

1989

Conferences

various authors

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TRAVEL AND EXCHANGE

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Social Science Research Council Dissertation and Post-doctoral Fellowships

The Social Science Research Council and the Free University of Berlin, with the financial support of the Volkswagen Foundation and the German Marshall Fund of the United States, sponsor dissertation and post-doctoral fellowships for advanced German and European Studies at the Free University of Berlin.

The purpose of the program is threefold: to encourage research on economic, political and social aspects of modern and contemporary German and European affairs; to promote the comparative and interdisciplinary study of German and European affairs; and to advance understanding of economic, historical, political and social processes in Germany and throughout Europe among scholars in the United States.

The program provides support to researchers working on the period since the mid-19th century. Fellows are expected to produce a monograph dealing with some aspect(s) of German or European affairs, including U.S.-European affairs. Fellowships support nine to 24 months of overseas research. Fellows are expected to reside primarily in Berlin. Access to other research institutions in Berlin and throughout the Federal Republic of Germany will be available through the Free University. A good command of German is required. Intensive language refresher courses will be funded in certain cases.

A stipend of 2,000 DM per month is provided with additional allowances for transatlantic travel and research-related travel within Europe. Fellowships begin on October 1 or April 1 of each year.

For further information contact:

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL
Berlin Program for Advanced German and
European Studies
605 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10158

CONFERENCES

Symposium: "The Contemporary German Mind"

The American Institute for Contemporary German Studies is planning its first major meeting in the field of German literature and culture in a political and societal context. The symposium, entitled "The Contemporary German Mind," will explore major intellectual and creative currents in Germany today. Among the participants will be Hans Magnus Enzensberger, Jürgen Habermas, Harmut von Hentig, Fritz Stern, and György Konrad. For more information contact the AICGS directly.

AICGS

1755 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

Suite 750

Washington, D.C. 20036-2102

(202) 332-9312

Internationales Kolloquium: "Aufarbeitung der Vergangenheit, Zukunftsentwürfe und Alltag. Zur Kultur der SBZ/DDR von den Anfängen bis Ende der 50er Jahre"

Die Universität Paris VIII (Laboratoire "Connaissance de la RDA") lädt in Zusammenarbeit mit der Humboldt Universität zu Berlin und dem Kulturzentrum der DDR in Paris zu einem internationalen Kolloquium vom 16.-17. März 1990 ein. Veranstaltungsort ist das Kulturzentrum der DDR, 117 Boulevard St.-Germain, Paris. Benutzte Sprachen sind Deutsch und Französisch.

Gegenstand des Kolloquiums bildet die Auseinandersetzung mit den für das politische Bewußtsein, das kulturelle Selbstverständnis und das Alltagsverhalten der frühen DDR konstitutiven Leitbildern, Modellen und Verhaltensnormen. Dabei soll insbesondere dem Verhältnis von revolutionären Erwartungen und Utopien und dem Beharrungsvermögen überkommener Strukturen und Mentalitäten nachgegangen werden - dem Verhältnis also von longue durée und courte durée. Im Vordergrund steht die kritische Bestandsaufnahme von Dokumenten, Texten und kulturellen (Er)zeugnissen der

50er Jahre, aber auch deren Reflexion in zeitgenössischer Literatur und Kritik. Der Teilnehmerkreis wird neben Literatur-, Sprach- und Geschichtswissenschaftlern nach Möglichkeit auch Soziologen sowie Kunst- und Kulturwissenschaftler umfassen.

Es wird vorgeschlagen, folgende Themenkomplexe zur Diskussion zu stellen:

- Fragen der Bewältigung der Vergangenheit in Theorie und Praxis
- Fragen der gesellschaftlichen, ideologischen und ästhetischen Modelle zur Wahrnehmung und Umgestaltung der Nachkriegswirklichkeit und des Alltags
- Fragen der Mentalität und des Alltagsbewusstseins: Sprache, Fremde und Freunde, Geschlechterrollen und Emanzipation der Frau, Jugend und Jugendlichkeit.

Wenn Sie am Kolloquium aktiv teilnehmen wollen, senden Sie bitte spätestens bis zum 15. Juni 1989 Ihren Themenvorschlag (womöglich auch Themenvorschläge) an die folgende Adresse:

Jean MORTIER
UNIVERSITE DE PARIS VIII
2, rue de la Liberté
93526 SAINT-DENIS CEDEX 02
tel: 48 29 01 13
45 66 69 87 (privat)

Für Rückfragen und Auskünfte stehen auch zur Verfügung:

Frank Hornig
Humboldt Universität
Sektion Germanistik
Clara-Zetkinstr. 1
DDR-Berlin

Lutz Winckler
(Laboratoire "Connaissance
de la RDA")
BRD-7404 Ofterdingen
tel: 74 73 87 45 (privat)

Kentucky Foreign Language Conference

As part of the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, to be held April 27-29 at the University of

Kentucky in Lexington, two sessions on GDR literature and culture will take place on Friday, April 28. Authors whose works will be discussed include: Johannes R. Becher, Franz Fühmann, Peter Hacks, Christoph Hein, Stephan Hermlin, Anna Seghers and Christa Wolf. In addition, the visiting dramatist Holger Teschke will read from his works.

For information contact:

Phillip McKnight
Foreign Language Conference
1115 Patterson Office Tower
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506-0027

XV. New Hampshire Symposium on the German Democratic Republic

The Fifteenth New Hampshire Symposium on the GDR will take place at the World Fellowship Center, Conway, New Hampshire, from June 20 until June 27. The theme of this year's symposium is "The GDR at Forty: Taking Stock of the Past and Thinking about the Future." Seminars will be held on the following topics:

- Seminar I: Legitimacy and Legitimization of the GDR in the National and International Context
- Seminar II: Ideology, Everyday Life, and "Alltagsbewußtsein" in the GDR
- Seminar III: The Role of Heritage in GDR Culture and Society
- Seminar IV: History of the GDR and GDR Perceptions of Its History
- Seminar V: Trends and Issues in Literature and the Arts: Looking Back, Looking Ahead

Among the GDR artists and scholars who will be attending are: Elke Erb, poet and writer; Manfred Loetsch from the Akademie für Gesellschaftswissenschaften beim ZK der SED; Rolf Badstuebner, historian from the Akademie der Wissenschaften; and Uwe-Jens Heuer from the Akademie der Wissenschaften.

For more information on the program contact Marga Gerber, Institut für Anglistik, Akademiestr. 24, A 5020 Salzburg, Austria. For information on the symposium location, travel arrangements, costs, etc., contact W. Christoph Schmauch, World Fellowship Center, Conway, NH 05818, tel. (603) 356-5208.

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VISITING LECTURERS

GDR Film Makers in Portland

From November 9-12, 1988, Portland State University hosted a team of GDR-TV film makers including director Peter Vogel, dramaturge Alfred Nehring, screenwriter Eberhard Görner and cameraman Günter Haubold. It was their most recent film, Do Not Sleep at Home, which took the four men to Oregon. This semi-documentary is based on the memories of Fred Manela, a long-time resident of Eugene, Oregon, and sole survivor of a small band of young activists, who tried to warn their fellow-Jews of the impending rampage of the Reichspogromnacht. In memory of that historic night of 50 years ago, the film was shown at Portland State University. The screening was followed by a probing discussion with Mr. Manela and the film team.

The next day the GDR team showed two more of their films on German anti-Nazi resistance during the Hitler years: Leutnant Yorck von Wartenburg and Die erste Reihe, both based on works by author Stephan Hermlin. Although these films were not dubbed and had no English subtitles, they found an interested audience among local film makers and students of German. Again there were discussions about the political and the artistic merits of the films. The audience as well as the East Germans came away with a strong sense of people to people contact, a first-hand experience of glasnost.

The Portland State University visit of the GDR film team was part of a joint venture organized by GDR Television in conjunction with the Department of German at Dartmouth College, NH, the University of Oregon in Eugene, and the University of Wyoming. Support came from a variety of sources, e.g. the Max

Kade Foundation, the Oregon Committee for the Humanities, the Wyoming Council for the Humanities and the Oregon Holocaust Center. Credit for the initiative to organize this highly successful encounter has to go to the GDR screenwriter, Eberhard Görner.

Laureen Nussbaum
Portland State University

Michael P. Hamburger at Washington University

Michael P. Hamburger, dramaturge for the Deutsches Theater in East Berlin, visited the Washington University campus from February 7 to 10. His trip was sponsored by the Washington University Assembly Series as a part of an annual Cultural Celebration.

Although born in Germany, Hamburger spent a large part of his youth in emigration, mainly in Great Britain, studying Philosophy and Psychology at the University of Aberdeen. After his return to East Germany in 1951, he studied physics at the University of Leipzig and also continued his study of philosophy. Starting in 1957, he worked as a freelance translator and journalist, writing theater criticism, as well as radio features on theater and scientific subjects.

Hamburger is well known for his translations of Shakespeare which include: Hamlet, Measure for Measure, A Mid-Summer Night's Dream, Much Ado About Nothing, Macbeth, The Tempest, and Julius Caesar. His latest translation, Henry V, will premiere at the Shakespeare Conference in Weimar in April 1989 under the direction of Fritz Bennewitz. Other translations for which Hamburger has gained recognition include translations of the plays of Sean O'Casey, Tennessee Williams' Clothes for a Summer Hotel, and Barry Stavis' The Man Who Never Died.

He has been working at the Deutsches Theater in East Berlin since 1966, first as an assistant director and then since 1970 as dramaturge. Hamburger expresses his primary interest as being "theater as a medium of physical expression and communication." His translations of drama "attempt to convey the specific theatrical qualities of the plays in question as against the more literary mode of previous translations."