2011 FRITZ STERN DISSERTATION PRIZES

The 2011 Fritz Stern Dissertation Prizes, which honor the two best doctoral dissertations on German history written at North American universities each year, were awarded to Eric Steinhart (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum) and Brendan Karch (Harvard University). The award ceremony took place at the Twentieth Annual Symposium of the Friends of the German Historical Institute on November 11, 2011, chaired by David Blackbourn (Harvard University) as president of the Friends. The selection committee was composed of Ian F. McNeely, chair (University of Oregon), Maria Mitchell (Franklin & Marshall College), and Benjamin Marschke (Humboldt State University). Both prizewinners have contributed articles presenting their dissertation research to this issue of the Bulletin.

Karch was honored for his dissertation “Nationalism on the Margins: Silesians between Germany and Poland, 1848-1945,” completed at Harvard University. The committee’s prize citation read: “This elegantly conceptualized and meticulously researched dissertation explores how Upper Silesians resisted being assimilated into either the German or Polish ‘nations,’ sometimes overtly, often more subtly. Focusing on the local and regional history of Oppeln/Opole, it rests on thorough and detailed use of archival and printed sources in both German and Polish. Moreover, it engages the entire period from 1848 through the late 1940s, seamlessly integrating several widely divergent historiographies covering an eventful century that saw the creation of German and Polish nation-states and two world wars. Finally, it mounts a comprehensive microhistory, treating associational life; the media, and the public sphere; social class and the economy; education and language policy; elections, political parties, and plebiscites; government administration; and religion. Karch’s fine-grained and nuanced approach enables him to reconstruct the tensions between nationalistic elites and the wider Upper Silesian populace who resisted becoming either Germanized or Polonized. Far from merely documenting Upper Silesians’ apathy and indifference toward projects of nation-building, this work shows how their political culture hinged on the toleration and embrace of ethnic ambiguity and a refusal to adopt nationhood as the primary axis of identity. Karch’s finding that Upper Silesians partly avoided the violence and ethnic cleansing of the 1940s highlights the long-term resiliency of the region’s political culture even and especially for the period of Nazi totalitarianism.”

Steinhart was honored for his dissertation “Creating Killers: The Nazi-fication of the Black Sea Germans and the Holocaust in Southern Ukraine, 1941-1944,” completed at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
The committee’s prize citation read: “This tremendously accomplished dissertation is an example of Holocaust research at its best, showing how ‘ordinary’ people were pressured and enticed to murder their neighbors in Transnistria, a multiethnic region on the border between Romania and the Ukraine. This work advances our knowledge in numerous ways, offering a painstaking reconstruction of a complex story of horror resting at the intersection of Romanian, Nazi, and Soviet policy; Jewish suffering and death; and Black Sea German victimization and crime. Steinhart’s focus on Black Sea Germans, the largest group of Soviet ethnic Germans under Nazi occupation, sheds light not only on Nazi policy vis-à-vis the Volksdeutsche, but, more broadly, on Nazi plans for the Soviet lands Germany occupied. Furthermore, by focusing on the role of Black Sea Germans in executing Jews, the author contributes to our understanding of Holocaust perpetrators, in particular perpetrators from outside the Reich. Unfailingly attentive to class, religion, and gender, this dissertation thoughtfully engages methodological issues and historiographical debates throughout the text, all in the course of treating a vast expanse of sources from Germany, Romania, and the Soviet Union. Given contemporaries’ failure to keep complete records, and the intentional destruction of other materials, Steinhart’s careful and creative use of problematic and politicized sources, many of them produced decades after the events described, is especially innovative.”

2011 HELMUT SCHMIDT PRIZE FOR GERMAN-AMERICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY

On December 8, 2011, the 2011 Helmut Schmidt Prize for German-American Economic History was awarded to Charles Maier, Leverett Saltonstall Professor of History at Harvard University and a renowned expert on the history of twentieth-century Europe and the United States. Maier was honored for his wide-ranging oeuvre, which includes Recasting Bourgeois Europe (1975), The Marshall Plan and Germany (1991), Dissolution: The Crisis of Communism and the End of East Germany (1997), and Among Empires: American Ascendancy and Its Predecessors (2006). The Helmut Schmidt Prize pays tribute to the former German chancellor for his part in transforming the framework of transatlantic economic cooperation. The prize is awarded every other year. Since 2007, it has been generously sponsored by the ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius.

Following introductory remarks by Hartmut Berghoff (GHI), Volker Berghahn (Columbia University) delivered the laudatio. After accepting the prize, Professor Maier delivered a lecture on the topic “Lessons from
"There is a thread running through many of [Charles Maier’s] books that explains why he is receiving the Helmut Schmidt Prize this year. He has never been an economic historian of the orthodox kind who would undertake a meticulous analysis of economic statistics, of the quantifiable economic performance of a particular country, of certain branches of industry, or of international trade flows. Rather he has been, throughout his academic life, a political economist. ... Professor Maier’s very first book, which I still consider a truly great study, was his *Recasting Bourgeois Europe*, a 600-page tome on the socioeconomic and political stabilization in France, Germany, and Italy after World War I. This study looked at how the bourgeois elites of Europe succeeded in re-stabilizing a situation that had undergone an enormous upheaval between 1914 and 1923 by recasting its class structures in what he called a corporatist mode. To quote him: ‘This study examines a critical period in the disciplining of change, in the survival and adaptation of political and economic elites, and in the twentieth-century capitalist order they dominated.’ ... You can find a further expansion of his thoughts on the transformations of capitalist societies in his 2006 book entitled *Among Empires: American Ascendancy and Its Predecessors*, which contains two illuminating chapters, one concerned with the “empire of production” and another with the “empire of consumption.” Perhaps it is not too far-fetched to say that here Professor Maier provides a subtle criticism of more orthodox approaches to economic history that have been concerned with the productionist side of modern industrial systems. What they overlooked for all too long was the advent of mass consumption and consumerism, the other side of the Fordist vision of modern societies. ... I hope I have given you the reasons why [the prize] is being given to a great historian of modern Germany and Europe and is certainly more than fully deserved because of his many scholarly accomplishments and also his mentorship of many budding historians whom he has trained in the past three decades at Duke University and then at Harvard."
NEW PUBLICATIONS BY GHI STAFF

**Monographs and Edited Volumes**


**Articles and Chapters**


Frank Schipper and Johan Schot. “Infrastructural Europeanism, or the Project of Building Europe on Infrastructures.” *History and Technology* 27.3 (2011): 245-64.


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**LIBRARY REPORT**

The GHI maintains a research library of about 48,500 volumes and subscribes to more than 219 journals and newspapers. Since 2010, we have provided online access to 76 of these periodicals through the EZB (Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek, Electronic Journals Library). Other databases we have recently acquired access to are the Proquest “Dissertations & Theses” database and the EBSCO database “America: History and Life.” Over the last two years (2010 and 2011), the library increased its holdings by 3,107 volumes.

One major library project over the last two years was the conversion of the library catalog to a new system. In late 2010, after looking at various library management systems, the GHI signed a contract with Innovative Interfaces Inc. for its “Millennium” integrated library system. After several months of transferring data files, debugging the program, and training GHI
library staff, the new catalog went online in September 2011, much to the delight of all at the GHI. It is available at https://ghi.iii.com. One decisive factor in the selection of the Millennium system was that it enabled the GHI to acquire a powerful new research tool, Research Pro. This program allows researchers to search multiple databases through a single search engine, with direct access to full-text entries and/or articles. The licensing of the databases limits their use to the GHI’s IP address, so they can only be accessed in-house.

Acquisitions deserving special mention from the last two years include about a hundred titles in modern German and Austrian history from the personal library of the late George O. Kent, formerly Professor of History at the University of Maryland. Included in this acquisition are the 42 volumes of *Trial of the Major War Criminals before the International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg, 4 November 1945-1 October 1946* (Nuremberg, 1947). Another acquisition of note from 2011 was a valuable collection of texts on architectural history and social criticism purchased from the family of Roland V. Wiedenhoef. Of particular interest are texts by Bruno Taut and Walter Gropius as well as various journals of architectural-historical value. For example, we now have the *Zeitschrift für Baukunst* (1899-1919), *Die Baugilde* (1925-1934), and *Die Volkswohnung* (1919-1923).

We would like to express our gratitude to the following individuals who donated books to the GHI library: Richard Meier of Chicago for several volumes on contemporary German history; Joanna Sturm of Washington for a number of volumes on the German military; as well as Robert Thomas Hennemeyer, Tom M. Schaumburg, and Don Velsey, all of Washington DC. The library gladly accepts any recommendations for acquisitions. Simply send an e-mail to the librarian with your comments and suggestions.

Other recent library news includes the internship of a student of library science at the GHI. Gerlind Ladisch from the Hochschule der Medien in Stuttgart spent a portion of her internship semester (November 2011–February 2012) with us learning how a small specialized library functions.
STAFF CHANGES

Christa Brown retired from the GHI at the end of August 2011. She was a fixture of the GHI from its earliest days, hired within a month of the Institute’s opening, in May 1987. “I started my career at the GHI with a leased typewriter and worked at a folding table,” she recently recalled. Her job title was “Foreign Language Assistant,” but she really functioned as the GHI’s office manager and was in charge of organizing conferences and events, always tending to multiple projects simultaneously. She is fondly remembered by all who worked at the GHI during its first quarter century and sorely missed by the colleagues she left behind.

Susanne Fabricius joined the GHI in January 2012 as Assistant to the Director. Prior to this position, Fabricius worked for such organizations as the Smithsonian Institute and the World Bank in Washington DC, as well as the German Military in Reston, Virginia.

Andreas Fischer joined the Institute as Administrative Director in July 2011. He studied public administration and finance and previously worked in the German Archeological Institute’s central office in Berlin as chief of the Finance & Budget Department. Over the past twenty years, he served as Administrative Director at different institutes of the German Archeological Institute abroad, including in Cairo, Athens, and Rome.

Mischa Honeck joined the Institute as a Research Fellow in September 2011. He previously held a position as Research Associate at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, University of Heidelberg. He studied medieval and modern history, English, and philosophy at the University of Heidelberg and Portland State University, Oregon, and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Heidelberg in 2008. He specializes in teaching and researching U.S. history through a transnational lens, taking a strong interest in the history of ethnic and race relations, gender history, and twentieth-century youth movements. Honeck’s first book, *We Are the Revolutionists: German-Speaking Immigrants and American Abolitionists after 1848* (University of Georgia Press, 2011), is a Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2011. He is co-editor of *Germany and the Black Diaspora: Points of Contact, 1250–1945* (Berghahn Books, forthcoming). He is currently writing a global history of the Boy Scouts of America from the Progressive Era to the early Cold War.

Martin Klimke left the GHI in December 2011 to become Associate Professor at New York University Abu Dhabi. He had joined the GHI as a Postdoctoral Fellow for North American History in August 2007 and had been a GHI Research Fellow since August 2009.
Julie Martin joined the GHI in January 2012 as an Administrative Assistant, working part-time with Andreas Fischer and Jörg Schröder in the areas of payroll, benefits, and accounts payable. Martin has a BA in Business Administration from the University of Maryland, University College, and also completed a Diploma in German Business from the Goethe Institute in Chicago. She previously worked as a business manager for the Corporation of Catholic Archbishops in Seattle.

Atiba Pertilla joined the Institute as a Research Associate in March 2012 to work on the project “Immigrant Entrepreneurship: German-American Business Biographies, 1720 to the Present.” He is a doctoral candidate in U.S. history at New York University. His dissertation, “Investing in Manhood: Gender, Finance Capitalism, and the Professionalization of Wall Street, 1893-1914,” is a study of New York City’s financial community in the era of J. P. Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, and other famous and infamous bankers and industrialists. He graduated from Stanford University with a degree in history and a minor in international relations. After college and before entering graduate school, he worked at the Project for Excellence in Journalism, also in Washington, conducting studies on television news and political coverage. In addition to business history, his research interests include gender history and urban history.

GHI FELLOWSHIPS AND INTERNSHIPS

GHI Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships

The GHI awards short-term fellowships to German and American doctoral students as well as postdoctoral scholars in the fields of German history, the history of German-American relations, and the history of the roles of Germany and the United States in international relations. The fellowships are also available to German doctoral students and postdoctoral scholars in the field of American history. The fellowships are usually granted for periods of one to six months but, depending on the funds available, can be extended by one or more months. The research projects must draw upon primary sources located in the United States. The GHI also offers a number of other doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships with more specific profiles. For further information and current application deadlines, please check our web site at www.ghi-dc.org/fellowships.

GHI Internships

The GHI Internship Program gives German and American students of history, political science, and library studies an opportunity to gain experience at a
scholarly research institute. Interns assist individual research projects, work for the library, take part in the preparation and hosting of conferences, and help with our publications. They receive a small stipend. The program is very flexible in the sense that the GHI tries to accommodate the interns’ interests, abilities, and goals. A two-month minimum stay is required; a three-month stay is preferred. There is a rolling review of applications. For further information, please check our web site at www.ghi-dc.org/internships.

RECIPIENTS OF GHI FELLOWSHIPS

Postdoctoral Fellows

Hannah Ahlheim, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen  

Christian Bailey, The Open University  
_A Living Dialogue: Love between Jews and other Germans 1875–1968_

Claudia Haake, La Trobe University  
_Struggling for Land: Native Americans in the Age of Removal_

Isabella Löhr, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg  

Doctoral Fellows

Catherine Davies, Freie Universität Berlin  
_1873: Globalgeschichte einer Börsenpanik_

Holger Droessler, Harvard University  
_Race for the Pacific: Samoa in the Age of Empire_

Stefanie Eisenhuth, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
_West-Berlin und der Umbruch in der DDR. Grenzübergreifende Wahrnehmungen und Verhandlungen 1989_

Michael Geheran, Clark University  
_Betrayed Comradeship: German-Jewish WWI Veterans under Hitler_

Andreas Grieger, Freie Universität Berlin / Rachel Carson Center  
Felicitas Jaima, New York University

Ulrich Kreutzer, Friedrich-Alexander Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
Das USA-Geschäft von Siemens – Von den Anfängen bis 2001

Jennifer McComas, Indiana University, Bloomington
The Politics of Display: German Expressionist Exhibitions in America, 1930–1960

Rebecca Odom, Saint Louis University
Negotiating Hyphenated Identities: German-Americans during World War I

Sarah Panter, Universität Freiburg
Zwischen jüdischer Solidarität und staatsbürgerlicher Loyalität – Jüdische Kriegserfahrungen während des Ersten Weltkriegs in vergleichender und transnationaler Perspektive (Deutschland, Österreich, Großbritannien, USA)

Edward Richardson-Little, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
The Exploitation of Man by Man Has Been Abolished: Dictatorship, Dissent, and Human Rights in East Germany, 1945–1990

Matthias Schmelzer, Europa-Universität Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)
‘A temple of growth for industrialised countries’. Die OECD und das Wachstumsparadigma in der Nachkriegszeit

Anna Barbara Sum, Freie Universität Berlin
Albert O. Hirschman und die Expertenkultur in der Entwicklungsökonomik (ca. 1940–1985)

Sebastian Teupe, Universität Bielefeld

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GHI RESEARCH SEMINAR, FALL 2011

Sept 30 – Oct 1

Mischa Honeck (Universität Heidelberg)
International History of the Boy Scouts of America

Joshua Clark Davis (Universität Hamburg)
Brothers Moving Germany and the Conundrum of (Trans)National Hip Hop

Jens Nissel (Universität Mannheim)
Die Wirtschaftsbeziehungen zwischen dem nationalsozialistischen Deutschland und den USA
Frank Schipper (University of Leiden)  
Transatlantic Tourism: American Visitors to Europe in the Long Twentieth Century

Sophie Lorenz (Universität Heidelberg)  
Die DDR und Angela Davis, 1965-1989

Martin Klimke (GHI Washington)  
Petra Kelly

October 26 Jane Dailey (University of Chicago)  
The Civil Rights Movement and the Question of Miscegenation Laws

November 16 Warren Belasco (University of Maryland, Baltimore County)  
Terror in DC? Inventing Food Traditions for the Nation’s Capital, 1800–2011

December 14 Jonathan Wiesen (Southern Illinois University)  
Buying and Selling Racism: New Approaches to Consumption in the Third Reich

GHI DOCTORAL SEMINAR, FALL 2011

October 6 Jan Hansen (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)  

Tilman Pietz (Universität zu Köln)  

December 15 Sarah Barksdale (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)  
Black Soldiers and Double Consciousness, 1940-1954

Henriette Müller (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)  
The European Commission President in Crisis: Political Leadership in the European Union

Philip Wagner (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)  
Ein transnationales Laboratorium der Stadtplaner? Die IFHTP zwischen 1910 und 1950
GHI LECTURE SERIES, SPRING 2012

GET OUT THE VOTE! MOBILIZATION, MEDIA, AND MONEY

March 22  Mobilizing the Nineteenth-Century American Electorate: The Elections of 1828 and 1840
Michael Holt (University of Virginia)

April 12  Voters without Democracy: Elections in Imperial Germany
James Retallack (University of Toronto)

May 3  Americanizing the Electoral Process? Elections in the Federal Republic of Germany
Frank Bösch (Zentrum für Zeitgeschichtliche Forschung, Potsdam)

May 31  American Campaign Mobilization in the Age of New Media
Kate Kenski (University of Arizona)

Lectures begin at 6:30 pm and are preceded by a reception (6:00 – 6:30 pm)

GHI CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012

For a regularly updated calendar of events, please check our web site at www.ghi-dc.org

February 9-11  Living the Margins: Illegality, Politics of Removal and Statelessness
Conference at the GHI
Conveners: Kathleen Canning und (University of Michigan), Barbara Lüthi, Jana Häberlein (Universität Basel), and Miriam Rürup (GHI)

February 24-25  African American Consumer Culture
Workshop at the GHI
Convener: Joshua Davis (GHI)

March 23-24  Adolescent Ambassadors: 20th-Century Youth Organizations and International Relations
Workshop at the GHI
Conveners: Mischa Honeck (GHI) and Gabriel Rosenberg (Duke University)
March 23-24  Models of Mobility: Systemic Differences, Path Dependencies, Economic, Social, and Environmental Impact (1900 to Tomorrow)
Workshop at York University
Conveners: Matthias Kipping (Schulich), Christina Kraenzle (CCGES), and Christina Lubinski (GHI)

April 26  Gerald D. Feldman Memorial Lecture
Lecture at the GHI
Speaker: Gerhard A. Ritter (University of Munich)

May 2-5  18th Transatlantic Doctoral Seminar: German History, 1770-1914
Seminar at the GHI
Conveners: Anna von der Goltz (Georgetown University) and Richard F. Wetzell (GHI)

May 18-19  The Second Generation: German Emigré Historians in the Transatlantic World, 1945 to the Present
Conference at the GHI
Conveners: Andreas Daum (State University of New York, Buffalo), Hartmut Lehmann (MPI Göttingen), James J. Sheehan (Stanford University), Hartmut Berghoff (GHI)

Conference at the GHI
Conveners: Jan Logemann (GHI), Mary Nolan (New York University), and Daniel Rodgers (Princeton University)

June 18-30  Archival Summer Seminar in Germany
Seminar in Germany
Convener: Clelia Caruso (GHI)

June 21-23  Color, Commerce, and Consumption in Global Perspective
Conference at the GHI
Convener: Regina Lee Blaszczyk (GHI)

September 5-15  Bosch Foundation Archival Seminar for Young Historians 2012: American History in Transatlantic Perspective
Convener: Mischa Honeck (GHI)

September 9-11  The Trial of Adolf Eichmann: Retrospect and Prospect
Conference at the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto
Features
GHI Research
Conference Reports
GHI News

Conveners: Doris Bergen (University of Toronto), Michael Marrus (University of Toronto), Derek Penslar (University of Toronto), Rebecca Wittmann (University of Toronto), and Richard F. Wetzell (GHI)

**September 13-14**

**Immigration and Entrepreneurship: An Interdisciplinary Conference**
Conference at the University of Maryland, College Park
Conveners: David B. Sicilia (University of Maryland, College Park), David F. Barbe (University of Maryland, College Park), and Hartmut Berghoff (GHI)

**September 20-29**

**The Civil War in Transatlantic Perspective**
Conference at the Universität Jena
Conveners: Marcus Gräser (GHI) and Jörg Nagler (Universität Jena)

**November 8**

**26th Annual Lecture of the German Historical Institute**
Lecture at the GHI
Speaker: Johannes Paulmann (University of Mainz)

**November 9**

**21st Annual Symposium of the Friends of the GHI: Award of the Fritz Stern Dissertation Prize**
Symposium at the GHI