



*Association for the Study of German Politics*

*Newsletter, June 2003*

*Notes from the Chair*

Our conference in Glasgow was a great success, attracting good speakers, with a good turnout, and providing excellent catering service. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Stephen Padgett and Beatrice Harper for their hard work in the organisation of this event. It was also pleasing to have three of our American colleagues present. Their presence, and the by now customary attendance of ASGP members at GSA conferences, such as the one in September in New Orleans, will help to strengthen links with our American counterparts, especially in the German Studies Association and the Conference Group. Preparations are now underway for next year's ASGP conference, which will take place at Oxford University. Dr. Andreas Busch will act as the local organiser. The most likely date will be between 14-16 April, with the provisional title of: The German Political System: assessing challenges and reforms.

Discussions with Frank Cass about a new contract and eventual sole-ownership of the German Politics journal are ongoing. We expect to reach a satisfactory conclusion in the next few months. The successful conclusion of this will also entail administrative help from Frank Cass in the collection of membership subscriptions.

Soon we will be informing members about the Annual ASGP Postgraduate Prize again. We would be pleased if you could bring this to the attention of postgraduate students and encourage them to apply.

Emil J. Kirchner, University of Essex

*Notes from the Secretary*

This is my first note for the newsletter as Secretary of the ASGP. I just want to mention three things. First, I want to thank outgoing Secretary Beatrice Harper for her time and effort in managing the handover. It is very much appreciated. Second, this is Dan Hough's last newsletter and I would like to thank him for the work he has put into it in recent years. Again, it is very much appreciated. Finally, for my sins the task of preparing the newsletter in future now falls to me. Not a great deal will change, at least in the short term. However, I do want to introduce a section on 'scholarship of note', using the model used quite widely in APSA specialist group newsletters. This will be a cataloguing of conference papers (if available on the Web), articles, book chapters etc that colleagues feel would be of particular interest to ASGP members. The remit is that any such work should have relevance to the study of German politics, broadly defined. It is intended that these will then be catalogued according to sub-discipline (Party Politics, Public Policy, IR, etc.). So my request to you, the reader, is that you might find the time to compile such a list (it doesn't have to be long) and send it to: [c.s.j.lees@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:c.s.j.lees@sussex.ac.uk). Hopefully we will have something reasonably substantial to include in the next newsletter. Many thanks in advance.

Charlie Lees, University of Sussex



**Association for the Study of German Politics**  
Annual General Meeting



Strathclyde Business School, 25 April 2003

Present:

Matthew Allen	Marianne Howarth	Stephen Padgett
David Broughton	Charlie Jeffery	Willie Paterson
David Childs	Emil Kirchner (Chair)	Monika Prützel-Thomas
Rosa Dover	Astrid Küllmann-Lee	Thomas Saalfeld
Kenneth Dyson	Charlie Lees	Antje Sommer
Chris Flockton	Joanna McKay (Treasurer)	Graham Timmins
Simon Green	Neville Osmond	Ed Turner

Beatrice Harper (Secretary)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Geoff Roberts, Peter Pulzer, Roger Morgan, Claire Annesley, Dan Hough, Andreas Busch, Gordon Smith, Klaus Goetz

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

These were distributed by e-mail and were accepted as a true record.

**3. Matters Arising**

Simon Green reported on the 2002 election trip to Berlin. There were 24 sponsored places and 4 full sponsored graduate places, making for a good sized party. The programme was busy and worthwhile. All agreed that SG was to be congratulated and thanked for the excellent organisation.

**4. Chair's Report**

I would like formally to record our thanks to the sponsors of this meeting and the Graduate Conference, which preceded it: the DAAD, the Anglo-German Foundation and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

There are also the following points to my report:

1. *German Politics*

In line with the recommendation adopted at last year's AGM, Frank Cass was officially given notice of our intention to terminate the publication of *German Politics*. In response, CASS indicated that it would not be willing to relinquish joint ownership without a substantial compensation. However, Cass also proposed a meeting with ASGP and indicated that an improved offer could be obtained. In a subsequent meeting between Charlie Jeffrey and Stuart Cass, a substantially improved contract has been offered by Cass, which entails a two-phased arrangement. The essence of this is:

Firstly, an interim contract, lasting until 2008, would entail annual progressive royalties and editor fees; moving from the current (2002) payments of £1,000 for ASGP plus editor fees of £2,500 to the following:

(1) ASGP royalties     £4, 750, for 2003; rising to £6,000 by 2008

(2) Editor fees         £2,500, for 2003; rising to £3,000 by 2008

In addition, Cass would deal with membership subscriptions free of charge. The latter would give members the flexibility to pay Cass by cheque, credit card or direct debit. It goes without saying that this collection service would save ASGP time and costs.

Cass would also improve both the marketing and the electronic publishing of the *Journal*.

Secondly, at 31 December 2008, the ASGP will have the option to obtain sole ownership of the *Journal* in exchange for a consideration of £1.

For the record, publisher X had offered at the outset an annual honorarium for ASGP of £6,500 and plus a royalty starting at £5,000 and conceivably rising with institutional subscription growth to £9,000

This was and is a generous offer. However, when compared with the substantial payout required by Cass, and the hugely improved new Cass offer on fees, services and ownership transfer, the revised arrangements with Cass would probably come close to, if not outweigh, the offer of publisher X. **We therefore recommend** that we give serious consideration to the newly proposed arrangement with Cass.

2. *Relationship with the GSA and Conference Group*

Building on the agreed mutual 'affiliation' of the ASGP and the US German Studies Association (GSA), further efforts were made in strengthening relations with this Association and the Conference Group on German Politics CGGP). The Agreement provides that ASGP members are entitled to two GSA panels, and that these are not

subject to the normal review process. Several ASGP members attended the GSA annual conference in San Diego last October, and three US colleagues will join us at our ASGP conference in Glasgow. Plans have been discussed with the Conference Group to have a joint conference in Berlin.

Following discussions with Cass, we would like to have the GSA and the CGGP adopt *German Politics* with an appropriate subscription rate for its members. This could give the journal greater visibility, additional contributions, and increased royalties.

### 3. *German election trip*

I would like to express a word of thanks to Simon Green for organising the highly successful election trip to Berlin last September.

### 4. *Secretary*

Both on behalf of the Association and in my personal capacity, I would like to thank Beatrice Harper for her outstanding work as Secretary. It would be valuable if her tireless efforts and contributions to the Association could be maintained in some other capacity.

Points arising out of the Chair's report:

- GSA conference: ASGP members should be encouraged to submit ideas for panels at the GSA conference. These may cover a wide subject area and do not have to be confined to politics-related topics.
- As regards a successor for Beatrice Harper, Charlie Jeffery proposed that a successor should be elected to serve for the third year of BH's term of office and that they should then continue for a full 3-year secretary's term. This was seconded by Marianne Howarth and passed unanimously. The byelection would be held at the end of the meeting together with the elections for the executive committee.
- Willie Paterson said that this had been one of the very best conferences he had attended – due in part to the contribution of the excellent GSA speakers – and that this underlined what a mutually valuable relationship the two organisations are developing. Emil Kirchner expressed his support for the GSA links and Charlie Jeffery suggested that maybe we could hold a joint conference to celebrate ASGP's 30th anniversary conference next year.

## **5. Secretary's Report**

1. Beatrice Harper expressed her sadness at having to step down as secretary one year before her term of office was over, but explained that it was extremely difficult to combine her job writing for the European Industrial Relations Review (with the constant pressure of publication deadlines) with fulfilling what she regarded as the tasks of a conscientious ASGP secretary. BH expressed her thanks to all the members of the committee for their support during her time as secretary.
2. This year's conference had been extremely successful, thanks in no small part to the terrific work of Stephen Padgett at the University of Strathclyde and the general professionalism of the conference team at the Business School.
3. The executive committee had received an offer from Andreas Busch to host next year's conference at Oxford. The new secretary would coordinate with Andreas on this.
4. There had been four entries for the ASGP essay prize, which was won by Stuart Gapper (IGS) for his essay: "The Rise and Fall of Germany's Party of Democratic Socialism". Stuart had not attended this year's conference but it was underlined that next year's winner should, since the rules of the competition stated that attendance was expected.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

### **Treasurer's Annual Report for 2002**

#### 1. Introduction

This is the second annual report that I have made as Association Treasurer and the sixth year that the Association's accounts have been presented on a calendar year basis.

#### 2. Association Finances 1997-2002

Owing to the confidential nature of the finances, would members reading these minutes on the ASGP website please request details from Beatrice Harper: [beatrice.harper@irseclipse.co.uk](mailto:beatrice.harper@irseclipse.co.uk) or Joanna Mckay: [joanna.mckay@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:joanna.mckay@ntu.ac.uk).

#### 3. Association Annual Accounts 2002

##### **Income**

Ashgate royalties	52.49
Cass editorial fee	250.00
Conference income	3,650.00
Election trip income	2,843.56
Members' subs	3,309.00
Share income	600.28
<b>Total income</b>	<b>10,705.33</b>

**Expenditure**

Admin	26.05
Charitable donation	150.00
Conference expenditure	2,890.14
Election trip expenditure	3,264.63
Exec expenses	533.47
GP subs to Cass	289.00
Hardship fund	429.40
PG prize	100.00
Miscellaneous	1,520.89

**Total expenditure 9,203.58**

<u>4. Association Membership</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Honorary	8	8	10
Full	127	132	96
Postgraduate Full	39	49	26
Basic	11	12	7
Postgraduate Basic	1	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>140</b>

Overall membership numbers dropped in 2002. This appears to be due to colleagues retiring or leaving the profession, and postgraduates leaving the association after a couple of years. However, so far 123 members have joined or renewed in 2003, compared with 95 this time last year.

- Joanna McKay proposed transferring money to the reserve account while keeping a balance of around £6,000 in the ASGP current account.
- In response to a question, JMCK said that we currently pay Cass £17.00 per member. This sum was likely to go up in the near future. She requested that the AGM raise membership subscriptions to £30.00 (full) and £15.00 (post-grad).

Both proposals were accepted by the meeting.

- Joanne McKay said that the executive committee had discussed offering lapsed members a one-off reduced subscription to encourage them back, providing that they paid by direct debit. This was one of a range of possibilities that could evolve once Cass took over the administration of the membership subs.

The meeting acquiesced to this proposal.

## **7. Publications Report**

This was given by Charlie Jeffery and Stephen Padgett.

Charlie Jeffery reported on the state of the negotiations with Cass regarding *German Politics*. Emil Kirchner outlined the proposed deal in his report (above), and CJ had also produced a detailed resumé of the talks that members may obtain directly from Beatrice Harper. Emil Kirchner expressed his thanks to CJ for all his hard work and negotiating skills.

Points arising out of the publications report:

- *German Politics* would be assured an electronic presence through institutional subscriptions to INGENTA. Stephen Padgett assured members that ASGP's eventual ownership of the title would not prejudice this in any way or lumber ASGP with any extra costs since any future publisher would also have to assure ASGP that it would ensure an electronic presence for the journal.
- Willie Paterson reported that he had heard that some US subscribers had not been receiving the journal regularly, raising the question that perhaps there would have to be a clause in any agreement ensuring the regular flow of issues.

Stephen Padgett reported on the proposed relaunch of the journal that would take place once the money from the new deal started to come in. Among the procedures that would be improved included a better system for refereeing articles that could speed up the present timelag between the receipt of a submission and its publication. There had been a drop in the submission of articles and this was something that had to be improved.

Other points in SP's report included the following:

- He suggested that the journal may take on more of a comparative profile – possibly with the introduction of special issues on comparative themes.
- There needed to be more proactive commissioning of articles and members should be encouraged to submit work.
- The editorial committee felt that it was appropriate to appoint a US editor to act as a scout for US authors and to help increase the subscription base in the USA.
- The committee was taking steps to ensure that GP appeared in citation indexes.
- The editors were proposing to hold a series of *German Politics* symposia that would give rise to special issues of the journal.

## **8. Graduate Network Report**

On behalf of the Graduate Network, Ed Turner reported that several of their members had taken part in the very successful trip to the German elections, and were very grateful for the opportunity. He reported that the graduate conference held on the Wednesday preceding the main conference had been a success, with four presentations and lively discussions ensuing. He expressed gratitude to the Network's ongoing support from the main association and from PricewaterhouseCoopers and the Anglo-German Foundation, in their support of the hardship fund.

The new coordinators are Carolyn Moore (IGS) and Ross Campbell (Strathclyde). Ed Turner (Oxford) would coordinate the graduate presence at next year's conference, if it took place at Oxford.

#### **10. Byelection for Secretary**

Charlie Lees was elected to take over from Beatrice Harper on the understanding that he could anticipate continuing for a full 3-year term of office from 2004.

#### **12. Election of Executive**

The following nominations were received to serve on the ASGP Executive Committee until April 2004: Andreas Busch, Simon Green, Beatrice Harper, Dan Hough, Charlie Jeffery, Monika Prützel-Thomas and Graham Timmins. Given the shortage of time available to run a full election for the six places on the committee since many people had to leave to catch their planes, the AGM exceptionally agreed that all seven candidates nominated should serve.

#### **13. AOB**

Willie Paterson raised the question of a "hardship fund" to assist members recently made redundant to attend conferences. It was agreed that the executive committee would discuss how this idea may be implemented in the most appropriate way.

*On the Poodle's Poodle and H'Angus the Monkey: the ASGP Annual Conference*

Glasgow 24-25 April 2003

The ASGP's annual conference, held this year at the Strathclyde Graduate Business School in Glasgow, was, as in previous years, a huge success. Unlike previous years, colleagues from the German Studies Association contributed to that success.

The first discussion focused on changes in German-American relations in light of the war against Iraq. Prof. Bill Chandler from the University of California in San Diego began the discussion. Highlighting the emergence of a new policy paradigm within the Bush administration that focuses on 'hard power' (Nye), Chandler argued that trust between the US and Germany has waned. He also noted that, whilst the US was initially furious with Germany over its stance on a possible war against Iraq, things have, since the end of the conflict in Iraq, calmed down. Such an amelioration in relations raised the issue of leadership and the extent to which leaders can make a difference.

Picking up on this point, Prof. Emil Kirchner began his presentation by focusing on the leadership aspect within German-American relations. He noted, too, the fluidity of the current situation. He also made the point that, paradoxically given Schröder's apparent concern to maintain multi-lateral institutions, his refusal to back a war against Iraq even if it had the imprimatur of the UN showed his disregard for the UN.

Prof. Gerry Kleinfeld from the German Studies Association, starting from a slightly different perspective, noted that differences in post-War experiences underpinned the various approaches to security today. He also observed that Gaullism in France had increased since the end of the Cold War. There has also been a movement by Germany towards France.

In the comments from the floor that followed the presentations, Prof. Willie Paterson noted, firstly, that the alliance between France, Germany and Russia was something of an unholy one with its disparate interests, and, secondly, that Schröder had become dependent on the position taken by President Chirac. In the latter regard, Schröder had become something of a poodle's poodle. Prof. Charlie Jeffery observed that Germany had stumbled into its current problems as a result of utterances made by Schröder during the federal election campaign in 2002.

In the *German Politics* lecture, Peter Lösche from the University of Göttingen, arguing against much of the orthodoxy in the study of party systems, contended that there has been a great deal of continuity in the German party system. This sets the party system in the Federal Republic apart from contemporary party systems in Italy, France and Latin America as well as historical party systems, such as the one in the Weimar Republic. Lösche argued, for instance, that the three main political groupings, liberalism, conservatism and social democracy remained. Although not denying the increase in voter abstinence and swing voters, Lösche contended, amongst other things, that voter volatility has been over emphasized in many accounts of party systems. He also observed that talk of a coalition between the FDP and the Greens in, for instance, Baden-Württemberg and the Saarland, is no accident given the fact that the membership of both parties is similar (education levels, income); the main difference between the two parties is their stance on post-material issues.

Moving from the study of the party system to the state of the parties, the final session of the first day concentrated on four political parties. Dr. Charles Lees began the round table by examining the Greens' political strategy. Using a soft rational choice

methodology, Lees argued that the Greens are extending the areas where they work in government in order to increase their future coalition options, and, thereby, to reduce their dependence on the SPD. As evidence for Greens' desire to break out of the 'ghettos' of environmental policy and foreign policy, Lees noted that, unlike the first four years of the Red-Green coalition, the Greens now have a *Staatssekretar* (Rezzo Schlauch) within the Federal Ministry of Economics and Labour. The use of a rational-choice methodology provoked questions about rationality. Gordon Smith queried the Greens' desire to increase their coalition options as there seems to be a two-block party system in Germany. Stephen Padgett noted that alternative rational-choice explanations for the Greens' behaviour might focus either on the minimum ideological distance between the parties (which would rule out a Red-Yellow coalition) or on a minimum winning coalition (which would rule out a Grand Coalition).

Dr. David Broughton started his discussion on the CDU by highlighting the fact that the 2002 federal election results were the third worst for the CDU. He also noted the strong north-south and east-west divide in German politics. The electoral success of the CSU contributed to this divide. Indeed, 86 per cent of the gains made by the Union parties can be attributed to the increase in votes for the CSU. Despite the CSU's successes, the Union performed poorly overall. Broughton contended that two of the reasons for the CDU's relative failure were, firstly, that the CDU did not offer a credible, compelling alternative to the Red-Green coalition, and, secondly, that the Union's electoral strategy was impaired because the CSU – which, because its leader, Edmund Stoiber, was the Union's candidate for the chancellorship, took a prominent role in formulating that strategy – was not used to fighting close campaigns.

Switching his attention to the FDP, Broughton argued that the party suffered from unrealistic expectations. He also noted that, unlike previous elections in the recent past, the FDP was sharing the 'opposition stage' with the CDU. In such circumstances, Broughton argued that, if the FDP is to succeed, it must make its case clearly to the public. The FDP's failings can also, in part, be attributed to its lack of personalities. The FDP's strategy of not stating a coalition preference during the election campaign merely led, according to Broughton, to confusion amongst the party and the electorate to the party's disadvantage.

Stepping in at short notice to replace the original speaker who was called away to attend an interview, Dr. Joanna McKay concluded the round table presentation by examining the PDS. Prior to the federal election of 2002, the PDS had high hopes: it was a coalition party in two *Länder*, and, in the 1998 federal election, it had cleared the five-percent hurdle for the first time. Moreover, it had gained members from the SPD and Greens over the coalition's decisions to back Nato intervention in Kosovo in 1999, and to commit German forces to Afghanistan. The PDS's opposition to military conflict formed one of the mainstays of its electoral campaign. Other areas upon which the party focused were social justice and its special responsibility to the new *Länder* (although this role was, in comparison to previous elections, downplayed). As part of its electoral campaign, the PDS also ran a 'Stop Stoiber' campaign; though, as McKay noted, this campaign seemed to lack any logic as it is not immediately clear how a vote for the PDS would be a vote against Stoiber.

The PDS's hopes were, however, to be dashed by the federal election results: the party gained 2 seats at the 2002 federal elections down from 37 at the 1998 election. McKay highlighted both internal and external factors in explaining this outcome. Amongst the latter was the SPD's successful campaign in the east. The boundary changes to constituencies also had a profound effect on the PDS as it lost its Berlin 'safety net'.

Amongst the former factors was the 'Gysi factor'; his resignation led to a decrease in support for the PDS as is clear from poll data. The Red-Red Land coalitions did not redound to the PDS's advantage; indeed, McKay argued that these coalitions lost the PDS votes. A further internal factor for the PDS's poor result was its strategy. In short, McKay argued that the PDS did not concentrate enough on its core supporters in the new *Länder*.

The second day began with a presentation by Prof. Thomas König of the University of Konstanz on the possibility of policy change without government change. König, firstly, posed the question of how it was possible to get reliable measures for political actors in a number of policy domains. He, secondly, attempted to build a model of legislative choice. In the former area, König used the preferences of parties as stated in their manifestos. In the second area, König, unlike Scharpf and Lehmbruch who have also examined veto players and divided governments, started by asking what the outcome is likely to be given the preferences of actors. He did not start, as Scharpf and Lehmbruch did, by seeking to explain grid-locked systems.

In the second round table of the conference, Prof. Arthur Gunlicks from the University of Richmond, Prof. James Mitchell from the University of Strathclyde, and Dr. Roseanne Palmer from the University of Birmingham spoke on comparative federalism and devolution. Prof. Gunlicks began by posing a number of questions: is the Berlin Republic different to the Bonn Republic? How does it compare to the Weimar Republic? What would have happened if unification had not occurred? In answering the last question, Gunlicks contended that, although unification has certainly increased the desire amongst some for reform, disputes over fiscal federalism would have arisen even if unification had not happened. Gunlicks also noted that, whilst there is no provision for direct democracy at the federal level, all the *Länder* have provisions for referendums. He also raised the issue of whether or not directly elected mayors might improve local government in Germany; in a short and light-hearted rejoinder Charlie Jeffery pointed out, however, that this has not, in some cases – most notably that of H'Angus the Monkey who was elected to Mayor of Hartlepool – been a huge success in England.

Rosanne Palmer spoke on policy co-ordination between the *Länder*, as well as *Länder* engagement in, and their mechanisms for engagement in, the formulation of Germany's European policy. She also examined the stances of the *Länder* in issues that have arisen because of the European Convention.

Comparing and contrasting the German and British political systems, James Mitchell noted that the German system is relatively symmetrical, stable and has a codified constitution; in comparison the UK does not have a codified constitution, and is asymmetric. Mitchell argued that the fact that both systems have undergone change – sometimes even quite dramatic change in the shape of devolution – the central features of each system have remained remarkably intact. Both systems have coped well with change. He also contended that the German electoral system had been 'imported' into Scotland by the Labour Party in order to keep the SNP out of power.

In the final session of the conference, Dr. Klaus Goetz and Prof. Ken Dyson presented their research findings – which will also be published shortly – on Europeanization in Germany. Having outlined the traditional picture of the Europeanization of Germany (or how Germany relates to the EU and the EU relates to Germany) as one either of 'congruence' (Bulmer) or of enabling constraints, they argued that this traditional picture needs to be revised. For instance, they argued that the degree of congruence between the EU and the German political system can be overstated and that congruence was always more conditional than often assumed. They also noted that

the coincidence between enabling and constraining factors is under pressure, and that their effects of their interaction are less clear than they once were. Goetz and Dyson also called into question Germany's ability to shape the course of European integration on regulatory and 'constitutional' issues as the German economic model has lost its lustre. The German economic model, they contend, will be further undermined by the eastward enlargement of the EU.

In his part of the presentation, Dyson focused on Germany's milieu-shaping capacity. In particular, he noted that the EU's core was, in relative terms, shrinking; this 'shrinking' core, he conjectured, might seek to protect itself by closer co-operation. Such thinking might help to explain the new desire of Germany and France to work together. Germany's milieu-shaping capacity has also been undermined by an erosion of soft power. In part, contemporary Germany has, paradoxically, been weakened by its strength earlier on: in insisting on a Stability and Growth Pact in its own image for the rest of the EU, it now finds itself with an inappropriate monetary policy and an inappropriate fiscal policy.

**As always, the success of the ASGP conference does not just depend on the quality of the papers presented; it also depends on the organizers. Dr. Beatrice Harper and Prof. Stephen Padgett performed a wonderful job in organizing the conference. I am sure that all those who attended the conference greatly appreciated all their hard work.**

**German-British Forum and Institute for German Studies announce link-up****German-British Forum, Institute for German Studies, University of Birmingham****German-British Forum and Institute for German Studies announce link-up**

The German-British Forum (GBF) and the Institute for German Studies (IGS) at the University of Birmingham have announced a wide-ranging co-operation agreement, including a transfer of the GBF's central administrative office to the IGS's premises on the Birmingham university campus.

The agreement, building on the considerable existing links between the two organisations, will enable a beneficial exchange of experience and expertise, particularly in the educational sector.

Dr Denis MacShane, Britain's Minister for Europe, said: "I welcome the link-up between two bodies at the forefront of our efforts to improve co-operation with Britain's most important trading partner in the European Union. I wish the GBF and the IGS every success in their new initiative."

Lord Hurd of Westwell, Chairman of the German-British Forum, said: "This agreement strengthens the GBF's efforts to improve understanding between the two countries. We are adding fresh quality to our co-operation with the Institute for German Studies. The GBF will now have a welcome extra presence in the Midlands to add to our network of contacts and partners in London, Frankfurt and Berlin".

Professor William Paterson, Director of the Institute for German Studies, who has been closely associated with the GBF since its inception and is now a Deputy Chairman, "This agreement extends our already very strong co-operation. We plan to add further activities and events in the academic and educational spheres to throw fresh light on the business and economic systems in our two countries."

The GBF, supported mainly by the private sector, was set up in 1995 as a multi-faceted organisation that analyses, comments upon and disseminates information on the political, economic and social systems in Germany and Britain, including through public conferences and seminars.

The new contact details for the German-British Forum are

Carolyn Moore, c/o Institute for German Studies, ERI, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT, Tel 0121 414 7185, [cs109@bham.ac.uk](mailto:cs109@bham.ac.uk)

Professor William Paterson, Institute for German Studies, 0121 414 7182, [w.e.paterson@bham.ac.uk](mailto:w.e.paterson@bham.ac.uk)

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*Forthcoming Events*

- ASGP members who are planning to attend the annual APSA conference in Philadelphia might be interested to attend a panel entitled “A New Germany in a Changing Europe” where ASGP Chair Professor Emil Kirchner will be speaking. The panel is bring run by the US based Conference Group on German Politics. Full details as follow

*Conference Group on German Politics*

*Panel for the Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, August 28-31, 2003*

*A New Germany in a Changing Europe*

Chair: William M. Chandler (University of California, San Diego)

Panelists:

Emil Kirchner (Essex University, UK)

“The German contribution to the EU convention debate”

Gary Marks and Liesbet Hooghe, (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

“Germany and Support for Integration”

Christopher Anderson, (SUNY, Binghamton)

“How European Are the Germans? German and EU Public Opinion”

Klaus Goetz, (London School of Economics, UK)

“Living with Europe: Germany and the Politics of Constraint”

Discussants:

Barbara Donovan, Wesleyan College

Michael Huelshoff, University of New Orleans



In conjunction with the Goethe Institute Inter Nationes, London  
and  
The Centre for East German Studies, University of Reading

### [Transformationsprozesse in den neuen Bundesländern: 1990- 2004](#)

Dr Peter Barker (Reading), Dr Christine Stieblich (Goethe Institut Inter Nationes, London), Dr Klaus-Dieter Rossade (Open University), Dr Ursula Wingate (Oxford), and Astrid Küllmann-Lee (LSE, London) are organising an conference on the differing processes of transformation that have taken place in eastern Germany between 1990 and 2004.

The conference is to be held on 24 April 2004 at the Goethe Institute, London. Applications to give papers are now closed but ASGP members are encouraged to attend what promises to be a very interesting conference. Panels will be held on the following six broad themes:

- The Political Process of Transformation
- Cultural Transformation
- Social Transformation
- Die 'doppelte Vergangenheitsbewältigung'
- Economic Transformation
- Language and Transformation

It is also planned that one room at the conference will be used to provide an opportunity for 'poster' presentations of innovative teaching initiatives or materials used both at university and school level in the teaching of topics related to the themes of the conference.

For further information, please contact:

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*Forthcoming Events (continued)*

The German Studies Association (GSA) will be hosting their annual conference in New Orleans in September 2003. Over 500 papers will be presented on all aspects of German politics, economics and literature. A number of ASGP members will be representing the Association in New Orleans – more details, and the full programme, can be found at:

<http://www.g-s-a.org/2003Program.html>

*... and finally!*

If anyone has any comments, be they good or bad, on this newsletter please do let Dan Hough ([daniel.hough@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:daniel.hough@nottingham.ac.uk)) know. All the best and have a very good summer.