The feature articles in this issue of the *Bulletin* provide a cross section of research sponsored by the German Historical Institute. As the selection of articles suggests, the Institute currently conducts more research in American and transnational history than in German history.

GHI Director Hartmut Berghoff’s article “From the Watergate Scandal to the Compliance Revolution” examines political efforts to fight corporate corruption in the United States and Germany from the early 1970s to the present. As Berghoff explains, the Watergate scandal gave rise to investigations into the use of slush funds and bribery by U.S. corporations, which led to the passage of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act in 1977. That in turn generated a broader effort to reach an international agreement prohibiting corporate bribery that culminated in the 1997 OECD Anti-Bribery convention and led to an international “compliance revolution” in the 1990s and 2000s.

Thomas Welskopp’s contribution comes out of the German Historical Institute’s “Immigrant Entrepreneurship” project, which seeks to integrate the history of German-American immigration with U.S. economic and business history by examining the lives, careers, and business ventures of German-American businesspeople of the last 250 years. Paying special attention to the German-American experience, Welskopp’s article examines the history of Prohibition. Since the beer brewing industry was identified with German immigrants, the Prohibition movement contained a significant anti-German element. Furthermore, Prohibition reversed the attempts of German-American breweries to infuse American drinking culture with German elements such as beer-gardens. Prohibition therefore undermined the integration of German-Americans into the American mainstream, Welskopp concludes, and turned them back into an ethnic minority.

Another contribution that grew out of the GHI’s “Immigrant Entrepreneurship” project is GHI Deputy Director Uwe Spiekermann’s article examining the marketing strategies that allowed the Schlitz brewing company to become a nationally recognized brand in the late nineteenth and the first half of the twentieth century. Even as the taste of Schlitz beer actually got worse as a result of technological changes, Spiekermann argues, Schlitz marketing successfully projected an image of scientific leadership, health, and quality that
brought the company success for three quarters of the twentieth century.

Julia Gunn, 2012-13 GHI Fellow in African American History, presents an article drawn from her dissertation project, which examines the intersection of labor policy and civil rights in Charlotte, North Carolina. After outlining Charlotte’s long-standing hostility toward organized labor, Gunn analyzes how the city leaders’ postwar decision to embrace a politics of racial moderation began to interfere with the city’s ban on collective bargaining, especially for public sector employees. By focusing on the tension between labor politics and racial politics, Gunn illuminates the history of the Sunbelt from a new angle.

This issue’s final feature article, by Jasper Trautsch, 2012-13 GHI Fellow in North American History, examines the evolution of the concept of the “West.” Moving from the conflict between Westernizers and Slavophiles in nineteenth-century Russia to an analysis of turn-of-the-century German claims of an opposition between “German culture” and “Western civilization,” and on to post-1945 American claims to be defending “Western civilization” against the Soviet bloc, Trautsch concludes by tracing the transition from Abendland (occident) to “Western civilization” as the primary reference point in post-1945 West German self-conceptions.

This Bulletin’s conference reports once again reflect the diversity of the Institute’s workshops and conferences. In this issue, they range from the history of social reform to the history of communication, from the history of postwar reconstruction in different eras to conservative mobilization in the 1960s and 1970s, and from twentieth-century German history to German-Jewish history. The calendar of events in our “News” section informs you of upcoming GHI events and conferences. We hope to have roused your interest and look forward to welcoming you at a GHI event in the near future.

Hartmut Berghoff (Director) and Richard F. Wetzell (Editor)