INTRODUCTION

As one of the cornerstones of its mission, the GHI promotes transatlantic relations through the academic exchange of historians and social scientists. Since its founding in 1987, the GHI has successfully supported hundreds of graduate students, doctoral candidates, and postdoctoral researchers with fellowship programs, workshops for young scholars, and internships. As part of this effort, the GHI has published and regularly updated its funding guide.

Research—Study—Funding: A German-American Guide for Historians and Social Scientists is the most comprehensive funding guide yet released by the GHI. It aims to meet the needs of both students (“study”) and scholars (“research”) by covering undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate studies; doctoral, postdoctoral, and independent research; teaching assistantships, internships, and practical training; as well as funding for language study and conference travel. The guide’s subtitle—“for historians and social scientists”—should be understood in a broad sense, including art history, museum studies, anthropology, political science, international affairs, and regional studies. The bulk of information focuses on traditional, well-established fellowship and grant programs that have been offered for years, in some cases even decades. However, a significant portion of the new entries are less well-known programs whose availability is subject to changes in funding sources and policies. Potential applicants are advised to contact the sponsoring organizations directly for the most up-to-date information on application requirements and procedures.

This fifth edition includes several new features. Given its enhanced scope, the two main parts for fellowships and grants in both countries have been supplemented by a third section on awards and prizes, and a fourth section on teaching assistantships. For the first time, the funding guide lists awards and prizes offered by historical associations and academic institutions that recognize outstanding works of scholarly research.

1 In 1989, the GHI compiled the first comprehensive overview of such resources, the German-American Scholarship Guide for Historians and Social Scientists, edited by Jürgen Heideking, Anne Hope, and Ralf Stegner. Five years later, Manfred Berg and Janine S. Micunek revised the entries, which resulted in the publication of the German-American Scholarship Guide: Exchange Opportunities for Historians and Social Scientists 1994/95. In 1999, an expanded edition, Research and Funding: A German-American Guide for Historians and Social Scientists by Christof Mauch and Birgit Zischke, took into account many new programs at different academic levels. More recently, Michael Wala produced the 2002 version, Research and Study in the United States and Germany: A Guide to Funding for Historians and Social Scientists.
and writing. Information on awards and prizes is generally not as accessible as it is for fellowship and grant programs. Frequently, the criteria for academic excellence are developed over the course of the selection process, which is carried out by a committee consisting of several members from different institutions. Candidates should therefore inquire about the selection process at the sponsoring organizations themselves.

The funding guide also provides a list of university departments with teaching assistantships for foreign students. These positions are intended for advanced graduate students to teach language classes in their native tongue in exchange for tuition remission, health insurance, and/or partial compensation of accommodation and living expenses. Although it is very common for graduate students to work as teaching assistants, it is extremely difficult to locate helpful information from the official websites of universities. The financial situation of individual departments determines the availability of teaching assistantships, which may vary within the same institution and from year to year. For this reason, foreign students should communicate directly with the respective modern language departments (German, English, etc.) as well as with international student and financial aid offices (or Auslandsämter) at their desired institution.

Furthermore, this funding guide contains substantially more internship opportunities than its predecessors. This information is particularly important, as many students and scholars seek to gain professional experience at the conclusion of their fellowship or grant period abroad. Since the number of internships is vast, especially in Berlin and Washington, emphasis has been placed on presenting only well-defined, formal internship programs. The majority of these internships do not pay a salary, but some may offer a small amount to cover travel, lodging, and visa expenses. Interns receive practical insights and learn useful skills at a range of institutions such as museums, think tanks, and international organizations. This experience helps them transcend the boundaries of their academic disciplines, and it guides their professional path.

Research—Study—Funding is intended as a resource tool for students, scholars, and administrators in the transatlantic community, and as such, is organized around several user-friendly features. All entries are listed alphabetically by sponsoring organization, with at least one, but often several programs under each organization. The names of organizations and programs are in English, unless the German original could not be translated into English. There are cross-references for programs with sponsorship from more than one organization. The entries in the name index are arranged by categories that correspond with academic levels and purposes. The amount of information for each entry varies by type of program: fellowships and grants have complete contact information, including email and website addresses, and comprehensive summaries of
the fellowship’s scope, eligibility requirements, provisions, and application procedures. Awards, prizes, and teaching assistantships have shorter entries.

The research for this guide has benefited from several excellent online resources. They include the databases of the American Historical Association (Grants, Fellowships and Prizes of Interest to Historians, available to AHA members at www.aha.org), the German Academic Exchange Service in Germany (www.daad.de) and the United States (www.daad.org), the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies (GARDINET, at www.aicgs.org/gardinet), the Institute of International Education (www.iie.org), the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (for Fulbright programs, at www.iie.org/cies), and the Foundation Center (www.fdncenter.org). The funding guide itself will be available on the websites of the GHI (www.ghi-dc.org), the German Association for American Studies (www.dgfa.de), and Humanities and Social Sciences Online (www.h-net.org). Furthermore, the GHI welcomes suggestions and corrections from readers, which can be sent to info@ghi-dc.org.

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