
German Studies Association

Newsletter

Volume XXX
Number 2
Winter 2005

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GERMAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

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Section One

Association News

Letter from the President

Dear Fellow GSA Members,

Our conference in Milwaukee, with the largest number of registrants ever, fulfilled our hope of giving our founding Executive Director Gerald Kleinfeld a grand sendoff into retirement after 29 years of dedicated service. Countless people and organizations contributed to the celebration, which began with a special printed program of greetings from a wide range of institutions that was distributed to all registrants. A sequence of verses and vignettes followed at Friday's luncheon, during which Gerry was presented with a bound "memory book" of tributes and reminiscences. At the evening banquet he delivered his first formal address to the Association, "The Past and Future of German-American Relations," with provocative, yet hopeful perspectives on the future. He was also presented with a framed drawing by the DAAD, a plaque from the Executive Committee proclaiming a lifetime membership, and a commissioned portrait of him and his beloved Schnauzer Max from the GSA members. A champagne toast and spontaneous round of "Hoch soll er leben!" brought the celebration to an appropriately exuberant closing.

Behind the scenes, Gerry and David Barclay were engaged in intensive preparations for the transition to David's becoming Executive Director on January 1, 2006. In addition, David and I met with representatives of numerous organizations to discuss future relations and possible new initiatives.

The Executive Committee meeting on Thursday also devoted considerable attention to analyzing the state of the Association and thinking about future directions. In addition to discussing the normal reports on membership, budget, endowment investments, the Berlin Program, and the *German Studies Review*, the Committee formally confirmed its unanimous e-mail vote of May 2005, which appointed David Barclay as the next Executive Director. A subsequent unanimous resolution gratefully endorsed the appointment of Diethelm Prowe to a second five-year term as editor of the journal. During discussions of these processes Kleinfeld, Barclay, and Prowe absented themselves, which allowed for precedent-setting deliberations about how to conduct future appointments and reviews.

The last two hours of Thursday's meeting involved brainstorming about an agenda item called "Looking toward the Future." It encompassed (1) increasing the membership; (2) attention to disciplines and areas that need nurturing; (3)

outreach to non-European/non-American scholars in German Studies; (4) revisiting the nature of German studies; (5) strengthening relations with other associations; (6) considering new directions for the *GSR* and/or the Newsletter. Not surprisingly, we found ourselves crossing back and forth among such topics and discovering inter-relations. Areas of particular concern that kept cropping up included: how to build membership by outreach to younger scholars and to those in under-represented fields (e.g., political science, anthropology, sociology, musicology); how to define German Studies to foster genuine interdisciplinarity and to reconcile traditional ideas about German literature and history with transnational, global, and comparative perspectives; and how to implement ideas about enhancing the conference. Suggested strategies for outreach to scholars beyond North America and Europe also raised questions about establishing new travel funds to support their participation. Questions about whether we should put more emphasis on pedagogy and curriculum sparked debate, which pointed to the need for discussion about the scope of our mission. The challenge of furthering interdisciplinarity also raised controversy, with some urging that the journal and conference already extend across disciplines, while others maintaining that genuine communication between disciplines has yet to take place.

Our transition to a new Executive Director coincides with our 30th anniversary, during which we want to enlist the energies of as many people as possible to strengthen our Association. In preparation for the mid-January meeting of the Executive Council, we invite members to contribute ideas about the planning process and about topics that should be included (send them either to David Barclay, director@thegsa.org, or to me, kroper@stmarys-ca.edu). Anything from a one-sentence e-mail to a passionate manifesto will be most welcome!

Best wishes for the New Year,

Katherine Roper
President

This is my last Newsletter for GSA. Thank you for letting me serve you!

The Twenty-Ninth Annual Conference

The Twenty-Ninth Annual GSA Conference took place this year in Milwaukee. This was the largest conference ever in the history of the Association, with over 860 participants. Hard to believe, because the largest conferences are usually in Washington, D.C., but the 196 sessions topped last year's 176 by a wide margin. Some came to say goodbye to me as Executive Director, as they told me, but the particular hotel we had, with all those available meeting rooms, also helped the Program Committee to fill the spots. We are not always able to have so many sessions, because most hotels simply do not have the meeting rooms. The Milwaukee Hilton is an old hotel, and we had met there before in 1989, when it had a different name. It has a very large number of meeting rooms, and we added a few of the parlor suites for some smaller sessions. That will not be possible next year, with the Hilton Pittsburgh, which is somewhat smaller.

The Conference structure allowed us to have a number of sessions teamed together as a symposium-within-a-conference, so that a series of themes could be added, and people could go from one session to the next within this system. While good occasionally, and for specific themes, we will have to guard against it overtaking the conference, and must continue to allow the conference to reflect the actual research of the field and the members.

We had not a few surprises at the Conference. Albert Guaffo, a Germanist from Senegal, came for the first time. Sara Lennox, our Vice President, found a little extra money from surrounding universities who invited him to speak, so that all of his expenses could be met. Gilad Margalit came from the University of Haifa, and the HEF foundation paid part of his costs. I used executive privilege to pay airfare for an evacuee from New Orleans, whose university was unable to meet its previous commitments. He flew in from exile, in California. Our first representative from Slovenia attended, and presented me with a wonderful card from Maribor, and a bottle of slivovitz for my retirement. I also picked up a Dresden Stollen. We managed a special session on Islam in Germany after much effort. We provided the first major post-election analysis of the German Bundestag elections. As we go to press, the Bundestag has still not voted in the new government.

Retirement Ceremony

It was a fine retirement ceremony, kept secret from me until the last minute. I want to thank all of those who planned it, those who attended and who gave me their warm regards, and just everyone involved. Katherine Roper, our President, had appointed a committee, headed by Pat Herminghouse and Sara Lennox, and made sure that everything worked out the way it was supposed to. Nobody told me anything in advance. Washington could learn something about secrecy from

the GSA. The Friday lunch program had a number of people from the USA, Germany, the United Kingdom, going to the podium and saying lots of kind words and a bit about what I had done or meant for them and whatever. One fine message after another. All personal experiences, over thirty years. Just a wow for me. They were all so wonderful, until Charlie Jeffery of the University of Edinburgh brought the house down with his description of me as Don Vito Corleone. I'm sure it was tongue in cheek. It was just great. I never, ever, thought of myself that way. I was just trying to help people. But, I see that it can look different from the other way. Even the margaritas. Like when I wrote the first By-Laws. It was just clear to me at the time, in 1976, that they must be gender-neutral. Nobody did that then, but it was right to do. So, when the new By-Laws of the Friends of the German Historical Institute two decades later were not, I cast GSA's vote against them, and forced them to be revised. Or, how I thought that we should always help junior colleagues, or people from universities and colleges without world-wide institutional recognition, or this or that outside group. Or, good programs at good places.

It was fun to remember the German grant. Chancellor Helmut Kohl had given millions of D-Marks to some universities in the USA. Institutes were established. This was great. But, GSA was not involved in that. So, on one occasion when we met in Washington, I told the Executive Committee that I thought we should ask Germany for five million dollars for GSA to assist our conferences, and asked for authority. They all laughed, and then said yes. That evening, when the Executive Committee walked to a restaurant with German Embassy reps, I told them that we were applying for USD\$5 million. When neither the Gesandter nor the Cultural Attache broke stride, I knew two things. First, they were good diplomats. Second, we had a chance. So, I went at it. Of course, I negotiated downward. But, I ended up at DM1.2 million spread over the cost of three conferences, more than I or anybody else thought that we could get. We spent it all, of course, on the members and the conferences. That is the way the grant was written, and that is what we did. But, I had another idea. I appealed to the conference participants to return the generosity of the German Government. In response, the members of GSA donated from their own pockets over \$250,000 for travel grants for international scholars to our conferences. That, plus the money I saved out of our own coffers, made the basis for our Endowment Fund. Today, it totals about half a million dollars. No American, and certainly no German, scholarly organization has such a fund in which international travel is supported.

It was hard to believe all that had been planned for the Friday luncheon at Milwaukee. Not only were there wonderful words, but also they presented me with an oil painting – a portrait of me and my dog, Max Adam. He looks just terrific, and he liked it right away. He's a handsome Schnauzer, and has a noble head. Somehow, the artist – Bob Diven – whom I have never met, and worked from photographs, made me look slimmer. Thanks, Bob. And, special thanks to

Richard Rundell of New Mexico State University, who found Diven, and who with his wife lugged the painting with them all the way from Las Cruces. It hangs above my sofa in the living room. Just great. And, thanks to all who contributed to the book of tributes, which Pat Herminghouse of University of Rochester presented, bound in beautiful leather. What a wonderful remembrance! Christian Bode, Secretary General of the DAAD, sent his own caricature sketch of me as a cowboy, representing Heinrich Heine (can you believe that?). You have to see it to believe it and understand it. Somewhere, Lonnie Johnson of the Austrian Fulbright Commission found my photograph on my Fulbright application from 1857 (it just looks that old) and put it in the special Celebration Program that Diethelm Prowe, our Editor of German Studies Review, had printed. Sure looks like a tintype from the nineteenth century. Well, Lonnie showed that he can research in the archives! The Celebration Program listed the events of the special retirement program, and had greetings and congratulations to me on my retirement from the Ambassadors of Austria and Switzerland, and from numerous university departments, institutes, and various institutions around the world. Page after page of really wonderful comments, and great sentiments. It all brought tears to my eyes. It is hard to express how I felt. I want to thank all of you, everyone I have tried to serve over all these years.

The bound volume contained not only prose, but also poetry. After all, this is an association of cultured people, and they can write poetry, as well. The Friday evening banquet was the most nervous event of all for me – I have never given a paper at the GSA, not ever wanting to take a slot from members who wanted to be on the program. So, this was my first, and there you all were. Well, thank you very much for the applause. The auld lang syne and hoch soll er leben made it to *Das Parlament* later that month, in a contribution by Heinrich Bortfeldt of Berlin. Having been treated as a third class person by Arizona State University (where people in my own department never learned that I could speak German, not even after 42 years, nor had any idea what I researched on), it was pretty much overwhelming. I didn't mention Arizona State, but Gerhard Weinberg of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, described the faculty and administration there quite adequately at the Friday luncheon. It was such a fantastic delight to be honored by colleagues who really meant it, and such a contrast from my home campus. When I left ASU, I just walked alone out of an empty office, dropped my pencil on the emptied desk with a blank yellow legal pad sitting on it, and drove home, never to return. I got a couple of pages torn out of a catalog in the mail, from which I was told by a printed memo addressed to all retirees that I could select a retirement gift. Later, the ASU Provost sent a printed invitation to the retirees to a lunch at the Union. Some of their names were misspelled. My name wasn't, but they had forgotten or hadn't researched the year that I started there, and so that was wrong. Well, it is a 50,000-student university. They forget people. So, this warmth and good feeling just flabbergasted me. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

I will never forget it, and your generosity. Thank you for letting me serve you, thank you who were there, and those who were not. Thank you for being GSA and making this organization what it is and for letting me provide the rooms, the web site, the materiel, and the background that allowed your scholarship to shine. To me, you have been the stars, and the suns, and my glow was only as the moon.

David Barclay, the new Executive Director of GSA

During the Milwaukee Conference, the Executive Committee formally completed the search process for a new Executive Director by unanimous accepting the proposal of the Executive Council and the Search Committee to name David Barclay (History, Kalamazoo College). His term officially begins on January 1, 2006. He will have the new e-mail address director@thegsa.org. Look for new Main Office address for GSA soon on the web site. Remember, never telephone the Main Office, because we do not have and will not have a special secretary for the Office. All inquiries can be answered by mail, e-mail, or fax. Please do not send your technical questions or tech issue problems to the Executive Director. Please send them to the techsupport desk.

New Web Site for GSA and Tech Address

If you have gone to the web to access our web site over the past few weeks, you have noticed a change. You have been automatically switched from www.g-s-a.org to the new web site at www.thegsa.org. Frankly, the hyphens made it hard to type, made for confusion, and the site did not offer us all that we wanted. Since gsa.org is already taken, we decided to turn to www.thegsa.org, and transferred all of our files there.

Please look for us now at www.thegsa.org

New tech support address. Of course, many of you have been familiar contacting our Tech Support Chief, Ramaswamy Vadivelu, at thegsa@earthlink.net. We will be closing the earthlink connection to save money, and making him easier to find. His new address will be techsupport@thegsa.org, and he is already available at that site. Frankly, when you receive this, he will be at home visiting family in India, but will access the site there. Well, just like the big corporations! We will have support staff in India! He will return just after the first of the year. Many of you met him at the conference in Milwaukee or the year before at the Conference in Washington, D.C.

GSA Elections add new members to Executive Committee

Elected to the Executive Committee for three-year terms were:

Carole Anne Costabile-Heming, Missouri State University
 Dagmar Herzog, City University New York
 Susanne Marchand, Louisiana State University

GSA Prizes

The members of the committee formed to select the best article on a literary topic published in the 2003-04 issues of the *German Studies Review* are in unanimous and enthusiastic agreement in choosing as the winner of the 2005 GSA/DAAD article prize "Red Herrings and Blue Smocks: Ecological Destruction, Commercialism, and Anti-Semitism in Annette von Droste-Hülshoff's *Die Judenbuche*" by Richard T. Gray (*German Studies Review*, 26, 3, October 2003).

In his highly nuanced, theoretically sophisticated, and historically grounded essay, Professor Gray views the activities of the *Blaukittel* as being representative of the process of modernization in which economic self-interest replaces communitarian tradition, a process that is ominously linked to the triumph of "Jewish" opportunism over Germanic stolidity in the popular imagination. Gray argues that Droste-Hülshoff's novella reveals the insidious strategies of anti-Semitic discourse that render the Jews responsible for the perceived evils of modern capitalism. As one committee member put it, Grey manages to draw out causal connections between the aristocratic and working class' socio-economic interests and to demonstrate how anxieties of change take the form of racial profiling. Committee members also praised Gray for his interweaving of regional historical research, the history of language, and a sensitive reading of class and ethnicity while engaging in a fine-tuned close textual reading. The article seems destined to become not only a landmark piece of research on Droste-Hülshoff, but also a model for a German Studies/Cultural Studies approach to literature.

The 2005 GSA/DAAD prize for the best book of 2003-04 in history or political science goes to Isabel V. Hull for *Absolute Destruction: Military Culture and the Practices of War in Imperial Germany* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2004).

Absolute Destruction is an ambitious and original exploration of military extremism, war crimes and genocide. Using military and colonial archives, Hull reconstructs the Imperial German Army's pattern of extreme, even genocidal conduct of war in S.W. Africa and in World War I. Drawing on organization theory and institutional learning, she argues the German army did not act out of ideology or politics. Rather its often goal-irrational and self-destructive behavior was guided by military culture, which in turn was shaped by political institutions, societal norms, judicial attitudes, strategy, tactics and technology. The institutional vacuum within which the German army operated, its existential view of war, its pursuit of perfect order in occupied territories, and its narrow understanding of international law all distinguished the Imperial German Army from its counterparts elsewhere, encouraged repeated extremism in the conduct of war, and left a fateful legacy of attitudes and practices and habits to National Socialism.

Absolute Destruction is provocative in the best sense of term. It challenges ideological explanations for war crimes and genocide. It both situates German developments in a global context and insists that German colonial wars reflected European assumptions about the conduct of war rather than being the source of new extremist practices, later deployed in Europe. *Absolute Destruction* is a tour de force of conceptual innovation, bold argumentation, and rich documentation. The profound issues it raises promise to spark lively and productive debates about military culture, military extremism, war crimes, and genocide, debates that involve not only the German past but also the American present.

The German Studies Association awards the Sybil Halpern Milton Memorial Book Prize for 2005 to Shlomo Aronson for his extraordinary book *Hitler, the Allies, and the Jews* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004).

Aronson presents a masterfully wide-ranging, tightly-argued, and truly innovative study of the Holocaust and its relationship to World War II. Relying on a broad range of archival and published sources that include previously unknown Allied intelligence sources and Yishuv/Israeli primary and secondary sources in Hebrew, Aronson greatly enriches our knowledge of the Holocaust. In his book, Aronson brilliantly – and painfully – details how the exigencies of war and diplomacy, the allied insistence on unconditional surrender, and the need to maintain a multi-national alliance against Nazi Germany conflicted with, and ultimately made impossible, the rescue of European Jewry. While many of the impressive works submitted for the Prize broke new ground in linking the history of the Third Reich and the persecution of the Jews, Aronson increases our understanding of the Holocaust by broadly and deeply integrating it into the geopolitical dramas of the twentieth century. He reveals how from the beginning of the Nazi regime and especially after the Battle of Britain, Europe's Jews found themselves ensnared in a series of "multiple traps" that pitted considerable – if also sometimes conflicting – Jewish and Zionist rescue efforts against a toxic concatenation of factors including the Allies' political imperative to demonstrate that they were not fighting a "war for the Jews," British, Zionist, and Arab interests in the "Palestine Question," Allied military strategy, and Hitler's implacable determination to enforce the Final Solution. In that context, serious and promising (and occasionally successful) rescue attempts became self-defeating, so that even the Jews in Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria, who had survived until late in the war, were caught in the murderous logic of "an unstoppable doomsday machine." Aronson deftly balances meticulous research in numerous languages and nations, a masterful command of the larger narrative of war and politics, and unflinching intellectual and political honesty to examine how and why, despite many contingent twists and turns, the war against the Nazis was won but most of European Jewry was lost. His reappraisal of the international aspects of the Holocaust raises troublesome, but crucial, new questions for future research and debate.

The Thirtieth Annual Conference in Pittsburgh

GSA will hold its Thirtieth Annual Conference from September 28 to October 1, 2006 at the Pittsburgh Hilton in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. We have great rates at the Hilton, \$115 for single and \$125 for double rooms, but these are **ONLY** available to conference registrants. In other words, as in the past, you qualify for these rates **ONLY** if you have registered for the Conference and you can only get them at the GSA web site, www.thegsa.org under Conferences, 2006.

The Pittsburgh Hilton does not have quite as many meeting rooms as our hotel the previous year, but it is a relatively new hotel with a beautiful view. The entire process for proposing sessions and individual papers is on the web site. It is an online process.

You will need to have a personal record created for each participant. If you propose a session, each participant in the session has to have a personal record, which we call a profile, with the GSA. This is so that we can contact each participant. We need information such as affiliation, address, e-mail address, and so on. If the individuals are members of GSA, that is not a problem since a profile already exists for each member. If they are **NOT** members, there may be a profile in our database anyway, since we have records for people who were once upon a time a member, and also for all persons who attended GSA conferences in recent years. Therefore, you can still find a profile for them, but you may need to update it with a more recent e-mail or other address or affiliation, or whatever. **USE THE EXISTING PROFILE!! DO NOT CREATE A NEW ONE!!** Why? Because if you do, and there is one already there, the database may ultimately devour one of them. You will not know which. It may be the one connected with the conference proposal or with dues, or whatever, and all sorts of data will **VANISH!!** Do not create a second, or **GHOST**, profile. Ghost profiles cause data to disappear. They find each other and – crash! – data disappears. Do not blame the GSA computer if **YOU** are at fault.

How do you know?? Ask the individual if a record exists. If they are not sure, go immediately to our Help Desk, to our Tech Support. Do not wait. Do not pass go. Do not hesitate or all is lost. GSA help at techsupport@thegsa.org will help. They, and it probably will be Ramaswamy Vadivelu, will find the existing profile in the database and alert you. Do this **FIRST!** Do not be sorry later.

OK, why does GSA have a problem with ghost profiles when your bank doesn't? Simple, the bank has your Social Security Number! They can tell. Having this makes it possible for them to block you from creating a second record in the first place. GSA refuses to ask for your Social Security Number. We don't want to know. Aren't we nice? Good, then help us. Don't run out and create a ghost profile and blame us. Support GSA for being so nice. Besides, Europeans don't have Social Security Numbers anyway. In any case, we have replaced a social security number with something we call a reference number. This will be unique to you within GSA. Please just read the instructions. You will find them interesting and useful.

What are the Guidelines for proposing sessions and papers? Read the web site. We want you to read the web site. Once you are there, you can propose the paper or session online. You can go back into the proposal later and change it UNTIL the Program Committee has selected it. Then, it will be closed for further editing.

Can you change anything after that? Yes, up until April 1, you can ask the Program Committee for PERMISSION to change. After April 1, you can only ask the Executive Director. Then the Executive Director is the only person who can approve. Remember, it is not YOUR session or YOUR paper. Once proposed, it is ours. No changes without GSA approval, and changes are NOT automatically approved.

What about a/v and projectors? Read the Guidelines. Basically, these equipment cost a bundle to rent, generally amounting to hundreds of dollars. We insist on a \$35 co-payment. This is so small it is embarrassing, and is not even a down-payment on the cost. But, it does help eliminate frivolous requests. Your request is due on February 15, 2006, the same date as the proposal itself. After that date, none will be processed. We don't have enough money to fund every request, so do not expect it. The successful requests will be announced on the web site. Of course, you can always bring your own powerpoint projector. We will probably not rent any because the cost of renting them is huge. We want to help. Help us to help you.

Now, some of you have suggested that GSA buy a few projectors and bring them to the Conference. There are some important issues here. First, who will carry them? Your officers already carry huge stacks of files and papers plus personal laptops. Second, there is the matter of the lamp. Yes, the lamp inside the projector. You see, replacement lamps cost about \$399. You are reading correctly – roughly \$400. What if we were to have to replace lamps on two projectors during a conference? This is a real cost. So, the a/v costs of our conferences and the various options are being constantly re-evaluated by your elected leadership and fair decisions will be made. Perhaps it will be possible to provide one or two projectors in the future. In the meantime, it is a good idea simply to bring a projector from your own department/university. Most departments/universities will allow a faculty member to check out a projector over a weekend. Most of them weigh no more than seven pounds and come with a carrying case. Some weigh as little as three pounds, and the mid-range weigh about five pounds. It is easy to bring it on board an aircraft, and a carry-on suitcase could hold it and a lot else, too. If several people in a session – two or three – will need a projector, it is very easy. One brings a laptop computer with powerpoint, one brings the projector, and each of them have a little jump drive in pocket or purse with the program file on it. Problem solved.

New Grants Available

The Max Kade Center for Contemporary German Literature at Washington University in St. Louis offers two summer grants to study in the Contemporary German Literature Collection (grant period is six weeks): a) One summer grant for a Ph.D. candidate paid for by the Max Kade Foundation (\$ 3.500) b) One summer grant for an American Germanist teaching at an American university as a faculty member paid for by the DAAD (\$3.000) Deadline: March 30, 2006. Send applications as email attachments (CV plus project description of one page, and in the case of the Ph.D. candidate a recommendation from the advisor) to: Paul Michael Lutzeler, Washington University, One Brookings Drive, Max Kade Center, German Dept. Box 1104, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899.

Section Two

GSA Archive Committee Report

- A) Let me begin with the archival situation in Germany as reported by Rainer Hering. These are updates on matters on which we have reported regularly in recent years.
- 1) Administrative reforms continue to be made in the state archival system. As was the case in Baden-Württemberg and North-Rhine-Westphalia, now a centralized state archive has also been created in Lower Saxony. In all three cases former smaller state archive branches are now included as departments in the new, larger ones. Moreover, the practice begun by North-Rhine Westphalia to accept only 1% of records proffered could now be the guideline for all state archives. This drastic limitation may also apply now to holdings in the private realm, including the records of companies, families, other organizations and personal papers.
 - 2) Another important question under discussion is how to handle digitalized records. This is critical for future research since many public offices no longer keep their records in paper form but rather store them electronically and offer them to archives in this form.
 - 3) The authorities continue to audit archives—most recently the Staatsarchiv in Hamburg. Fortunately, they did not decree that—as they had in Saxony—that documents no longer be preserved in the original form, but be stored either in digital form or on microfilm.
 - 4) The trend to privatization in archival services continues apace. This means that in a growing number of archives copying is done exclusively by private companies, which means time delays and rising prices for researchers. This was my own experience at the BA/MA in Freiburg two summers ago, and also with scholars in the Berlin BA with whom I talked last summer. It is also possible that photographic materials, their handling and maintenance will also be privatized which would entail enormous costs for interested parties in terms of rights, reproduction, etc.
 - 5) A welcome development is that increasingly visits to archives can be planned and prepared via the Internet. More and more archives are putting overviews of their holdings and catalogues themselves online. A comprehensive project to retro-digitalize finding aids has begun. Plans are also in the works for a common German archival entry point on the Internet to make the task of finding the desired archive easier. It will be some time, though, until these projects can be realized.
 - 6) The trend toward archive users undertaking their research without the guidance of archivists continues. The better prepared the user is for work in a given archive, the quicker the work can begin. This is all the more important for scholars from North America, given the costs of

travel and maintenance. In other words, you acting more on your own than in the past.

- 7) The Freedom of Information Law, designed to simplify access to documentation, especially for scholarly purposes, has not yet been passed. What the law would mean is that scholars should have access to archives unless there is a compelling reason not to grant them that permission, rather than the scholar being obliged to give reasons why s(he) should be admitted. The burden of proof lies with the archive not with the scholar.

Gerhard Weinberg on the IWG as follows:

In March 2005 the law establishing the Interagency Working Group (IWG) implementing the Nazi War Crimes Disclosure and Imperial Japanese Records Law was due to expire. It was extended for two years primarily so that the Central Intelligence Agency could reverse its erroneous reading of the law and comply fully with the law's intent. New procedures at the agency are being implemented and are producing additional materials. These supplement earlier releases by the same and other US agencies that relate to the interests of scholars in the field of German studies in the following ways:

1. World War II decrypts of German radio messages of which no other copies survive.
2. Wartime and postwar interrogations of German and other individuals by US agencies or provided to the United States by allies.
3. Intelligence records of various types pertaining to World War II war crimes.
4. Postwar utilization and/or shielding of Germans by Allied intelligence agencies.
5. Soviet penetration of American and West German intelligence using Germans.

Scholars in German studies will find useful information in two publications growing out of the IWG's work: Richard Breitman et al., *U.S. Intelligence and the Nazis*, published by the National Archives Trust Fund and also Cambridge University Press; and Robert Hanyok, *Eavesdropping on Hell: Historical Guide to Western Communications Intelligence and the Holocaust, 1939-1945*, published by the Center for Cryptologic History of the National Security Agency. A forthcoming book by Perry Biddiscombe on German espionage and stay-behind organizations is heavily based on CIA releases under the law.

Astrid M. Eckert and Ronald Smelser (miscellaneous)

Since our last report, France has turned over to Germany a substantial amount of documentation, which had been confiscated at the end of the Second World War. The files—approximately 25 shelf meters in length—are from central and regional German government agencies from the 1920s and 1940-

1944. They focus on questions of war and international law; evaluation of archival holdings in countries occupied by the Germans; and files from the Saar-Pfalz on the aryanization of Jewish property in the 1930s. The Bundesarchiv has taken custody of the files.

A long article in *Die Zeit* by Frank Uwe Betz called “Grösstes NS Archive der Welt endlich öffnen” reminds us that the International Tracing Service in Arolsen still hasn’t opened its files to scholars. It contains records on 17 million persons persecuted by the Nazis—an immense reservoir of documentation for historians. For years the semi-secretive committee acting in the name of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva has run the Tracing Service and for years they have said that “demnächst” they would develop rules for scholarly access, but nothing happened. I looked back in our files and found I had written a letter in May 2000 to Brian Flora, the Minister Counsellor for Consular Affairs at our embassy in Berlin, requesting his intervention. No response. In April 2002 Henry Friedlander as GSA president and I wrote to the president of the International Commission of the ITS, also with no result. We may want to undertake another initiative and would welcome suggestions on how to proceed.

In a similar case, Joachim Neander, who is working on a project studying men who were deported to Auschwitz from Rosenstrasse, has on two occasions been denied access to the Zentrum Judaica in the Oranienburgerstrasse in Berlin with no explanation having been given. The Zentrum is a Stiftung. The GSA is looking into the matter.

Even as we speak the 75. Annual Deutscher Archivtag is meeting in Stuttgart (September 27-30). The overall theme of the meeting is “Das deutsche Archivwesen und der Nationalsozialismus”. Panels include:

“Geraubte, beschlagnahmte und manipulierte Archive”

“Deutsche Archivpolitik im besetzten Ausland”

“Kommunalarchive im NS Staat”

“Kontinuitäten und vergangenheitsbewältigung nach 1945.”

Astrid informs me that a conference volume is scheduled to appear. The papers presented should also lead to some illuminating publications in journals like *Der Archivar*. This journal is online and contains some tantalizing articles on archival sources bearing on a number of historical themes. In the current issue, for example, are two long articles—one on trade union documentation in the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, another on notary public documentation in the legal department of the DAF as an example of legal camouflage by the NS “Massnahmestaat”. I mention this with reference to the suggestion that North American scholars make themselves as familiar as possible with German archives and their holdings before pursuing projects. This journal may be helpful in this regard.

Finally, a word about forgeries—the terror of historians and archivists. Articles in the Daily Telegraph last July reported that allegations that British intelligence had had Heinrich Himmler poisoned at the end of the war was based

on several forged documents in the Public Record Office [now the National Archives], all of them purporting to be correspondence at the highest levels of the British ministerial bureaucracy. Suspicious of some of the vocabulary, archival officials had the documents examined forensically. They proved to be forgeries, since the laser printer was not used until the 1980s. Martin Allen's new book *Himmler's Secret War* used these documents. Allen's reaction: "Crikey" "You go to the PRO and expect to find kosher documents. It undermines the whole process of National Archives." I guess it is a word of warning for all of us—be careful out there.

Archive Committee members:

Gerhard Weinberg

Astrid Eckert

Rainer Hering

Tony Kaes

Ronald Smelser (chair)

Section Three

Computers and Software

New Developments - PC

Longhorn is coming. Microsoft has been working on a replacement for the current version of Windows, and had been calling it Longhorn, but no more. The new version, now called Windows Vista, is supposed to be a significant upgrade, and will require a lot of appropriate to install and use.

New Developments - Mac

Mac already has an upgraded operating system, Tiger (Mac OS 10.4), and it already does a lot of what the new Windows software will, but Mac's new plans include eliminating the IBM operating chip and replacing it with an Intel chip. The reason behind this was that the G-5 chip that is in the latest desktop Macs runs too hot. It is so hot, that it cannot be installed in a laptop, because their cooling devices would not be sufficient to cool it down for normal operation. That is also the reason that Mac has been unable to deliver a G-5 laptop, and is still manufacturing laptops with the G-4 chip. Mac is also unable to use a faster chip than the G-5 in a desktop, apparently because that would run too hot for a desktop. Therefore, Apple believes that it has run to the end of the line with the G series of chips from IBM, and needs to do something else. Thus, the firm decided to begin using Intel chips in the Fall of 2006. These chips will allow Macs to be built that will run faster than the G-5, and finally also Mac will be able to build a laptop which will run faster than the G-4.

Unfortunately, it is likely that this Intel chip would be similar in its architecture to Intel chips used in PCs. Theoretically, therefore, someone might be able to write software or build some sort of add-on device that would enable Macs to run Windows or PCs to run the Mac operating system. Apple does not appear worried about this, but they are the **ONLY** manufacturer of devices that run the Mac operating system. Should somebody figure out sometime how to run that system on one of the many PC computers available, you can see the problems for Apple that would result.

However, what this probably means is that the new Macs in the Fall of 2006, with the new Intel chip, would be capable of running software that might not run on the old Macs with the G-4 and G-5 chips. Uh-oh! If you buy a new Mac now, will it run on software produced in 2007? I don't know. On the other hand, you may be able to get the present-day Macs at a good price, and just keep using the software you have bought with them until you are ready in 2009, or something like that, to upgrade. So, if you are in the market for a Mac, think about it. The

first Macs with Intel chips will probably be desktops, but laptops will follow soon after.

This brings up the question, should you buy a Mac at all if you need a computer? My answer has always been an enthusiastic “yes,” and this is also the answer of some interesting reviewers. The chap who writes the computer column for the *Wall Street Journal* appears to be a Mac fan. He reviews all new computer developments for the *WSJ*, and never fails to recommend a Mac. Why? Well, they are intuitive and easy to use. They do everything you want a computer to do, normally. They have a great design, and their operating system always works and never crashes. They have interesting bells and whistles – little features that make them easy, useful, and fun but that you ordinarily would not expect. Most software you need, or all software that you need, runs on them. Foreign languages are native to them, and always work.

I was reading *PC World* the other day, and came upon a review of – would you guess? – Mac OS 10.4, Tiger. “Graphically, Tiger runs rings around both Windows and Linux.” And the reviewer goes on. “As my Linux test machine did, the iMac integrated with our office network just fine, and soon I was happily working with the Mac versions of Office and Firefox to accomplish my standard workday tasks. Their reviewer particularly liked the new features called Expose and Spotlight, the new desktop search feature. The reviewer concludes “Amazing visuals, helpful tools like Spotlight, and superior overall polish provide clear benefits over Windows.” Frankly, I was discussing the administration of GSA with my successor, David Barclay, with our two laptops side by side in a hotel room in San Jose. I pulled a jump drive out of my Mac with an Excel file he needed to have, and he plugged it into a USB port on his PC laptop. Then, he opened the file in his version of Excel, and we went on to discuss the issues we needed to talk about. Compatible? Can’t get any better than that. Kathy Roper e-mailed me the President’s letter for this *Newsletter*, which she had composed on her PC. I opened it on my Mac and pasted it into the already existing document. Basta! Macs are a little more expensive, to be sure, but you get a great operating system that does not break down and crash, built in graphics and all the foreign language symbols you want for any program you will ever use, a classy machine with excellent quality, three years of call-in 800 number service 24/7, great features, a brilliant screen, and what else do you want? Add to that the less likelihood of viruses than PCs, and a great mail program that negates the need for Outlook, plus many good schedulers, and you are captivated. Both the reviewer for *PC World* and the *Wall Street Journal* have been really favorably impressed with the Mac and you can browse one anywhere. By the way, did you know that the symbol for the Euro, the currency unit, is standard in Mac architecture, and you can type it into any document? Look for it on the PC.

New iMac and what about iChat?

Well, if you don't want to wait for the Intel Mac, and do not think that it will change a lot – actually nobody knows, and it is possible that all or most software will run on the Intel Macs for a few years anyway. Then, do look at the newest iMac.

First of all it is a flat screen and a keyboard and a mouse. There is no computer! What? There **MUST** be a computer. Where is it? Actually, it is hidden inside the flat screen, which is even thinner this year than the last one. It comes in 17 and 20 inch varieties, and the thickness, or thinness, is hardly noticeable. Everything is in the screen, including the drives, the hard drive and the superdrive for DVDs and so on. It burns them, too. All the ports are in the screen. If you use a wireless keyboard and mouse, you get the real feeling that there is nothing there at all, but you are still connected to a computerless screen by a wireless keyboard and a wireless mouse. Weird!

Mounted inside the top of the screen is a tiny camera. With the built-in software for iChat, you can contact anybody who also has such an Apple computer and talk with them. What? Yes, you just switch in iChat, and their picture appears on the screen and you talk like in a picturephone through your broadband internet connection without telephone wires or telephone costs. It is a free call, and it is only available if you and your partner both have broadband connections and a Mac with iChat and the camera. If they don't have the camera, it is available as an accessory add-on. Craaaaaazy! Up to four people can talk at a time, and all four pictures appear on the screen. Believe me, I saw it work and two German colleagues were with me and equally amazed. Free international calling with pictures, but both have to have an iMac with camera and iChat. And, you don't pay a monthly fee for this. Nada.

OK, you want to wait for the Intel Mac, or you have an iMac but without this feature? Buy the camera, and download iChat – it is free. Of course, Macs are better.

New Vistas for PCs, even Macs

The new version of Windows that Microsoft has been planning was previously called Longhorn, but it is now called Vista. If you are planning to buy a PC over the next few months, do make certain that it is Vista-compatible. Now, if you wanted Microsoft to add **ONE** single feature to Vista that would make you happy, what would it be? Yes, Microsoft heard you. You are right. Everyone wants this feature. Microsoft will do it. What is the feature? You thought I didn't ask, but already knew? Of course. We all know. It is that Vista should be more secure against hackers, against spyware, and against all kinds of intruders. Microsoft heard you, and will make this as a main point of Vista.

[Did Apple hear? Of course. A long time ago. Yes, yes, it is true. Almost nobody

wants to make a virus for Macs, because they have only 8% of the market. Why bother? If you are going to write a virus, bad people write them for PCs. But, in case somebody does, Mac OS Tiger automatically comes with a firewall. Go to the Sharing Preference Pane and click on the Firewall tab and see the new "Advanced" button. Click on it to access the new option called Stealth Mode. With Stealth Mode in operation, uninvited queries to your computer will receive no acknowledgement, making it virtually impossible according to Macworld for someone to surreptitiously discover and hack into your Mac. Mac is there! Windows will be there shortly.]

New Laser Printers/Ink-Jet Printers

Ink-jet printers are becoming more and more refined and have better and better resolution. The main problem is the price of ink. Have you recently purchased a bottle of French perfume? Well, the cost per ounce is less than that of ink for ink-jets. This is outrageous, but it is a rising problem. And, H-P has found a way of trying to prevent people from re-loading their cartridges. The enemy is cartridge reloaders, who are opening stores around the country. Much of the ink that is sold is pretty good. I cannot vouch for it, and H-P maintains that its ink is best, but it is also very, very costly. The whole matter has given rise to a heightened interest in the new generation of laser printers. These cost several hundred dollars, from \$200 to \$700, but their cartridges hold the equivalent of 5000-6000 pages. You can share them in your household with various networking devices, and the newest ones may even soon be available with wi-fi so that they can work on a wireless network. Of course, they are much bulkier than an ink-jet, but it is worth thinking once again about this variety. Color? Some of them are color laser printers. Naturally, the black cartridge is the largest.

ICANN, YOUcANN, and Domain Names

You may not know this acronym, but it is the one that assigns domain names and the domain name that you buy, like thegsa@gsa.org comes under its jurisdiction. The USA runs the entire world assignment and allocation of domain names, because we started it all (remember Al Gore, who invented the internet? ☺) Well, the partisans of the United Nations cannot accept that there is something out there that is controlled by the USA, and want it controlled by the UN. Right now, it is the USA which has decided that there is a .de for Germany, and a .at for Austria, and so on. Nobody has complained that this is not impartially done, or that there is somebody somewhere who wants a .com and it is not taken and can't get it. No, it is just a philosophical-ideological thing. The UN is the world government, not the USA. So, there has been a campaign mounted to seize it from the USA and assign it to the UN. What will result? Well, first of all, I suspect that Israel will suddenly discover that its citizens will have difficulties in getting domain names, and secondly, there might be restrictions placed on some or all depending upon the vote of the various nations which will make up the

governing board. Do you remember the short-lived freedom of information decisions? That was when it was decided that the UN could “accredit” journalists. Only “accredited” journalists could be allowed to report from certain countries (their decision who they would be), but an “accredited” journalist wasn’t someone who would write critical stories. That died a swift death. At the moment, many European countries continue to support the impartial administration of domain names by the USA. However, there is an underlying unhappiness that this is being done by ONE country. The fact that ideology, philosophy, and hope for the future of the UN is the driving force for assigning it to the UN has weakened its cause. The history of UNESCO and other organizations in using voting power to punish some countries and their citizens is well known. The United States withdrew from the Human Rights organization when Libya was appointed to Chair it. There is a way to go yet before the agencies associated with the UN are administered impartially and fairly. Alas, please don’t regard this as a political opinion. I belong to the computer world’s population that says – if it isn’t broken, don’t fix it. I have the same policy with respect to my car and most mechanical objects.

Little Bitty Micro Mini

OK, if you really want a back-up device that is larger than a jump drive and is a real hard drive, then you ought to consider the little bitty micro mini hard drive from Iomega, which holds 4 gb (larger than many of your own hard drives on your desktops), for \$149.95 list price, and street price lower. It is smaller than a credit card, plugs into a USB port (which is slower than firewire ports) and can store up to 16,000 photos or a gigantic amount of data.

Battle of the Browsers - get out of the way!

Microsoft is preparing Internet Explorer 7 to challenge Mozilla’s Firefox, but the champ is not idle. Firefox 1.5 will be made ready soon. These monsters will compete for your business. Be aware.

Goo Goo Moo Goo?

Google Talk is the latest Google effort to attack iChat. It doesn’t work with Macs, because it can’t be as good right now as iChat is already, but Google wants to be your basic PC program, and is now trying to add features very fast. The enemy isn’t Mac. There are too few out there. The enemy is Microsoft, which is trying to develop features for Windows that will outshoot Google at the local corral. Stay tuned, and watch for all the new features. Look at Google’s site and see what is coming and what is there. Microsoft is running a bit scared.

Omnipage Professional or Iris 9, 10?

If you have a scanner, these are two programs that are competing head-to-head for your business. You want a program that can really recognize English and German and you want it to make few mistakes. Both fit this bill, and you should look at both. Both have Mac and PC versions.

Mitsubishi Pocket Projector a bust at \$799

Hold it. Hold the horses! It weighs only 14 ounces, but don't rush right out and buy it for the GSA Conference. According to what I have been reading – I have only seen it on the shelf – this mini itty bitty projector, which also sports a \$199 battery pack has very low resolution and needs a room that can really be so pitch-black (because its lamps are so dim) that your colleagues won't be able to take notes while you are talking and you can hardly read your paper unless you have memorized it. OK, the idea of ever smaller projectors is coming, but it isn't here with this one, yet. Patience!

German Studies Association

Newsletter

Volume XXXI
Number 1
Spring 2006

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German Studies Association

Newsletter

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Letter from the President

Dear GSA Colleagues,

You all are long since aware that the transition from our founding Executive Director, Gerald Kleinfeld, to his successor, David Barclay, took place on January 1. As David reports in his letter below, the transition has been carried out with generous assistance from Gerry and, as we of the Executive Council have seen, with avid commitment by David to hit the ground running. This moment in the life of the GSA thus marks the transmission of a 29-year process of building and development to a new management and also the opportunity to assess where we are and to discuss possible new directions. I will be attempting, as I prepare my presidential address for this fall's 30th-anniversary conference in Pittsburgh, to take stock of our achievements and to describe the challenges we face at this important juncture in the life of the GSA.

In this newsletter, David and I are reporting on the initial stages of this process, many of which took place at the mid-January meeting of the Executive Council in Oakland (a city that we are also considering as a conference site for 2010). Over two intense days we tackled a lengthy agenda, involving virtually every element of the GSA's activities, all of which elicited intense discussion and abundant ideas about where we are now and where we might be going.

Foremost among our concerns was the question of how we can expand our membership to ensure that the GSA remains financially sound and, even more important, a leading institution for fostering the vitality of German studies within rapidly changing scholarly and academic realms on both sides of the Atlantic and, indeed, throughout the world. Our outreach to solidify our existing membership and attract new members will take several forms. As a first step, the Executive Council instructed me to form two task forces to address ways in which the GSA can appeal to the next generations, and in March, after consultation with the members of the Executive Committee, the GSA Task Force on Graduate Students and the GSA Task Force on Recent PhDs were officially launched. Two members of the Executive Committee, Stephen Brockmann and Suzanne Marchand, enthusiastically agreed to act as liaisons between the respective task forces and the Executive Committee, to whom they will report at our meeting in Pittsburgh. All nine of the GSA members who were invited to join the two groups also enthusiastically signed on. As of now, these groups are discussing concerns, outreach possibilities, and long-term goals for building their constituencies as an important base for the future of the GSA. Other potential initiatives might address under-represented constituencies (the declining numbers political science was a concern that involved several meetings at the Milwaukee conference); attracting German studies scholars from heretofore barely represented disciplines like art history and musicology; paying closer attention to the needs of our scholarly colleagues in Europe—particularly in Germany—to encourage their participation in the Association; and finding ways to sustain the active participation of our “elder” members after they become emeriti in

their institutions. We invite your suggestions about other constituencies that need our attention.

In my first President's letter, a year ago, I mentioned that the Executive Committee would be discussing long-range plans for the Association. We of the Executive Council realized during our discussions in January 2006 that this will be an ongoing process. Our immediate goals are to solidify our relationship with neighboring organizations concerned with German studies; to continue to develop the web site and make it as user-friendly as possible; to work on the membership drive; and to increase communication both within the various committees and with the membership at large. Concrete steps have already been taken for each of these concerns. Underlying all of this will be a long-term commitment to a continual evaluation of the state of the Association; an examination and reassessment of the 30 years of accumulated policies, both formal and informal; thinking collectively about new directions our Association should take; and the establishment of goals and actions for the forthcoming years. On behalf of the Executive Council, I urge you to e-mail David or me, or any other officers or members of the Executive Committee, about your hopes, expectations, and grievances. We of the Executive Council and Executive Committee are staunchly committed to sharing these processes with the entire membership and to soliciting its approval for the long-range plans that emerge.

Our 30th-anniversary conference in Pittsburgh should be a wonderful chance to celebrate where we are and to envision our future. We shall also use it as an occasion to recognize those long-term members who have been with the German Studies Association since its origins as the Western Association of German Studies (WAGS). We hope that you will take part and especially encourage you to join us at the business meeting on Friday afternoon. Our three-river conjunction at the Hilton Pittsburgh will be a lovely venue for launching our next 30 years. See you there!

Sincerely,

Katherine Roper
President

From the New Executive Director

Dear Members and Friends of the German Studies Association,

On 1 January 2006 I officially succeeded Professor Gerald R. Kleinfeld as Executive Director of the GSA. Many of you wrote or phoned me when I assumed this daunting task, and I would like to thank you for your kind words—and for your expressions of sympathy and condolence! Above all, though, I would like to thank Gerry Kleinfeld for his tireless support and his constant encouragement. Only after one has served in this office can one truly appreciate what Gerry has meant to the GSA, to the study of the German-speaking world, and to the academic profession as a whole. The complexities of administering an academic association are vast, and for 29 years Gerry built this organization—sometimes almost single-handedly—with a unique mixture of aplomb, diplomacy, directness, tenacity, vision, and intellectual toughness. His achievements are truly staggering, and his legacy is assured. I can only hope that in my own tenure as Executive Director I can do justice to that legacy.

“Ich hab’ hier bloß ein Amt und keine Meinung.” Although I would certainly not accept Schiller’s remarks in their entirety, I do agree that, as Executive Director, it is my main job not to advance my personal agenda but to represent *you*, to listen to *your* ideas and opinions, and to do all I can to make sure that *your* collective views are reflected in the decisions and actions that the Association undertakes. This is *your* Association, and if it is to thrive and grow in the future we need your active participation. As you know, we have a democratically elected group of officers and a democratically elected Executive Committee. In addition, many of you have taken the time to serve on some other committees, including the Nominating Committee, the Program Committee, the selection committee for the Berlin Program (Berlin Prize Committee), the Archives Committee, and our various book and article prize committees. This is time-consuming work, and we are grateful to all of you who make this kind of contribution to our profession. But we also want to hear from each of you individually. So I hope that you will free to contact me at director@thegsa.org with your concerns, worries, suggestions, criticisms, and even compliments! Please rest assured that I will take your feedback very seriously indeed. As I have remarked to several people, I have found that Learning Curve Mountain is very steep indeed. I am bound to make mistakes along the way, and I ask in advance for your advice as well as your forbearance.

The rest of this newsletter will differ somewhat both from past newsletters and, I suspect, from future ones. Not only will we bring you up to date on recent developments in the GSA—many of them connected with the transition from Gerry to me—but we will also describe a number of our plans for the future. I have written several of these articles, while Katherine Roper devotes her President’s letter to reporting on some new initiatives that emerged from the January meeting of the Executive Council.

We are committed to ensuring that, for the next thirty years and beyond, the German Studies Association will continue to serve as a congenial, vital, vibrant

intellectual community of which you can all be proud. I look forward to working with each and every one of you.

Mit herzlichem Dank,

Euer David

David E. Barclay
Executive Director

2006 GSA Election Results

The GSA announces the following results for elections to the Vice Presidency and three two-year terms on the Executive Committee. The Association thanks those who voted and is especially grateful to all those members who were willing to serve as candidates.

Vice President-Elect: **Celia Applegate** (History, University of Rochester). Prof. Applegate will succeed Prof. Sara Lennox as Vice President at the beginning of 2007 and then succeed her as President of the GSA at the beginning of 2009.

Executive Committee (terms to expire in 2009): **Doris Bergen** (History, University of Notre Dame); **Barbara Koska** (German Studies, University of Arizona); **Helmut Walser Smith** (History, Vanderbilt University).

The GSA Turns Thirty! Pittsburgh, 28 September–1 October 2006

We hope that as many members—and, for that matter, non-members—as possible will join us for our thirtieth-anniversary conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The conference venue will be the Hilton Pittsburgh, spectacularly located next to the confluence of the three rivers—the Allegheny, the Monongahela, and the Ohio—that have defined the city for two and a half centuries. The Hilton includes some of the most attractive conference rooms that we have ever seen; and Pittsburgh itself promises to be one of our most interesting and varied conference locations.

The City of Pittsburgh

Located on the first shuttle stop from the airport, the Hilton Pittsburgh is immediately adjacent to downtown Pittsburgh, which has brilliantly recovered and redefined itself since the decline of the steel industry several decades ago. It is located several blocks from Heinz Hall, home of the Pittsburgh Symphony, which has been led over the decades by such musical luminaries as Victor Herbert, Otto Klemperer, Fritz Reiner, André Previn, Lorin Maazel, Mariss Jansons, and Sir Andrew Davis. Conference goers can also easily walk from the Hilton to the Andy Warhol Museum. Containing over 4000 objects by Warhol, the museum is the largest in the world dedicated to this Pittsburgh native. The various Carnegie museums, the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center, and other museums can also be reached quite easily. For information, go to the Web site of the Greater Pittsburgh

Convention and Visitors Bureau (www.visitpittsburgh.com).

Pittsburgh contains many other sites that will be of special interest to scholars of Central Europe. Several papers at this year's conference will reconsider the Seven Years War on its 250th anniversary; given its strategic location, the French-controlled Fort Duquesne and its successor, the British Fort Pitt, figured prominently in that conflict. Not too far from Pittsburgh is Old Economy Village, which preserves a number of buildings erected in the 1820s by utopian Christian communarians known as the Harmonists, a German group led by the Württemberger Georg Rapp. The Deutschtown district of Pittsburgh attests to the impact of German immigrants on the city during its oil- and steel-based industrial boom of the late nineteenth century. Adjacent to Deutschtown are the original H. J. Heinz factories, one of the finest ensembles of late nineteenth-century industrial architecture in the world, and the Penn Brewery, located in a building that has served as a German brewery since the 1840s. All its products are brewed according to the *Reinheitsgebot* of 1516. Visitors to Pittsburgh should also take note of another celebrated brewpub, the Church Brew Works. Many of our members will almost certainly pass the site of the 1918 Pittsburgh Agreement that gave birth to modern Czechoslovakia. Finally, on a more "touristy" note, who can resist the ride up the Mt. Washington Incline, visible from the Hilton, and the magnificent view of the city that it affords?

Local Arrangements

Pittsburgh's successful reinvention of itself has been helped by the presence in the area of many leading colleges and universities, several of which are assisting us with local arrangements. An informal committee composed of Professors Stephen Brockmann (Carnegie-Mellon University), Clark Muenzer (University of Pittsburgh), and Michael Shaughnessy (Washington and Jefferson College) has helped us develop a number of activities and programs that will be new at this year's conference. Among other things, we will be inviting high school German and social-studies teachers from the western Pennsylvania area to attend the conference at a reduced rate. We will also be organizing bus excursions on Thursday and Sunday to places of interest in western Pennsylvania. Possibilities include Old Economy Village, described above, and Fallingwater, where you can visit one of Frank Lloyd Wright's most celebrated architectural achievements, built for the family of the German-American entrepreneur Edgar Kaufmann. Please check our Web site (www.thegsa.org) throughout the summer and early fall for details.

Conference and Hotel Registration

By the time you are reading this, information on conference registration and hotel reservations will be available on the GSA Web site (www.thegsa.org). Conference registration fees are as follows:

Members:	\$ 85 (\$90 after 10 September)
Non-members:	\$140 (\$150 after 10 September)
Spouse/companion:	\$ 35
Student	\$ 20
Unemployed	\$ 20

Conference participants will need to register online for the conference before they can reserve a room at the Hilton Pittsburgh at our guaranteed conference rate. After registering for the conference, you will be able to link directly to the Hilton reservation system, where a special web page has been reserved for the GSA. Please do not attempt to reserve a room directly through the Hilton system before paying conference registration, as you won't be able to access the special page that Hilton is creating for us and you will have to pay non-conference rates for a room. Again, please check the Web site for updates and more detailed information.

Membership Issues in the GSA: The Challenge and How to Meet It

There can be no doubt that, as the German Studies Association moves into its fourth decade, sustaining and expanding our membership represents our single greatest challenge. If the GSA is to remain an intellectually dynamic and relatively inexpensive association of scholars, we cannot afford to be complacent about our membership base or take *any* of our existing members for granted in any way. It is critically important that, in view of declining membership figures in recent years, we gain 250 new members in the next two or three years. We can only do so by serving our members as efficiently and effectively as possible, while also maintaining stringent academic and intellectual standards.

Beginning in the fall of 2005, the Executive Committee and Executive Council were asked to undertake a "homework" assignment for David Barclay, the incoming Executive Director. Each member was asked to identify what he or she regarded as critical issues facing the GSA and suggest responses to those issues. All problems and concerns—from conference registration fees to the role of graduate students to the problem of "no-shows" at our annual meetings—were legitimate topics of discussion. But underpinning those discussions was the question of how to increase membership and revitalize the Association without jettisoning the traditions of three decades. As part of our strategy to deal with the membership issue, the GSA is undertaking several initiatives. We would welcome your response to these initiatives, and any ideas you may have regarding other fruitful membership-related activities.

1) The "Fugate Project." Professor Joe K. Fugate, long-time GSA member, emeritus professor of German, and veteran director of study-abroad programs at Kalamazoo College, has agreed to undertake systematic membership surveys for the GSA. He will do two things. First, he will look at membership figures for 2000 and 2005 to get us a better sense of where our membership losses have come from. Then he will attempt to determine our potential recruitment field by reviewing lists of relevant recent PhDs, the membership of affiliated and related organizations, and the like. We hope that the "Fugate project" will provide us with useful data that can be employed in our membership drive.

2) Underrepresented and Expanding Constituencies in the GSA: New Plans and New Directions. As President Katherine Roper notes in this issue, the GSA

wants to reach out to new constituencies even as it strengthens established ones. To that end, President Roper and Executive Director-designate David Barclay met in Milwaukee with different groups of political scientists to discuss the declining “presence” of political science at our meetings, and to consider how—in view of disciplinary shifts in political science and the realities of the academic reward system—it might be possible to gain new members from that discipline. Of critical importance to these efforts is the new cooperative agreement between British and North American specialists on Central European politics.

Moreover, as Kathy also notes, the GSA wishes to reach out to other scholars of Central Europe—e.g., art historians, medievalists, scholars of the Reformation, musicologists—who have not been as strongly represented in the organization as we would like. Thus we are establishing closer links with groups like Historians of German and Central European Art and Architecture (HGCEA), and we are gratified by the presence at our conference of the Young Medievalist Germanists in North America (YMAGINA).

Many of our members are, of course, themselves residents of the German-speaking countries. We want to do all we can to increase our membership outside the US, and especially in Central Europe, and ensure that our non-North American members are actively involved in the Association and its activities. Accordingly, the GSA is interested in establishing a Europe-based *Beirat* for our non-North American members. It would be composed of five or six members plus the GSA Executive Director and would focus on issues of special concern to our members outside North America. We welcome your suggestions and responses.

3) Das Prinzip Zweisprachigkeit. Wir dürfen auch nicht vergessen, dass Deutsch und Englisch die zwei “Amtssprachen” der GSA darstellen. Deshalb sind wir bemüht, die deutsche Sprache auf allen Ebenen unseres Organisationslebens zu fördern. Im “German Studies Review” und auf der Jahreskonferenz war dies immer der Fall; wie anderswo in diesem “Newsletter” vermerkt, ist es auch unser mittelfristiges Ziel, unsere Web site in deutscher Sprache zugänglich und unseren deutschsprachigen Mitgliedern benutzerfreundlicher zu machen.

4) Bridging the Generations. Elsewhere in this newsletter President Roper describes the new GSA Task Forces that have been established to address the professional concerns of graduate students and recent PhDs in our association. At the same time that we are reaching out to our younger colleagues, we are equally committed to those senior members who have formed the bedrock of the GSA for three decades. We *cannot* and we *will* not overlook their past contributions, and we look forward to their future contributions as well. One possibility that we are considering is the introduction of *Generationsgespräche*, either at the conference or in the newsletter or both, in which younger scholars join more senior scholars to discuss recent trends, issues, and controversies in German Studies. Again, we would be interested in your response to this notion, and we would welcome any other ideas that you may have about ways in which the Association can effectively serve the needs of *all* its members while expanding its membership base.

The GSA Web Site

Most of you will have received the global e-mail that we sent to the members in January describing the complexities we encountered with our Web site as a result of the shift in late 2005 to a new domain host. By now, everyone should know that we have a new URL (www.thegsa.org). A great deal of code had to be rewritten, among other things after a crash on the domain host in late November 2005 eliminated a lot of data as it was being uploaded. And we temporarily lost our secure SSL layer; but our indefatigable webmaster quickly restored it, and it is more secure than ever. So members can make online payments with the full confidence that all transactions are as safe as possible.

Der langen Geschichte kurzer Sinn: We really had to scramble to get the online parts of the Web site into reasonable working order. The result was a work in progress, and thus we encountered glitches that we had hoped to have eliminated last year. We know that this has been frustrating for many of you, but we are convinced that we are well on the way to creating an up-to-date, intuitive, and user-friendly Web site. Again, our webmaster has been absolutely tireless in his efforts, and we are immensely grateful to him for his patience. Similarly, our superb Tech Support Desk (techsupport@thegsa.org) is always ready to assist you. We hope you know that behind the technology are real human beings, and we are ready to help however we can.

Although we are committed to improving the site, we do want to emphasize the positive. Our Web site and our online system enable us to do things that would have been unimaginable a few years ago. Among other things, our online conference submission system enables us to post the tentative program on the site in the spring and make necessary revisions before its final publication in printed form.

In the summer, when we finally have a bit of a hiatus, we are going to start thinking systematically about concrete ways to improve the Web site. Among the ideas we have in mind:

- A redesigned and simplified homepage.
- A commitment to *Zweisprachigkeit* on the Web site, with the entire site ultimately being available, by the click of a button on the homepage, in German as well as in English.
- Simpler and more intuitive procedures for online submission of papers, partial sessions, complete sessions, and roundtables.
- The timely online publication of Executive Committee minutes.
- The possibility of publishing this newsletter online, either as a substitute for or supplement to the traditional hard copy.
- Electronic elections.
- Even more extensive links to other organizations' sites.
- Links to German-language media sites?

We also plan to introduce a number of "forums" or discussion groups on the site to provide opportunities for members of the Executive Council and the Executive Committee to communicate with each other and with the membership, make sug-

gestions for improvements, and the like. Please visit the Web site during the next few months to learn about these innovations.

Most importantly, to improve the Web site we need *your* feedback. We really need *specific, concrete* comments and suggestions. It is not helpful to say, "I can't get the Web site to work." The more specific you can be, the more responsive we can be. Thanks in advance!

Berlin Program Announces Fellows for 2006–07

The Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies—administered in partnership between the Freie Universität Berlin and the German Studies Association—has announced the results of the selection process for 2006–07. Ten young North American scholars have been nominated for Berlin Fellowships for the coming two academic year, and, at the time of writing in mid-March 2006, five had accepted. They are:

- Emily Carter (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Department of Anthropology): "The Semiotics of Diaspora: Coptic Texts and Language Ideologies in Berlin, Germany"
- Steven Gummer (Georgetown University, Department of History): "Imperial Dreams and Religious Fury: Germany and Religious Violence in the Ottoman Balkans in the Age of Nationalism, 1875–1914"
- Jennifer Miller (Rutgers University, Department of History): "Gendered Border Crossings: The First Generation of Turkish Guest Workers in Germany, 1961–1973"
- Nicholas Schlosser (University of Maryland, College Park, Department of History): "Radio in Cold War Berlin and the Shaping of Political Culture in Divided Germany, 1945–1961"
- Pepper Stetler (University of Delaware, Department of Art History): "New Vision: Modernity and the Photo-Essay in the Weimar Republic, 1919–1929."

The German Studies Association congratulates these new Berlin Fellows and wishes them the best of luck in Berlin! The GSA also thanks Professor Peter Fritzsche (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) and Professor Elizabeth Heineman (University of Iowa), who represented the Association on this year's advisory committee.

The GSA's involvement with the Berlin Program in Advanced German and European Studies is evidence of its continued commitment to *Nachwuchsförderung*. To that end, all Berlin Fellows will receive special recognition from the GSA at the annual conference.

Established in 1986, the Berlin Program is a residential program that supports young scholars in history and the social sciences as well as Germanists interested in related issues. Fellowships are awarded for doctoral dissertation and postdoctoral research leading to the completion of a monograph. The program offers its Fel-

lows an exceptional opportunity to integrate their research by encouraging on-site interaction with leading German scholars, especially in its biweekly seminar.

For detailed information on the Berlin Program, please visit the GSA Web site, or contact the Program directly by writing to Karin Goihl at the Freie Universität Berlin (bprogram@zedat.fu-berlin.de).

GSA Relations with Affiliated and “Neighboring” Organizations

As an inter- and multidisciplinary organization devoted to the study of the German-speaking world, the German Studies Association naturally maintains close ties with a variety of affiliated and “neighboring” organizations. Given the current situation of German studies in American secondary and higher education, the GSA strongly believes that it is in our individual and collective interest to work as closely as possible and as fruitfully as possible with as many related groups as possible. To that end, President Katherine Roper and then Executive Director-designate David E. Barclay met with representatives of several groups at the Milwaukee meeting in the fall of 2005. During those conversations we explored a number of possibilities for future collaboration, and we would vigorously encourage continued discussion, ideas, criticism, and suggestions from members of these and other groups. Please contact President Roper (kroper@stmarys-ca.edu) or Executive Director Barclay (director@thegsa.org) with your thoughts.

Among other things, the GSA encourages reciprocal Web site links with organizations and groups, private and public, which share our interests and goals. If you visit our Web site, please note our links to the following. If you represent a group that would like to be added, please let us know!

- * American Association of Teachers of German
- * American Council of Learned Societies
- * American Institute for Contemporary German Studies
- * Austrian Cultural Forum, New York
- * Austrian Embassy
- * Center for Austrian Studies
- * DAAD
- * German Embassy
- * German Historical Institute, Washington, DC
- * Goethe-Institut
- * H-German
- * Historians of German and Central European Art and Architecture
- * Swiss Embassy
- * SwissStudies.org
- * Women in German

In Memoriam

This is a new feature of the *Newsletter*. It is to mark the passing of prominent colleagues and to honor and celebrate their contributions as scholars and teachers. The German Studies Association encourages its members and friends to send us obituaries in memory of their distinguished colleagues in German studies as e-mail attachments or on a disk/CD to the GSA address on the inside cover. As always, we will be happy to receive essays in English or German. They should generally not be longer than 500, in exceptional cases 1,000 words. The inaugural tribute below exceeds these limits. It is based on an earlier, longer version, published on December 9, 2005, by H-German, whose initiative and permission to reprint the author hereby gratefully acknowledges.

Gordon A. Craig (1913– 2005)

On October 30, 2005, Gordon A. Craig, a towering figure among scholars of German history, literature, and culture passed from us. His was a strong, always supremely eloquent and judiciously reasoned voice of authority. He was still treating readers of the *New York Review of Books* to incisive review essays in his impeccable magisterial style until his ninetieth year, when the reading blindness forced him into what he peevisly called “deep retirement.” He personally spanned twentieth-century Germany from his first term of study there as a Princeton University undergraduate in the post-Weimar-Republic years, with much of the cultural splendor and political arrogance and angst of the old Germany still intact, to post-Holocaust, post-division Berlin as honorary professor at the Free University.

He made his first mark in the history and practice of statecraft, which was the focus of Craig’s first major publication, *The Diplomats, 1919–1939*, published in 1953 together with Felix Gilbert. The volumes made a powerful statement against ideological mass politics in the wake of the fascist holocaust and at the peak of the cold war. Readers could identify with the fascinating and often highly cultured personalities in the collection; and Craig clearly did as well. In his own mind and in the view of his students, he was intrinsically part of that world. His correct, elegant bearing, his profound *Bildung* in all areas of high culture, his honed rhetoric, his fine writing style, even his penmanship suggested this kinship.

While his scholarship always remained anchored in aspects of statecraft, Craig was never just a historian and theoretician of statecraft. From the earliest years of his career at Yale and then as a faculty member at Princeton, he worked as an advisor for the Office of Strategic Services with so many of the brightest scholars of the day. Later he was a consultant for the State Department, where one of his closest friends from his Rhodes years at Oxford, W. W. Rostow was serving, as well as for the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. He was an informal advisor to many prominent American and German statesmen and enjoyed meeting in their circles into his late 80s.

The book that established Gordon Craig as a leading historian almost instantly was *The Politics of the Prussian Army, 1640–1945*, first published in 1955. It was an

extraordinary feat, which spanned not only all of the history of Brandenburg-Prussia, but also demonstrated a mastery military policy, general strategy, and tactical issues as well as the politics and culture of this remarkable state. Right at the start of the book Craig engaged with the nature of German history and the German nation, when he asserted that "authoritarian government, militarism, and aggression ... are not inherent in the German character." The vision of this grand opus was to understand the genesis of the power of modern Germany, which transpired through the rise of Prussia achieved, almost incredibly, through "the political will and sagacity of Hohenzollern rulers after 1640 and the effectiveness of the army which they created." The book also established him as the premier historian of Prussia, at least outside of Germany. He remained a favorite guest and sophisticated lecturer on the topic. Not only outside of Germany, but just as importantly within that country, no one contributed more to the reevaluation of Prussian history, which had been roundly condemned and rejected as solely authoritarian, militaristic, and primarily responsible for Nazism.

As a proud U.S. Marine, he was a sophisticated military historian, superbly demonstrated in his masterpiece battle history, *The Battle of Königgrätz*. This battle, which established the superiority of modern general-staff directed strategy and lifted von Moltke from an unknown to a leading strategist of the nineteenth century, was ideally suited to Craig's conception of history: There was high battle drama and surprise, interplay between a gifted statesman (Bismarck) and the talented military strategist, both whom were supremely cultured aficionados of fine literary style. The book was not only a great success but also close to Craig's heart to the end of his life. He finished the third and last edition just two years ago. Craig personally valued no award he received in his long, brilliant career more highly than the order *Pour le mérite*, the highest Prussian-German officers' award, established by Frederick the Great in 1740, and amended Frederick-William IV in 1842 with a *Pour le mérite* for the arts and sciences. Until his last years, as long as he could still travel at all, he savored going to the meetings of this august group.

For the students in his supremely popular lecture classes and seminars at Princeton, Stanford, and Berlin his love of and virtuosity in German and world literature was proverbial. After he moved from his alma mater of Princeton, where taught from 1941 to 1961, to Stanford (1961–1979), he developed a close relationship with several colleagues of the excellent German department there, and he took particular delight in at least one seminar he taught with the Germanist Müller-Vollmar. He wrote several articles on German writers and their relationship to politics, including "Friedrich Schiller and the Problems of Power" (in: *The Responsibility of Power: Historical Essays in Honor of Hajo Holborn*, Leonard Krieger and Fritz Stern, eds. [Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Company, 1969], 135–56). But it was in his retirement years that he published his key books in cultural history and literature. The first of these, *The Germans*, became the work with which he was identified in the general reading public. It has been more widely quoted than any of his books or those of any other authors on Germany. What had been an ambition of his first book—to paint a different, fairer and more genuine picture of (Prussian) Germans—the much-matured historian achieved after almost 70 years.

From a rich palette of German intellectual and cultural life and history (plus the “honorary German” Mark Twain) he drew a new, fuller, and more multifaceted image of Germans—no longer so much perceived as a nation, but its people beyond “that corrosive nationalism that has in the past distorted the German spirit.” The book went through a second, larger edition and, like all of his major books, it also appeared in German, where it became a kind of mirror from outside—without a raised finger—recalling Tocqueville’s outsider’s mirror for nineteenth-century America and Madame Staël’s for nineteenth-century Germans.

His last book was a labor of love dedicated to a writer whose work had been very special to him for the greatest part of his life and who had been his personal intellectual companion during this extended times in Berlin: Theodor Fontane, Germany’s greatest novelist of the nineteenth century. As an inveterate walker, Craig hiked along all the paths Fontane had followed on his *Wanderungen durch die Mark Brandenburg*. No one knew and portrayed the range of social types of Bismarckian Prussia more thoroughly than this journalist and social critic turned novelist in his retirement years—a Prussian Balzac or Dickens in many ways. He would have been the ideal conversation partner for Craig. Both Craig and Fontane were eminent and incisive critics of Prussia and Germany because they were so deeply committed to and cared so strongly about that part of Germany. Craig’s *Theodor Fontane* reflects the dual view of nineteenth-century Germany’s seemingly golden years of unity, growing prosperity, power, and cultural blossoming, especially in the shining cultural beacon of Berlin, yet with its growing fissures of arrogant militarism and caesarism emerging, which climaxed under Kaiser Wilhelm II. For Craig this book was a natural last labor of love, crowning an extraordinary scholarly career.

When Gordon Craig joined the historical profession, the field of German history was dominated in the United States by a richly talented generation of German emigrants, who had fled their country to escape Nazi antisemitism, political persecution, and the Holocaust. Naturally many of them became his closest associates and friends, including Hajo Holborn, Felix Gilbert, Hans Rosenberg, Hans Kohn, Fritz Stern, Peter Gay, Theodore Hamerow. Steeped in German history and culture, the Holocaust had meant great personal tragedy for them as well as a profound disillusionment about German history and culture. Many of them sought to find the sources of the Nazism, antisemitism, and Judeocide specifically in German history. More generally the question of moral responsibility became central in the teaching and scholarship in the field. Reflections about moral responsibility also mark all of Craig’s writing, especially for those in positions of political power, but for writers of prose and fiction as well. But he never regarded the Holocaust as a defining characteristic of German history that had to be a part of all broader investigations at least in modern German history, as many in the next generation of scholars on both sides of the Atlantic have assumed. For Craig, Nazism and the Holocaust always remained a catastrophe of Germans, as Friedrich Meinecke argued, which remains a part of their history, but does not define it. Yet he also acknowledged that: “one and a half generations after his death in the bunker, ... Hitler was like the little man upon the stair in the old song. He wasn’t there, but

he wouldn't go away."

As a teacher at Yale, Princeton, Stanford, and the Free University of Berlin, Craig leaves a remarkable legacy. He was an extraordinary lecturer. His reputation among students of all levels was legendary. They listened enraptured by his erudition and the splendid story unfolding. No one dared not disturb the flow of his finely tuned rhetoric delivered with scarcely a glance at his notes. His adroitly free delivery completely concealed the fact that all of his lectures were crafted and written down in his near-calligraphic hand word for word, and updated and recrafted for every class and public lecture. He essentially spoke his lectures by heart. He tolerated nothing short of perfection in his presentations and was proud to have been admitted as still a young scholar to the American Philosophical Society. He had little sympathy for extended theorizing about teaching methods. The quality of the ideas, the precision of the argument, and the clarity and force of the delivery defined for him the best teaching. His extraordinary success and enormous popularity as a lecturer is convincing confirmation.

In the restive Berlin of the sixties, he played a very special role. In contrast the other great intellectual visiting with and listening to the Free-University students in those years, Herbert Marcuse, Craig played a quiet role. After teaching his mammoth *Hauptseminar* of a hundred students at the Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut, he would regularly invite students to chat at the beer garden next door over a *Berliner Weiße* or *Bier mit Schuss*. He deeply sympathized with the students about the authoritarian structures and impersonal large classes, especially seminars, which confronted the students everywhere, even at this university, which had been founded by a small number of students and professors working intimately together in their quest for learning in freedom.

In one respect Craig was the classic traditional historian *par excellence*: his starting point was the individual actor. His works literally begin with an outstanding individual's thoughts or perspective and work out from there to the larger problematic and actions. The story is skillfully interwoven with incisive analysis and rich, scrupulous documentation, but he always transports the reader back into the flow of the narrative without strain, thanks to his masterfully gracious writing style. This ability to clad incisive analysis in narrative style and to bring the focus always back to individual actors undoubtedly explains the appeal his books and essays held for a broad reading public and helps make clear the extent to which Gordon A. Craig's impact has been felt far beyond his students in the formal sense.

Diethelm Prowe
Carleton College

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