



Monthly Bulletin

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On January, 25, Bucerius fellows, among them Lahnstein scholarship recipients and Bucerius scholarship recipients, were given the opportunity to present their research in the frame of the [Fifth Annual Bucerius Research Workshop](#). The young scholars, all of them PhD candidates, presented their papers on topics such as “A Social and Cultural History of Jewish Converts in the Duchy of Gotha between 1640 and 1792”, “The Relations between West Germany and Israel in the Begin Era (1977–1983)” or “Photography as a Historical Source. Images from the ‘Jewish Ghetto Konstancia’ in Kutno”- just to name a few examples. Comments and feedbacks were given by the senior researchers Prof. Fania Oz-Salzberger from the University's Faculty of Law, Dr. Zur Shalev from the Department of Land of Israel Studies and Dr. Amos Morris-Reich, Head of the Bucerius Institute. The students, faculty and guests enjoyed the fruitful discussions and the magnificent view from the Rabin observatory.

2



Every year, young researchers of German history in Israel receive the chance to get together and [present their research projects](#) to scholars from the field and receive feedback from senior researchers and other experts. Already for the seventh time, the workshop took place on February 6, in Jerusalem in the Beit Maersdorf Guest House at the Hebrew University. The yearly event is organized in cooperation of The Richard Koebner Minerva Center for German History at the Hebrew University, the Center for German Studies, Minerva Institute for German History at Tel Aviv University, The Leo Baeck Institute for the Study of the History of German Speaking Jewry in Jerusalem, The Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Research Center for German-Jewish Literature and Cultural History and the Bucerius Institute. During the workshop, young scholars presented their work on “The Attitude of the Enlightenment to Commoners” or “Interpreting the Motif of Wandering - The Legendary Discourse of the Wandering Jew at the Turn of the 19th Century in Germany and Austria”.

3



The names Rothschild, Schiff, Stern, Worms and Oppenheimer are known to almost everyone. Outstanding personalities who shaped the history of mankind emerged from these dynasties. Similarly, there were many other families that produced physicists, musicians, actors, or writers. All of **them** came from the confined space of the Frankfurt Ghetto. On January 11, [Malka Haguel-Spitzberg](#) from the Institute of Science and Heritage of the Jewish People- *AmHazikaron* presented the institute's research project on the families of the Frankfurt Ghetto and their descendants today. *Am Hazikaron* works on this project in cooperation with the Hebrew University and the Dubnow Institute in Leipzig. The presentation was followed by a lively exchange between the audience and the lecturer.

4



On January 16, [Dr. Marcel Stoetzler](#) from the Bangor University, UK spoke on “The Rhetoric of Bourgeois Revolution and the ‘Jewification of Society’” in a Bucerius Guest Lecture. His talk took as its starting point a formulation from Hitler's speech of January 30, 1939, “Creative men of all nations, recognize your common foe!” Dr. Stoetzler showed how this slogan is paired with the “prophecy” of the destruction of the European Jews that immediately preceded it and how it marks the rhetorical high point of this historic speech. In addition, he analyzed its reference to the concluding sentence of the *Communist Manifesto* and reflected on what kind of “socialism” National Socialism was. The talk was well-visited and Dr. Stoetzler's presentation stimulated lively discussions among the audience.

5



[Elena Keidosiute](#) from the University of Vilnius is, beside Hubert Lebert, recipient of the Lahnstein scholarship. Elena's PhD research revolves around the topic "Jewish Conversions to Catholicism: Institutionalized Missions in the Lithuanian Territory". During her stay at the Bucerius Institute, Elena works on "Jewish Conversions in Lithuanian Territory in the First Half of the Twentieth Century: The Influence of German Christian and Anti-Semitic Ideas". Elena was among the young scholars who presented their works during the Annual Bucerius Research Workshop in January.

6



The Bucerius Staff congratulates Dr. Tobias Ebbrecht on the completion and publication of his PhD thesis. The thesis with the title "Historical Images in the Memory of the Media: Filmic Narrations of the Holocaust" was lately published by [transcript publishing house](#). Dr. Ebbrecht shows that recent films about the Holocaust follow a pattern of imitation of earlier films. This creates images of history and narrative patterns that are repeated many times and are slowly detached from the historical context and ultimately become filmic historic fictions about Nazi Germany.

7



In January, the German newspaper [Die Welt](#) published an article on [Dr. Linde Apel's](#) research project on the life of Jeckes in the North of Israel after their immigration to Eretz Israel. During her research in Israel, Dr. Apel was a visiting scholar at the Bucerius Institute. Between March and May 2010, she conducted 18 interviews with Israelis born in Germany, who had immigrated to Eretz Israel between 1933 and 1950. Some of the interviews were published on the website of the [Werkstatt der Erinnerung](#) (Workshop of Memory).

8



"Famous and then Forgotten" is the title of an article by [Meira Shacham](#) that was published in the Austrian journal [Zwischenwelt](#) in January 2012. In her article, Meira presents the tragic story of the Austrian Jewish actor and theater director Jakob Feldhammer. Feldhammer was one of the most famous and most celebrated stage actors of his time who was murdered in Auschwitz in 1944 and whose fate and former fame were buried in oblivion.

We wish you Happy Purim and invite you to become our fan and follow us on



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