CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, SYMPOSIA, AND PANELS

International Conferences

One of the most important activities of the GHI is the planning, organization, and support of international conferences, workshops, and symposia. Since 2002, over 100 such events have been held, either under the auspices of the GHI or in conjunction with other organizations. A significant proportion of the financial resources of the GHI and the work of its research fellows has been devoted to these events—and their publication. Conferences typically are coordinated and convened by members of the GHI in cooperation with scholars from other institutions. They have been held at the GHI, but also at North American and European universities and research institutes.

2003

Columbia University (New York), March 6–8, 2003
Conveners: Volker R. Berghahn (Columbia University), Cordula Grewe (Columbia University), Christof Mauch (GHI)

“Perceptions of Security in Germany and the United States after 1945”
GHI (DC), March 10, 2003
Conveners: Georg Schild (GHI/University of Bonn), Dirk Schumann (GHI)

“Gendering Modern German History: Rewritings of the Mainstream (19th–20th Centuries)”
University of Toronto, March 21, 2003
Conveners: Karen Hagemann (University of Toronto/Technical University of Berlin), Christine von Oertzen (GHI)

“Historical Justice in International Perspective: How Societies are Trying to Right the Wrongs of the Past”
GHI (DC), March 27–29, 2003
Conveners: Manfred Berg (Free University of Berlin), Christian Ostermann (Woodrow Wilson Center), Bernd Schaefer (GHI)
“Nazi Crimes and the Law”
University of Amsterdam, August 16–18, 2003
Conveners: Henry Friedlander (Brooklyn College), Nathan Stoltzfus (Florida State University), Richard F. Wetzell (GHI)

“Great Expectations: John F. Kennedy and the ‘Thousand Days’”
Free University of Berlin, August 21–22, 2003
Conveners: Andreas Etges (Free University of Berlin), Bernd Schaefer (GHI)

“Cold War Memory: Interpreting the Physical Legacy of the Cold War”
Woodrow Wilson Center (Washington, DC), September 8–9, 2003
Conveners: Keith Allen (Woodrow Wilson Center), Christian Ostermann (Woodrow Wilson Center), Bernd Schaefer (GHI)

GHI (DC), October 17–18, 2003
Conveners: Belinda Davis (Rutgers University), Astrid M. Eckert (GHI), Wilfried Mausbach (Free University of Berlin)

“Forms of Religious Community Creation in Modern Society”
University of Chicago, October 23–25, 2003
Conveners: Michael Geyer (University of Chicago), Lucian Hölscher (Ruhr University, Bochum), Simone Lässig (GHI), Hartmut Lehmann (Max Planck Institute for History)

“Death in Modern Germany”
University of Virginia, November 7–9, 2003
Conveners: Paul Betts (Sussex University), Alon Confino (University of Virginia), Dirk Schumann (GHI)

“Rivers in History: Designing and Conceiving Waterways in Europe and North America”
GHI (DC), December 4–7, 2003
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI), Thomas Zeller (GHI/University of Maryland)

2004

“Natural Disasters and Cultural Strategies: Responses to Catastrophe in Global Perspective”
GHI (DC), February 19–22, 2004
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI), Christian Pfister (University of Bern)
“Pietism in Two Worlds: Transmissions of Dissent in Germany and North America, 1680–1820”
Emory University (Atlanta, GA), March 4–6, 2004
Conveners: James Melton (Emory University), Dirk Schumann (GHI), Jonathan Strom (Emory University)

Vanderbilt University (Nashville), March 8–10, 2004
Conveners: Matthias Schulz (Vanderbilt), Thomas A. Schwartz (Vanderbilt), and Bernd Schaefer (GHI)

“Taxation, State and Civil Society in Germany and the United States, 1750–1950”
GHI (DC), March 18–20, 2004
Conveners: Alexander Nützenadel (University of Cologne), Christoph Strupp (GHI)

“Toward a Biographical Turn? Biography in Modern Historiography—Modern Historiography in Biography”
GHI (DC), March 25–27, 2004
Conveners: Volker R. Berghahn (Columbia University) and Simone Lässig (GHI)

“War and the Environment: Contexts and Consequences of Military Destruction in the Modern Age”
GHI (DC), May 7–8, 2004
Conveners: Charles Closmann (GHI), Christof Mauch (GHI).

“Environmental History and the Oceans”
Carlsberg Academy (Copenhagen), June 2–5, 2004
Conveners: Frank Zelko (GHI), Poul Holm (University of Southern Denmark)

“Alexander von Humboldt and North America”
GHI (DC), June 3–5, 2004
Conveners: Andreas Daum (University of Buffalo, SUNY) and Simone Lässig (GHI)

“Access—Presentation—Memory: The American Presidential Libraries and the Memorial Foundations of German Politicians”
GHI (DC), September 8–11, 2004
Conveners: Astrid M. Eckert (GHI), Christof Mauch (GHI)

Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN), September 17–19, 2004
Conveners: Matthias Schulz (Vanderbilt University), Thomas A. Schwartz (Vanderbilt University), Bernd Schaefer (GHI)

“Adolf Cluss, Architect: From Germany to America”
GHI (DC), September 30–October 2, 2004
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI), Joseph L. Browne (Adolf Cluss Project), Cynthia Field (Smithsonian Institution), William Gilcher (Goethe Institut), Alan Lessoff (Illinois State University)

“Science and Technology in the 20th Century: Cultures of Innovation in Germany and the United States”
GHI (DC), October 15–16, 2004
Conveners: Christoph Strupp (GHI) and Helmuth Trischler (Deutsches Museum Munich/DFG-Research Group 393)

2005

“Teaching World History” (online essays on World History Connected)
GHI (DC), March 3–5, 2005
Conveners: Eckhardt Fuchs (University of Mannheim), Karen Oslund (GHI), Benedikt Stuchtey (GHI, London)

“War in an Age of Revolution”
GHI (DC), March 11–12, 2005
Conveners: Roger Chickering (Georgetown University), Stig Förster (University of Bern), Christof Mauch (GHI)

“Raising Americans—Raising Europeans in the 20th Century”
GHI (DC), April 7–10, 2005
Convener: Dirk Schumann (GHI)

“Animals in History: Studying the Not So Human Past”
Literaturhaus (Cologne, Germany), May 18–21, 2005
Conveners: Dorothee Brantz (GHI) and Christof Mauch (GHI)

“The Pursuit of Public Happiness: Gardens and Parks in Europe and North America”
Bavarian American Academy (Munich), June 16–18, 2005
Conveners: Sonja Dümpelmann (GHI), Raimund Lammersdorf (BAA)

“Turning Points in Environmental History”
Center for Interdisciplinary Research (Bielefeld, Germany), June 16–18, 2005
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI), Joachim Radkau (University of Bielefeld), Frank Uekötter (University of Bielefeld)
“Translation, the History of Political Thought, and the History of Concepts (Begriffsgeschichte)”
City University of New York (CUNY), September 29–October 1, 2005
Conveners: Martin Burke (CUNY), Melvin Richter (CUNY), Dirk Schumann (GHI)

“The Place of Nature in the City in Twentieth-Century Europe and North America”
GHI (DC), December 1–3, 2005
Conveners: Dorothee Brantz (SUNY Buffalo, GHI), Sonja Dümpelmann (Auburn University, GHI), Christof Mauch (GHI), Jennifer Price (Los Angeles)

2006

Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto, March 16–18, 2006
Conveners: Martina Kessel (University of Bielefeld), Patrick Merziger (Free University Berlin), Dirk Schumann (GHI)

“Crossovers: African Americans and Germany”
University of Münster, March 22–26, 2006
Conveners: Maria Diedrich (University of Münster), Larry Greene and Jürgen Heinrichs (Seton Hall University), Anke Ortlepp (GHI)

“Philanthropy in History: German and American Perspectives”
GHI (DC), March 30–April 1, 2006
Conveners: Simone Lässig (GHI), Gabriele Lingelbach (Universität Trier), Thomas Adam (University of Texas at Arlington)

“Removing Peoples: Forced Migration in the Modern World”
King’s Manor, University of York (UK), April 20–22, 2006
Conveners: Richard J. Bessel (U. of York), Claudia Haake (U. of York), Dirk Schumann (GHI)

“Jews and Modernity: Beyond the Nation”
Centrum Judaicum (Berlin), May 2–3, 2006
Conveners: Tobias Brinkmann (University of Southampton), Dan Diner (Simon Dubnow Institute, Leipzig and Hebrew University, Jerusalem), Simone Lässig (GHI), and Derek Penslar (University of Toronto)

“Colonialism, Postcolonialism, and the Environment”
GHI (DC), May 5–6, 2006
Conveners: Karen Oslund (GHI), Christina Folke Ax (University of Copenhagen), Niels Brimnes (University of Aarhus), Niklas Thode Jensen (University of Copenhagen)
Mershon International Center, Ohio State University (Columbus), May 12–13, 2006
Conveners: Carole Fink (OSU), Bernd Schaefer (GHI)

“Pückler and America”
Bad Muskau, Germany, June 22–25, 2006
Conveners: Sonja Dümpelmann (GHI, Auburn University), Cord Panning (Stiftung Fürst-Pückler-Park Bad Muskau)

2007

“Histories of the Aftermath: The European ‘Postwar’ in Comparative Perspective”
University of California (San Diego), February 16–18, 2007
Conveners: Frank Biess (U California, San Diego), Robert Moeller (U California, Irvine), and Gisela Mettele (GHI)

“Environmental History and the Cold War”
GHI (DC), March 22–25, 2007
Conveners: John McNeill (Georgetown University) and Corinna Unger (GHI)

“Gender, War, and Politics: The Wars of Revolution and Liberation—Transatlantic Comparisons, 1775–1820”
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, May 17–19, 2007
Conveners: Gisela Mettele (GHI) and Karen Hagemann (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)

“The Uses of Immigrant Letters”
GHI (DC), May 18–19, 2007
Conveners: Wolfgang Helbich (Bochum) and Anke Ortlepp (GHI)

Leipzig, June 20–23, 2007
Conveners: Hartmut Keil (Leipzig) and Corinna Unger (GHI)

“Local, Regional, and Global Constructions of Christianity: Religious Communication Networks, 1680–1830”
GHI (London), July 12–14, 2007
Conveners: Andreas Gestrich (GHI London) and Gisela Mettele (GHI DC)
“Reading Hamburg: Anglo-American Perspectives”  
Forschungsstelle für Zeitgeschichte in Hamburg (FZH), September 6–8, 2007  
Conveners: Axel Schildt (FZH/Universität Hamburg), Christoph Strupp (GHI), and Dorothee Wierling (FZH/Universität Hamburg)

“Pleasure, Power and Everyday Life under National Socialism”  
GHI (Paris), September 13–14, 2007  
Conveners: Fabrice d’Almeida (IHTP, Paris), Corey Ross (Univ. of Birmingham), Pamela Swett (McMaster University), and Richard F. Wetzell (GHI DC)

“Uncertain Environments: Natural Hazards, Risk, and Insurance in Historical Perspective”  
GHI (DC), September 13–15, 2007  
Conveners: Uwe Lübken (GHI) and Christof Mauch (University of Munich)

“A Humanitarian as Broad as the World”: Abraham Lincoln’s Legacy in International Context”  
GHI (DC), October 5–7, 2007  
Conveners: Gabor Boritt (Gettysburg College), Uwe Lübken (GHI), and Jörg Nagler (University of Jena)

“Fourth Conference of the International Society for First World War Studies”  
GHI (DC), October 18–20, 2007

“Connecting Atlantic, Indian Ocean, China Seas, and Pacific Migration, 1830s to 1930s”  
GHI (DC), December 6–8, 2007  
Conveners: Gisela Mettele (GHI), Marcel van der Linden (International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam), Donna Gabbacia (Immigration History Research Center, Minneapolis), and Dirk Hoerder (Arizona State University)

Workshops and Symposia

The German Historical Institute organizes workshops and symposia on specific topics of interest to scholars who carry out research on the history of Germany or the United States, or the relations between both countries, as well as environmental history. Over fifty have been organized in the last five years.

2003

“The German Discovery of America: A Review of the Controversy over Didrik Pining’s Voyage of Exploration in 1473 in the North Atlantic”  
Symposium at the GHI (DC), February 25, 2003
“Nature and the Land”
Symposium and dinner at the GHI (DC), March 11, 2003
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI) and Cynthia Ott (Rachel’s Network)

“Honoring Willy Brandt: Symposium with Egon Bahr and Henry Kissinger”
GHI (DC), March 18, 2003

“The Gedenkstätte Sachsenhausen: History and Memory in Postwar Germany”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), March 26, 2003
Conveners: Jackson Janes (AICGS) and Christof Mauch (GHI)

“Germany’s Position in Europe and Transatlantic Relations: Symposium with Richard von Weizsäcker” GHI (DC), April 28, 2003

“German-American Economic Relations”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), May 23, 2003
Convener: Dirk Schumann (GHI)

“The June 17, 1953 Uprising: 50 Years Later”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), June 10, 2003
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI) and Ursula Carpenter (Konrad Adenauer Foundation)

“Is the EU Complete Without Turkey? Opportunities and Challenges for Europe’s Identity and the Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union and the United States”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), October 20, 2003
Conveners: Dirk Schumann (GHI), Sören Haffer (Heinrich Böll Foundation)

“How Valid Are Comparisons? The American Occupation of Germany Revisited”
Conveners: Rebecca Boehling (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Dieter Dettke (Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Washington, DC), Robert Gerald Livingston (GHI)

“American Museums: Putting Visitors First”
ICOM-Germany Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 12–16, 2003

“Adorno in America: German Exiles and the American Experience”
GHI (DC), December 9, 2003
Conveners: Keith D. Alexander (GHI), Helga Flores-Trejo (Heinrich Böll Foundation)
2004

Symposium at the GHI (DC), February 2, 2004
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI) and Dirk Schumann (GHI)

“The Spatial Turn in History”
Symposium at the GHI (DC) with Denis Cosgrove (UCLA) and Karen E. Till (Royal Holloway, University of London), February 19, 2004
Convener: Thomas Zeller (University of Maryland/GHI)

“The United States and Germany in the Era of the Cold War”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), May 17, 2004
Conveners: David Lazar (GHI) and Christof Mauch (GHI)

“The Vulnerability of Globalization”
Helmut Schmidt Prize Symposium with Harold James (Princeton University), GHI (DC), May 20, 2004
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI) and Dirk Schumann (GHI)

“Beyond Anti-Semitism and Philo-Semitism: Searching for Normality in German-Jewish Relations”
Roundtable Discussion at the GHI (DC), May 24, 2004
Conveners: Simone Lässig (GHI), Jeffrey M. Peck (American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, Washington, DC), Dagmar Weiler (Bridge of Understanding, Munich)

“First International Dialogue between Young Germans and Young American-Jewish Leaders”
GHI (DC), May 25, 2004
Convener: Simon Nauerz, American Jewish Committee (AJC), Simone Lässig (GHI)

“The Origins of Green Parties in Global Perspective”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), May 26, 2004
Conveners: Frank Zelko (GHI) and Marc Berthold (Heinrich Böll Foundation)

“Competing Modernities: The United States of America and Germany Since 1890”
American Academy (Berlin), September 18, 2004
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI) and Kiran Klaus Patel (Humboldt University, Berlin)

“The Measure of Atrocity: The German War against the Hereros Revisited”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), December 6, 2004
Convener: Christof Mauch (GHI)
2005

“A Tribute to Hermann-Josef Rupieper”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), January 28, 2005
Convener: Christof Mauch

“Selling Democracy”
Film series and symposium, Washington, DC, April 15–18, 2005
Conveners: Sandra Schulberg (Selling Democracy project director), Sylvia Blume (Goethe Institute), Ursula Soyez (German Marshall Fund), Christine von Oertzen (GHI), and Jonathan Skolnik (GHI)

“Rethinking Bourgeoisment and the Jews of Germany”
Second Annual Joint Symposium of the Leo Baeck Institute and the GHI, at the Center for Jewish History (New York), April 21, 2005
Conveners: Frank Mecklenburg (Leo Baeck Institute) and Jonathan Skolnik (GHI)

“Comparisons in German and American Film”
Workshop in Berlin, June 19, 2005
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI) and Kiran Patel (Humboldt University)

“Crossing Boundaries: Interdisciplinary Environmental History”
Workshop at the GHI (DC), August 10, 2005
Conveners: Dirk Schumann (GHI), Bernd Herrmann (University of Göttingen)

“U.S. Intelligence and the Gehlen Organization, 1945–1956”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), September 15, 2005
Conveners: Bernd Schaefer (GHI) and Robert G. Livingston (GHI)

“Competing Modernities: The United States of America and Germany since 1890”
Workshop at the GHI (DC), September 23–24, 2005
Conveners: Christof Mauch (GHI), Kiran Klaus Patel (Humboldt University, Berlin)

2006

“Max Liebermann (1847–1935) and the Course of German History: An Artist’s Career from Empire to Third Reich”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), March 24, 2006
Conveners: Marion Deshmukh (George Mason University) and Kelly McCullough (GHI)
“Western Integration, German Unification, and the Cold War: The Adenauer Era in Perspective”
Georgetown University, Washington, DC, March 24–25, 2006
Conveners: Jost Dülffer (BMW Center of German and European Studies), Bernd Schaefer (GHI)

“German Imperial Biographies: Soldiers, Scientists, and Officials and the ‘Arendt Thesis’”
Workshop at the GHI (DC), May 4, 2006
Conveners: Karen Oslund (GHI), Eric D. Weitz (University of Minnesota), Jürgen Zimmerer (University of Sheffield)

“A Resource Rediscovered: The Reopening of the German Society of Pennsylvania Library”
Symposium at the Joseph B. Horner Memorial Library (Philadelphia), November 5, 2006
Conveners: Hardy von Auenmüller (GSP) and Dirk Schumann (GHI)

2007

“The Five Germanys He Has Known: Symposium in Honor of Fritz Stern”
Westin Embassy Row Hotel (Washington, DC), January 29, 2007
Conveners: Robert G. Livingston (GHI), Jeff Andersen (Georgetown University), and Jackson Janes (AICGS)

“‘The Lives of Others’: East Germany Revisited?”
Symposium at the GHI (DC), April 30, 2007
Convener: Bernd Schaefer (GHI)

“Mass Migration and Urban Governance: Cities in the United States and in Central Europe in the 19th and 20th Centuries”
GHI (DC), May 11–12, 2007
Conveners: Marcus Gräser (University of Frankfurt/NEH/GHI Fellow), Daniel Czitrom (Mount Holyoke College/NEH Fellow) and Gisela Mettele (GHI)

“West European Studies Section Meeting of the American Council of Research Librarians”
GHI (DC), June 24, 2007
Convener: Katharina Kloock (GHI)
Annual Symposia of the Friends of the GHI

The Friends of the GHI, founded in 1991 as a non-profit organization, serves as a link between the German Historical Institute and the North American academic community. Its officers represent major professional associations that include the American Historical Association, the Conference Group for Central European History, the German Studies Association, and the Society for German-American Studies. Spurred by a symposium to assess the transatlantic cooperation in the field of history in 1992, the Friends established the Annual Symposium as a forum for renowned scholars to present and discuss important topics in German-American relations. In 1997, the Friends altered the format for the Annual Symposium in order to highlight research being carried out by junior scholars. As a result, the Annual Symposium included presentations of projects by research fellows of the German Historical Institute and by the winners of the Friends of the GHI Dissertation Prize. In 2000, the Dissertation Prize was named after Professor Fritz Stern who is an eminent scholar on German-American relations. For the Fritz Stern Dissertation Prize Winners, see prize recipients below.

“Twelfth Annual Symposium of the Friends of the GHI/Fritz Stern Dissertation Prize”
GHI (DC), November 21, 2003
Conveners: Gerald D. Feldman (Friends of the GHI), Christof Mauch (GHI)

“Thirteenth Annual Symposium of the Friends of the GHI/Fritz Stern Dissertation Prize”
GHI (DC), November 19, 2004
Conveners: Gerald D. Feldman (Friends of the GHI), Christof Mauch (GHI)

“Fourteenth Annual Symposium of the Friends of the GHI/Fritz Stern Dissertation Prize”
GHI (DC), November 18, 2005
Conveners: Gerald D. Feldman (Friends of the GHI), Christof Mauch (GHI)

“Fifteenth Annual Symposium of the Friends of the GHI/Fritz Stern Dissertation Prize”
GHI (DC), November 17, 2006
Conveners: Gerald D. Feldman (University of California at Berkeley), Christof Mauch (GHI)
“Sixteenth Annual Symposium of the Friends of the GHI and Award of the Fritz Stern Dissertation Prize”
GHI (DC), November 16, 2007
Conveners: Gerald D. Feldman (Friends of the GHI) and Gisela Mettele (GHI)

Panels at External Conferences

The German Historical Institute occasionally organizes and sponsors panels or sessions as part of larger international conferences. In many cases, this format helps to bring German scholars to the U.S., and it gives them a chance to present and discuss their work in an international forum.

2003

“American Studies in Twentieth-Century Germany: On the History and Pre-History of the German Association for American Studies”
Annual Meeting of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien (German Association for American Studies), Amerikahaus (Munich), June 10–13, 2003

“The Private Sphere and Public Order: West German Debates about Education, Family, and Sexuality in the 1950s and 1960s”
Annual Meeting of the German Studies Association (New Orleans), September 19, 2003
Moderator: Uta Poiger (University of Washington, Seattle)

2004

“Reconstituting Public Realms: Archivists, Librarians, and Journalists in Postwar Germany”
Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association (Washington, DC), January 8–11, 2004
Moderator: Christof Mauch (GHI)

European Social Science History Conference (Berlin), March 24–27, 2004
Moderator: Eric Johnson (Central Michigan University)

“Historical Research and Internationalization: The Historical Profession at the Beginning of the Twenty-First Century”
Symposium in Honor of Detlef Junker at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA), June 25, 2004; one panel co-sponsored by the GHI
Convener: Philipp Gassert (University of Heidelberg)
“Citizen Activism and the Quest for the Sustainable City: Berlin, 1900 to the Present”
Annual Meeting of the German Studies Association (Washington, DC), October 8, 2004
Moderator: Janet Ward (University of Nevada, Las Vegas)

2005

Annual Meeting of the German Studies Association (Milwaukee), September 30, 2005
Moderator: Christof Mauch (GHI)

2006

“War, Culture, and Propaganda: Nelson A. Rockefeller and the U.S. ‘Information Program’ in Latin America during World War II”
Annual Meeting of the Latin American Studies Association (San Juan, Puerto Rico), March 15–18, 2006
Organizer: Uwe Lübken (GHI)

“Imagining the Nation: Visual Representation of Race from the Mid-Nineteenth to the Early Twentieth Century”
Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians (OAH) (GHI, DC), April 22, 2006

“Historical Development of World Rivers”
Organizer and moderator: Christof Mauch (GHI)

2007

“Exploring Transnationalism in Environmental History: Park System Planning, River Floods and Livestock Diseases in the North-Atlantic World”
Panel at the Fourth Conference of the European Society for Environmental History (Amsterdam), June 5–9, 2007
Moderator: Christof Mauch (GHI/University of Munich)

“Caribbean Encounters: A German Missionary’s Discovery of the New World”
Annual Meeting of the German Studies Association (San Diego), October 4–6, 2007 (GHI/University of Leicester)
Moderator: Gisela Mettele (GHI)