

Reinhard Doerries

It is with great pleasure and a considerable degree of personal indebtedness that I announce the winner of this year's Distinguished Achievement Award, Reinhard Doerries, who until his retirement was Full Professor in American Studies/American History at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg.

Born in Berlin in the fateful year of 1934, Reinhard is of the generation that experienced World War II as children, and I've found many Germans who grew up in this era to be particularly friendly to the United States. One should be cautious when engaging in armchair psychology, especially with the subject in the room. But I have the impression that for many of this generation, America served if not as ersatz Father at least as Big Brother in the positive sense of the term, not in the Orwellian sense like many Germans of my generation who were socialized in the Vietnam era.

Reinhard seems to have taken the Morgenthau Plan seriously; his initial training and employment was in German agriculture. He first experienced the United States as a twenty year old, working on a Norwegian American farm in Iowa, which I, from my unbiased perspective as a Missouri farm boy, consider to be an optimal introduction to the "real America." With the encouragement of these sturdy Iowans, he worked his way from a small college in Forest City to one of the many Concordia colleges, in Moorhead, Minnesota, where he earned his B.A. in 1958. He then did graduate work in not one, but three different American universities: Ohio State, Wayne State, and then Yale. You kind of get the impression he didn't want to leave the United States. One reason may have been an Italian-American New Yorker, Elaine, whom he met at Ohio State. And as they say, the rest

is history. She has been an unofficial partner in his scholarly enterprises ever since; as I can tell you from experience, when you're writing in a foreign language it's handy to have a native speaker in the house.

Reinhard took another detour through banking and international consulting, earning a French M.B.A. along the way, before he made his way back to history, earning his doctorate at the Ruhr University Bochum in 1970 and his Habilitation at the University of Hamburg in 1981.

As best I recall, I first met Doerries in 1978 at a symposium over Ethnicity on the Great Plains in Lincoln, Nebraska, hosted by one of the previous SGAS award winners, Fred Luebke. I am proud to consider Reinhard, like Fred, as one of my unofficial mentors. His interest in my work was one of the things that encouraged me to publish my dissertation in German. He was also the person who alerted Wolfgang Helbich

and me to our mutual interests, leading to a collaboration that has lasted for over three decades and continues today. This scholarly triangle has since turned into a quadrangle: Wolfgang's successor in the professorship for Amerikastudien at Bochum is Michael Wala, who earned both his doctorate and his habilitation under Reinhard.

Most of the scholars in the Society for German American Studies--and also in the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien that Doerries has served in multiple capacities, including its presidency from 1987-90--are specialists either in immigration history or in the history of U.S.-German diplomatic relations. But Reinhard stands out as one of the few people in our field who has made



Dr. Karen Rösch By Claudia Grossmann

Appointed as New Director of IUPUI Max Kade German-American Research and Resource Center

Dr. Karen Rösch has been appointed Hoyt-Reichmann Scholar of German-American Studies and German Language and Culture at IUPUI. She will succeed Dr. Claudia Grossmann who served as Interim Director following the late Dr. Daniel Nützel. Dr. Rösch assumed her position in August of 2014. She holds a Ph.D. in Germanic Linguistics from the University of Texas at Austin specializing in synchronic and applied linguistics. Her research focuses on German-American dialects of German, with emphasis on Texas German dialects. Her book Language Maintenance and Language Death: The Decline of Texas Alsatian, was published by John Benjamins in 2012. The publication is based on extensive field work conducted in Texas and the digital archives of the Texas German Dialect Project (TGDP), www.tgdp.org. Dr. Rösch also continues to work with Dr. Hans Boas as a field researcher for the TGDP. In addition, Dr. Rösch has taught at the University of Texas and Texas State University, as well as at several other institutions in Europe, Japan, Australia, and the United States. She has also recently served as



the German Language Director for the Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy.

Dr. Rösch's extensive experience in linguistic fieldwork, documentary linguistics, language instruction, and community outreach make her the ideal person to fill the position of director of the Max Kade German-American Research and Resource Center at IUPUI. Her work in progress includes a comparative investigation of language attitudes towards different German dialects in Texas. She also plans to continue documenting German dialects in Indiana in counties such as Adams, Daviess, and Steuben for comparative research. With her next study she expects to break new ground by highlighting the important role of individual speaker biographies in endangered German-American communities. Dr. Rösch has been involved in the Society for German

American Studies, the Society of Germanic Linguistics, as well as several Texas heritage groups for a number of years. Please welcome Dr. Rösch to Indianapolis and the Indiana German Heritage Society. ■

This & That: Looking ahead (or back) to St. Louis

By Walter Kamphoefner

Testimony to the influence of German in St. Louis comes to us from an unusual quarter, Culpepper, Virginia, where General Grant on April 24 1864, shortly before launching his Wilderness Campaign, wrote his wife's cousin Louisa Boggs, who was minding their children while Julia was away. Missing his family, the indulgent father requested, "I wish you would urge [the children] all to join in letters to me every week....How do Buck and Nellie progress in the German? I hope they will place me in their debt, the fine gold watches I promised when they learned to speak the language." Apparently his entreaties were heeded; just before launching his advance he wrote to Julia on May 2, "I received a letter from Burk this evening. It was very well written. He says he can speak German a little." I have not been able to determine whether the Grant children ever collected their gold watches. ■



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SOCIETY FOR German-American Studies

NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ah Sommerzeit! A time for dreams, relaxation, reflection, etc. And after a late spring trip to Europe, the reality of cutting the grass, cleaning out the garage, mulching (your society president limited it this year to only 5.35 cubic meters!) and other pleasant and less pleasant chores. Yet there are those spare moments on a perfect summer's day with the breeze and the sunshine for one's enjoyment. It was in one of those rare moments that I began to realize the global connections of the Society for German-American Studies. In a very difficult "brave new world" of 2014, there are still some standbys of research and analysis. There are many organizations supporting widespread research into the structural importance of ethnic interaction with the Americas.

While it is true that much of the Society's activities are described in the pages of this newsletter, member and friends spend a lot of time in conversation about their research at our annual symposia, besides on-going Skype sessions, e-mails and telephone calls. But one of the overlooked aspects is how the Society has "invisible threads" connecting our members to a variety of other German-American organizations in the world. Often times this may seem as if it is an emerging network, constantly following the ebb and flow of topics and common interest groups. However, for nearly fifty years the supporters of SGAS have built on their own relationships with other institutions globally.

There are many examples of these ongoing connections on both an institutional and individual basis. There are a number of major research libraries in the United States and in Germany which provide a congenial setting for individual researchers: the Library of Congress, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies, and the German Emigration Center in Bremerhaven. Of course each member of SGAS is enriched by their own memberships and friendships, but there are crossover members from international heritage societies such as the Amana Heritage Society, the Germans from Russia, and the American Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society, to name a few. There are other diverse organizations which members connect with such as the American Historical Association, the American Dialect Society, the German Historical Institute, and the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (recently exploring "American Ethnicity and East European Immigration"). Finally, there is a select group of Max Kade Centers with strong ties to SGAS located at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, the University of Wisconsin - Madison, and the University of Kansas.

It remains an important consideration that cordial relationships need to be maintained with many different academic organizations. We are by theory and practice inter-disciplinary in scope. There are many satellite locations where members pursue German-American topics of their own choosing: libraries, cemeteries, lecture halls, laboratories and in the field. These varied types of locations yield promising conclusions which can then be connected into the conferences, newsletters and yearbooks of SGAS for interaction with other experts. Certainly not a seamless process by any measure, but undoubtedly furthering the understanding of German-American culture and society, and its impact upon America and the world.

Herzliche Grüße,

Bill Roba
SGAS President

Laudatio Continued

significant contributions in both areas. His dissertation was published in Germany in 1974 with the title *Washington-Berlin, 1908-1917*. He published a greatly expanded English version in 1989 under the title, *Imperial Challenge: Ambassador Count Bernstorff and German-American Relations, 1908-1917*, as a companion volume to the Woodrow Wilson papers, taking an unvarnished look at German policies toward the United States in this era. In the meantime, his *Habilitationschrift* was published with the title *Iren und Deutsche in der Neuen Welt. Akkulturationsprozesse in der amerikanischen Gesellschaft im späten neunzehnten Jahrhundert*, coming out in 1984. This study of Germans and Irish is enhanced by its comparative element that is relatively rare among immigration scholars, and its emphasis on the role of religion in the acculturation process, an aspect often neglected in American scholarship and even more so on the German side.

The tone of much of Reinhard's work in the diplomatic field is characterized by a 1980 conference volume chapter that I still cite today: "The Politics of Irresponsibility: Imperial Germany's Defiance of U.S. Neutrality during World War I." It goes hand in hand with his founding of the International Intelligence History Association in 1993. Reinhard retired at the mandatory German age of 65 and was presented by his students with a *Festschrift*, but his activities since are best characterized by the term "Unruhestand." He has two 21st century books on intelligence services under Hitler, and a book on the Easter Uprising in Ireland that also explores the dubious role of German intelligence there.

Reinhard's service to the SGAS includes a keynote address delivered at one of the Kansas meetings, and repeated admonitions, in word and deed, not to fall prey to ancestor worship. But above all he has been a tireless advocate of German-American Studies in Germany at a time when budget cuts and anti-American sentiment endangered what was in any case a relatively small field among German historians, especially compared to the large number of U.S. specialists in German history.

So please join me in congratulating Reinhard Doerries as the winner of the 2014 SGAS Distinguished Achievement Award. ■

This & That: Brooklyn Bridge Stunt

By Claudia Grossmann

A mysterious stunt brought attention not only to a possible security breach at the Brooklyn Bridge this summer, but also to its chief architect, German-American Johann Roebling. Two German artists from Berlin pulled off the unusual stunt on July 22. Mischa Leinkauf and Matthias Wermke hoisted two white flags — with hand-stitched stars and stripes, all white — in place of the American flags. When the two artists revealed their identity, they mentioned two reasons for this prank. In addition to commemorating the death of Johann Roebling, they wanted to celebrate the "beauty of space," and the great American bridge built by the German-born engineer. Roebling died on July 22, 1869. "This was not an anti-American statement," Mr. Wermke insisted. Mr. Leinkauf added: "From our Berlin background, we were a little surprised that it got the reaction it did. We really didn't intend to embarrass the police." Their previous projects didn't create nearly that much attention. ■



Vintage Image Brooklyn Bridge

American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

By Natalia Wobst

The internationalization of the humanities, sciences, research careers and networks is central to the mission of American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and its German partner, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Since 1953, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation has facilitated exchange between German and international researchers. Many researchers supported by the Humboldt Foundation — "Humboldtians" — are active in the Humanities. American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation is the professional partner of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH) in the United States and a U.S. 501(c)3 charitable organization.

At a time of much debate about the future of US higher education and research, American Friends is committed to promoting national and international networking, exchange, and creative collaboration among scientists, scholars, artists, and other professionals. In addition to supporting the network of US alumni and promotion of the Humboldt Foundation's opportunities, American Friends encourages US researchers to participate more fully in international collaborations, and shape policies and strategies that advance the internationalization of US research institutions.

Researchers searching for fellowships and awards in the Humanities and Social Sciences will find a number of prestigious opportunities available to them, as they look to take their career abroad. We feature several opportunities we believe will be of particular interest to members of the SGAS community, given their disciplinary focus and accessibility to researchers with established German-American ties.

SGAS MEMBERSHIP

SGAS.ORG/MEMBERSHIP/

Questions can be addressed to the appropriate Membership Chair:

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MEMBER BENEFITS

Members and subscribers receive the Society's Newsletter, the annual Yearbook of German-American Studies, and any special supplemental issues during a given calendar year.

Members are eligible to apply to the Albert Bernard Faust Research Fund and the Karl J. R. Arndt Publication Fund for support of scholarly efforts in the field of German-American Studies.

An Annual Symposium is organized for the benefit of members and scholars in the field of German-American Studies.

Members are eligible to submit articles for publication in the Yearbook and papers for presentation the Annual Symposium.

Memberships (except life memberships) run from January 1 to December 31 and are available in the following categories:

MEMBERSHIP COST

Within North America

\$15	Student
\$30	Regular
\$40	Joint (one address)
\$500	Life (may be paid in 5 annual installments)
\$40	Institution

Outside North America

€20	Student
€40	Regular
€50	Joint (one address)
\$500	Life (may be paid in 5 annual installments)
€50	Institution

Humboldt Continued

Fellowships and Awards

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation promotes academic cooperation between excellent researchers and professionals from Germany and abroad. American Friends works with Humboldtians and partner organizations to inform individuals in the broader academic community about opportunities available to researchers in their fields. The programs most relevant to Humanities scholars are listed here.

The Humboldt Research Fellowship

The Humboldt Research Fellowship enables highly-qualified humanists and other scholars who are embark-ng on their academic careers and who completed their doctorates less than four years ago to spend extended periods of research (6–24 months) in Germany.

German Chancellor Fellowship

The German Chancellor Fellowship enables prospective leaders from a wide array of disciplines including the humanities to carry out a project of their choice in Germany over a period of twelve months. Candidates must have completed a Bachelor's or comparable degree and have demonstrated outstanding potential for future leadership in their careers to date.

The Anneliese Maier Award

The Anneliese Maier Research Award is a five-year award presented to world-class researchers from the humanities and social sciences whose scientific achievements have been internationally recognized and from whose research collaboration with specialist colleagues in Germany a sustainable contribution is expected towards the further internationalization of the humanities and social sciences in Germany. This award is by nomination only.

William M Calder III Fellowship

The Calder Fellowship is awarded to a young, highly qualified German Feodor Lynen Fellow to go to the United States or US Humboldt Research Fellow to go to Germany to pursue research related to classical antiquity or to its reception in medieval and modern times. The Fellowship provides additional financial support for the awardees' scholarship, which may include a research allowance for the host to provide research materials or to organize a workshop related to the fellow's research.

Other programs

The AvH also offers research fellowships for experienced researchers and professors in all fields to conduct independent projects in Germany. Fellowships last from 3 months to multiple years. See the AvH website for details.



Von Humboldt painted by
Friedrich Georg Weitsch

Humboldt Continued

Network of Humboldtians in the United States

American Friends is a young but growing organization with ties to 5,000+ Humboldtians in the United States. Together with our Board of Directors and its Alumni Council, and a nationwide network of alumni volunteers, we promote the Foundation's programs, sustain personal and professional ties among alumni and to Germany, and organize programs on the globalization of research and higher education.

Humboldtians on Campus Network

The "HoC" Network is a partnership between American Friends and US Humboldtian volunteers who advocate and recruit for the award and fellowship programs of the AvH. Humboldtians in the Humanities have proven among the most enthusiastic alumni in terms of their willingness to share their experience with their professional networks. A list of institutions with HoCs can be found on the American Friends website.

Kollegs

Kollegs are regional and interdisciplinary conferences that serve to strengthen the regional and interdisciplinary networks among Humboldtians and are hosted at major campuses throughout the US. Previous US Kollegs have explored topics as diverse as German Secret Societies, Cultures in the Reconstruction, and the Norms of Freedom in Kant and Hegel. A list of previous Kollegs can be found on the American Friends website.

Programmatic Activities

American Friends engages alumni, partner, and guest contributions in dialogue and exchange on: (i) the Globalization of Research; and (ii) Transatlantic Perspectives on Science, Society, and Policy. American Friends values the input of our partners in the SGAS community, and the vast knowledge and varied experiences they bring to these discussions.

SGAS members are invited to:

Visit our websites.

AvH Alexander von Humboldt
Foundation
www.avh.de

American Friends of the
Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
www.americanfriends-of-avh.org

Submit a Fellowship Application.

Review fellowships offered by the AvH and submit an application through the AvH website.

Check out American Friends Social Media!

Follow 'AFavH' on Facebook and Twitter to keep up-to-date on American Friends activities.

Collaborate with American Friends.

American Friends seeks to support international collaboration in research, to expand the circle of scholars familiar with the research programs of the AvH, and to facilitate exchanges and social interaction among Humboldtians within the broader Transatlantic community. To learn more or to collaborate with American Friends on a future event, please contact us at info@americanfriends-of-avh.org

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