2012 FRITZ STERN DISSERTATION PRIZES

The 2012 Fritz Stern Dissertation Prizes, which honor the two best doctoral dissertations on German history written at North American universities, were awarded to Adam Rosenbaum (Colorado Mesa University) and Sarah Thomsen Vierra (New England College). The award ceremony took place on November 9, 2013, at the twenty-first Annual Symposium of the Friends of the GHI, chaired by David Blackbourn (Vanderbilt University), President of the Friends. The prize selection committee was composed of Ann Goldberg (University of California, Riverside), Maria D. Mitchell (Franklin & Marshall College), and Ulrike Strasser (University of California, Irvine). Both prize winners have contributed articles presenting their dissertation research to this issue of the bulletin.

Adam Rosenbaum (Colorado Mesa University) was honored for his dissertation, “Timeless, Modern, and German? The Re-Mapping of Bavaria through the Marketing of Tourism, 1800–1939,” completed at Emory University in 2011. The committee’s prize citation read: “Timeless, Modern is at once an expert case study of the Bavarian tourism industry and a highly accomplished exploration of the larger question of German modernity in the 19th and 20th centuries. Using an array of contemporary sources — tourist guidebooks, brochures, maps, and postcards, as well as the records of tourism associations, contemporary newspapers, and travel reports — this rich dissertation probes the language and imagery of the Bavarian tourism industry and the making of tourist sites, from the 19th-century spa to the cities of Augsburg and Nuremberg under the Third Reich. Rosenbaum argues persuasively that the tourist industry marketed images of Bavaria and Germany that merged both tradition and progress; the escape from and embrace of modernity; Romantic celebrations of nature and the premodern past, on the one hand, and technology, city planning, and mass culture, on the other. Rosenbaum introduces the term “grounded modernity” to characterize this synthesis of old and new. Written with elegance and clarity, his dissertation demonstrates the shifting contours of “grounded modernity” over three regimes, weaving together with sophistication the strands of both continuity and change in German culture and society. The notion of “grounded modernity” offers as well an important contribution to understandings of German modernity, one that transcends and complicates older historiographical binaries of modernity versus antimodernism. Likewise, Rosenbaum’s innovative work casts new light on the history of German nationalism, showing the ways in which cosmopolitanism, nation, and regionalism coexisted and were transformed over time.”

Sarah Thomsen Vierra (New England College) was honored for her dissertation, “At Home in Almanya? Turkish-German Spaces of Belonging in the
Federal Republic of Germany, 1961-1990,” completed at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2011. The committee’s prize citation read: “This beautifully written and thoughtfully conceptualized dissertation explores the place of Turkish immigrants and their children in West German history. Deploying a variety of methodological and theoretical approaches, Vierra weaves together transnational, national, and local histories of Turkish-Germans since the arrival of the first West German Gastarbeiter to create a rich tapestry of the experiences of Turkish-Germans and their host society. The author’s conceptual focus rests on “spaces of belonging” — from the workplace to the classroom, neighborhood, school, and mosque. This spatial approach allows Vierra to highlight the contradictions and ambiguities of the everyday lived experiences of marginalized communities, while her reliance on a rich array of archival and oral sources in German and Turkish enables her to recount how those spaces were constructed and contested in West Germany over time. Turkish-Germans have charted paths far more complex than many contemporary models of West German immigrant integration and assimilation suggest. In its compelling portrayal of a community defined by its diversity, this innovative work challenges commonplace notions of Turkish-German identity while informing us about majority-minority relations, national identities, and immigrant communities in contemporary Germany and Europe more broadly.”

2012 FRANZ STEINER PRIZE

On October 17, 2012, the 2012 Franz Steiner Prize, offered biennially for the best German- or English-language manuscript in transatlantic and North American studies, was awarded to Anja Schäfers, Bonn, for her outstanding dissertation, “Mehr als Rock ’n’ Roll: Der Radiosender AFN bis Mitte der sechziger Jahre” (“More than Rock ’n’ Roll: the radio station AFN up to the mid-1960s”). The prize is awarded by the German Historical Institute Washington and the Franz Steiner Verlag in Stuttgart, which publishes the GHI’s book series Transatlantische Historische Studien (Transatlantic Historical Studies; THS). The prize carries an honorarium and includes publication of the award-winning manuscript in the THS series. This year’s award was presented by Thomas Schaber, editor-in-chief of the Franz Steiner Verlag, and Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson, Deputy Director of the GHI, in a ceremony that took place as part of the German-American Day celebration at the Neues Schloss in Stuttgart. After Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson briefly introduced the GHI and the THS series to the audience, the laudatio for Ms. Schäfer was delivered by Thomas Schaber:
“[AFN’s] main purpose was at first to broadcast news and to motivate the troops, to bring a piece of home to the forces abroad. Extremely important for that were music programs, particularly request shows as well as the broadcasting of sport events. Soon, AFN was also popular with a German audience. The music that was played came to represent the end of a terrible war and hope for a better future, a future with new political as well as cultural freedom. Actually, one can indeed say that AFN brought a new spirit and attitude to life. ... One of the common clichés was, of course, that AFN solely played music and that its listeners were mainly German teenagers. Ms. Schäfer’s analysis shows a more precise picture, so we can see an assumed history of everyday life in post-war Germany in a new light. She expands our knowledge of this part of transatlantic relations; her work will be a standard reference for future research in this field. She is a worthy winner of our award! To sum it up, allow me to quote from her epilogue: ‘Despite all changes in the assignments and the everyday lives of the troops, a lot is still the same when you are overseas: be it the stress, the boredom, the loneliness or the homesickness: it’s good to have the radio on, and AFN still is much more than Rock ‘n’ Roll.’”

NEW STAFF PUBLICATIONS

Books and Edited Volumes


**Articles and Chapters**


**STAFF CHANGES**

Stefan Hörderler joined the Institute as a Research Fellow in October 2012. Previously he was a Research Associate in the Department of Contemporary History at the University of Vienna, Austria. Hörderler earned his doctorate at the Humboldt University in Berlin in 2011/12 with a dissertation soon to be published as *Ordnung und Inferno: Das KZ-System im letzten Kriegsjahr* (Göttingen: Wallstein, forthcoming 2013). In 2009 he held a Ben and Zelda Cohen Fellowship at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. He has published on twentieth-century German history, Holocaust and genocide studies, as well as social and economic history and is the editor of several books, including *SA-Terror als Herrschaftssicherung: “Köpenicker Blutwoche” und öffentliche Gewalt im Nationalsozialismus* (Berlin: Metropol, forthcoming 2013). His current research project deals with the steel industries in divided Germany and the United States since the 1970s.
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

Melanie Arndt, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society

The Natures of Radioactive Landscapes: East, West, and the Fading Boundary Between Them

Anne Kornhauser, City College of New York, City University of New York (CUNY)

Debating the State: Liberal Anxieties and the New American Leviathan, 1930-1970
Rene Schlott, Universität Gießen
“I have never begun by asking the big questions”. Eine Biographie zu Leben, Werk und Wirkung von Raul Hilberg (1926–2007)

Jacob Zollmann, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin
Zwischenstaatliche Tribunale. Formen völkerrechtlicher Konfliktlösung (1800 – 1930)

Doctoral Fellows

Kritika Agarwal, State University of New York, Buffalo

Brian Goodman, Harvard University
Amerika and the Other Europe: Literature and Culture Beyond the Curtain, 1946–1989

Felicitas Jaima, New York University

Kristina Kütt, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin

Elisabeth Maurer, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
“This Astonishing Chaos of a Modern World”: Franco-American Cultural Relations, 1871–1919

Brendan Murphy, University of Sheffield
Killing in the German Army: Organizing and Surviving Combat in the Great War

Thilo Niedhöfer, Johannes Kepler Universität Linz
Margaret Mead, Gregory Bateson und das “balinesische Ethos”: Amerikanische Anthropologie zwischen Gesellschaft und Staat ca. 1930–1950

Elisabeth Piller, Universität Heidelberg
German Cultural Diplomacy and the United States, 1919 – 1932

Dorothea Schöne, Universität Hamburg
Free Artists in Free Berlin – Deutsch-Amerikanische Kunst- und Kulturförderung in Berlin von der Republikgründung bis zum Mauerbau
Elise Vallier, University of Paris-Est Marne La Vallée
African American Women in the Years Between the Civil War and the Plessy vs Ferguson Supreme Court Decision in 1896

Isaiah Wilner, Yale University
The Boasian Circle: German-American Networks, Intellectual Friendships, and the Idea of Diversity

Matthew Yokell, Texas A&M University
Qingdao and the German Experience in China, 1880-1918

Transatlantic Perspectives Fellows

Christiane Bauer, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
Deutschlandbilder der Nachfahren von deutschen Immigranten in den USA: Eine erinnerungsgeschichtliche Auseinandersetzung mit Migration und Identität

Nora Binder, Universität Konstanz
Experimentelles Subjekt und demokratische Gruppe: Zur Sozialpsychologie der Lewin-Schule

Martin Nekola, Charles University Prague
For the Freedom of Captive European Nations: Eastern European Exiles in Postwar America
GHI NEWS 195

GHI RESEARCH SEMINAR, FALL 2012

September 10  Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson (GHI)
From Civil Rights to Children’s Rights: Marian Wright Edelman, the Children’s Defense Fund, and the Institutionalization of the CRM

Gisela Parak (Staatliche Akademie der Künste, Stuttgart)
Seeing Like a State: FSA Photography and the New Deal

Benjamin Schwantes (GHI)
Networks in Conflict: Business, Politics, and Railroad Telegraphy in Gilded-Age America

September 11  Jasper Trautsch (Freie Universität Berlin/GHI)
Die Konstruktion kultureller Räume in Europa und Nordamerika nach 1945

Julia Gunn (University of Pennsylvania/GHI)
A Good Place to Make Money: Civil Rights, Labor, and the Politics of Economic Development in the American Sunbelt South

Adrian Hänni (Universität Zürich)
The Terror Network: Images of Terrorism during the Reagan Years

Ines Prodöhl (GHI)
The Soybean in Global Perspective: Werkstattbericht

October 17  Jan Logemann (GHI)
In the Employ of the Field Marshall? Laszlo Moholy-Nagy and the New Bauhaus in Chicago

November 14  Atiba Pertilla (GHI)
Panic! at the Discount Window: Emotion and Regulation in New York City during the Financial Crisis of 1907

November 28  Mischa Honeck (GHI)

December 12 Corinna Ludwig (GHI)
Bayer’s Transatlantic Cross(ing). The Struggles of a Foreign Multinational Company in the United States

Andreas Joch (GHI)
Zukunftslabor amerikanische Stadt? Stadtplanung und Architektur im Kontext transatlantischer Elitenwanderung in der Zwischenkriegszeit
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker/Institution</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>Michael Geheran (Clark University)</td>
<td>Betrayed Comradeship: German-Jewish WWI Veterans under Hitler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nina Lorkowski (Technische Universität München)</td>
<td>Die sanitäre Ausstattung des Privathaushalts in den USA und in Deutschland: Vergleichende Aspekte einer Konsum- und Technikgeschichte des Badezimmers, 1918-1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anna Barbara Sum (Freie Universität Berlin)</td>
<td>Albert O. Hirschman und die Expertenkultur in der Entwicklungsgökonomik (ca. 1940–1985)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eva Balz (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)</td>
<td>Die frühe Rückerstattung in West-Berlin (1949–1957)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Katharina Gärtner (Freie Universität Berlin)</td>
<td>White Picket Finance: Government Interventions in the U.S. Mortgage Market</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sebastian Teupe (Universität Bielefeld)</td>
<td>Varieties of Competition? Der deutsche und amerikanische Markt für Fernsehgeräte zwischen den 1950er und 1980er Jahren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 25</td>
<td>Rebbecca Odom (Saint Louis University)</td>
<td>Negotiating Hyphenated Identities: German-Americans during World War I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timothy Sayle (Temple University)</td>
<td>NATO’s Survival: The Atlantic Alliance in Crisis, 1955–1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 29</td>
<td>Holger Drössler (Harvard University)</td>
<td>Race for the Pacific: Samoa in the Age of Empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emily Löffler (Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen)</td>
<td>Kulturgüterschutz und Kulturpolitik im besetzten Deutschland - amerikanische und französische Kunstschutzeinheiten im Vergleich</td>
</tr>
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</table>
GHI LECTURE SERIES, SPRING 2013

PUBLIC DEBT IN HISTORY

The escalation of public debts is a central topic of our time, both in Europe and in the United States. The looming bankruptcies of entire nations are a pending danger, and so far only concerted bailout actions have prevented this scenario. Looking back at the history of public finance, we see that state bankruptcies are not uncommon and that the burdens of public debt can destabilize political systems. This lecture series proposes that the recent European sovereign debt crisis can be better understood as part of the history of economic integration from the 18th century onwards.

To what extent and under which circumstances did economies show the same responses to high sovereign debt? When and how did financial crises make it difficult or impossible for countries to repay or refinance their debt without the assistance of third parties? Last but not least, why are bailouts common solutions, and what are some possible solutions for the future?

May 23          Sovereign Debt as a Problem of Modern Societies
                  Hans-Peter Ullmann (University of Cologne)

June 6          States vs. Banks: Debt and Crises in the Twentieth Century
                  Moritz Schularick (University of Bonn)

June 13         “The lost decade”: The Debt Crisis of the 1980s and the Reaction of the International Community
                  Laura Rischbieter (GHI)

June 27         A Common Solution: Bailouts in History
                  Robert E. Wright (Augustana College)
GHI CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013

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

January 24  Fateful Communities: Jewish Ghettos in German-Occupied Eastern Europe, 1940-1945  
Panel Discussion at the GHI  
Panelists: Omer Bartov (Brown University), Hartmut Berghoff (GHI), Martin Dean (USHMM), Geoffrey Megargee (USHMM), Paul Shapiro (USHMM), and Sybille Steinbacher (University of Vienna)

March 8-9  In Search of Better Lives: The Circulation of Ideas for Social Improvement between Europe and the US in the 19th and 20th Century  
Conference at the GHI  
Conveners: Christina Lubinski (GHI), Christina May (University of Göttingen), and Warren Rosenblum (Webster University, St. Louis)

April 3-4  Germans and Americans in Israel — Israelis in Germany and the United States  
Third Junior Scholars Conference in German-Jewish History Conference at the GHI  
Conveners: Michael Brenner (LMU München), Stefan Hörderl (GHI), Miriam Ruerup (Institute for the History of the German Jews, Hamburg)

April 18-20  Inventing the ‘Silent Majority’: Conservative Mobilization in Western Europe and the United States in the 1960s and 1970s  
Conference at the GHI  
Conveners: Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson (GHI) and Anna von der Goltz (Georgetown University)

May 10-11  New Technologies and Cultures of Communication in the 19th and 20th Centuries  
Workshop at the GHI  
Conveners: Clelia Caruso (GHI), Peter Jelavich (Johns Hopkins University), Richard R. John (Columbia University), Benjamin Schwantes (GHI)

May 29 - June 1  19th Transatlantic Doctoral Seminar: Twentieth-Century German History  
Seminar at the Historisches Kolleg, Munich  
Conveners: Richard F. Wetzel (GHI), Anna von der Goltz (Georgetown University), and Margit Szöllösi-Janze (University of Munich)
June 6-8 Colonialism and Climate History
Conference at Georgetown University
Conveners: Franz Mauelshagen (KWI Essen),
John R. McNeill (Georgetown University),
Jean-François Mouhot (Georgetown University),
Eleonora Rohland (KWI Essen)

September 19-21 The Dream and Its Untold Stories: The March on Washington and its Legacy
Conference at the GHI
Conveners: Marcia Chatelain (Georgetown), Sharon Monteith (Nottingham), Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson (GHI)

September 19-21 Kriminalität und Strafjustiz in der Moderne, 18.-20. Jh.: Tagung zur Historischen Kriminalitätsforschung 2013
Conference in Munich
Conveners: Sylvia Kesper-Biermann (LMU München),
Désirée Schauz (Münchner Zentrum für Wissenschafts- und Technikgeschichte), and Richard F. Wetzell (GHI)

September 26-28 Obesity, Health, and the Liberal Self: Transatlantic Perspectives on the Late Nineteenth and the Late Twentieth Centuries
Conference at the GHI
Conveners: Nina Mackert/Jürgen Martschukat (University of Erfurt), Susan Strasser (University of Delaware), Uwe Spiekermann (GHI)

October 10-13 Medieval History Seminar 2013
Seminar at the GHI London
Conveners: Stefan Hördler (GHI),
Cornelia Linde (GHI London)

October 18-19 Silent Seller: The Cultural Meaning of Commodities that Thrive in Obscurity
Workshop at the GHI
Conveners: Carla Meyer (University of Heidelberg), Ines Prodöhl (GHI), and Amy Slaton (Drexel University)

October 24-26 Migrants as “Translators”: Mediating External Influences on Post-World War II Western Europe, 1945-1973
Workshop at the Institut für die Geschichte der deutschen Juden, Hamburg
Conveners: Jan Logemann (GHI) and Miriam Rürup (Institut für die Geschichte der deutschen Juden)
December 5-7

The Consumer on the Home Front: World War II Civilian Consumption in Comparative Perspective
Conference at the GHI London
Conveners: Andreas Gestrich (GHI London), Felix Roemer (GHI London), Hartmut Berghoff (GHI), and Jan Logemann (GHI)