to the forthcoming guide by record group to the holdings of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington. To date, 40% of its considerable holdings have been fully catalogued and we encourage the museum staff in their ongoing labors. It should be noted, that,

whereas for years during the 1990s, much of the holdings of the USHMM had come from archives in the former Soviet Union, now the museum is acquiring substantial amounts of documentation from German archives, including the Bundesarchiv and several Staatssarchive. We also take note of the fact that Office of Strategic Services documents have been declassified in the past several years, in accordance with the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act, and are available to scholars.

Finally, under old business, rumors last year had it that the Hoover Library was closing permanently. According to Agnes Peterson, this is only true insofar as the library will stop purchasing new materials, leaving to the university library this task, but will continue to make formerly acquired materials available. The archives remain alive and well and, in fact, will be expanding into some of the space left by the library. The Hoover Institution thus remains fully accessible as before to scholars.

We are grateful to our new committee member Rainer Hering of the Staatsarchiv, Hamburg for insights into some of the problems and challenges in German archives, which might affect their use by scholars. These are in the areas of acquisitions, technology, Datenschutz and archival regulations.

In terms of acquisitions, many archives, operating under budget constraints, lack the personnel to acquire systematically documents from non-governmental sources, such as private companies, associations and individuals. There is also an inadequate transfer of documents from state agencies to archives, particular in the area of local records, schools, for example. This includes some pre-1945 records. There is also a tendency for documentation, particularly from the Nazi party, to get into the hands of the media or museums, in an unauthorized way, which removes them, at least temporarily, from scholarly examination.

With regard to technology, increasingly governmental authorities in Germany are using electronic databases. This is problematic, because in doing so technicians often lose sight of the larger contexts and categories into which individual documents fit, so that the connection between the individual documents and their provenance tends to get disrupted. One outcome of this is that in all probability catalogue descriptions in the future will become increasingly superficial.

Datenschutz remains an ongoing problem with respect to scholarly access to materials, which can be withheld on privacy grounds entirely or be subject to scrutiny only after "purging". Complicating this problem is the Personenstandgesetz, which limits the release of personal information to direct relatives. This often prevents scholars from obtaining vital records data. Moreover, there is little uniformity from one Standesamt to another in applying this law.

Lack of uniformity in another area also presents a challenge to scholars—that of the Archivgesetze passed both by state governments and the federal government as well during the Kohl era. Who gets to see what documentation, under what circumstances and in what time frame differs from state to state and from state to federal. Several examples brought to our attention by colleagues illustrate this challenge:

- a) differing time-from-birth rules on personnel documents. The Bavarian state archives use the 90 year rule, the Charité hospital records in Berlin the 100 year rule.
- b) in Baden-Württemberg school psychological records are purged of names before being turned over to archives, in Hamburg not. In Rheinland-Pfalz names are purged, in Lower Saxony not.
- c) with regard to some post-war trial records, decision to access is made at the ministerial and not the archival level.

Scholars have to live with this variety and be prepared for it in advance of beginning a research topic.

There is also a tendency today, associated with the Archivschule in Marburg, for archivists to define their profession in a more narrow and technical sense, i.e. to concern themselves with acquisition, preservation, cataloguing, etc. at the expense of the larger historical dimension. In doing so they are underestimating the level of historical knowledge necessary for archivists to play their dual role as scholars and advisors to researchers.

Finally, if in the course of the coming year, any GSA members have problems with archival research, here or abroad, especially in the area of access, they are urged to contact any member of the Archives Committee, so that we can look into the situation.

