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1



After the fall of the Iron Curtain in 1989, millions of citizens of the former Soviet Union immigrated to Western countries. Interestingly, Jewish immigrants did not only settle in Israel, but also in Germany. The immigration waves had a huge impact on the Jewish communities in the country. The film [Mazel Toy](#) that was screened on December 14 by the Bucerius Institute, the Gottlieb Schumacher Institute and the Goethe Institute in the Keller House tells the story of Russian Jewish immigrants who settled in Frankfurt. The Jewish communities absorbing the immigrants were not only faced with various challenges (e.g. teaching the new immigrants, who had become estranged from Judaism, about their Jewish heritage, or helping them to integrate into the German society), but Jewish life in Germany experienced a significant revival.

2



On December 8, Dr. Margit Berner from the [Natural History Museum Vienna](#) gave a fascinating lecture on the Nazi Period Collections of Physical Anthropology in the Museum of Natural History Vienna. Dr. Berner introduced the audience to the history of measuring people's bodies to define "race". The anthropologist also presented disturbing objects from the collections of the museum, such as skulls of prisoners of concentration camps that Nazi "scientists" ordered like items from a catalog company to entertain their racial theories. Dr. Berner is part of a commission of the Natural History Museum that works to uncover the museum's grim past, and to discover items that are part of the Nazi's criminal actions. Her ultimate goal is to return a face and a story to the people that were deprived of their humanity. The lecture was well visited and stimulated emotional responses among its audience.

3



Researchers from Israel, the United States and Germany attended the international conference "[Global Memory of the Holocaust? Memories of the Destruction of European Jews in Global Context](#)" organized by the Haifa Center for German and European Studies (HCGES), the University of Augsburg, the University of Vermont and the Bucerius Institute. A theme that ran through all of the lectures was the impact of international politics, as well as culture and religion on the global memory of the Holocaust. The Opening Lecture was held by Prof. Natan Sznajder from the Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo who spoke on "The Holocaust and Memory in the Global Age Revisited".

4



In an interview published in the [January Newsletter of the ZEIT-Stiftung](#), Dr. Amos Morris-Reich describes the important position of the Bucerius Institute at the University of Haifa: "Within a relatively short span of time, only a decade, the Bucerius Institute managed to establish itself as one of the most vibrant academic centers for the study of German history and society in Israel. The Bucerius Institute is at the forefront of academic research at the University and in the Faculty of Humanities". Dr. Morris-Reich also describes the future goals of the Institute: "We have numerous plans for academic conferences, lectures by visiting scholars, and scientific collaborations of various kinds; among others photography and German Jewish history and photographic imagination. We are also working on various publications – in January 2012, the first Hebrew translation of sociological works by Georg Simmel will appear".

5



In the fourth year of the Lahnstein scholarship program, two young scholars joined the Bucerius Institute for a research stay. [Mr. Hubert Leber](#) is one of the scholarship recipients and works towards his doctoral degree within the framework of a joint doctoral program between the University of Haifa and the Philipps University of Marburg. His Israeli advisor is the renowned Prof. Fania Oz-Salzberger. His history dissertation deals with the topic "West Germany's Policy toward Israel in the Begin Era (1977-1983)". Hubert Leber will be among the Bucerius fellows to present their work during the [Fifth Annual Bucerius Research Workshop](#) that will take place on January 25.

6



The Bucerius Institute is happy to welcome [Ms. Tally Gur](#) as a new member of staff who is currently working on her PhD in the Department of Jewish History at the University of Haifa under the supervision of Dr. Amos Morris-Reich. Her dissertation deals with the topic: Judaistik/ Jewish Studies in Germany 1972-1989. Tally Gur received her scholarship thanks to the kind support by the Haifa Center for German and European Studies (DAAD).

7



In the last couple of weeks, many people in Israel took to the streets to protest against the discrimination of women in the Israeli society, especially against religiously motivated forms of discrimination. On this occasion, we would like to share with you a slide show that commemorates [various women who had a great impact on world's history](#). In this context, we would like to invite you to send us any material that could be interesting for the publication in our newsletter.

8



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

In the last couple of months, the Bucerius Institute extended its online-presence significantly: The Institute appears with an English, German, Hebrew, French, Czech, Italian, Lithuanian and Russian entry on [Wikipedia](#). Currently, we are also working on a Portuguese, Greek and Polish translation. We are looking for additional translations, e.g. into Yiddish. Please contact us if you could support us in this project. We also invite you to become our fan and follow us on:



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